

# Sweat & Toil



2020 LIST OF GOODS PRODUCED BY CHILD LABOR OR FORCED LABOR  
2019 FINDINGS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

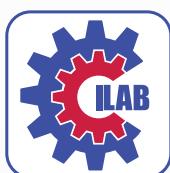


Asking the  
Right Questions  
*to Trace Labor  
Abuses in Global  
Supply Chains*

**From Unknown to Known:**  
*The Story Behind Our Stuff*

**The Year in Review:** *From Paper  
Commitments to Active Enforcement*

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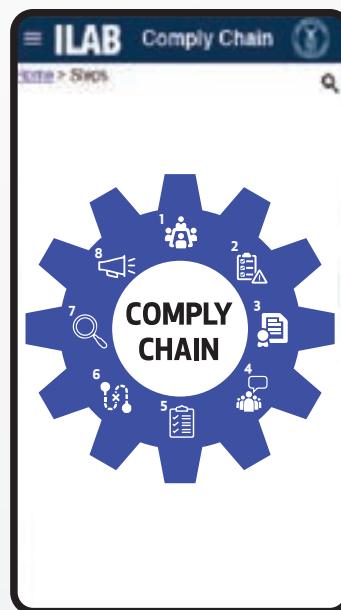
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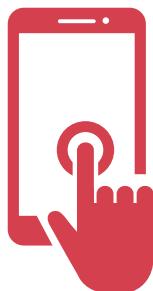
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All three of the U.S. Department of Labor's (USDOL) flagship reports on international child labor and forced labor are available on the USDOL website in HTML and PDF formats at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor>. These reports include *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*, as required by the Trade and Development Act of 2000; *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor*, as required by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005; and *List of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor*, as required by Executive Order 13126. On our website, 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 actions to address the issue.

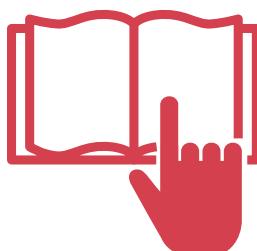
## On Your Phone



The Department's *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 the need for an internet connection. You can download the free app from Apple's App Store or the Google Play store and access the data on our website: <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/apps#Sweat&Toil>.

The Department's *Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains* mobile application is a practical, step-by-step guide for companies on ways to develop strong social compliance systems to reduce child labor and forced labor in supply chains. Whether new to social compliance or wanting to improve existing systems, companies can explore modules ranging from stakeholder engagement to code of conduct provisions, and from auditing to remediation to reporting and engagement. You can download the free app from Apple's App Store or the Google Play store, or access it online at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/apps#ComplyChain>.

## On Paper



The *Sweat & Toil* magazine is published in hardcopy and includes the *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* report and the *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor*. The magazine provides an overall summary of the *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* report, regional findings related to meaningful efforts made and gaps for countries to address, and the assessment levels of each of the 131 countries. The magazine also includes additions and removals from our *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor*. Send an e-mail to GlobalKids@dol.gov to request hard copies or download them from the Department's website at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor>.



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An immigrant Haitian boy carries rice for planting in the rice paddy,  
Dominican Republic. January 5, 2010.

# Foreword

For more than 25 years, the Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) has conducted research and reporting to inform U.S. foreign and trade policy with the aim, among others, of shining a light on labor abuses in key sectors across the world. As the economy becomes more global and supply chains more extensive, ILAB's effort to reveal abusive child labor and forced labor practices becomes even more important.

Central to those efforts are ILAB's annual *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* and biennial *List of Goods Produced by Child or Forced Labor*. The reports provide specific, actionable information to governments, businesses, non-profits, and other key actors in the global economy on how to combat child labor and forced labor in more than 145 countries and territories. Policymakers and companies can rely on these reports to conduct risk assessments, perform due diligence on supply chains, and develop strategies to address child labor and forced labor.

To assist businesses in identifying risks and in remediating abuses in their supply chains, the Department of Labor also offers the *Comply Chain* smartphone app. This year, we updated its content with real-world examples of actions taken by companies to ensure workers in their supply chains are not exploited. These examples will give businesses additional tools and ideas on ways to ensure compliance and prevent labor abuses.

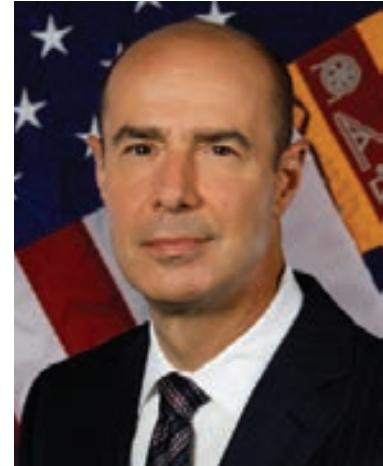
The historic United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) adopted earlier this year provides ILAB another important opportunity for impact, as the agency works with key trading partners on increasing

and strengthening labor protections through technical assistance, capacity-building projects, and cutting-edge research.

The USMCA explicitly

requires each country to prohibit the importation of goods made with forced labor, and ILAB's research and reporting will play a key role in the implementation of this provision.

While it is heartening to see in this year's reports that some countries have progressed in combatting child or forced labor practices within their borders, other nations have taken a step back. And unfortunately, some of the world's largest economies are home to some of the worst violators. As the world grapples with a pandemic, forced labor and unacceptable child labor is likely to become more frequent, not less. Ending these practices demands persistence and requires that all of us around the world, whether businesses, governments, or worker advocates, do our part by sharing our expertise, our lessons learned, and our best practices. Our hope is that these reports will be valuable tools in those efforts.



Eugene Scalia  
U.S. Secretary of Labor

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Eugene Scalia".

Eugene Scalia  
Secretary of Labor  
September 2020



©U. Roberto Romano/GoodWeave International

Sunita was once forced to weave carpets and perform domestic work from 4 a.m. late into the night, until she began attending school through GoodWeave's education program. Nepal. 2007.

# Acknowledgments

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Copies of this and other reports in ILAB's child labor and forced labor series may be obtained by contacting the 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](mailto:GlobalKids@dol.gov). The reports are also available on the web at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab>. Comments on the reports are welcome and may be submitted to [GlobalKids@dol.gov](mailto:GlobalKids@dol.gov).



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Portrait of a young boy working in the fields.  
Moldova. April 2010.

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Eritrean boys carrying fruits on their heads.  
Asmara, Eritrea. August 14, 2019.

# Purpose of This Report

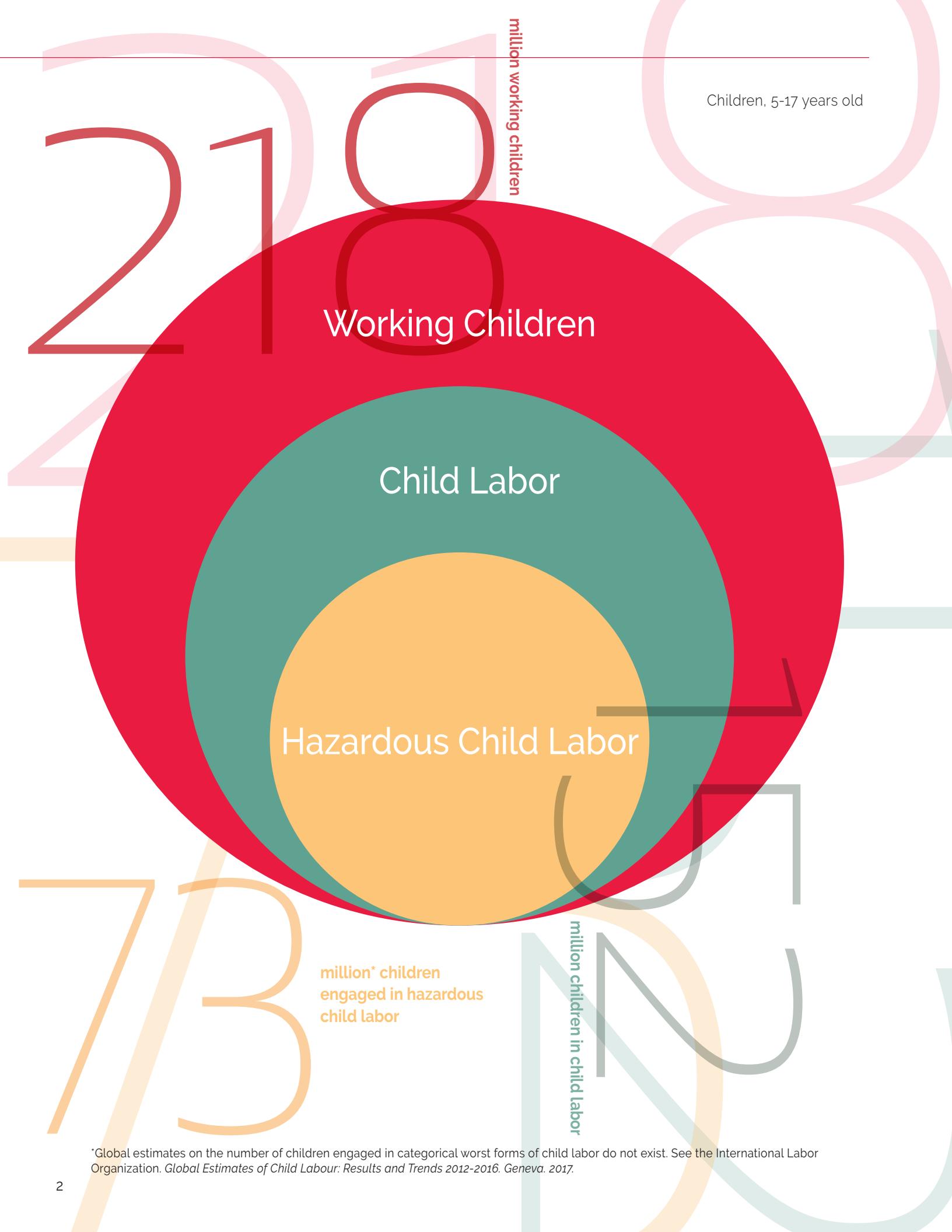
## Research Focus of the List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL or the Department) has produced this ninth edition of the *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* in accordance with the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act (TVPRA), as amended.

The TVPRA requires USDOL's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB or the Bureau) to "develop and make available to the public a list of goods from countries that [ILAB] has reason to believe are produced by forced labor or child labor in violation of international standards" (TVPRA List or the List; 22 U.S.C. § 7112(b)(2)(C)). It also requires submission of the TVPRA List to the United States Congress not later than December 1, 2014, and every 2 years thereafter (22 U.S.C. § 7112(b)(3)).

The Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018 expanded ILAB's mandate to require the TVPRA List to include, "to the extent practicable, goods that are produced *with inputs that are produced with forced labor or child labor*" (22 U.S.C. 7112(b)(2)(C)).

The TVPRA directs ILAB "to work with persons who are involved in the production of goods on the list ... to create a standard set of practices that will reduce the likelihood that such persons will produce goods using [child labor or forced labor]," and "to consult with other departments and agencies of the United States Government to reduce forced and



\*Global estimates on the number of children engaged in categorical worst forms of child labor do not exist. See the International Labor Organization. *Global Estimates of Child Labour: Results and Trends 2012-2016*. Geneva. 2017.

child labor internationally and ensure that products made by forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards are not imported into the United States" (22 U.S.C. § 7112(b)(2)(D)–(E)).

### *Country Coverage*

The research methodology used to compile the TVPRA List is based on ILAB's Procedural Guidelines. For this edition, ILAB reviewed new information on goods from 154 countries, territories, and areas. ILAB continues to carry out research for future editions of the TVPRA List.

### *Population Covered*

In researching child labor, ILAB focused on children under the age of 18. For forced labor, the research covered workers of all ages. The population included persons in foreign countries only, as directed by statute. Populations within the United States were not included in this study.

### *Reporting Period*

In developing the TVPRA List, ILAB generally relied on sources that are no more than 5 years old at the time of receipt. This policy is to ensure consistency with other ILAB reporting on international child labor.

### *Type of Work*

Research covered all economic activity for adults and children in the production of goods, including formal and informal sector production and goods produced for personal and family consumption. Examples of informal sector activity include day labor hired without a contract, small-scale farming and fishing, artisanal mining and quarrying, and manufacturing work performed in home-based workshops. Some illicit goods also are included in the TVPRA List; this is not intended to condone or legitimize the production or consumption of these goods.

### *Sources Used*

To make determinations about the List, ILAB relies on a wide variety of publicly available primary and secondary sources. Primary sources included surveys carried out by foreign governments in conjunction with the International Labor Organization (ILO); site visits and data gathered by ILAB staff and other U.S. Government personnel; and quantitative and qualitative studies carried out by a variety of governmental and non-governmental entities, including academic institutions (see Appendix 8 for the full TVPRA List Methodology).



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Children collect coal from coalfields.  
Jharia, Jharkhand, India. November 10, 2010.

# Research Focus of the Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor Report

The Department has prepared this 19th annual report on the 2019 *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* in accordance with the Trade and Development Act of 2000 (TDA). (1) The TDA set forth the requirement that a country implement its commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor for the President of the United States to consider designating the country a beneficiary developing country under the Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) program. (2; 3) The TDA also mandated that the President submit to the United States 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." (1) ILAB carries out this responsibility on behalf of the Secretary.

## *Country Coverage*

This report covers 119 independent countries and 15 non-independent countries and territories designated as GSP beneficiaries. This includes former GSP recipients who have negotiated free trade agreements with the United States. (4) Because the population of children is extremely small (fewer than 50) or non-existent in the British Indian Ocean Territory, Heard Island and McDonald Islands, and the Pitcairn Islands, the report does not contain a discussion of these three non-independent countries and territories. This 2019 report presents information on child labor and the worst forms of child labor and efforts to eliminate this exploitation in the remaining 119 countries and 12 non-independent countries and territories. The use of "countries" in this report includes territories, and because the report focuses on government efforts, non-independent countries and territories are classified by their associated regions.

## *Population Covered*

In undertaking research on the "worst forms of child labor," ILAB relied on the TDA definition of a

child, which is the same definition contained in ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor (ILO C. 182). The TDA and ILO C. 182 define "child" as a person under age 18.

## *Reporting Period*

The reporting period for this year's report is January 2019 through December 2019. In certain cases, significant events or government efforts that occurred in early 2020 were included, as appropriate.

## *Type of Work*

This report focuses on child labor and the worst forms of child labor. Definitions related to these types of work are guided by ILO C. 138 on Minimum Age and ILO C. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor. Child labor includes work below the minimum age as established in national legislation (excluding permissible light work), the worst forms of child labor, and hazardous unpaid household services. 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 performances; (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 under which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children. (1; 5) 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."



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Afghan children sort bricks at the Sadat Ltd. Brick factory, where they work from 8 am to 5 pm daily. Kabul, Afghanistan. May 14, 2010.

# Asking the Right Questions to Trace Labor Abuses in Global Supply Chains

## Global Benefits and a Persistent Problem

What do product quality control measures have in common with efforts to eliminate child labor? In a word: traceability. In the case of product safety-related issues, traceability is crucial as quality control experts and operations managers race to link the faulty product to the source. Just as in identifying the origin of defective products to limit harm, the world also has sought to trace the origins of various goods and products as a way to combat child labor and forced labor in those supply chains by asking the right questions: “Who made this and under what conditions?”

Global supply chains have created tremendous prosperity for our society as a whole, lifting millions out of poverty and providing livelihoods for many more; however, problems remain. Violations such as child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking have persisted as supply networks have continued to grow ever more complex. The latest global estimates highlight that 152 million children remain in child labor and 25 million adults and children toil under conditions of forced labor, including in global supply chains that crisscross our globe. (6) Many businesses at all stages of the supply chain, including major global brands, acknowledge these abuses. Businesses can play a critical role in improving working conditions for workers around the world – and many companies have recognized the economic benefit of doing so. These global conditions and the motivations of companies and governments to rectify these injustices have led to an increasing array of research on global supply chains with ILAB playing a pivotal role. ILAB is a leading voice and advocate through its support of research, tools, and technical assistance to aid those who seek to clean up global supply chains, and partnership with the private sector remains essential to matching these aspirations to reality.

## A Sound Heard Around the World

On April 24, 2014, a garment factory building in Dhaka, Bangladesh collapsed, killing 1,132 people and injuring more than 2,500 – one of the deadliest structural failures in human history. This was not, however, an isolated incident, but rather another example to remind the world about these long-standing issues.<sup>(7)</sup> Only 5 months earlier, at least 112 workers lost their lives in a similar tragic accident, trapped inside the burning Tazreen Fashions factory on the outskirts of Dhaka. These events, and similar ones that have occurred since that time, continue to remind us once more about the mortal risks of labor abuses in global supply chains, prompting consumers around the world to question the origins of the clothes they wear and the conditions of the people who make those garments. Driven, in part, by this consumer sentiment and the history of concern focused on apparel sector sweatshops ranging back to the late 1980s, some companies began to push ahead to meet the growing consumer demand for transparency in supply chains.<sup>(8)</sup> As a government agency, ILAB has led many of the efforts to research and shed light on these abuses, partnering with the private sector, governments, and workers to help bring an end to these forms of exploitation.

## Driving Global Research Forward

Informed action depends on quality research, and ILAB is a knowledge generator. Since 1993, ILAB has published more than 40 congressionally-mandated and Presidential Directive reports on child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking – covering approximately 140 countries – that have supported business efforts to reduce child labor and forced labor in global supply chains. In 2002, ILAB submitted a report to the United States Congress on the development of a

reporting methodology on working conditions in the apparel industry in major apparel exporting countries, an industry that employs every sixth worker in the world.<sup>(9)</sup> The Food, Conservation, and Energy Act of 2008 (Farm Bill) mandated ILAB to work with the U.S. Department of Agriculture on a Consultative Group to develop recommendations to lessen the likelihood of agricultural products or commodities produced with child labor and forced labor from entering the United States given global child labor risks in agriculture. In 2012, ILAB introduced *Reducing Child Labor and Forced Labor: A Toolkit for Responsible Businesses*, the first such guide developed by the U.S. Government to help companies address child labor and forced labor in supply chains. Building on these experiences, in 2017, ILAB supported the first G20 Strategy to Eradicate Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking in the World of Work. ILAB also has contributed to the development of a number of other strategies to eliminate child labor and forced labor, from promoting economic development to conducting research, and from sharing knowledge to driving innovation.

More recently, ILAB has continued to support other critical research on global supply chains. A key piece of this ongoing research is the 2019 report *Ending Child Labour, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Global Supply Chains*.<sup>(10)</sup> This Alliance 8.7 report, partially funded and supported by ILAB, provides the first-ever estimates of child labor in global supply chains and highlights the often indirect link between the two. This latest research confirmed an indispensable fact: that a significant share of child labor in global supply chains occurs in the lower tiers, in activities such as raw material extraction and agriculture, making due diligence, visibility, and traceability even more challenging. In the face of this challenge, ILAB has sought to be a crucial partner and mentor to those working on these efforts as the world demands more coherence on actions against child labor, forced labor, human trafficking, and modern slavery.



©Florian Kopp/imageBROKER/Alamy Stock Photo

Child labour, boy producing soft toys and carpets from alpaca fur in a small family business.  
Pachamac, Lima, Peru. March 14, 2011.

## Challenges Ahead

The shortage of data sets, as well as gaps in existing ones, hinder efforts to accurately estimate the scale of child labor and forced labor in global supply chains. Nevertheless, ILAB is committed to leading with our global partners and other researchers to refine and improve traceability methodology and to support complementary, related research. To that end, dialogue among stakeholders must continue on persistent and complex questions like commodity pricing and fair wages for small-scale producers. Additionally, further research is needed on workers that play a supporting role, but are outside a business's direct supply chain. These workers may be involved in providing supplementary manufacturing inputs and the raw materials from farms and forests. In the face of these challenges, more work is needed to link customer to brand to supplier to producer and thereby paint a definitive picture of the complete supply chain.

## ILAB as a Leading Actor on Supply Chains

Beyond efforts at a macro level to overcome these hurdles, ILAB collaborates directly with private sector partners aiming to eradicate labor abuses from their supply chains. ILAB provides critical tools to businesses and consumers that help promote a fair global playing field for workers and companies, including our essential reporting, a tool for the business community called *Comply Chain*, and our technical assistance.

## Our Essential Reporting

Since 1993, ILAB has developed a unique approach to using its research to combat labor abuses. ILAB's *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* and the *List of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor* identify supply chains that violate international labor standards and highlight particular goods and products with evidence of abusive labor practices. The annual *Findings on the*

*Worst Forms of Child Labor* report focuses on the efforts of 131 countries and territories to eliminate the worst forms of child labor through legislation, enforcement mechanisms, policies, and social programs. ILAB employs a systematic and rigorous process, supporting the collection of in-country data, traveling to conduct firsthand research in hard-to-reach places, and corroborating reports of labor abuses with credible international and local sources. This approach helps ensure the credibility and validity of ILAB's publications on child labor and forced labor. Together, these reports serve as a foundation and reliable resource for many companies as part of their ongoing risk management. All data and research from these three information-packed reports also are available through the mobile app *Sweat & Toil*, which allows users to access more than 1,000 pages of research in the palm of their hand. ILAB uses these reports to provide critical and actionable information to federal government agencies to safeguard federal procurement and prevent the importation of goods made with prohibited labor, as well as helping foreign governments build their capacity to end modern slavery in their countries. Additionally, U.S. and global companies rely on ILAB's informative reports to prevent and reduce labor abuses across their supply chains and global production networks.

## Comply Chain – A Tool for the Business Community

While our reports raise awareness, ILAB also provides companies with a practical, step-by-step guide to tackle child labor and forced labor in their global production through *Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains*, originally developed as *A Toolkit for Responsible Businesses* in 2012. As child labor and forced labor continue to present serious and material risks to companies and industries, this smartphone and web-based app assists companies and industry groups seeking



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Child at work in tea fields.  
Rwanda, October 16, 2015.

to develop robust social compliance systems for their global production. *Comply Chain* provides detailed guidance on eight critical elements of social compliance, including numerous real-world examples on everything from responsible recruitment to worker voice. It is designed for companies that do not have

such a system in place or those needing to strengthen their existing systems. To provide companies operating around the world with the tools necessary to confront these labor injustices, we made *Comply Chain* available in English, French, and Spanish in 2018. Read more about ILAB's work in the coffee sector in Figure 1.

Figure 1

## Do You Know Where Your Coffee Comes From?

The word "coffee" first entered the English language in 1582.<sup>(11)</sup> Today, much of humanity runs on coffee. In fact, the United States is the leading importer of coffee in the world (23 percent of total coffee imports), and Brazil and Vietnam are two of the largest suppliers.<sup>(12)</sup> However, before that coffee reaches our cups, millions of individuals, including children, pick and process those beans.

Coffee is a risky business. Many coffee workers, often from marginalized populations, are paid on a piecework basis and face sub-minimum wages and excessive working hours. Hazardous conditions are commonplace. Moreover, the lack of labor law enforcement in many countries, coupled with ineffective responses from corporate actors, allows systemic labor violations to continue. As evidence of the widespread nature of these abuses, ILAB's reporting highlights 17 countries where there is evidence of child labor and one country (Côte d'Ivoire) where there is evidence of forced labor in coffee production.<sup>(13)</sup>

Beyond research, ILAB funds projects to address labor issues in coffee supply chains in Latin America and spur government action. One of these projects is the \$2 million Cooperation On Fair, Free, Equitable Employment (COFFEE) project implemented by Verité and launched in May 2019.<sup>(14)</sup> Leveraging ILAB's *Comply Chain*

app, COFFEE focuses on the creation of a global compliance system and toolkit to enable industry actors to implement sustainable social compliance systems to reduce child labor, forced labor, and unacceptable working conditions.<sup>(15)</sup> A subset of these tools will be piloted in three key coffee-producing countries (Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico) in tandem with training and guidance on the implementation of these tools as part of ongoing stakeholder engagement. More than 25 prominent coffee roasters and traders, industry associations, multi-stakeholder and certification initiatives, and CSOs have agreed to collaborate with the COFFEE project. Against a backdrop of the COVID-19 pandemic, the risks of child labor and forced labor have been elevated in communities that rely on the coffee sector for their livelihoods, especially where enforcement is weak and restrictions on movement for workers have been used as was the case in Brazil. Moreover, in Brazil, there have been proposals to mandate internal migrant quarantines and suspend enforcement efforts directed at mitigating forced labor risks, which has exacerbated the risk of labor abuse.<sup>(16)</sup> Despite the challenges, it is through direct engagements such as COFFEE that ILAB encourages governments, companies, and industry groups to take increased responsibility for ensuring the dignity of workers everywhere.

## Technical Assistance – Lending a Helping Hand as a Partner

ILAB leads not just as a knowledge generator on these issues, but also in the design and funding of innovative technical assistance projects to combat labor abuses in global supply chains. ILAB's projects in this focus area include program activities that not only touch upon aspects of traceability, but also certification and accreditation models, inspections, and even monitoring and remediation. These projects succeed through collaborative efforts to address the root causes of child labor and forced labor and to create an environment for work that is free of exploitation. Since 1995, ILAB has implemented more than 300 projects in more than 95 countries in partnership with more than 80 organizations and with the support and association of a variety of governments and private sector partners.

*Campos de Esperanza* (Fields of Hope) is a project in Mexico that involves multiple stakeholders in government, the private sector, and civil society working together to reduce child labor in migrant agricultural communities, particularly in the coffee and sugarcane sectors in Veracruz and Oaxaca. (17) The project links children and youth to existing educational programs and refers vulnerable households to existing government programs to improve income and reduce the need for child labor. *Campos de Esperanza* also strengthens the Government of Mexico's capacity to improve working conditions by addressing occupational safety, and health concerns in the sugarcane sector. The interim evaluation of the *Campos de Esperanza* project in Mexico found that building on existing private sector policies helped to increase stakeholder buy-in.

Our work in Mexico represents just a single example of our work in this space and the benefit of evaluating projects to generate new knowledge. Additionally, our previous work in the Philippines through the

*ABK3 LEAP* (Livelihoods, Education, Advocacy and Protection to Reduce Child Labor in Sugarcane) project highlighted that forging partnerships among the private sector, civil society, and government requires time and a platform that creates opportunities for dialogue. The *ABK3 LEAP* project raised awareness, strengthened advocacy, and built the capacity of community, government, and sugar industry stakeholders to reduce exploitative child labor in 11 sugarcane-producing provinces in the Philippines. The final evaluation of this project highlighted the broad commitment from major sugarcane industry stakeholders to eliminate child labor. (18) From the outset, the project engaged with the Government of the Philippines' Sugar Regulatory Administration and piloted multi-stakeholder efforts to establish Voluntary Codes of Conduct developed separately by the sugar stakeholders in each province, according to the conditions in each province to enhance buy-in from planters and millers. The project also leveraged its relationship with SIFI (Sugar Industry Foundation, Inc.) to facilitate access for participant households to receive financial assistance from the Social Amelioration Program, funded through a lien by sugar producers, during major life events, such as childbirth or serious illness. The partnership with SIFI also served an instrumental role in engaging the sugar industry on child labor issues. This multifaceted approach to addressing child labor in the Philippines ensures that efforts to reduce exploitative child labor are sustainable, creating positive, lasting changes. The results are better protections for children from exploitation, increased opportunities for youth and families to contribute to their communities and to global growth, and a more level global playing field for sugar producers who play by the rules and seek to protect their workers from unfair competition and abuses of human rights.

A final example is our project *Piloting the United States Department of Agriculture Guidelines for Eliminating Child Labor and Forced Labor in Turkey's Hazelnut Supply Chain*, implemented in partnership with the Fair Labor Association. The final evaluation of

# ILAB's Projects

## Strengthening Labor Enforcement

ILAB funded **59** active projects & initiatives in **53** countries in 2019.



**Campos de Esperanza, Mexico**  
Developed a labor competency standard and guides and manuals used to train more than 4,500 producers and agricultural workers in the sugar and coffee sectors to recognize and mitigate occupational safety and health (OSH) risks in their supply chains.

**Semilla, Peru**  
Worked with Peru's Ministry of Labor and Employment Promotion to expand nationally a "Child Labor Free Seal" Program to verify that agricultural supply chains are free of child labor.

**FLIP, Ghana**  
Trained government officials, private companies, employers and civil society stakeholders relevant to cocoa, gold and palm oil supply chains to understand and address forced labor and labor trafficking in Ghana.

**Decent Work Country Program, Uzbekistan**  
Offered information and trainings on fair recruitment in the cotton supply chain to over 2,000 participants in four target districts.

**CLIMB, Bangladesh**  
Built the capacity of over 455 civil society actors to establish more effective communication strategies about law enforcement and service provision to reduce hazardous child labor in the dried fish supply chain.

**FAIR Fish, Thailand**  
Provided pilot companies in the seafood processing supply chain with over 230 technical assistance trainings and a set of tools and guidelines for social compliance.

# Making an Impact



Demonstrating commitment and leadership in the worldwide movement to end child labor, which has contributed to the global reduction of 94 million child laborers since 2000



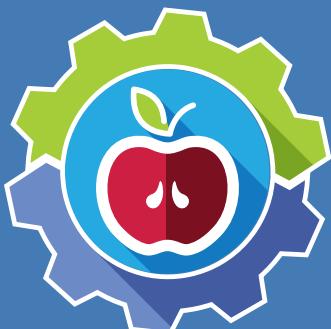
Providing education and vocational training opportunities to nearly 2 million children



Training more than 51,000 labor inspectors and law enforcement officials



Supporting the collection of information on child labor and forced labor through over 300 surveys, including over 90 national child labor surveys



Visit [www.dol.gov/EndChildLabor](http://www.dol.gov/EndChildLabor) to learn more

that project found that two companies (Balsu and Olam – suppliers of Nestlé) had either successfully developed or enhanced their systems to trace and identify risk within their supply chains as part of the project. (19) These traceability activities enable the companies to identify age and worker origin and minimize potential risks, not just traditional business risks, but also the risks of exploitative labor practices. Olam enhanced the system it had in place prior to its involvement in the project by adding labor information, such as labor contractor details, to better understand workforce movements and promote more effective interventions. Balsu was able to develop a new tracing system through the project that combined supply chain (and farmer) traceability with workforce traceability. In short, ILAB's support for this project has led to real change in pushing corporate efforts forward through the strengthening of collaborative and common responsibilities of both brands and supply chain partners.

ILAB continues to learn from our numerous supply chain-focused projects to improve outcomes for those faced with the reality of exploitative work within global supply chains.

## An Evolving Mandate and the Next Frontier

ILAB is committed to innovative approaches that address labor abuses in supply chains. For example, the Bureau has initiated a feasibility study to pilot a methodology to trace the supply chain in the Indonesian palm oil sector. On June 3, 2020, the Bureau also issued a notice of intent to fund a project to develop and pilot methodologies to trace supply chains. Additionally, ILAB is expanding its own research into goods made with inputs produced with child labor or forced labor. This research grew out of the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018, which included a new congressional mandate for ILAB related to its *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor*. (20) Specifically, the United States Congress

added a mandate to identify, “to the extent practicable, goods that are produced with inputs that are produced with forced labor or child labor.” This new language asks ILAB to examine not only the inputs to goods and products, but also the final goods and products made up of those inputs that end up on the shelves of our favorite stores. ILAB’s expanded mandate reinforces the reality of the expanding parameters of due diligence across often complex and multi-tier global supply chains. Although some methodologies exist to trace the origin of various consumer products, this field is in its infancy and lacks any widely accepted and cost-efficient standards. ILAB continues to play a role in addressing this challenging supply chain issue.

## Partnerships Remain Essential

Governments have a major duty to enforce laws and uphold fundamental workers’ rights, and should lead by example as a responsible partner in public procurement, given a government’s impact on workers connected to global supply chains. For example, consider the 37-member group known as the Organization for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). This group of high-income nations represents more than 40 percent of global gross domestic product (GDP). Moreover, this same group spends, on average, 12 percent of its GDP on public procurement – a considerable sum. (21) This high amount of spending highlights the importance of governments taking proactive steps in tending to their own supply chains. Furthermore, this is the reality for all governments around the globe, especially large non-OECD economies, which have the potential to contribute to reductions in labor abuses through responsible procurement policies.

One way that the U.S. Government protects fundamental worker rights is through the Federal Acquisition Regulations (FAR), which prohibit contractors, subcontractors, and their employees from engaging in specific types of trafficking-related activities. Additionally, FAR requires that contractors

take appropriate action against employees, agents, and subcontractors who violate the prohibitions and that those contractors inform their employees about the prohibited activities and associated consequences. One of ILAB's flagship reports – *List of Products Produced by Forced or Indentured Child Labor* – is another example of the U.S. Government's efforts to responsibly manage its procurement. This List is intended to ensure that U.S. federal agencies do not procure goods made by forced or indentured child labor. Under procurement regulations, federal contractors who supply products on the List must certify that they have made a good faith effort to determine whether forced or indentured child labor was used to produce the items supplied. Additionally, the U.S. Government's trade agreements and preference programs require our trading partners to protect internationally recognized worker rights. For example, the United States-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA) brings labor obligations into the core of the agreement and makes them fully enforceable, representing the strongest provisions of any trade agreement. USMCA's labor chapter also requires that each country prohibit the importation of goods into its territory from other sources produced in whole or in part by forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory child labor.

Furthermore, greater enforcement on the part of governments leads to greater compliance on the part of businesses. The business community is an essential partner in this alliance to delve deeper into the question of where our products come from. Eradicating child and forced labor cannot be achieved without sustained commitment from the businesses that mine, produce, manufacture, distribute, and sell goods around the world. Businesses create jobs and find workers to perform those jobs; these companies bear a responsibility to ensure that those working

relationships respect national laws and fundamental labor rights. Some businesses and industry groups have long taken this responsibility seriously, through robust voluntary standards, due diligence, remediation, transparency, and engagement with stakeholders. Now, however, the combination of increased pressure from stakeholders, such as governments, and incentives to develop stronger responses is driving more businesses to acknowledge and address labor abuses in their supply chains not just as a voluntary commitment, but as a necessary way of conducting business today.

Partnerships are essential to address the problem of child labor and forced labor in supply chains. We need to bring together all key actors – including governments, international organizations, businesses, workers' and employers' organizations, and civil society – if we hope to truly accelerate progress over the coming decade. That is the kind of “all hands on deck” approach needed. Moreover, such an approach offers the added benefit of allowing us to leverage our vast, collective learning and experience. A greater impact in the years ahead is not only possible, but also more likely by sharing our expertise, our lessons learned, and our good practices.

We continue to recognize the importance of traceability to the quality of the goods and products that we purchase. Yet, traceability is significant beyond quality control: knowing the origin of all products and the conditions under which they are made is increasingly critical in all aspects. As traceability improves, it is increasingly possible to know whether child labor and forced labor are at the origin of the foods we eat or the clothes we wear. As ILAB continues to improve our ability to ask and to answer these questions, we invite you to join us in asking, “Who made this and under what conditions?”

Figure 2

## 20 Years of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act

In October 2000, the United States Congress passed a pivotal piece of legislation – the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (TVPA) – that provided increased protections for trafficking victims in the United States, established human trafficking and related offenses as federal crimes, and strengthened the U.S. Government's service provision and prevention efforts. This Act served as the catalyst for two decades of rapid expansion of federal efforts to eradicate human trafficking and uphold the rights of survivors. As we commemorate the 20th anniversary of the TVPA's enactment, USDOL remains committed to working in partnership with other federal agencies and the business and non-governmental organization (NGO) communities to end human trafficking, both at home and abroad.

USDOL has an important role to play in the fight against trafficking in persons. Domestically, investigators from our Wage and Hour Division and Occupational Safety and Health Administration proactively enforce workplace laws and are often the first federal agencies to make contact with vulnerable workers and detect exploitation in the workplace. Our Employment and Training Administration leverages its resources and expertise to help trafficking survivors seek gainful employment when they are ready. Additionally, the Department works hand-in-hand with interagency Anti-Trafficking Coordination Teams, which streamline federal

criminal investigations and prosecutions of human trafficking offenses.

Internationally, ILAB has been recognized as a global leader in combating the trafficking of adults and children for more than 20 years. We use our reporting on child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking to engage with and ensure that governments strengthen and enforce their laws, and that businesses do their part to rid their supply chains of child labor and forced labor. Furthermore, 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 palm oil supply chains in Colombia and Ecuador to cocoa farming in Côte d'Ivoire. ILAB has piloted strategies to prevent human trafficking and build the capacity of governments to combat labor abuses. ILAB projects have rescued millions of children from the worst forms of child labor – including trafficking – and provided them with direct services, such as shelter and rehabilitation.

The Trafficking Victims Protection Act and its subsequent reauthorizations have provided ILAB with clear and expanding authorities to combat trafficking in persons. In commemorating the 20th anniversary of this watershed law, we reflect on how far we have come and commit to continuing efforts to meet its goals.



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Clarisse Kambire, 13, and fellow laborers deliver baskets of hand-picked organic cotton to her farmer's store house. Benvar, Burkina Faso. November 10, 2011.



©Jonas Gratzer/LightRocket/Getty Images

Migrant workers on a fishing boat that is parked at a dock.  
Phuket, Thailand. August 8, 2014.

# The 2020 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor

## From Unknown to Known: The Story Behind Our Stuff

### *About This Report*

**T**he *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* begins with the full 2020 TVPRA List and an analysis of what the sectors and countries/areas on the List tell us about child labor and forced labor in the world today. We then present the 2020 additions to the List and discuss not only key findings, but also the source materials that are critical to bring these issues into the open. Next, we look in depth at this year's removal from the List, discussing the factors that contributed to the reduction of child labor in this case. We also point to notable efforts that governments, the private sector, workers' organizations, civil society, and multilateral organizations are undertaking to eradicate these problems. Finally, we take a look at what is in store for the future of the List.

### *The 2020 TVPRA List by Country*

The 2020 edition of the TVPRA List includes 155 goods from 77 countries. Six new goods (gloves, rubber gloves, hair products, pome and stone fruits, sandstone, and tomato products) that were not previously included on the List are being added, as well as two new countries (Venezuela and Zimbabwe) and one new area (Taiwan). (22) This ninth edition adds a total of 25 new additions and removes one line item and country from the TVPRA List, cattle from Namibia. The full list of 437 line items (a line item is a unique combination of a country/area and a good) is shown in Table 1. For full-paragraph descriptions of each good being added to the List, see Appendix 7. See Figure 3 to get a visual snapshot of the 2020 TVPRA List.

Table 1

## The 2020 TVPRA List

COUNTRY/AREA	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
Afghanistan	Carpets, Coal, Poppies, Salt		Bricks
Angola			Diamonds
Argentina	Blueberries, Bricks, Cotton, Garlic, Grapes, Olives, Strawberries, Tobacco, Tomatoes, Yerba Mate (stimulant plant)		Garments
Azerbaijan	Cotton		
Bangladesh	Bidis (hand-rolled cigarettes), Bricks, Footwear, Furniture (steel), Garments, Glass, Leather, Matches, Poultry, Salt, Shrimp, Soap, Textiles, Jute (textiles)		Dried Fish
Belize	Bananas, Citrus Fruits, Sugarcane		
Benin	Granite (crushed)		Cotton
Bolivia	Bricks, Gold, Silver, Tin, Zinc	Cattle, Peanuts	Brazil Nuts/Chestnuts, Corn, Sugarcane
Brazil	Bananas, Beef, Bricks, Cashews, Ceramics, Cocoa, Corn, Cotton, Fish, Footwear, Hogs, Manioc/Cassava, Pineapples, Poultry, Rice, Sheep, Sisal, Tobacco	Garments, Timber	Cattle, Charcoal, Coffee, Sugarcane
Burkina Faso	Granite		Cotton, Gold
Burma	Garments	Palm Thatch, Sesame, Shrimp, Sunflowers	Bamboo, Beans (green, soy, yellow), Bricks, Jade, Rice, Rubber, Rubies, Sugarcane, Teak
Cambodia	Alcoholic Beverages, Bovines, Fish, Manioc/Cassava, Meat, Rubber, Salt, Shrimp, Sugarcane, Textiles, Timber, Tobacco		Bricks
Cameroon	Cocoa		
Central African Republic	Diamonds		

COUNTRY/AREA	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
Chad	Cattle		
China		Artificial Flowers, Christmas Decorations, Coal, Fish, Footwear, Garments, Gloves, Hair Products, Nails, Thread/Yarn, Tomato Products	Bricks, Cotton, Electronics, Fireworks, Textiles, Toys
Colombia	Bricks (clay), Coal, Coffee, Emeralds, Fruits (Pome and Stone), Gold, Grapes, Pornography, Sugarcane		Coca (stimulant plant)
Costa Rica	Cattle, Coffee		
Côte d'Ivoire			Cocoa, Coffee
Democratic Republic of the Congo	Cobalt Ore (heterogenite), Copper, Diamonds		Gold, Tantalum Ore (coltan), Tin Ore (cassiterite), Tungsten Ore (wolframite)
Dominican Republic	Baked Goods, Coffee, Rice, Tomatoes		Sugarcane
Ecuador	Bananas, Bricks, Flowers, Gold		
Egypt	Bricks, Cotton, Stones (limestone)		
El Salvador	Baked Goods, Cattle, Cereal Grains, Coffee, Fireworks, Shellfish, Sugarcane		
Eswatini	Bovines		
Ethiopia	Cattle, Gold, Khat (stimulant plant)		Textiles (hand-woven)
Ghana	Cocoa, Gold		Fish, Tilapia (fish)
Guatemala	Broccoli, Coffee, Corn, Fireworks, Gravel (crushed stones), Sugarcane		
Guinea	Cashews, Cocoa, Coffee, Diamonds, Gold		
Honduras	Coffee, Lobsters, Melons		

COUNTRY/AREA	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
India	Bidis (hand-rolled cigarettes), Brassware, Cotton, Fireworks, Footwear, Gems, Glass Bangles, Incense (agarbatti), Leather Goods/Accessories, Locks, Matches, Mica, Silk Fabric, Silk Thread, Soccer Balls, Sugarcane, Thread/Yarn		Bricks, Carpets, Cottonseed (hybrid), Embellished Textiles, Garments, Rice, Sandstone, Stones
Indonesia	Footwear (sandals), Gold, Rubber, Tin, Tobacco		Fish, Oil (palm)
Iran	Bricks, Carpets		
Kazakhstan			Cotton
Kenya	Coffee, Fish, Gold, Khat/Miraa (stimulant plant), Rice, Sand, Sisal, Sugarcane, Tea, Tobacco		
Kyrgyz Republic	Cotton, Tobacco		
Lebanon	Potatoes, Tobacco		
Lesotho	Cattle		
Liberia	Diamonds, Rubber		
Madagascar	Mica, Sapphires, Stones, Vanilla		
Malawi	Tea		Tobacco
Malaysia		Electronics, Garments, Rubber Gloves	Oil (palm)
Mali	Cotton, Gold		Rice
Mauritania	Cattle, Goats		
Mexico	Beans (green beans), Cattle, Coffee, Cucumbers, Eggplants, Garments, Leather Goods, Melons, Onions, Poppies, Pornography, Sugarcane, Tobacco		Chile Peppers, Tomatoes
Mongolia	Coal, Fluorspar (mineral), Gold		
Mozambique	Tobacco		

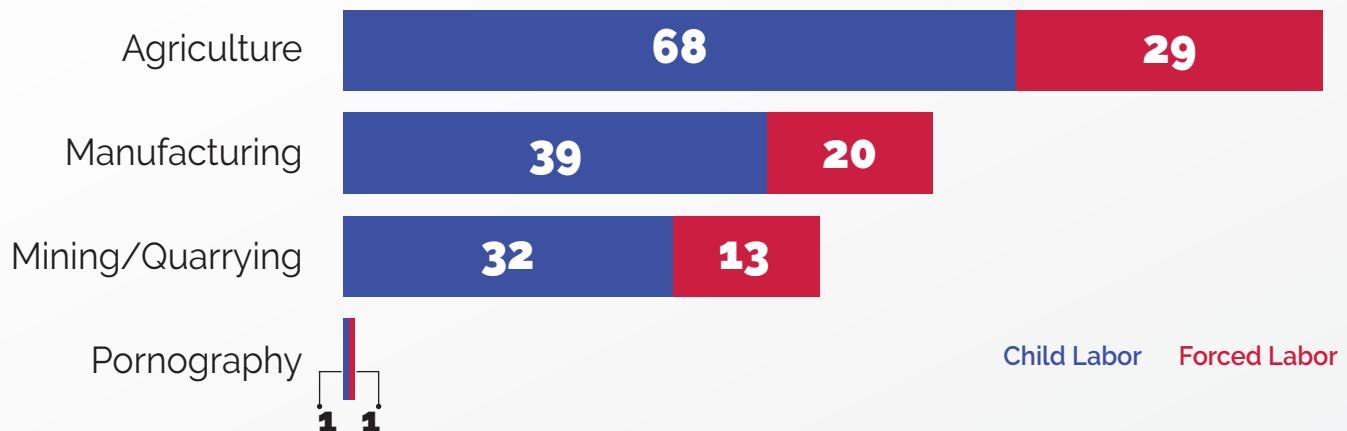
COUNTRY/AREA	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
Nepal			Bricks, Carpets, Embellished Textiles, Stones
Nicaragua	Bananas, Coffee, Gold, Gravel (crushed stones), Shellfish, Stones (pumice), Tobacco		
Niger	Gold, Gypsum (mineral), Salt, Trona (mineral)	Cattle	
Nigeria	Gold, Manioc/Cassava, Sand		Cocoa, Granite, Gravel (crushed stones)
North Korea		Bricks, Cement, Coal, Gold, Iron, Textiles, Timber	
Pakistan	Glass Bangles, Leather, Surgical Instruments	Cotton, Sugarcane, Wheat	Bricks, Carpets, Coal
Panama	Coffee, Melons		
Paraguay	Beans, Bricks, Cabbages, Carrots, Corn, Fish, Goats, Hogs, Lettuce, Manioc/Cassava, Melons, Onions, Peanuts, Peppers, Pornography, Poultry, Sesame, Sheep, Stones (limestone), Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatoes, Yerba Mate (stimulant plant)		Cattle
Peru	Bricks, Coca (stimulant plant), Fireworks, Fish	Brazil Nuts/Chestnuts, Timber	Gold
Philippines	Bananas, Coconuts, Corn, Fashion Accessories, Fish, Gold, Hogs, Pornography, Pyrotechnics, Rice, Rubber, Sugarcane, Tobacco		
Russia		Bricks, Timber	Pornography
Rwanda	Tea		
Senegal	Gold		
Sierra Leone	Cocoa, Coffee, Granite, Oil (palm)		Diamonds
South Sudan			Cattle
Sudan	Gold		
Suriname	Gold		

COUNTRY/AREA	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
Taiwan		Fish	
Tajikistan			Cotton
Tanzania	Cloves, Coffee, Gold, Nile Perch (fish), Sisal, Tanzanite (gems), Tea, Tobacco		
Thailand	Pornography, Sugarcane	Fish	Garments, Shrimp
Turkey	Citrus Fruits, Cotton, Cumin, Footwear, Furniture, Garments, Hazelnuts, Peanuts, Pulses (legumes), Sugar Beets		
Turkmenistan			Cotton
Uganda	Bricks, Cattle, Charcoal, Coffee, Fish, Gold, Rice, Sand, Stones, Sugarcane, Tea, Tobacco, Vanilla		
Ukraine	Amber, Coal, Pornography		
Uzbekistan		Cotton, Silk Cocoons	
Venezuela		Gold	
Vietnam	Bricks, Cashews, Coffee, Fish, Footwear, Furniture, Leather, Pepper, Rice, Rubber, Sugarcane, Tea, Textiles, Timber, Tobacco		Garments
Yemen	Fish		
Zambia	Cattle, Cotton, Gems, Stones, Tobacco		
Zimbabwe	Tobacco, Sugarcane		

Figure 3

# The List in Numbers

Number of Goods Produced Globally by Production Sector,  
Disaggregated by Child Labor and Forced Labor



## Goods with the Most Child Labor Listings by Number of Countries



## Goods with the Most Forced Labor Listings by Number of Countries



## Analysis of Additions to the List

The 2020 release of *The List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* includes a number of additions. In total, there are 25 additions to the List, including Ethiopian *khat* – a flowering plant native to the Horn of

Africa – that is used as a stimulant and fish harvested by Taiwan’s distant-water fishing fleet. Table 2 gives a snapshot of the newest additions on a global level, noting the country, the good, and the category: child labor or forced labor. For full-paragraph descriptions of each addition to the List in 2020, see Appendix 7. Read on to learn more about broader trends and themes related to this year’s publication.

Table 2

## Additions to the List in 2020

COUNTRY/AREA	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
Brazil		Coffee	
Cambodia	Bovines		
Cambodia			Bricks
China		Fish, Gloves, Hair Products, Textiles, Thread/Yarn, Tomato Products	
Colombia	Fruits (Pome and Stone), Grapes		
Ethiopia	Khat (Same as Miraa for Kenya)		
India			Sandstone
Indonesia		Oil (palm)	
Kenya	Gold		
Madagascar	Mica		
Malaysia		Rubber Gloves	
Mexico	Cattle, Garments, Leather Goods		
Taiwan		Fish	
Venezuela		Gold	
Zimbabwe	Sugarcane		
Zimbabwe	Tobacco		

## *Information to Count On*

More goods and products on ILAB's List is not always an indication of a larger problem; rather, more goods and products can be an indicator of how willing policymakers are to openly identify the problems. National surveys and component questionnaires on the topic of child labor are one way that governments seek to learn more about the production of various goods and products in their countries and better target interventions to address the problem. This year, a number of new goods and products were placed on the List due to an analysis of the results from these national surveys. These representative surveys are thus a vital tool in the fight against child labor and forced labor, and help provide knowledge and focus attention and resources.

For example, Mexico saw the addition of a few goods from a recent national survey. Based on an analysis of Mexico's 2017 *Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo, Módulo de Trabajo Infantil* (National Survey of Occupation and Employment – Child Labor Module), ILAB added cattle, garments, and leather goods for child labor. Survey results showed an estimated 18,501 children working in cattle raising, although

Mexican law considers agriculture work, which includes cattle raising, hazardous and prohibits it for children.<sup>(23)</sup> Garment manufacturing employs an estimated 17,826 children under the age of 15 in Mexico, predominately in the states of Puebla and Guanajuato.<sup>(24-27)</sup> The survey results also estimated 5,594 children under the age of 15 working in leather goods manufacturing.<sup>(23)</sup>

In Colombia, results from the government's 2018 *Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares* (Colombia Integrated Household Survey) led to the addition of grapes and pome and stone fruits for child labor. The survey results highlighted an estimated 10,679 children engaged in the harvesting and production of pome and stone fruits, as well as an estimated 31,834 children in grape harvesting and production.<sup>(28)</sup>

The release of these surveys demonstrates the commitment of the Governments of Mexico and Colombia to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs. Figure 4 provides information on the sources that USDOL uses to support its listings.

Figure 4

## Full Transparency The TVPRA Bibliography

In an effort to maintain full transparency, USDOL publishes a bibliography of the sources (e.g., studies, articles, reports, publications, communications) that were used in reaching the determination to add each good to the List.

The bibliography for the full List can be found on the ILAB website at

<https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/reports/child-labor/list-of-goods>. All

sources in the bibliography are publicly available. Many can be found easily on the internet. Readers also may request a copy of any source from ILAB by sending an e-mail to [ilab-tvpра@dol.gov](mailto:ilab-tvpра@dol.gov), and many are already available on ILAB's website. Bibliographies for all new goods added to the List in 2020 can be found in Appendix 7.



### *Against Their Will: The Situation in Xinjiang*

The People's Republic of China has arbitrarily detained more than one million Uyghurs and other mostly Muslim minorities in China's far western Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. (29) It is estimated that 100,000 Uyghurs and other ethnic minority ex-detainees in China may be working in conditions of forced labor following detention in re-education camps. (30) Many more rural poor workers also may experience coercion without detention. (31; 32) China has been included on the TVPRA List since 2009. This year, ILAB is adding five goods produced by forced labor by Muslim minorities in China to the 2020 edition of the TVPRA List. These goods include gloves, hair products, textiles, thread/yarn, and tomato products. Read more in Figure 5.

The production of these goods through forced labor takes place primarily in Xinjiang. (29) While previous research has focused on goods and products produced in Xinjiang, recent external reports indicate that Uyghurs also have been transported to work in other provinces in China, increasing the number of goods potentially made with forced labor and broadening the risk of forced labor in supply chains. (31; 33) Other minorities may be forced to work under the guise of "poverty alleviation" without having been detained. (34) Moreover, the government gives subsidies to companies moving to Xinjiang or employing Muslim minority workers. (30) These practices exacerbate a demand for members of Muslim ethnic minority groups that the government wants placed in work assignments where they

can be controlled and watched, as well as receive Mandarin Chinese training and undergo political indoctrination. (30) Once at a work placement, workers are usually subjected to constant surveillance and isolation. Given the vast surveillance state in Xinjiang and the threat of detention, individuals have little choice but to face the difficult situations present in these work assignments. (35)

This edition of the report turned to published victims' testimonies, and media and think tank reports, to determine the various industries implicated in this system of forced labor. Given the vast state-sponsored structure in place and the control of information, it is likely that more goods also are produced with forced labor in China. (36) In July 2020, the U.S. Departments of State, Treasury, Commerce, and Homeland Security released an advisory for businesses with potential ties to Xinjiang. This business advisory, as well as this year's additions to the TVPRA List and ILAB's recently updated *Comply Chain* due diligence tool for businesses, are practical guides for raising awareness and addressing this issue. Companies with supply chains that link to China, including, but not limited to, Xinjiang, should conduct due diligence to ensure that suppliers are not engaging in forced labor. With such severe and well-documented, widespread abuses, it is important that the world remains vigilant with respect to labor and goods linked to Xinjiang, including reasonable measures to guard against complicity in these violations. Figure 6 provides information on first-hand accounts of those living in forced labor in Xinjiang.

Figure 5

## Goods from China Made with Forced Labor

17

Goods on the TVPRA List are Produced with Forced Labor in China

5

New Additions to the List for Forced Labor in Xinjiang were Added this Year



Gloves



Hair Products



Textiles



Thread/Yarn



Tomato Products

4

Goods Already on the List with Reported Forced Labor in Xinjiang



Cotton



Electronics



Footwear



Garments



©Thomas Peter/Reuters

"Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, People's Republic of China"

This "vocational skills education centre", situated between regional capital Urumqi and tourist spot Turpan, is among the largest known ones, and was still undergoing extensive construction and expansion at the time the photo was taken. Dabancheng, Xinjiang, China. Sept. 4, 2018.

Figure 6

## Two Stories, One Goal: Repression

The People's Republic of China officially recognizes 55 ethnic groups in addition to the Han majority. Uyghurs are one of those groups. Along with other mostly Muslim minorities in China, Uyghurs confront abuse and discrimination in places like Xinjiang and elsewhere in the country.

Uyghurs detained in camps and forced to labor in factories must endure dreadful conditions. In one internment camp in Kashgar, Xinjiang, Uyghur detainees work as forced laborers to produce textiles. They receive little pay, are not allowed to leave, and have limited or no communication with family members. If family communication and visits are allowed, they are heavily monitored or cut short. When not working, the Uyghur workers must learn Mandarin and undergo ideological indoctrination. However, these abuses are not just limited to Xinjiang.

Beyond Xinjiang, in the coastal Chinese province of Fujian, Uyghur workers at a factory in Quanzhou face similar abuses. Uyghur workers are made to live in separate dormitories from Han workers. These dormitories are

surrounded by an iron gate and security cameras. When finished for the day, often working more hours than their Han co-workers, the Uyghur workers are escorted back to their dormitories by provincial police officers from Xinjiang – not Fujian – and Quanzhou city police. The local police say the roll call is to ensure no one is missing. Uyghur workers at this factory are not allowed to exercise their free will to leave. Even if they could leave, they would not get far, as local police have confiscated their identification materials.

Sadly, these two stories fail to capture the individual struggles of the more than one million Uyghurs and other mostly Muslim minorities arbitrarily detained in the far western region of Xinjiang and across China. These two stories are just a snapshot of the vast scale of abuse and serve as a notice for the world to ask questions, take action, and demand change. Read more about what forced labor looks like in Figure 7 and see Table 3 for information about the total number of goods produced by forced labor around the world.

Figure 7

## Selected Indicators of Forced Labor

- **Coercive recruitment**  
*"I was recruited for a different job"*
- **Deception about the nature of work**  
*"This work is completely different than what I was told"*
- **Confiscation of identity papers or travel documents**  
*"My employer confiscated my identity papers and passport"*
- **Physical or sexual violence**  
*"I didn't expect to be physically and sexually abused"*
- **Limited freedom of movement or communication**  
*"I'm not allowed to leave or communicate with anyone outside"*
- **Withholding or delay of wages**  
*"I still haven't gotten paid"*
- **No freedom to resign in accordance with legal requirements**  
*"My employer won't allow me to quit"*

Table 3

## Forced Labor Around the World

COUNTRY/AREA	TOTAL NUMBER OF GOODS PRODUCED BY FORCED LABOR	GOOD(S)
China	17	Artificial Flowers, Bricks, Christmas Decorations, Coal, Cotton, Electronics, Fireworks, Fish, Footwear, Garments, Gloves, Hair Products, Nails, Textiles, Thread/Yarn, Tomato Products, Toys
Burma	13	Bamboo, Beans (green, soy, yellow), Bricks, Jade, Palm Thatch, Rice, Rubber, Rubies, Sesame, Shrimp, Sugarcane, Sunflowers, Teak
India	8	Bricks, Carpets, Cottonseed (hybrid), Embellished Textiles, Garments, Rice, Sandstone, Stones
North Korea	7	Bricks, Cement, Coal, Gold, Iron, Textiles, Timber
Brazil	6	Cattle, Charcoal, Coffee, Garments, Sugarcane, Timber
Pakistan	6	Bricks, Carpets, Coal, Cotton, Sugarcane, Wheat
Bolivia	5	Brazil Nuts/Chestnuts, Cattle, Corn, Peanuts, Sugarcane
Democratic Republic of the Congo	4	Gold, Tantalum Ore (coltan), Tin Ore (cassiterite), Tungsten Ore (wolframite)
Malaysia	4	Electronics, Garments, Oil (palm), Rubber Gloves
Nepal	4	Bricks, Carpets, Embellished Textiles, Stones
Nigeria	3	Cocoa, Granite, Gravel (crushed stones)
Peru	3	Brazil Nuts/Chestnuts, Gold, Timber
Russia	3	Bricks, Pornography, Timber
Thailand	3	Fish, Garments, Shrimp

COUNTRY/AREA	TOTAL NUMBER OF GOODS PRODUCED BY FORCED LABOR	GOOD(S)
Burkina Faso	2	Cotton, Gold
Côte d'Ivoire	2	Cocoa, Coffee
Ghana	2	Fish, Tilapia (fish)
Indonesia	2	Fish, Oil (palm)
Mexico	2	Chile Peppers, Tomatoes
Uzbekistan	2	Cotton, Silk Cocoons
Afghanistan	1	Bricks
Angola	1	Diamonds
Argentina	1	Garments
Bangladesh	1	Dried Fish
Benin	1	Cotton
Cambodia	1	Bricks
Colombia	1	Coca (stimulant plant)
Dominican Republic	1	Sugarcane
Ethiopia	1	Textiles (hand-woven)
Kazakhstan	1	Cotton
Malawi	1	Tobacco
Mali	1	Rice
Niger	1	Cattle
Paraguay	1	Cattle
Sierra Leone	1	Diamonds
South Sudan	1	Cattle
Taiwan	1	Fish
Tajikistan	1	Cotton
Turkmenistan	1	Cotton
Venezuela	1	Gold
Vietnam	1	Garments

## Dangerous Waters

International waters – otherwise known as the high seas – are, by definition, outside of the direct jurisdiction of any particular country. However, that does not mean that these waters are empty and void. On the contrary, distant-water fishing (DWF) fleets flying the flags of various nations log millions of hours in these waters.<sup>(37)</sup> In addition to the high seas, DWF fleets also operate in other countries' exclusive economic zones (EEZs). DWF fleets' crews are comprised of workers from many countries, often recruited through dubious agencies that deceive workers with false information regarding their wages and the terms of the contracts, and require the workers to pay recruitment fees and sign debt contracts. This year, ILAB is adding fish from China and Taiwan for forced labor due to reports of adults forced to work in the production of fish on their DWF fleets. Although these activities may not take place within territorial waters, ILAB made these additions because the *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* applies to all goods produced by forced labor or child labor, including seafood harvested on the high seas. The 2020 edition of the List makes clear that fish caught outside of territorial waters will be listed by the country that has flagged that vessel. This is not to say that this is an easy process. The remote nature of this work leads to limitations in the availability of data, in particular, for DWF fleets. Numerous other countries operate DWF fleets and many countries allow their flag to be flown as a "flag of convenience," or the flag of a state other than that of the vessel's owner. Vessel owners use flags of convenience to avoid financial charges or regulatory requirements in their own states, as well as to subject themselves to a state's labor regime that they deem to be beneficial. This year's List is notable as it represents the first time a country has been added to the List for flagging DWF fleets using forced labor. Read below to learn more about each case.

China's fleet is the largest in the world, with an estimated 3,000 fishing vessels, and contains a wide

variety of vessels, from longliners to purse seiners, operating on the high seas and in foreign countries' EEZs in every region of the world.<sup>(38-41)</sup> The majority of the crews on board are migrant workers from Indonesia and the Philippines, who are particularly vulnerable to forced labor and who are sometimes recruited by agencies that deceive workers with false information regarding their wages and the terms of the contracts, and require the workers to pay recruitment fees and sign debt contracts.<sup>(37; 38)</sup> According to media reports, the U.S. Department of State, and NGOs, numerous incidents of forced labor have been reported on Chinese fishing vessels. While on board the vessels, workers' identity documents are often confiscated, the crew spends months at sea without stopping at a port of call, and they are forced to work 18 to 22 hours a day with little rest. Workers face hunger and dehydration, live in degrading and unhygienic conditions, are subjected to physical violence and verbal abuse, are prevented from leaving the vessel or ending their contracts, and frequently are not paid their promised wages.<sup>(42)</sup>

Taiwan's fleet is the second largest in the world, after China, with more than 1,100 fishing vessels, comprising approximately 36 percent of the world's tuna longliner fleet. The fleet operates on the high seas and in the EEZs of more than 30 countries, employing an estimated 35,000 migrant workers mostly from Indonesia and the Philippines.<sup>(42-45)</sup> According to media reports, the U.S. Department of State, and NGOs, numerous incidents of forced labor have been reported on Taiwan-flagged fishing vessels. Similar to crews on Chinese-flagged vessels, crews on Taiwan-flagged vessels face confiscation of documents, long days with little rest, physical and verbal abuse, and lack of payment.<sup>(46; 47)</sup> Read a first-person account in Figure 8, *Stormy Seas*, and learn more about how ILAB works with partner governments, civil society, and the private sector to counteract these abuses. Yet, sadly, even after a vessel is no longer in service, risks remain. Read on in Figure 9 to learn about the shipbreaking industry in Bangladesh.

Figure 8

## Stormy Seas

Irwan, an Indonesian man, signed a contract to become a fisher with the recruitment agency in his hometown; however, he did not receive a copy of the contract. He then flew from Jakarta to Dakar, Senegal, and boarded a vessel to transport him to a Taiwan-flagged longliner. He was promised a monthly salary of USD 450, but he did not know that multiple fees would be deducted for the first 8 months to pay the local recruitment agency and a "guarantee deposit" for his employer in Taiwan. After all the fees had been deducted, he was left with about USD 50 per month. On board, Irwan joined a crew of other migrant fishers from Indonesia and the Philippines. The captain of the ship had confiscated their passports. He worked for 16 to 18 hours per day, with only an average of 2 or 3 hours of sleep. However, if he did not catch anything, he would be forced to continue working – sometimes for as long as 34 hours – until the work was finished, and only then was he allowed to rest. Irwan had no days off, no health insurance, and no protection from violence aboard the ship. He experienced beatings from his captain, and at times, from fellow crew members who were ordered to do so by the captain. Irwan also witnessed the deaths of fellow migrant fishers from abusive working conditions, their bodies wrapped up and stored in the freezer or thrown into the sea. In the vast distant waters, workers are isolated and there is very little oversight. At sea, it is difficult and often impossible for fishers to escape these conditions.

This all-too-common story is why the addition of Taiwan and China for fish produced by forced labor to this year's List is important. ILAB has a long history of working to counter labor exploitation in this sector, and currently supports a portfolio of projects to address forced labor

and child labor in the seafood supply chain. This includes the Safeguarding Against and Addressing Fishers' Exploitation at Sea (SAFE Seas) project, which strengthens government enforcement capacities to identify and address labor exploitation on fishing vessels and deepens related engagement among fishers, the private sector, and civil society in Indonesia and the Philippines. ILAB also supports the Fostering Accountability in Recruitment for Fishery Workers (FAIR Fish) project that works with seafood-processing companies in Thailand, as well as their recruitment agencies, as they develop a responsible recruitment pilot model for small- and medium-sized enterprises built on the principles of the Business Social Compliance Initiative. Other projects include Child Labor Improvements in Bangladesh (CLIMB), which is working to build the capacity of civil society to more effectively detect and counter forced child labor in the dried fish sector; and the Measurement, Awareness-Raising, and Policy Engagement (MAP16) Project on Child Labor and Forced Labor, which includes support to the ILO to strengthen the identification of forced labor in the fishing industry through a unique multi-layered approach involving research and the development of forced labor indicators in the fishing sector.

Workers deserve dignity regardless of whether they are in port or out in distant waters. As the example of Irwan's experience as a migrant fisher illustrates, these practices are too common on distant-water fishing fleets and in the production of fish and other seafood. These egregious forms of labor exploitation demand ILAB's continued partnership with governments, NGOs, and the private sector to address pervasive abuse in the seafood sector.

Figure 9

## Bangladesh Shipbreaking

Twenty-five-year-old Mohammad Rubel worked as a "cutter" in the shipbreaking industry near Chittagong, Bangladesh. Mohammad was just one of the estimated 50,000 workers, including 6,500 children, employed in this industry, dismantling leftover shipping vessels for scrap metal.<sup>(48)</sup> As modern shipping vessels have a life span of 25 to 30 years before corrosion and metal fatigue render them obsolete, the shipbreaking industry has evolved as a service to break down the vessel with the hope of repurposing the various metals and parts. The Chittagong Ship Breaking Yard in Bangladesh where Mohammad worked is the second largest in the world, and it is a notoriously dangerous place. Workers often lack personal protective equipment and training, and are exposed to a bevy of carcinogens and toxic substances as they work.<sup>(49)</sup> An average ship contains 7 metric tons of asbestos alone, and Bangladesh led the world in 2019 by dismantling 234 ships.<sup>(49; 50)</sup> However, it is not just exposure to toxic chemicals

that workers must fear in the shipbreaking yards of Bangladesh. On an early May morning in 2019, a fire broke out on board the vessel on which Mohammad was working.<sup>(51)</sup> The flames spread rapidly from the waste oil drums to the nearby engine room where Mohammad and others worked. Mohammad lost his life in that fire, dying as he was taken to the hospital.<sup>(51)</sup> Five other workers with Mohammad that morning endured severe burn injuries and others were never recovered in the wreckage.<sup>(51)</sup> Although shipbreaking is a vital industry to Bangladesh's developing economy, its dangers pose mortal risk for the thousands of adults and children involved. Moreover, as the ship recycling industry grows globally, the dangers to workers in Bangladesh are poised to grow as well. Although shipbreaking is not a good or product *per se*, the scrap metal is often used in the production of other products, and its profound dangers warrant attention so the world can avoid another tragedy like Mohammad's.

### Madagascar Mica

Mica is a mineral frequently used for automobiles, cosmetics, and electronics. In 2018, ILAB added mica for the first time to the *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* for India. This year, ILAB is adding mica once again, but this time for Madagascar as the industry and its abuses have grown in that country. Primarily occurring in the southern provinces of Androy, Anosy, and Ihorombe, the mining of mica in Madagascar involves children ages 3 to 17.<sup>(52; 53)</sup> In an effort to determine the scale of child labor in the production of mica, a study published in 2019 estimated that 10,800 children are involved in mining

and sorting mica.<sup>(54)</sup> Adolescent boys dig mines and risk injury from falling rocks, in addition to facing difficulties breathing in the mines due to the lack of oxygen and lack of any assisted-breathing equipment. Moreover, both boys and girls toil long hours lugging mica from within deep mines and then sorting and processing the mica under the hot, baking sun. All the while, these children must contend with razor-sharp tools, with nothing to protect them from those tools, nor from exposure to the mica and sand dust kicked up from the mining and sorting. Children who work in the production of mica usually do not attend school, and the girls who work at the mining sites face increased risks of commercial sexual exploitation.

As part of ILAB's technical assistance work, we intend to fund a \$4.5 million project to address child labor in the mica-producing communities of Madagascar. The funding opportunity announcement was released on July 13, 2020, and we look forward to selecting an implementing partner soon.

### *Toward Something Better*

The addition of goods and products to ILAB's List is a sign of hope. These additions help shed light on problems shrouded in misinformation and hearsay, hidden away from the demanding gaze of society – a society that asks for human rights and respect for the dignity of every person, yet may not know the grim realities. The examples highlighted above are just a few of the 25 additions this year. This knowledge about the various goods and products provided to you, or the organization that you work for, can help eradicate these persistent problems.

## Analysis of Removals From the List

### *Child Labor in Cattle Production in Namibia*

The 2020 List contains 25 additions and 1 removal. The removals are often a celebrated and welcome part of our List because they usually represent progress and concrete advances made in the fight against child and forced labor. This case study represents the significant research and analysis that go into removing a good from our List. In 2020, ILAB determined that there has been a significant reduction of incidences of child labor in the production of cattle in Namibia, and available evidence supports removal from the TVPRA List. ILAB placed cattle from Namibia on the TVPRA List in 2010 based on reports that children were working on cattle posts, or as herders, mostly occurring in communal farms in the northern regions of Namibia. Beginning in 2017, ILAB received information indicating that government and civil society responses had reduced child labor in this sector to very limited cases, and began an assessment of the situation.

ILAB carried out desk research, travel to Namibia, and telephone interviews with experts. ILAB received information from individuals representing civil society, the Government of Namibia, and both commercial and communal farmers. Although the lack of quantitative information on the prevalence of child labor in Namibia made it challenging to ascertain the number of children currently working in the sector, the breadth of qualitative evidence pointed to a significant reduction of child labor in the production of cattle. Review Figure 10 to explore how ILAB considers removing a good from the List.

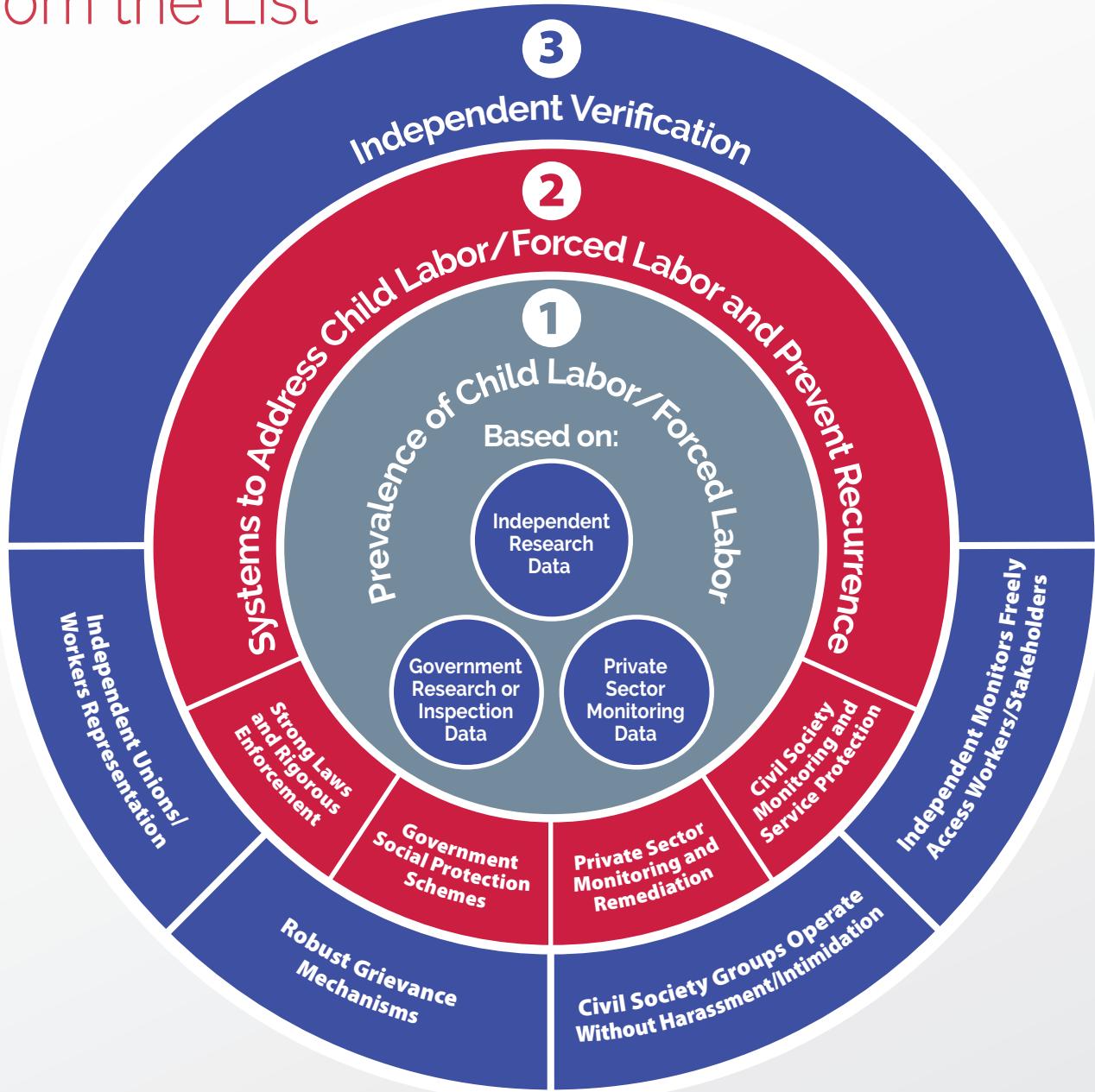
ILAB's research found that changes within the communal cattle sector likely contributed to the reduction of child labor. Communal sector farmers in Namibia's northern regions have historically had very limited access to beef export markets based in the south of the country because the Veterinary Cordon Fence, a 1,500-kilometer barrier extending west to east, restricts northern farmers from moving their cattle south of the fence unless their livestock undergoes a lengthy quarantine and evaluation process.<sup>(55)</sup> In recent years, however, northern-based farmers have advocated for greater access to beef export markets, which has also resulted in greater standardization of the sector, including observation of minimum age laws. A 5-year project, implemented by the U.S. Millennium Challenge Corporation, included an extensive campaign to provide veterinary tagging for most northern cattle.<sup>(56)</sup> This effort significantly improved farmers' ability to track and monitor their herds, reducing the need to hire labor for herding.

Moreover, an extended drought resulted in a significant reduction in herd sizes, as farmers have begun selling their livestock for slaughter to prevent cattle starvation.<sup>(57)</sup> The significant reduction in herd sizes decreased demand for labor, including child workers. At the same time, farmers have placed more value on the experience and skilled labor of adult workers to care for the remaining livestock.

In addition to sectoral changes, ILAB research also found that efforts by both government and civil

Figure 10

# Consideration of Goods for Removal from the List



- 1 ILAB examines all available data on the prevalence of child or forced labor in the production of the good. If such data are not publicly available, ILAB may request it from stakeholders or support new data collection efforts. In examining this data, ILAB seeks to confirm whether child or forced labor is occurring in "more than an isolated incident."
- 2 If available data indicates that the prevalence of child or forced labor falls below this threshold, ILAB then examines the governmental, private sector, and civil society systems in place to assist victims and prevent recurrence of the problem. ILAB seeks to confirm that any isolated cases of child or forced labor found in the sector are addressed timely, through appropriate protections and services.
- 3 In examining all evidence related to a removal, ILAB seeks corroboration from multiple sources. ILAB confirms that its sources are not tainted by bias or corruption, and that independent parties confirm its findings.

society likely played a significant role in reducing child labor in the cattle sector. Namibia's Ministry of Labor, Industrial Relations, and Employment Creation (MLIREC) conducts inspections of the agricultural sector, including at communal cattle farms and posts. Both government representatives and local farmers were able to validate that labor officials maintain an active presence in monitoring the sector, with inspectors working in areas for weeks at a time, often conducting investigations and interviewing employees without informing employers.

In the past decade, the Government of Namibia has undertaken a significant expansion of education, including establishing free secondary schooling. The Ministry of Education and Ministry of Gender Equality and Child Welfare each dedicated significant resources to promote public awareness of the importance of education. Multiple contacts reported exceptionally low dropout rates, including in rural areas in northern Namibia. Additionally, MLIREC and the Namibian Police Force each operate 24-hour SMS (text messaging) lines for community members to report labor complaints, including child labor, and cases of child abuse and neglect.<sup>(58)</sup> According to government and civil society representatives, law enforcement authorities quickly responded to the few cases of child labor occurring at cattle posts following community referrals using these hotlines.

These factors point to a significant decline in the incidence of child labor in the production of cattle. During their extensive travels across Namibia, which spanned 1,800 kilometers, ILAB staff did not directly observe children working in the cattle sector, and multiple sources, including representatives from government, civil society, and the agriculture sector, stated that it was not an extensive problem. Although some sources did indicate some continued instances of children working in the production of cattle, these are likely isolated incidents. The government responded and removed the children from child labor in these cases.

The Namibian cattle sector presents an example of how government efforts, community awareness, and sectoral change have come together to reduce child labor. Although there likely continues to be some incidents of child labor in the cattle sector, ILAB's research indicates that these occur only in isolated cases, to which the government and civil society are capable of responding.

## Working Together to End Child Labor and Forced Labor

The United States recognizes that eradicating child labor and forced labor is vitally important to uphold the dignity and rights of all workers and to level the playing field on which our businesses and workers compete. Our government – with leadership from ILAB – will continue to work with other governments to ensure that all countries share these responsibilities, and will continue to support companies and industry groups, workers and civil society organizations, and multi-lateral bodies to accelerate progress and promote the dignity of workers everywhere. Read on to learn more about how each of these various groups work together to end child labor and forced labor.

### *Governments*

Governments can lead and take action in several ways, including by adhering to international standards such as ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor and ILO Convention No. 29 on Forced Labor. In accordance with their commitments to adhere to international labor standards, governments can strengthen their legal frameworks and build the capacity of their enforcement bodies. Likewise, governments' collection and dissemination of child labor data demonstrates commitment to addressing child labor and their recognition that data is critical to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs. In order to combat a problem, it is important to learn about the full nature and scope



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Nevin Omae, 12, working in a sewing workshop. Turkey. 2015.

of the problem, and because of that, we applaud governments that take the bold step to measure the labor injustices within their borders, such as the Governments of Colombia and Mexico, each of which released the results of national surveys on labor and working conditions, including child labor. Read more about these efforts on page 29. These governmental efforts to create legal, enforcement, and policy frameworks to reduce child and forced labor, along with sharing vital data on the problem, help support efforts to eliminate child labor and forced labor.

### ***Companies and Industry Groups***

Private sector leadership is critical in the global fight against child labor and forced labor. Not only do these abuses cause serious and long-lasting harm to victims, they also present serious and material risks to companies and industries. ILAB continues to engage with business enterprises to encourage and enhance their efforts to combat human rights abuses within their sectors and supply chains. Corporate efforts are on the rise. Companies looking to collaborate with peers to address child labor and forced labor have no shortage of options, ranging from business associations to multi-stakeholder partnerships. As just one example, ILO's Global Business Network Against Forced Labor and Human Trafficking is a forum for peer learning and collective problem solving focused

on assisting companies with addressing issues at lower tiers of supply chains, working with small and medium-sized enterprises on social compliance, and encouraging business to play an active role in legal and policy advocacy. The ILO continues to welcome additional companies who join the Network. Read more about ILAB's *Comply Chain* tool for companies and industry groups in Figure 11 and explore various supply chains in Colombia in Figure 12.

### ***Worker and Civil Society Organizations***

Civil society organizations play a vital role in the fight against child labor and forced labor. Some focus directly on research or policy advocacy regarding these issues, or providing services to victims, while others work to promote the fundamental principles and rights at work and basic social protections that must underlie the sustainable eradication of these problems. Workers and workers' organizations, community-based organizations, and other NGOs all play a part. A vibrant civil society is essential to shine a spotlight on issues and raise worker concerns.

### ***Multilateral Bodies***

ILAB also engages in multilateral forums, such as the ILO, OECD, G20, and G7, to develop strategies to improve working conditions and respect for labor rights in global supply chains. For example, the

Figure 11

## **Comply Chain: ILAB's Supply Chain Tool**

ILAB's mobile application *Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains* is a free resource to assist companies and industry groups seeking to develop voluntary social compliance systems to mitigate child labor and forced labor risks in their global production. *Comply Chain* provides a practical, step-by-step guide on critical elements of social compliance, and is designed for companies that do not have a social compliance system in place or that need to strengthen their existing systems. ILAB's latest release of *Comply Chain* includes more than 50 up-to-date examples from business associations, companies, and multi-stakeholder organizations, including international organizations, partnerships, and standard-setting groups. Additionally, the reader can dig deeper into the latest legal developments in this fast-changing field, as well as learn more about key topics such as responsible recruitment, worker voice, and strengthening existing reporting.

Figure 12

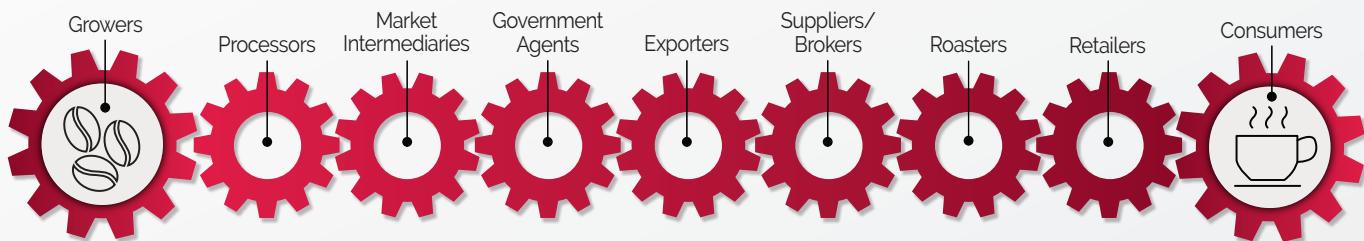
# From Colombia to Your Table

The process that brings a raw good along a supply chain and into a consumer's home is complex and varies widely, even for goods originating from the same country. Colombia exports a multitude of goods, including coffee, sugarcane, and gold. In the supply chains for these Colombian goods, issues of child labor and forced labor are being addressed. Different supply chains require unique interventions at key points.

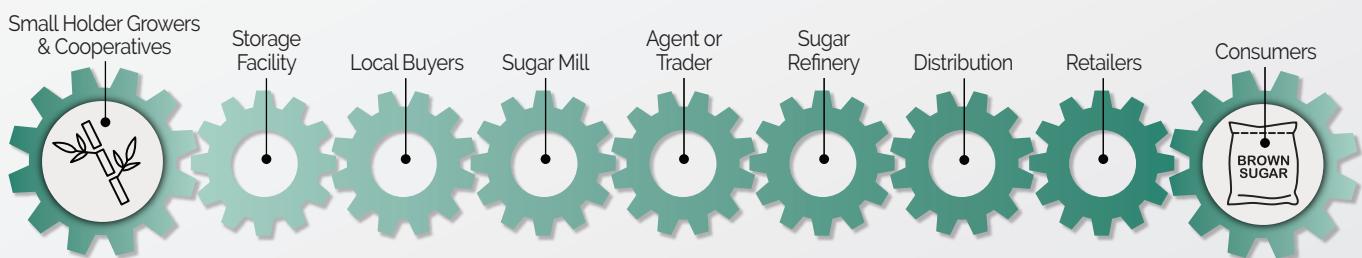
Download *Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains*, a mobile app with a practical, step-by-step guide for companies to develop strong social compliance systems to reduce child labor and forced labor in supply chains <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/apps>.

## Technical Assistance in the Colombian Supply Chain

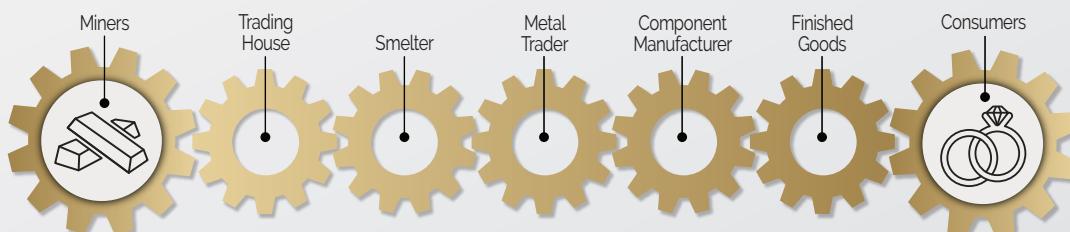
**Colombia Avanza** and the **COFFEE** (Cooperation On Fair, Free, Equitable Employment) Project build the capacity of stakeholders to eliminate child labor and improve working conditions in coffee supply chains. **Colombia Avanza** strengthens civil society organizations in the Departments of Huila and Tolima to identify and document the nature and scope of child and forced labor, and it promotes mechanisms to seek remedy whenever violations occur. The **COFFEE** Project is creating a social compliance system and toolkit to enable coffee industry actors to address labor exploitation; tools will be piloted in three key coffee-producing countries: Brazil, Colombia, and Mexico.



**EQUAL/Colombia** strengthens the economic participation of more than 2,000 vulnerable women and adolescent girls in the cut flower and *panela* (unrefined whole cane sugar) sectors by helping them better understand their labor rights, access demand-driven job training opportunities and social services, and develop their own businesses. The project partners with the Colombian government, the private sector, civil society organizations, and agricultural communities to address gender inequality and improve business and labor practices in the Departments of Antioquia and Cundinamarca so that vulnerable women and girls have equal access to and control over economic resources and opportunities.



**Pilares** and **Somos Tesoro** build multi-stakeholder coalitions to address child labor and working conditions in artisanal and small-scale mining in the Departments of Antioquia, Bolívar, and Boyacá. **Pilares** strengthens the capacity of 57 civil society organizations and three local child-labor committees to effectively detect and combat child labor and unacceptable working conditions in artisanal and small-scale mines. **Somos Tesoro** has provided educational and livelihood services to more than 13,000 children and 4,200 families, and trained 2,500 miners in occupational safety and health. It implements the OECD Due Diligence Guidance with large-scale mining companies and small-scale miners.



OECD and the ILO play important roles in educating member states and private sector actors about child labor, forced labor, and related issues; addressing specific cases of alleged labor rights violations; and providing guidance to address these problems. These international organizations help actors set global norms and promote worldwide cohesion on issues of child labor and forced labor.

## Looking Forward

As noted in Asking the Right Questions to Trace Labor Abuses in Global Supply Chains, the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018 expanded ILAB's mandate to require the TVPRA List to include "to the extent practicable, goods that are produced *with inputs that are produced with forced labor or child labor.*" As the Bangladesh shipbreaking example in Figure 9 highlights, the scrap metal from those ships often finds its way into other products, and this new mandate challenges ILAB and others around the world to not just examine raw goods and materials, but to trace those to the intermediate and final products where they end up.<sup>(59)</sup> In other words, ILAB's expanded mandate mirrors the responsibility of businesses confronted with identifying child labor and forced labor in the upstream sourcing and operations of their production.

Many of the 152 million children in child labor and 25 million adults and children in forced labor worldwide are part of supply chains.<sup>(60)</sup> Some of these people are part of relatively simple and short domestic supply chains. However, many of these people, and the goods produced through their labor, are part of vast and complex global supply chains. We recognize that companies face significant challenges when it comes to vetting supply chains. A single company may operate in 100 countries around the world with

tens of thousands of entities in its supply chains and hundreds of thousands of workers. The risk of child labor and forced labor can be high in these long and complex chains. Figure 13 explores just three illustrative examples of supply chains to highlight the complexities and the risks.

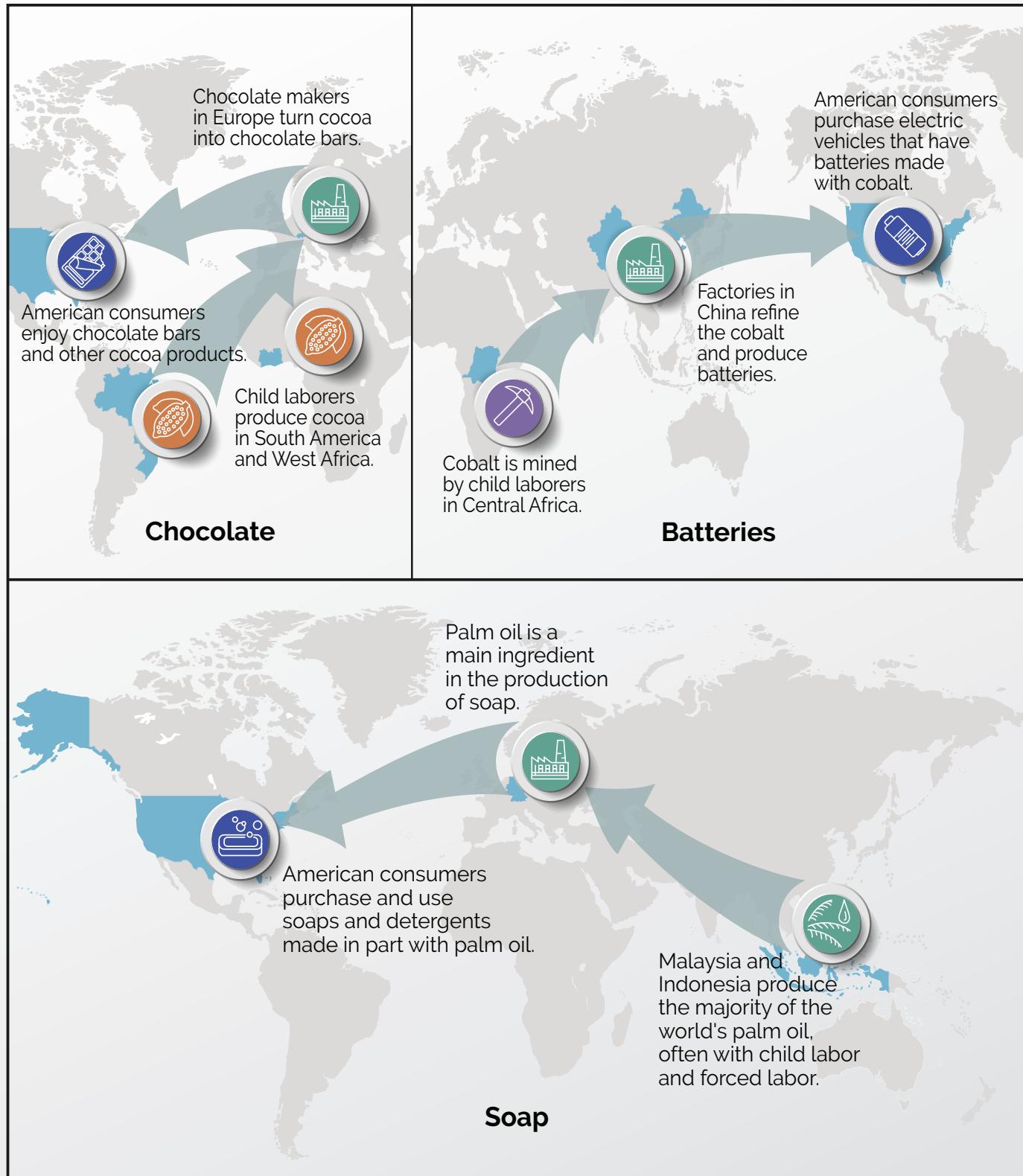
The ability to trace supply chains is critically important for identifying, addressing, and preventing child labor and forced labor.<sup>(61)</sup> However, depending on the complexity of the supply chain, tracing is often extremely challenging. In order to ensure consistent and robust implementation of ILAB's new mandate across a wide range of supply chains, ILAB will consider a number of existing methodologies and develop and pilot new methodologies for tracing goods. ILAB continues to actively engage with experts, including from academia, the private sector, and civil society, and to participate in global forums on this important topic – all of which inform our development of methodologies and implementation of the new mandate. Additionally, ILAB will fund research to increase the public's knowledge about supply chain tracing tools and methodologies.<sup>(59)</sup>

In the next edition of the TVPRA List, ILAB intends to include goods that are produced with inputs from goods on the TVPRA List. ILAB is in the process of conducting an extensive analysis of goods currently on the TVPRA List to determine, to the extent practicable, which goods we may be able to trace as inputs to other goods. Many goods on the TVPRA List are used as inputs in intermediate or final products. A few examples include, but are not limited to, cobalt, an input to batteries; cocoa, an input to chocolate products; and palm oil, an input to a number of consumer products such as soap. While the 2020 edition of the TVPRA List includes 155 goods from 77 countries, looking forward, it is just the beginning.

Figure 13

# Do You Know How It's Made?

Some Illustrative Examples of Familiar Products





©Asrian Mirza/ILO

Tackling child labour through education in West Java,  
Indonesia. West Java, Indonesia. June 18, 2008.

# 2019 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor

## The Year in Review: From Paper Commitments to Active Enforcement

Unanimous decisions do not come easily, especially on the international stage among 174 different countries. However, in 1999, the 174 member countries of the ILO unanimously adopted Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor, along with its corresponding Recommendation No. 190.(62) Together, these instruments articulated a global consensus that child labor cannot be tolerated. The Convention called for “immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor as a matter of urgency” and called on members to “take appropriate steps to assist one another in giving effect to the provisions of this Convention.”

In 2000, the United States Congress mandated that the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) submit findings with respect to each Generalized System of Preference’s “beneficiary country’s implementation of its international commitments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.” In 2002, USDOL’s Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) published the first edition of *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*. In 2009, ILAB introduced country-specific suggested actions that governments could implement in order to accelerate progress in their fight against child labor. In 2012, ILAB established individual country assessments that identify whether progress has been made toward eliminating the worst forms of child labor. Today, the 2019 release of *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* offers more than 2,000 suggested actions to governments in 131 countries and territories to advance the elimination of child labor, with almost 1,280 related to improvements in and enforcement of laws alone. This report also highlights the meaningful efforts that many countries have made to prevent and eliminate the worst

forms of child labor, including through enacting and enforcing laws, coordinating more effectively among stakeholders, establishing policy frameworks, promoting quality education for children, and implementing social protection programs along with poverty alleviation strategies that address the root causes of child labor.

The 2019 edition also marks a unique milestone with the inclusion of **Mexico** for the first time. The report covers countries and territories designated as Generalized System of Preferences (GSP) beneficiaries and former GSP beneficiary countries with a Free Trade Agreement signed after the Trade Development Act of 2000 was enacted and for which there is evidence of a child labor problem. Mexico, a former GSP beneficiary, met the benchmark for inclusion in this year's report with the entry into force of the USMCA on July 1, 2020. Although our research coverage has expanded this year, ILAB's commitment to work with governments to eliminate the worst forms of child labor remains the same as we strive to move from commitments on paper to the active enforcement of and compliance with these ideals.

### *A Newcomer in the Report This Year: Mexico*

As this is the first year that Mexico is included in the report, the country received no assessment. ILAB does not offer assessments in the first year that a country's efforts are evaluated and suggested actions are provided, allowing the initial report to serve instead as a baseline. However, it is encouraging to know that were an assessment provided, Mexico would have received a Significant Advancement, the highest assessment possible, as it made meaningful efforts in all relevant areas. The new country profile for Mexico includes more information, such as the results from the country's latest National Employment and Occupation Survey - Child Labor Module, and goods produced with child labor, including some that may be in your pantry. You can also learn about the government's new commission on migrant children and the challenges of enforcement within an informal sector that includes 60 percent of all workers.

Figure 14 contains more information about the labor provisions and ILAB's work on the USMCA.

Figure 14

## USMCA

The United States, Mexico, and Canada signed the USMCA to replace the outdated North American Free Trade Agreement (NAFTA) in November 2018, and it entered into force on July 1, 2020. Unlike NAFTA, the USMCA includes a labor chapter that brings labor obligations into the core of the agreement and makes them fully enforceable, and places a priority on workers as central beneficiaries. Under this chapter, each country, including Mexico, commits to adopt and maintain in its statutes, regulations, and practices the effective abolition of child labor and a prohibition of the worst forms of child labor. The USMCA labor chapter also requires that each country prohibit the importation of goods into its territory from other sources produced in whole or in part by forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory child labor. Additionally, it lists areas where the three countries may develop cooperative activities, which include combating forced labor and human trafficking on fishing vessels and identifying the movement of goods produced by forced labor. As part of the United States' implementation of the USMCA, President Donald Trump established a Forced Labor Enforcement Task Force. The Task Force includes representatives from across multiple government agencies to effectively monitor and report on U.S. enforcement of the prohibition of importing goods made by forced labor. ILAB plays a leading role in using its expertise to design and implement programs that will assist the Government of Mexico in meeting its USMCA obligations to combat forced labor. USDOL, represented by ILAB, also co-chairs the Interagency Labor Committee for Monitoring and Enforcement, which will monitor implementation of the labor obligations under the USMCA and request enforcement actions when there is a failure to comply with these obligations.

## *Overview of 2019 Assessments*

This year, of the 131 countries and territories assessed, eight countries – **Argentina, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Guatemala, Namibia, Paraguay, and Peru** – received the highest assessment of Significant Advancement (see Figure 15 for a global breakdown of country assessments for this year). These countries made meaningful efforts during the reporting period in all relevant areas covering legal frameworks, enforcement, coordination, policies, and social programs, which may have included taking suggested actions recommended in 2018. Furthermore, each of the eight countries met the baseline of minimally acceptable protections that countries must have in order to receive ILAB's highest assessment of Significant Advancement. In fact, this year warrants special attention and praise for the Government of **Namibia** as the nation achieved the highest rating of Significant Advancement for the first time ever.

It is noteworthy that 14 more countries and territories would have received an assessment of Significant Advancement had they met this baseline level of protections. These include **Angola, Brazil, Chile, Christmas Island, Cocos (Keeling) Islands, India, Madagascar, Mali, Mozambique, Niger, Norfolk Island, the Philippines, Thailand, and Uzbekistan**. For more information about this baseline see Figure 16 and Exhibit 1.

Sixty-seven countries received a Moderate Advancement assessment in 2019. These countries made meaningful efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor during the reporting period in some relevant areas covering laws and regulations, enforcement, coordination, policies, and social programs. Meanwhile, 27 countries received an assessment of Minimal Advancement for making efforts in only a few relevant areas.

Other countries also made efforts to address their child labor situation during the year, yet because they simultaneously continued or established a detrimental

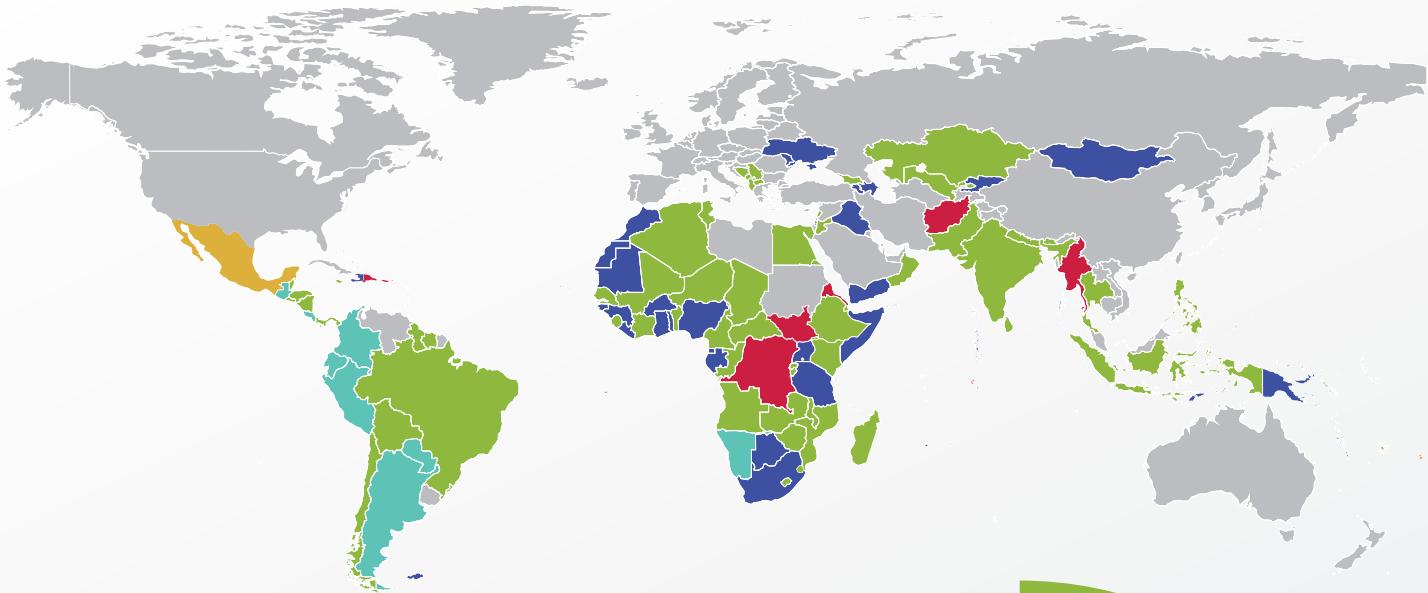
law, policy, or practice that delayed advancement in eliminating the worst forms of child labor, the highest assessment level these countries could receive was a Minimal Advancement. Sixteen countries – **Armenia, Azerbaijan, Cambodia, Gabon, Iraq, Kyrgyz Republic, Mauritania, Moldova, Mongolia, Somalia, Tanzania, Timor-Leste, Tonga, Uganda, Ukraine, and Yemen** – implemented or maintained a law, policy, or practice related to access to education, minimum age for work, labor inspection, official complicity in human trafficking, or the recruitment and use of child soldiers that undermined other advancements made toward eliminating the worst forms of child labor. Dropping off the list this year after its inclusion for several consecutive years is the West African nation of **Sierra Leone**. In early 2020, Sierra Leone overturned its policy that prohibited pregnant girls from attending regular public schools or taking secondary and post-secondary school entrance exams – a policy that made them more vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor.

Additionally, some countries could not receive an assessment level beyond No Advancement because they had a policy or demonstrated a practice of being complicit in the use of forced child labor in more than isolated incidents. Unfortunately, five countries – **Afghanistan, Burma, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Eritrea, and South Sudan** – were found to be complicit in the use of forced child labor during the reporting period, whether it be for commercial sexual exploitation, public works projects, compulsory recruitment or support for non-state groups involved in recruitment, or participation in armed conflict.

Six countries received an assessment of No Advancement because they made no effort to prevent the worst forms of child labor: **Anguilla, British Virgin Islands, Grenada, Montserrat, Niue, and Tokelau**. Despite the lack of evidence of child labor, these countries lack legal frameworks that meet international standards, thereby leaving children without an adequate preventative mechanism.

Figure 15

# Global Breakdown of Country Assessments



## 8 Significant Advancement

Argentina | Colombia | Costa Rica | Ecuador | Guatemala | Namibia | Paraguay | Peru

## 67 Moderate Advancement

Albania | Algeria | Angola | Bangladesh | Belize | Benin | Bhutan | Bolivia |  
Bosnia and Herzegovina | Brazil | Burundi | Cabo Verde | Cameroon |  
Central African Republic | Chad | Chile | Christmas Island | Cocos (Keeling) Islands |  
Comoros | Congo, Republic of the | Côte d'Ivoire | Djibouti | Dominican Republic |  
Egypt | El Salvador | Eswatini | Ethiopia | Fiji | Georgia | Guyana | Honduras | India |  
Indonesia | Jamaica | Jordan | Kazakhstan | Kenya | Kosovo | Lebanon | Lesotho |  
Madagascar | Malawi | Mali | Montenegro | Mozambique | Nepal | Niger |  
Norfolk Island | North Macedonia | Oman | Pakistan | Panama | Philippines | Rwanda |  
Saint Lucia | Senegal | Serbia | Sierra Leone | Sri Lanka | Suriname | Thailand |  
The Gambia | Tunisia | Tuvalu | Uzbekistan | Zambia | Zimbabwe

## 43 Minimal Advancement

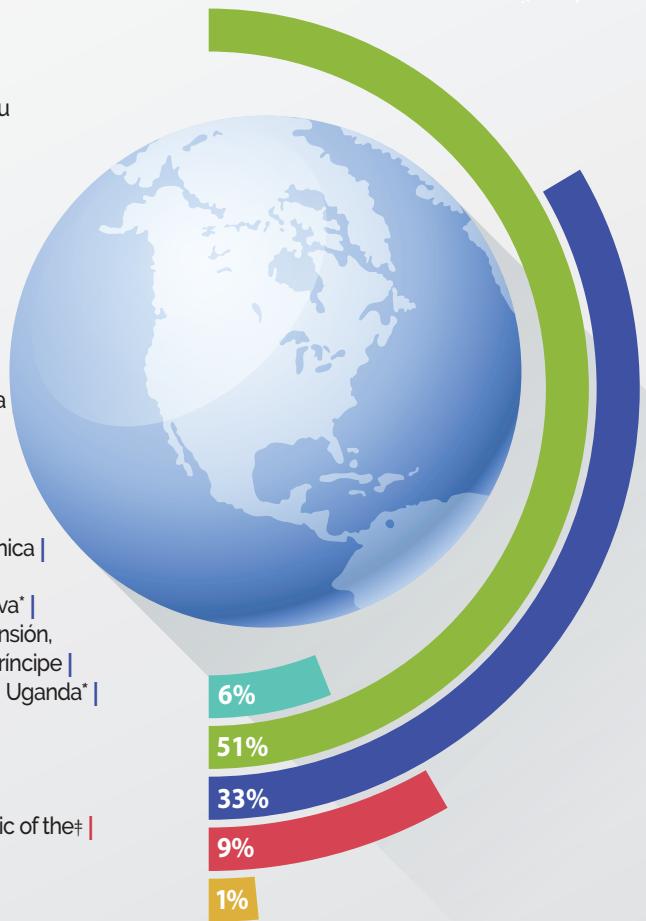
Armenia\* | Azerbaijan\* | Botswana | Burkina Faso | Cambodia\* | Cook Islands | Dominica |  
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) | Gabon\* | Ghana | Guinea | Guinea-Bissau | Haiti |  
Iraq\* | Kiribati | Kyrgyz Republic\* | Liberia | Maldives | Mauritania\* | Mauritius | Moldova\* |  
Mongolia\* | Morocco | Nicaragua | Nigeria | Papua New Guinea | Saint Helena, Ascension,  
and Tristan da Cunha | Saint Vincent and the Grenadines | Samoa | São Tomé and Príncipe |  
Solomon Islands | Somalia\* | South Africa | Tanzania\* | Timor-Leste\* | Togo | Tonga\* | Uganda\* |  
Ukraine\* | Vanuatu | West Bank and the Gaza Strip | Western Sahara | Yemen\*

## 11 No Advancement

Afghanistan† | Anguilla | Burma† | British Virgin Islands | Congo, Democratic Republic of the† |  
Eritrea† | Grenada | Montserrat | Niue | South Sudan† | Tokelau

## 2 No Assessment

Mexico | Wallis and Futuna



\* Efforts made but regression or continued law, policy, or practice that delayed advancement

† Efforts made but complicit in forced child labor



©Asanru/Shutterstock

Mexican indigenous girl, selling food at the  
waterfalls of Agua Azul Palenque, Mexico.  
Palenque, Chiapas, Mexico. July 7, 2017.

Figure 16

# Baseline of Minimally Acceptable Protections



## SOCIAL PROGRAMS

### Safeguarding Future Progress

- Directly funded a significant social program that includes the goal of eliminating child labor or addressing the root causes of the problem (e.g., lack of education opportunities, poverty, discrimination)

## ENFORCEMENT

### Putting Legislation to Action

- Made a good faith effort to collect and publish labor and criminal law enforcement data
- Took active measures to investigate, prosecute, convict, and sentence public officials who participate in or facilitate the worst forms of child labor
- Took active measures to ensure that children are not inappropriately incarcerated, penalized, or physically harmed solely for unlawful acts as a direct result of being a victim of the worst forms of child labor
- Imposed penalties for violations related to the worst forms of child labor
- Designated a competent authority or institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor

## LEGAL ACTIONS

### Establishing a Framework to Combat Child Labor

- Established legal prohibitions against the use of children for illicit activities that meet international standards
- Established legal prohibitions against commercial sexual exploitation of children that meet international standards
- Established legal prohibitions against child trafficking that meet international standards
- Established legal prohibitions against forced labor that meet international standards
- Established a minimum age for hazardous work that meets international standards
- Established a minimum age for work that meets international standards

# Overview of Meaningful Efforts

## *Legal Framework for Child Labor*

Around the world in 2019, many countries made meaningful efforts to strengthen legal protections for children from the worst forms of child labor. In South America, the Government of **Colombia** passed a law that granted birthright citizenship to children born in Colombia to Venezuelan parents, including those with irregular migration status, for the period from January 1, 2015 to September 16, 2021. This legislation was the result of a concerted effort by several ministries and agencies to facilitate access to education and health care, thereby reducing this population's vulnerability to child labor.

Moreover, several countries in the Indo-Pacific region acceded to international conventions and protocols related to the worst forms of child labor as a first step to incorporate those global standards into actionable domestic legislation. For example, **Vanuatu** acceded to ILO C. 138 on the minimum age, setting the minimum age for work at 14. Additionally, the Government of **Tuvalu** ratified ILO C. 182 on the worst forms of child

labor. **Burma** also ratified the Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the involvement of children in armed conflict. Finally, **Bangladesh** acceded to the Palermo Protocol on human trafficking in September 2019.

In Africa, **Ethiopia** raised its minimum age for work from 14 to 15, significantly increased penalties for child labor violations, and extended protections to non-contractual workers. **Namibia**'s new Child Care Protection Act increased protections for children from the worst forms of child labor. Coupled with its implementing guidance, this Act establishes a legal framework for the care of children; provides guidelines for the mandatory reporting of cases related to child exploitation, as well as the provision of protective service for those children; and stipulates penalties of up to 10 years of imprisonment for offenses related to the worst forms of child labor. **Tunisia** published its hazardous work list in the country's official register in April 2020, thereby bringing it into effect. The new hazardous work list prevents children from participating in street work, specifically the itinerant sale of items on public streets, beaches, and public transport, such as at bus terminals or on the vehicles. Learn more about hazardous child labor and the minimum age for work in Figure 17 and Figure 18.

Figure 17

## What is Hazardous Child Labor?

ILO Recommendation 190<sup>1</sup> 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



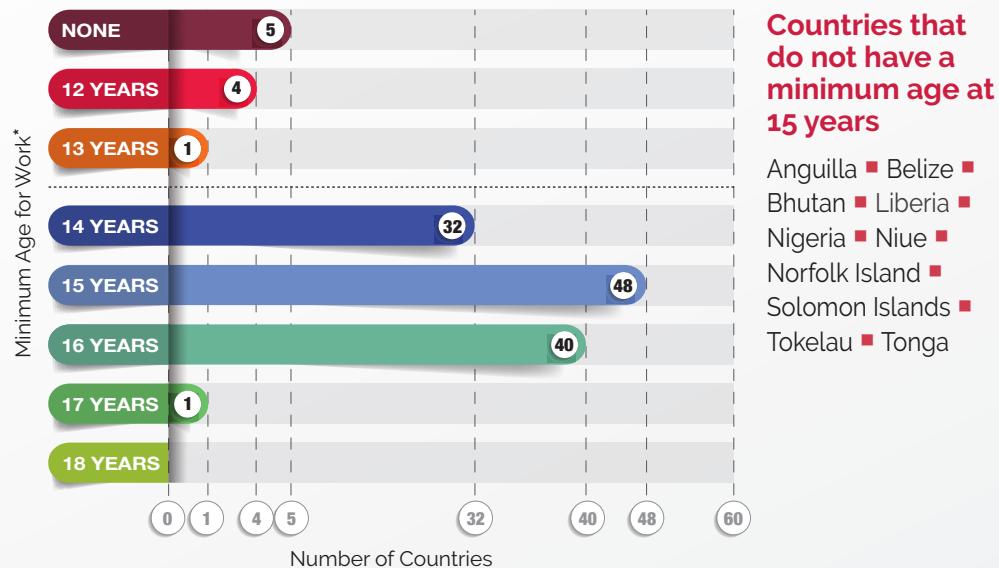
Work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer

<sup>1</sup> International Labor Organization. Recommendation 190. Geneva: June 1999. <https://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/ilc/ilc87/com-chir.htm>.

Figure 18

## hammer icon Minimum Age for Work

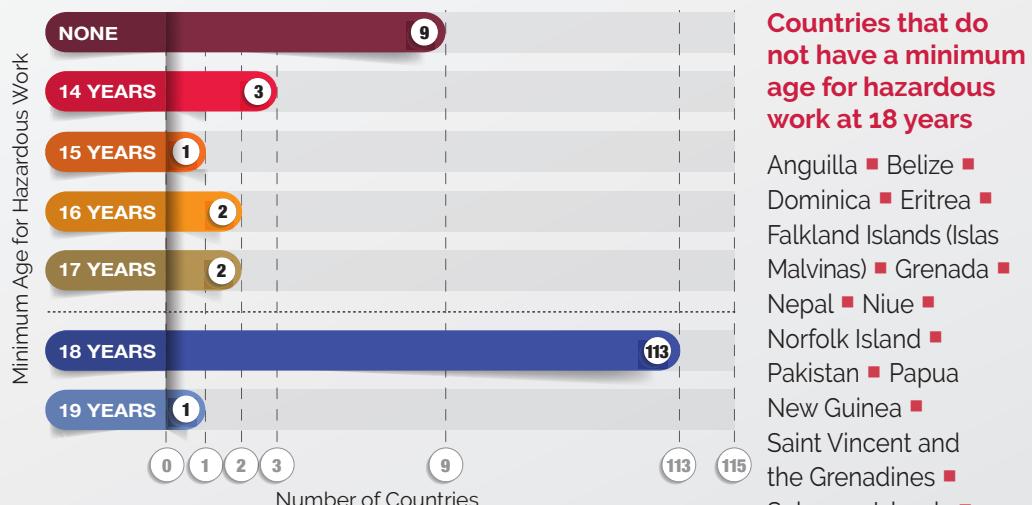
15 years



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

## warning sign icon Minimum Age for Hazardous Work

18 years



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

- Anguilla ■ Belize ■
- Dominica ■ Eritrea ■
- Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas) ■ Grenada ■
- Nepal ■ Niue ■
- Norfolk Island ■
- Pakistan ■ Papua New Guinea ■
- Saint Vincent and the Grenadines ■
- Solomon Islands ■
- Timor-Leste ■
- Tokelau ■ Tonga ■
- Vanuatu

## *Enforcement of Laws on Child Labor*

Legislation remains just one side of the coin with enforcement of those laws representing the other side. **Colombia**'s Ministry of Labor launched a virtual training campus for labor inspectors, including a course on Fundamental Rights at Work, which included modules on child labor. In the Indo-Pacific region, **Sri Lanka** was one of a few countries to increase its labor inspectorate funding, providing almost double the amount of funds – from \$1,154,000 in 2018 to \$2,110,933 in 2019. Moreover, the Government of Sri Lanka supplied all district offices with at least one vehicle and fuel to conduct inspections. **Tunisia** took enforcement actions against allegations of child trafficking – including forced labor – subsequently shutting down 11 associations operating unauthorized Koranic schools in 6 different governorates. In **Jordan**, the Joint Anti-Trafficking Unit held 39 workshops and 250 lectures on trafficking indicators as part of an effort with civil society organizations to raise awareness regarding human trafficking indicators. **Georgia** implemented a new law that empowers the labor inspectorate to conduct unannounced occupational safety and health inspections in all industries, including for

hazardous child labor. In an effort to counteract the growing trend of online exploitation of children, **Kenya** developed a cyber-crimes unit. In 2019, the unit responded to 10 cases of cyber trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children, resulting in 5 prosecutions. See Figure 19 for an overview of global enforcement efforts.

## *Coordination of Government Efforts on Child Labor*

Globally, some countries undertook efforts to enhance and improve coordination mechanisms to address child labor. In **Nepal**, for example, the police created a new anti-trafficking bureau to assist in the rescue and rehabilitation of victims, and coordinated with their Department of Labor on hazardous child labor cases. A few other countries signed intra-governmental agreements to formalize coordination. In **Paraguay**, the Ministry of Labor and the Ministry of Children and Adolescents signed an agreement to strengthen inter-agency coordination on child labor. The South American nation of **Chile**'s National Prosecutor's Office also signed a cooperative agreement with the Ombudsman's Office for the Rights of Children to improve the provision of services to children in

Figure 19

## Global Enforcement Efforts

**39**

Have an adequate number of labor inspectors



**70**

Authorize their labor inspectorates to assess penalties



\*Out of 131 countries

**94**

Conducted routine labor inspections



**89**

Conducted unannounced inspections



**106**

Have a complaint mechanism for labor violations



need. **Ecuador**'s Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion put in place an inter-agency agreement for the conducting of joint inspections, as well as set in motion the Inter-Institutional Action Protocol for the Comprehensive Care and Protection of Victims of Trafficking in Persons. Recognizing the need for improved coordination, the southern African nation of **Eswatini** – formerly known as Swaziland – launched a program with the International Organization for Migration (IOM) to strengthen coordination mechanisms to respond to trafficking in persons and ensure justice for trafficking victims.

### *Government Policies on Child Labor*

The year 2019 saw a number of countries put in place policies that support the prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labor. New this year is **Sri Lanka**'s National Child Protection Policy, which places a strong focus on the pervasive issues of child sex tourism in that country. State involvement in the cotton sector in **Uzbekistan** has historically been a root cause of child labor and forced labor. In 2019, the Government of Uzbekistan took up a new Agricultural Strategy that calls for an end to state involvement in cotton production. Another positive development is **Lebanon**'s new education policy, which allows all refugees to enroll in public schools regardless of whether they have the required documentation for school enrollment. **Argentina**'s Superintendent of Labor Risks worked with the ILO and youth advocacy groups to adopt a new National Action Plan to Improve the Safety and Health at Work of Adolescents and Youth. Additionally, the new 4-year National Plan for Development in **Costa Rica**, which includes strategies for addressing child labor, is also worth commending. Finally, **Guinea-Bissau** also developed a new National Action Plan to Eliminate and Combat Trafficking in

Persons.

### *Social Programs to Address Child Labor*

Beyond policy, a number of countries implemented or strengthened social programs to assist in tackling child labor. In Central America, **El Salvador** published the results of its 2018 El Salvador Annual Multipurpose Household Survey, which found that around 101,000 children between the ages of 5 and 17 are working in El Salvador, a 21.69 percent decrease since 2017. Elsewhere in the world, **Cambodia**, **Colombia**, and **Mexico** each released results from national surveys that highlighted child labor issues in the production of particular goods and products. Read more about this on page 29. Farther south, **Paraguay** launched a program to provide support to street children. Under this program, government employees with a range of specializations, including psychologists and social workers, respond to tips from a hotline for reporting mistreatment, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, and neglect of children, as well as information from roving street patrols in high-risk areas.

In the Indo-Pacific region, the nation of **Bangladesh**'s Ministry of Labor and Employment began implementation of a \$35 million, 3-year project – Phase IV of the Eradication of Hazardous Child Labor project – that seeks to identify 100,000 child laborers, reintegrate these children into vocational schools, and provide livelihood support for their parents.

Elsewhere, in the Middle East and North Africa region, **Lebanon** and **Jordan** continued to work with international organizations to provide educational opportunities to refugee children, including the Social Support Center in Marka, Jordan, which provided services to 20,000 children. Farther east, **Mongolia**'s Unfriend Campaign monitored, raised awareness

of, and investigated instances of possible online recruitment of youth into commercial exploitation, including sex trafficking and forced labor. In 2019, the Unfriend Campaign shut down dozens of social media pages attempting to lure children into false employment opportunities abroad, and referred several cases for criminal investigation.

**Nigeria** launched the Accelerating Action for the Elimination of Child Labor in Supply Chains in Africa (ACCEL Africa) program, which focuses on eliminating child labor in supply chains. In an effort to improve access to social services, the Government of **Zimbabwe** launched a mobile birth registration program, implemented by the Office of the Registrar General and some local governments, to ensure that citizens receive identity documents, including birth certificates. The Government of **Uganda** launched a program to rescue Karamoja street children working in Kampala and place them in rehabilitation centers in Moroto and Wakiso districts before reuniting them with their families.

Overall, these represent just a fraction of the numerous meaningful efforts to combat child labor that countries made in 2019.

## Overview of Major Gaps

Unfortunately, 2019's report also highlights a number of gaps that continue to hinder progress against child labor. As was the case last year and noted earlier, the majority of the suggested actions in the *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* report relate to the areas of legal framework and enforcement, highlighting the persistent need to honor our paper commitments to confront these injustices with comprehensive laws and proper enforcement.

### *Legal Framework for Child Labor*

Persistent legal gaps remain in many countries around the world, resulting in inadequate protections for children against the worst forms of child labor. In many countries in every region, from **Bangladesh** to **Georgia** to **Guinea** to **Haiti** to **Lebanon**, labor laws do not cover children working in the informal sector. Similarly, many countries have labor laws that only apply to certain sectors or exclude certain sectors from their minimum age or hazardous work protections. As one example among many, **Malawi**'s minimum age protections do not extend to children working in private homes or on non-commercial farms. Other countries, including **Algeria**, **Nigeria**, and **Niue**, have not determined by national law or regulation the types of work that are hazardous for children.

Gaps persist in criminal laws as well. Some countries have relevant laws that do not fully meet international standards. For example, laws prohibiting child trafficking do not meet international labor standards because they require the use of force, threats, violence, coercion, fraud, or abuse to be established as a crime in a number of countries, including **Bhutan**, **Brazil**, and **Cameroon**, among others. Laws in **Mongolia** do not specifically criminalize forced labor other than forced begging and forced hazardous work, and laws in **Afghanistan** likewise fall short of international standards, as the law does not sufficiently criminalize forced labor or debt bondage. Many countries in all regions fail to criminalize the use, procuring, and offering of all children for prostitution, the production of pornography, and pornographic performances. In other cases, countries entirely lack relevant criminal provisions. For example, many countries, from **Algeria** to **Ghana** to **Papua New Guinea**, do not criminalize the use, procurement and offering of children in illicit

activities, including in the production and trafficking of drugs. Review Figure 20 to see an overview of global gaps in laws and regulations.

### *Enforcement of Laws on Child Labor*

In the Indo-Pacific region, **Cambodia** received an assessment of Minimal Advancement this year because the government failed to take active measures to investigate, prosecute, convict, and sentence public officials who participate in or facilitate the worst forms of child labor, including commercial sexual exploitation of children and debt-based forced labor in brick kilns. To make matters worse, reports alleged that Cambodian judges have accepted bribes in return for the dismissal of charges, acquittal, and reduced sentencing for individuals committing such crimes, in particular for those with alleged ties to the Government of Cambodia. The lack of prosecution of public officials facilitating the worst forms of child labor in Cambodia and other countries, such as **Afghanistan, India, Madagascar, and Uganda**, which is sometimes combined with bribery in the justice system, exacerbates the worst forms of child labor.

Around the world, labor inspectorates lacked adequate human and financial resources, likely resulting in gaps in enforcement of protections. In many Latin America and Caribbean countries, such

as **Honduras, Mexico, and Panama**, criminal and labor law enforcement agencies lacked financial and human resources. Elsewhere in the region, labor law enforcement agencies in places such as **Chile, El Salvador, Guatemala, Paraguay, and Peru** lacked sufficient inspectors and training to adequately combat child labor.

A number of other labor inspectorates faced limitations in authority that hindered enforcement efforts. Sadly, the **Kyrgyz Republic** put a 2-year moratorium on unannounced labor inspections.

**Azerbaijan**'s inspection moratorium continued, and in neighboring **Armenia**, the labor inspectorate was not empowered to conduct inspections. Additionally, labor inspectors in **Moldova** only conduct unannounced inspections, even in response to complaints, when they demonstrate an immediate risk to the environment, life, health, or property.

There is a persistent lack of data on criminal and labor enforcement efforts around the world, but especially in the Middle East and North Africa. In particular, **Iraq, Mauritania, Tunisia, and the West Bank and Gaza Strip** each failed to provide information on labor and criminal law enforcement efforts. This lack of information presents difficulties with regard to verifying the strength of a country's enforcement of its laws.

Figure 20

## Global Gaps in Laws and Regulations\*



\*Out of 131 countries

**23**  
**30**

Countries' prohibitions of forced labor do not meet international standards

Countries' prohibitions of child trafficking do not meet international standards

**44**  
**46**

Countries' prohibitions of commercial sexual exploitation of children do not meet international standards

Countries' prohibitions of the use of children in illicit activities do not meet international standards

Resource constraints are common in many Sub-Saharan African countries, and in some countries inspectorates are non-existent or not operational. For example, in **Guinea-Bissau**, limited resources, such as 1 vehicle shared among 28 inspectors with no budget for fuel, severely hinders the labor inspectorate's ability to enforce child labor laws. **Burundi**'s labor inspectorate meanwhile owns no vehicles. Labor inspectors in the **Republic of the Congo** do not have access to government vehicles and must rely on the businesses that they are inspecting to provide transportation. **Somalia** does not even have a labor inspectorate, and the labor inspectorate in the **Democratic Republic of the Congo** simply was not operational during the entire year. These are only two examples that highlight this widespread issue.

### *Coordination of Government Efforts on Child Labor*

This year's report also highlights on a global level how a continued lack of coordination can hurt a country's efforts to tackle the systemic issues of child labor. Across Latin America, some coordinating bodies did not fulfill their mandates. As just one example, in **Bolivia**, the ILO determined that despite ongoing activities of the National Commission for the Progressive Eradication of Child Labor, there was no significant coordination on the part of this central coordinating body. Local and municipal committees of the **Dominican Republic**'s National Steering Committee to Eliminate Child Labor faced limitations in fulfilling coordination mandates due, in part, to a lack of financial resources. Whether the result of financial constraints or not, the lack of effective coordinating mechanisms can hinder a nation's efforts to promote unified action against the worst forms of child labor.

Because of weak coordination, border police officers and social workers in **Bosnia and Herzegovina** failed to properly identify unaccompanied migrant and refugee children as potential victims of human trafficking due to lack of proper protocols.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, it was the case that many coordinating bodies did not meet or fulfill their mandates, including in **Benin**, **Cameroon**, the **Democratic Republic of the Congo**, **Eritrea**, **Guinea**, and **Togo**, among others.

### *Government Policies on Child Labor*

Many countries lacked policies to address child labor. Most acutely in the Indo-Pacific region, some countries like **Bangladesh**, **Bhutan**, **Pakistan**, and **Tonga** have not integrated child labor elimination and prevention strategies into various development or education policies. Despite a number of plans put down on paper, **Fiji** is just one country that has not approved any of their draft action plans to combat child labor and human trafficking. **Kiribati** and **Maldives** also do not have policies that focus on combating all relevant worst forms of child labor. Lastly, some countries, such as **Algeria**, the **Central African Republic**, and **The Gambia**, among others, have adopted various policies addressing child labor and human trafficking, yet research found no evidence of a policy on other worst forms of child labor.

### *Social Programs to Address Child Labor*

Just as many countries face enforcement challenges, around the world, social programs to address child labor were insufficient. In the Indo-Pacific region educational challenges were common. In **Bhutan**, children living in remote villages, children of nomadic communities and migrant populations, and children with disabilities face significant difficulties in accessing public education – a common challenge in numerous other countries. In **Nepal**, children face some common global barriers to accessing education, including a lack of sanitation facilities at schools, long distances to schools, and fees associated with schooling, among others. More specifically, **Bangladesh**'s community of Rohingya refugees are barred from its public schools, leaving international organizations to fill the education gap. **Timor-Leste** school principals also forced girls to leave school when they became pregnant, although no law or policy prohibits pregnant girls from attending school.

Similarly, in South America, barriers to educational access for children from vulnerable communities, including indigenous peoples, migrants, and refugees, often increase their risk of child labor. Children in **Guyana**'s interior and rural areas have limited access to education due to poor infrastructure, long distances to schools, transportation costs, and a shortage of qualified teachers. Children in rural areas of other Latin American countries, including **Chile**, **Colombia**, and **Panama** also face challenges due to the lack of transportation among other barriers. As a reflection of this broader trend and despite legal access to free education, children in **Ecuador** face long-standing barriers to education, such as the lack of space and teachers, the lack of transportation to school, and teen pregnancy. The lack of schools in some areas of the country disproportionately affects indigenous and refugee children, as research demonstrates is the case in several other countries, as they must travel long distances to attend school and have limited transportation options.

In Sub-Saharan Africa, social programs in **The Gambia** do not reach all children working in agriculture and domestic work, or those vulnerable to human

trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, forced begging, and street work. Similar gaps were noted in **Angola**, **Cabo Verde**, **Guinea**, **Guinea-Bissau**, and **Mozambique**, to name a few. For a more in-depth regional analysis of government efforts and challenges in 2019, see Figure 21.

### *Converting Commitments to Action*

ILAB remains committed to promoting the dignity of workers everywhere. As ILAB strives to achieve this lofty goal, it is evident that regardless of the laudable successes in 2019 highlighted above, a number of challenging and persistent gaps remain in addressing child labor and forced labor worldwide. Tackling these key challenges must obviously involve the active participation of governments; however, governments are not the only entities that can make a difference. Businesses, civil society organizations, and even individuals can do so as well. As we reflect once more upon the year in review, let us all affirm our conscious commitment to extinguishing these oppressive labor abuses for the last time and move from these commitments to active enforcement.



©Xinhua/Sayed Mominzadah/Alamy Stock Photo

An Afghan child polishes shoes on World Day Against Child Labor in Ghazni province, eastern Afghanistan. Ghazni, Afghanistan. June 12, 2017.

Figure 21

# A Global Picture and Regional Analysis of Government Efforts and Challenges

REGION	EFFORTS	CHALLENGES
Indo-Pacific	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Acceded to ILO conventions reinforcing commitments to address the worst forms of child labor.</li> <li>■ Increased funding for labor inspectorates.</li> <li>■ Developed new mechanisms for training law enforcement officers to respond to child trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Limited data on the prevalence and nature of child labor.</li> <li>■ Persistent barriers to educational access for children vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor, including girls and refugees.</li> <li>■ Lack of policies that address child labor.</li> </ul>
Europe & Eurasia	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Enacted legal protections for children from the worst forms of child labor and expanded the authority of labor inspectorates to conduct inspections.</li> <li>■ Adopted new policies to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.</li> <li>■ Expanded educational access and social programs for children vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Limitations in the authority of the labor inspectorate hindered enforcement of minimum age laws.</li> <li>■ Few prosecutions, convictions, or imposed penalties for crimes related to the worst forms of child labor.</li> <li>■ Lack of coordination and data sharing among key government institutions resulted in gaps in protections for children.</li> </ul>
Latin America & the Caribbean	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Worked with international organizations to expand school access to children vulnerable to labor exploitation.</li> <li>■ Sustained or expanded child labor investigations, despite budgetary challenges.</li> <li>■ Conducted specialized trainings for law enforcement officials on children's rights and child trafficking.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Legal and enforcement gaps that leave children working in the informal sector with limited protection.</li> <li>■ Insufficient number of labor inspectors to ensure compliance with labor laws.</li> <li>■ Lack of published data on labor law enforcement efforts.</li> </ul>
Middle East & North Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Published updated statistics on child labor.</li> <li>■ Enacted new laws that expand protections from child labor.</li> <li>■ Expanded social programs to promote educational access.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Barriers that limit access to education for children vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor, including indigenous peoples, migrants, and refugees.</li> <li>■ Gaps in laws leave some children with inadequate protections from labor exploitation.</li> <li>■ Lack of financial and human resources hinder some labor law enforcement efforts.</li> </ul>
Sub-Saharan Africa	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Adopted new laws that strengthen legal protections for children from the worst forms of child labor.</li> <li>■ Expanded investigations, prosecutions, and convictions, and imposed penalties related to the worst forms of child labor.</li> <li>■ Leveraged international partnerships to address child labor across supply chains.</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>■ Lack of adequate personnel and financial resources, resulting in gaps in enforcement of minimum age protections.</li> <li>■ Incomplete data related to labor and criminal law enforcement efforts.</li> <li>■ Insufficient scope of social programs to fully address the child labor problem.</li> </ul>



AAM  
AMERICAN  
MANUFACTURERS



# The U.S. Experience

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"The well-being of our workforce is core to the mission of the U.S. Department of Labor. That is why we work to ensure that labor abuses like child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking have no place in our economy or those of our trade partners."

— Secretary of Labor Eugene Scalia

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Whether abroad or within our borders, the Department continues to be a major force in the fight against the worst forms of child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking. As a signatory to ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor, the United States has provided vigilant and innovative leadership in combating illegal and dangerous labor practices worldwide. At the same time, we have initiated investigations, programs, and collaborations to ensure that both minors of legal working age and adults enjoy safe and healthy workplaces and decent working conditions that comply with all appropriate laws. Doing so ensures that American businesses and workers not only benefit from competitiveness and growth in the short term, but also benefit from a favorable labor market for the future.

Our domestic initiatives have yielded safe and dynamic job opportunities for America's workers. The Wage and Hour Division (WHD) enforces regulations on the legal work age, permissible hours of work, earned wages, and hazardous occupations prohibited for minor employees. The WHD's YouthRules! initiative also promotes positive and safe work experiences for young workers (see Figure 22). Keeping work environments safe for all employees, regardless of age, is the mission of the Occupational Safety and Health Administration. To help youth and young adults with disabilities find success in employment and adulthood, the Office of Disability Employment Policy is on the job, while the Employment and Training Administration (ETA) helps youth enter the

Figure 22



## What Jobs Can I Do?

**13 or younger?**

You can babysit, deliver newspapers, or work as an actor or performer

**14-15?**

You can work in a variety of specified non-manufacturing and non-hazardous jobs under certain conditions

**16-17?**

You can work in any job that has not been declared hazardous by the Secretary of Labor

For more information on the specific jobs you can and can't do, visit  
[www.youthrules.gov/know-the-limits](http://www.youthrules.gov/know-the-limits)

To Find Out More:

Visit youthrules.dol.gov **or** Call 1-866-4US-WAGE

workforce and be productive. Additionally, the Bureau of Labor Statistics gathers data on a variety of subjects, including child labor.

Together, these agencies have worked to expand employment opportunity, protect workers' paths to meaningful and rewarding work, and pave the way to a fairer and stronger economy that works for everyone.

## The Federal Minimum Ages for Work

Since 1938, the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA) has set crucial standards for the safety, well-being, and development of children engaged in work. Child labor provisions under the FLSA are designed to protect children's involvement in educational opportunities and prohibit children's employment in jobs that are detrimental to their health and safety. The FLSA includes restrictions on maximum working hours and types of permissible occupational fields for children under age 16.

- A minimum age of 14 for most employment in non-hazardous, non-agricultural industries, and limits on the times of day, number of hours, and tasks that can be performed by 14- and 15-year-olds.
- A minimum age of 18 for employment in hazardous occupations as delineated by the Department's 17 non-agricultural Hazardous Occupation Orders.
- Exceptions for agricultural and non-agricultural employment. For example, the FLSA does not restrict the work that 16- and 17-year-olds may perform in agricultural employment, and it permits youth under the age of 14 to work in non-hazardous agricultural employment outside school hours with parental approval.

All states have child labor standards and mandatory school attendance laws. When state and federal child labor standards differ, the rule that provides the most protection is the one that must be followed. For example, Washington state and Wisconsin have stricter

regulations on child labor in agriculture than the FLSA. In these states, the minimum age for employment in agriculture is 18 during school hours. California, Hawaii, and New Hampshire also set their minimum age for employment in agriculture at 18 during school hours and 16 for individuals who are not in school.(63)

There were 1,838,000 youth ages 16 to 17 employed in 2018 and 1,790,000 employed in the United States in 2019. (64) Despite the restrictions and limitations placed on their work, in 2018, the most recent year for which data are available, there were 9 fatal occupational injuries among youth ages 16 to 17, and 13 fatal occupational injuries among youth below age 16 in the United States. (65)

## Wage and Hour Division

The WHD ascertains for employer compliance with the FLSA's child labor provisions in every investigation it conducts. In fiscal year 2019, the WHD concluded more than 850 investigations in which child labor violations were found by investigators; 240 of these investigations found violations of the agency's Hazardous Occupations Orders. The WHD found more than 3,000 young workers employed in violation of the FLSA's child labor requirements, with nearly 550 of them employed in violation of the Hazardous Occupations Orders (see Figure 23).

"Child labor laws exist to strike a balance between providing meaningful work experiences for young people and keeping them safe on the job while not interfering with their educational opportunities."

Wage and Hour Division District Director, Thomas Silva  
Portland, Oregon, February 28, 2020,  
(Release Number: 20-334-SAN)

For example, investigations by the WHD resulted in three Chicago-area development companies – Maria V. Contracting, Prate Roofing & Installations, LLC, and Red Line Management – being penalized under the FLSA's child labor provisions. The WHD found that all three companies had employed minors in unlawful and hazardous occupations, which led to workplace injuries to three minors. The companies had allowed the minors to engage in activities such as working on roofs (in at least one case, without proper safety equipment), operating heavy and powered machinery, cutting power lines, and working around demolition gear. Subsequent injuries to the minors included electrical shock, bone fractures, torn ligaments, and a joint dislocation. The WHD issued a total of \$127,262 in penalties to the three companies.(66)

"The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division is committed to ensuring minors and their parents are aware of the child labor rules and that employers comply. We encourage employment opportunities for minors, but they must be safe."

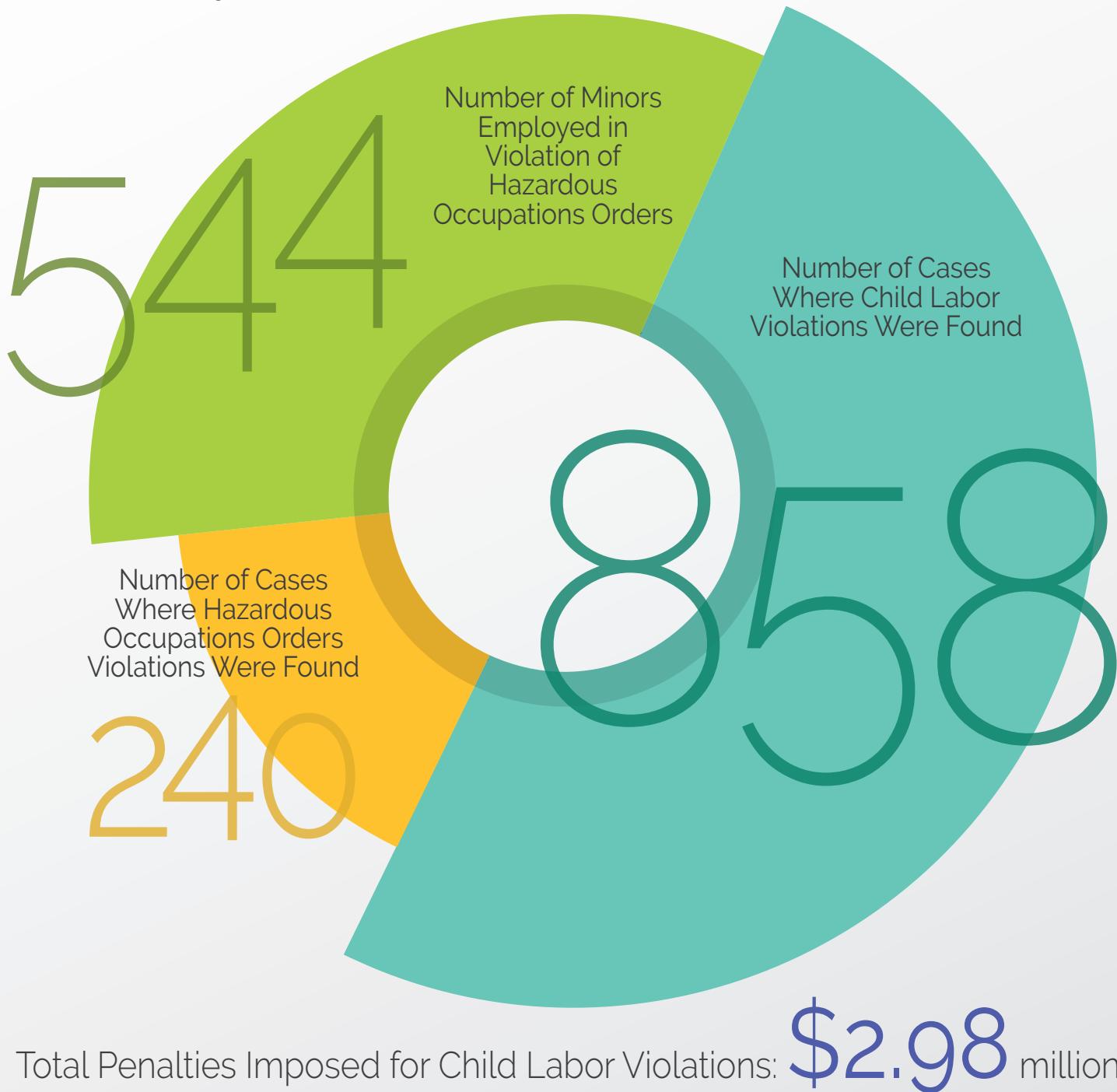
Wage and Hour Division District Director, Tom Gauza  
Chicago, Illinois  
November 12, 2019  
(Release Number: 19-1780-CHI)

In another case, the WHD found that Manna, Inc., a franchisee of 99 Wendy's and Fazoli's restaurants across 9 states, had violated FLSA standards regarding legal working hours for minors. In particular, the franchisee had allowed 446 minors to work before 7 a.m. or after 7 p.m. on school nights, as well as more than 3 hours on school days and more than 8 hours on non-school days. The WHD issued a \$157,114 penalty to Manna, Inc. as a result.(67)

Figure 23

## Wage and Hour Division Rigorously Enforces the Fair Labor Standards Act, including Child Labor Laws

Fiscal Year 2019 Enforcement Data:



More specific information about each of these cases can be found in the WHD's enforcement database at <https://enforcedata.dol.gov/homePage.php> and WHD's website at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/whd/data/charts#panel1>

## Employment and Training Administration

Through its various workforce training and development programs, ETA works to remove barriers to meaningful work and open economic mobility to more Americans. ETA offers such programs as the Registered Apprenticeship Program, YouthBuild, Job Corps, and Reentry Employment Opportunities. These programs especially equip and empower populations who face unique employment

barriers, including youth who are out of school or involved in the justice system, by providing them with work-readiness skills and industry accreditation pathways. Additionally, through Executive Order 13801 (Expanding Apprenticeships in America) and the Workforce Innovation and Opportunity Act, USDOL is expanding apprenticeship opportunities and broadening special work-readiness opportunities for youth. These include the Industry-Recognized Apprenticeship Program system, which will enable more Americans to take advantage of apprenticeship opportunities.





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Two girls sharing a bench at school.  
Las Mesitas, Bajo Lempa, El Salvador. October 31, 2011.

# 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 to his fight against child labor. Iqbal was killed in Pakistan at age 13 in 1995.

In 2019, the U.S. Secretary of Labor selected *Casa Esperanza* (House of Hope), an NGO in Panama, to receive the Iqbal Masih Award. In 2020, the Secretary selected Damon Wamara, Executive Director of the Ugandan NGO Dwelling Places, as the recipient of the 2020 award. The recipients received the award in recognition of their extraordinary efforts to combat child labor.

Further information about the Iqbal Masih Award and USDOL's efforts to combat child labor is available on the USDOL website at <https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab>.

## 2019 Iqbal Masih Award

# *Casa Esperanza*

### (House of Hope)

*Casa Esperanza* has been dedicated to eliminating child labor in Panama for more than 25 years. As the first Panamanian organization to launch a child labor eradication campaign for Panama's coffee sector, *Casa Esperanza* has encouraged more than 30 farms to adopt labor inspection protocols, which in turn has benefited more than 10,000 children to date, and has decreased child labor in the sector by more than 40 percent. The NGO's initiatives and reports also were fundamental in the removal of sugarcane from USDOL's 2018 *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* as they tirelessly raised awareness of the prevalence of child labor in the sector, and propelled government action to address the issue. The organization's leadership and dedication has been instrumental in empowering the Government of Panama to achieve its mission of eradicating child labor by 2025.

## 2020 Iqbal Masih Award

# Damon Wamara

### (Dwelling Places)

As the Executive Director of Dwelling Places, Damon Wamara works to rehabilitate child victims of human trafficking for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation and forced begging on the streets of Kampala, Uganda. Over the past 6 years, Mr. Wamara and his team have worked tirelessly to rescue more than 1,800 child trafficking victims. These children are then reunited with their families and enrolled in schools. Dwelling Places also provides a catch-up education program, which offers an education to those who have never attended school. Mr. Wamara has collaborated with community leaders to create anti-trafficking committees advocating against children being taken to Kampala for work. Moreover, Mr. Wamara has continuously urged the Government of Uganda to create stronger laws aimed at protecting children from exploitation and giving them a better chance at life.



*Casa Esperanza* receiving  
the 2019 Iqbal Masih Award.



Damon Wamara receiving  
the 2020 Iqbal Masih Award.

## Appendix 1

# Acronyms & Abbreviations

<b>AF</b>	Sub-Saharan Africa
<b>AGOA</b>	African Growth and Opportunity Act
<b>CEACR</b>	International Labor Organization Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations
<b>DHS</b>	Demographic Health Survey
<b>EAPCCO</b>	Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization
<b>ECOWAS</b>	Economic Community of West African States
<b>ECPAT</b>	End Child Prostitution, Child Pornography, and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes
<b>EFA</b>	Education for All
<b>EU</b>	European Union
<b>EUR</b>	Europe and Eurasia
<b>FLSA</b>	Fair Labor Standards Act
<b>GDP</b>	Gross Domestic Product
<b>GSP</b>	Generalized System of Preferences
<b>HIV/AIDS</b>	Human Immunodeficiency Virus/Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
<b>IDB</b>	Inter-American Development Bank
<b>IDP</b>	Internally Displaced Persons
<b>ILAB</b>	Bureau of International Labor Affairs
<b>ILO</b>	International Labor Organization
<b>ILO C. 29</b>	International Labor Organization Convention No. 29: Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labor, commonly known as the "Forced Labor Convention"
<b>ILO C. 138</b>	International Labor Organization Convention No. 138: Convention Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, commonly referred to as the "Minimum Age Convention"
<b>ILO C. 182</b>	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"
<b>ILO R. 190</b>	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"
<b>IMF</b>	International Monetary Fund
<b>INTERPOL</b>	ICPO-INTERPOL/International Criminal Police Organization
<b>IOM</b>	International Organization for Migration
<b>IP</b>	Indo-Pacific
<b>LAC</b>	Latin America and the Caribbean

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

## Appendix 2

# Definitions Related to Child Labor and Forced 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 of Child Labor, developed during the 18th International Conference of Labor Statisticians (ICLS), and amendments made during the 20th ICLS provide the international framework for measuring children's work.

## WORKING CHILDREN

Per the Resolution Concerning Statistics of Child Labor developed during the 18th ICLS, "working children" are those engaged in any productive activity for at least one hour during the reference period. "Productive activity" includes market production and certain types of non-market production, principally the production of goods and services for their families' use. The 20th ICLS introduced changes to the definition of working children to align that definition with internationally accepted definitions of work for adults. The new definition classifies working children as those engaged in any activity to produce goods or to provide services for use by others or for own use. In summary, the new definition includes the production of additional types of services for family use, unpaid trainee work by children, volunteer work by children, and other work activities by children. Since survey instruments are redesigned to reflect this new definition, the definition of "working children" from the 18th ICLS Resolution has been used in this report. The work that children perform may be within the formal or informal economy, inside or outside of family settings, whether paid or unpaid. This includes children working in domestic service outside the child's own household for an employer, paid or unpaid. (68; 69)

## CHILD LABOR

"Child labor" is a subset of "working children" and is work below the minimum age for work, as established in national legislation that conforms to international standards. The definition includes the worst forms of child labor. Child labor is a subset of working children 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. (68; 70)

## WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The term "worst forms of child labor" refers to activities described and as understood in ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor, 1999. (71) Under Article 3 of the Convention, the worst forms of child labor comprise the following activities:

- 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;
- The use, procuring, or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography, or for pornographic purposes;
- 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
- Work which, by its nature or the circumstances under which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children.

## CATEGORICAL WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

For this report, the term “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) as “hazardous work.” See also ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor, 1999. (71)

## HAZARDOUS WORK

The term “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, industries, or conditions. (71)

## FORCED LABOR

“Forced labor,” under international standards, is defined as all work or service that is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the worker does not offer him or herself voluntarily. (72) Forced labor is work obtained by force, fraud, or coercion, including (a) by threat of serious harm to, or physical restraint against, any person; (b) 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, the person or another person

would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or (c) by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process. (73) Circumstances that may give rise to involuntary work, when undertaken under deception or uninformed, include, *inter alia*, unfree recruitment at birth or through transactions such as slavery or bonded labor; situations in which the worker must perform a job of a different nature from that specified during recruitment without his or her consent; abusive requirements for overtime or on-call work that were not previously agreed to with the employer; work in hazardous conditions to which the worker has not consented, with or without compensation or protective equipment; work with very low or no wages; work coupled with degrading living conditions imposed by the employer; work for other employers than agreed to; work for a longer period of time than agreed to; and work with no or limited freedom to terminate the work contract. (74)

## FORCED CHILD LABOR

“Forced child labor” is a categorical worst form of child labor under ILO C. 182. (71) Children older than the minimum age for work are in forced child labor if work is involuntary and they are under the menace of penalty. For children younger than the minimum age, voluntariness does not need to be established because children cannot legally consent to work. Forced child labor also includes work performed with or for the child’s parents for a third party under the threat or menace of any penalty directly applied to the child or parents. All children who are made to work as a result of parental forced labor are engaged in forced child labor. (75)

## Appendix 3

# ILO Conventions Related To Child Labor and Forced Labor

The ILO brings together government, employer, and worker representatives of member states to establish and supervise the implementation of international labor standards, and develop policies and implement programs to advance decent work. (49) International labor standards are legal instruments drawn up by these ILO constituents that set out basic principles and rights at work. They can take the form of either conventions, protocols, or recommendations. Conventions and protocols are international treaties that are legally binding on ratifying member states. Ratifying countries commit themselves to implementing the convention or protocol in national law and practice, and reporting on its application at regular intervals. Recommendations are non-binding and provide guidelines for action, either as a complement to a convention or as a stand-alone instrument. The following paragraphs describe key ILO instruments related to child labor and the minimum ages set by countries related to these instruments.

## **ILO CONVENTION NO. 138: MINIMUM AGE FOR ADMISSION TO EMPLOYMENT, 1973**

ILO C. 138 establishes that the minimum age of admission to 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” (Article 2(3)). Countries whose economy and educational facilities are insufficiently developed may initially specify a minimum legal working age of 14 when ratifying the convention. Additionally, Article 7(1) says that national laws or regulations may permit the employment or work of children ages 13 to 15 in light work. Countries that have specified a minimum legal working age of 14 may permit light work for children ages 12 to 14. (76)

## **ILO CONVENTION NO. 182: WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR, 1999**

ILO C. 182 defines the worst forms of child labor and requires ratifying countries to take immediate action to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labor for persons under age 18.

Among other actions, ILO C. 182 requires ratifying countries to take effective and timebound measures to prevent the engagement of children in the worst forms of child labor; help remove children from the worst forms of child labor and provide for their rehabilitation and social integration; ensure that children removed from the worst forms of child labor have access to free basic education and, wherever possible and appropriate, vocational training; identify and reach out to children at special risk; take into account the special situation of girls; consult with employer and worker organizations to create appropriate mechanisms to monitor implementation of the convention; and assist one another in implementing the convention. (71)

## **WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR RECOMMENDATION NO. 190, 1999**

Recommendation No. 190 supplements ILO C. 182 and provides non-binding practical guidance in applying the Convention. Among other provisions, it includes a list of working conditions and types of work that should be considered when determining what comprises hazardous work.

## **ILO CONVENTION NO. 29: FORCED LABOR, 1930**

ILO C. 29 prohibits all forms of forced or compulsory labor, which is defined as “all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the person has not offered himself voluntarily.” (72)

### **ILO CONVENTION NO. 105: ABOLITION OF FORCED LABOR CONVENTION, 1957**

ILO C. 105 prohibits 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 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. (77)

### **PROTOCOL OF 2014 TO THE FORCED LABOR CONVENTION, 1930**

The Forced Labor Protocol reaffirms the forced labor definition in ILO C. 29. It requires ratifying countries to take effective measures to prevent and eliminate

forced and compulsory labor, to sanction perpetrators, and provide victims with protection and access to appropriate remedies, such as compensation. It also requires ratifying countries to develop a national policy and plan of action to address forced or compulsory labor in consultation with employers' and workers' organizations. (78) The Protocol supplements ILO C. 29; as such, only ILO member states that have ratified the convention can ratify the protocol.

### **FORCED LABOR (SUPPLEMENTARY MEASURES) RECOMMENDATION NO. 203, 2014**

Recommendation No. 203 provides non-binding practical guidance in the areas of prevention, protection of victims and ensuring their access to justice and remedies, enforcement, and international cooperation. It supplements both the protocol and the convention. (79)



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Guarani indigenous 14-years old child laborer works as sugarcane cutter - Brazilian ethanol production. Mato Grosso do Sul State, Brazil. October 11, 2018.

## Appendix 4

# How to Read a TDA Country Profile

- Country Overview:** Each country profile begins with an overview for 2019 in a single paragraph, starting with a statement identifying the assessment level assigned to the country for 2019. 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 the country.

**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.

- The first table note identifies sectors or activities determined to be hazardous by national law or regulation as understood under Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182, and the second table note 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 affect the prevalence of child labor, such as barriers to accessing education, or major socio-economic shocks to the country that may inhibit the government's ability to address child labor, such as a natural disaster or armed conflict.

In 2019, Colombia made a significant advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Ministry of Labor launched a virtual training campus for labor inspectors, including a Fundamental Rights at Work course with modules on child labor, and trained local officials on its Comprehensive Child Labor Information System. In an effort to address the education and health of the increased Venezuelan refugee population, the government passed Law 1997 that granted birthright citizenship to children born in Colombia to Venezuelan parents during the period January 1, 2015 – September 16, 2021. The Ministry of the Interior also collaborated with civil society organizations to evaluate the government's anti-trafficking in persons strategy. In addition, the government expanded the Eyes Everywhere anti-commercial sexual exploitation campaign. However, children in Colombia engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation and illicit activities, each sometimes as a result of human trafficking. In addition, the government does not employ a sufficient number of labor inspectors.

## I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Children in Colombia engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation and illicit activities, each sometimes as a result of human trafficking. (1,2) The government publishes annual statistics on children's work from its National Household Survey. (3) Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in Colombia.

**Table 1|Statistics on Children's Work and Education**

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5 to 14	3.2 (267,924)
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	94.1
Combining Work and School (%)	7 to 14	3.0
Primary Completion Rate (%)		106.5

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2018, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2020. (4)

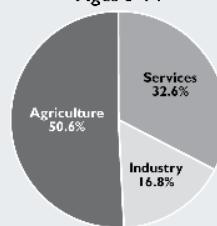
Source for all other data: International Labor Organization's analysis of statistics from Gran Encuesta Integrada de Hogares, Módulo de Trabajo Infantil (GEIH-MTi), 2018. (5)

## Colombia

### SIGNIFICANT ADVANCEMENT



**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 coffee, <sup>†</sup> sugarcane, <sup>†</sup> cocoa, pome and stone fruits, grapes, and unrefined brown sugar (panelas) <sup>†</sup> (1-6) Animal husbandry <sup>†</sup> ; hunting <sup>†</sup> ; and fishing <sup>†</sup> , including conch and crab harvesting (1,3-8)
Industry	Mining coal, <sup>†</sup> emeralds, <sup>†</sup> gold, <sup>†</sup> tungsten, <sup>†</sup> coltan, <sup>†</sup> and clay <sup>†</sup> (1,3,4,9,10) Producing bricks <sup>†</sup> (3,10)

† Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.

<sup>†</sup> Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor *per se* under Article 3(a)–(c) of ILO C. 182.

- Commercial sexual exploitation of children occurs more often in private homes rented online than in commercial establishments. (10) Some child victims of commercial sexual exploitation are allegedly recruited in schools by other students, and, in some cases, prostitution ring members conduct surveillance around schools in search of girls. (10,36) Indigenous women and children, as well as Venezuelan refugees, are particularly vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation. (36,39) Young girls suffer commercial sexual exploitation along the highway between Medellin and Bogota. (10,34) In mining areas, trafficking of children for forced labor and

**Section II: Legal Framework for Child Labor.**  
The second section indicates whether a country has ratified key international instruments related to child labor and assesses whether a country's legal framework meets international standards. This section 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, considering that these actions have the same practical legal effect regarding the substantive obligations of the instrument 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.

- A statement above Table 4, *Laws and Regulations on Child Labor*, indicates whether the government's laws and regulations related to child labor meet ILO C. 138 and C. 182, or whether gaps exist in the legal framework to adequately protect children from child labor.

- Table 4 lists each of the relevant legal standards and notes which laws meet and do not meet international standards. The Table indicates whether a government does not use conscription for military service, whether a government does not have a standing military, and whether an age is calculated based on available information.

- The table is followed by a narrative describing any relevant laws that the government enacted, or advanced to a significant step in the legislative process during the reporting period. If the government failed to take action on an existing draft bill that would fill a gap in the legal framework related to child labor, this also may be noted. The narrative also discusses why existing laws do not meet international standards.

- Section III: Enforcement of Laws on Child Labor. The third section describes the roles of government agencies in enforcing laws related to child labor 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 on child labor (Table 5), notes whether gaps exist within the authority or operations of the ministries responsible for law enforcement, or whether enforcement data are missing.

- Table 5, *Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement*, lists the agencies charged with enforcing such laws and identifies each agency's role. A table note identifies whether an agency responsible for child labor enforcement was created during the reporting period. A subsequent narrative describes gaps in agency responsibilities or new information during the reporting period.

## II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR

Colombia has ratified all 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	✓

- The government's laws and regulations are in line with relevant international standards (Table 4). However, gaps exist in Colombia's legal framework to adequately protect children from the worst forms of child labor, including the difference in the minimum age for work and the compulsory education age.

**Table 4] Laws and Regulations on Child Labor**

Standard	Meets International Standards	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	15	Article 35 of the Code on Childhood and Adolescence (38)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Article 117 of the Code on Childhood and Adolescence (38)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	Yes		Article 3 of Resolution 1796 (39)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Article 17 of the Constitution; Articles 141 and 188A of the Penal Code (40,41)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Article 17 of the Constitution; Articles 188A–188C of the Penal Code (40,41)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Yes		Articles 213–219B of the Penal Code (41)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Articles 162, 188D, and 384 of the Penal Code (41)
Minimum Age for Voluntary State Military Recruitment	Yes	18	Article 81 of Law 1861 (42)
Prohibition of Compulsory Recruitment of Children by (State) Military	Yes		Article 4 of Law 1861 (42)
Prohibition of Military Recruitment by Non-state Armed Groups	Yes		Article 162 of the Penal Code; Article 20 of Law 1098; Article 14 of Law 418 (38,41,43)
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	18	Decree 4807 of 2011 (44)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 1 of Decree 4807, Article 28 of the Child and Adolescent Code (38,44)

- In September 2019, the government passed Law 1997 that granted birthright citizenship to children born in Colombia to Venezuelan parents, including those with irregular migration status, during the period January 1, 2015 – September 16, 2021. (10,57) This legislation was the result of a concerted effort by the Human Rights Ombudsman, the Ministry of Foreign Affairs, the National Civil Registry (Registraduría), and other agencies to facilitate access to education and healthcare for this vulnerable population. (10) Although Congress drafted a bill in 2018 that would revise the Penal Code to establish more comprehensive criminal provisions to protect children and adolescents from cyber commercial sexual exploitation, the bill was not approved during the reporting period. (58)

## III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor (Table 5). However, gaps exist within the operations of the Ministry of Labor (MOL) that may hinder adequate enforcement of their child labor laws.

**Table 5] Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement**

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Labor's (MOL) Inspection, Monitoring, Control, and Territorial Management Department	Receives complaints of labor law violations and conducts labor inspections, including inspections to verify labor conditions for adolescent workers and compliance with other child labor provisions. Oversees the Internal Working Group on Child Labor Eradication. (4,45) Operates the Comprehensive Child Labor Information System (SIRTI), a child labor monitoring system that identifies children engaged in or at risk of child labor. (4)
Active Search Team for Trafficking in Persons, Sexual Exploitation of Children, Girls, and Adolescents and Related Crimes (Bogotá)	Uses a proactive investigation model to identify the crimes of trafficking in persons and the sexual exploitation of children, girls, and adolescents in areas of Bogotá where they occur instead of waiting for victims to seek attention at the national level. Created in 2018 by the Bogotá Mayor's office. (21,46)

- **Table 6** and **Table 7** provide data on labor law and criminal law enforcement efforts, respectively, in 2018 and 2019.

- **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 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.

- **Section IV: Coordination of Government Efforts on Child Labor.** The fourth section provides information on institutions charged with coordinating efforts related to child labor. It begins with a statement indicating whether the government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor, and whether any gaps exist that hinder the effective coordination of efforts to address child labor.

- **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 table note 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.

- Notes under each table identify whether the data included in the tables fall outside of the calendar year. A narrative follows each of these tables with more specific information on government mechanisms and efforts, and includes findings in which ILAB has concluded that government efforts fall short.

#### • **Labor Law Enforcement**

In 2019, labor law enforcement agencies in Colombia took actions to combat child labor (Table 6). However, gaps exist within the operations of the Ministry of Labor (MOL) that may hinder adequate labor law enforcement, including resource allocation.

**Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor**

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2018	2019
Labor Inspectorate Funding	\$2,400,000 (1)	\$2,200,000 (4)
Number of Labor Inspectors	867 (1)	791 (4)
Inspectorate Authorized to Assess Penalties	Yes (1)	Yes (4)
Initial Training for New Labor Inspectors	Yes (1)	Yes (4)
Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor	N/A (1)	N/A (4)
Refresher Courses Provided	Unknown (1)	Yes (4)
Number of Labor Inspections Conducted	Unknown (1)	Unknown (4)
Number Conducted at Worksite	Unknown (1)	Unknown (4)
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	Unknown (1)	Unknown (4)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	12 (1)	12 (4)
Number of Child Labor Penalties Imposed that Were Collected	Unknown (1)	Unknown (4)

**Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor**

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2018	2019
Initial Training for New Criminal Investigators	Unknown (1)	No (4)
Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	N/A (1)	N/A (4)
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (1)	No (4)
Number of Investigations	4,333 (1)	2,883 (4)
Number of Violations Found	3,280 (1)	3,512 (4)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	607 (1)	764 (4)
Number of Convictions	673 (1)	378 (49)
Imposed Penalties for Violations Related to The Worst Forms of Child Labor	Yes (50.51)	Yes (49)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (1)	Yes (4)

#### IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor (Table 8). However, gaps exist that hinder the effective coordination of efforts to address child labor, including the inconsistent coordination in human trafficking victim identification.

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

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Inter-agency Committee for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Protection of the Adolescent Worker (CIETI)	Coordinates efforts to combat the worst forms of child labor. Chaired by MOL, includes 13 government agencies and representatives from trade unions, business associations, and civil society organizations. (2) Oversees 32 department-level CIETIs throughout the country, each comprising municipal-level committees. (52) Held several sessions during the reporting period, including one in October to identify geographic "hot spots" with children active in child labor, including its worst forms. (53.54)
National Inter-agency Committee for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Commercial Sexual Exploitation	Coordinates and implements efforts to combat the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Led by MOL and comprises 15 government agencies. (2) The government did not provide information on activities taken under this coordinating body in 2019 for inclusion in this report.
Colombian Institute for Family Well-Being (ICBF)	Operates Mobile Teams for Comprehensive Protection Child Labor (EMPIs) to coordinate government actions to protect children's rights, including protection from child labor. Supports demobilized child soldiers by strengthening family networks and increasing access to health services, food, education, and shelter. (4.12) Serves as Administrator of the Fund Against Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents. (55) Processes child labor complaints, operates hotlines to report child labor cases, and provides social services to children engaged in or at risk of child labor. (1.4) ICBF also has a National System of Family Well-Being, which promotes inter-agency coordination to protect children's rights including rights related to child labor, and designs, implements, monitors, and evaluates policies related to childhood and adolescence. (2.56) In 2019, the number of EMPIs under ICBF was reduced to 44 teams throughout the whole country, down from 58 reported in 2018. (57) The EMPIs increased the number of awareness-raising campaigns to prevent child labor in the Putumayo and Cartagena regions, where they provided services to migrant Venezuelan and Ecuadorian populations. (58.59)
Inter-agency Committee to Combat Trafficking in Persons	Leads and coordinates efforts among government agencies to combat human trafficking. Created by Law #85, chaired by the Ministry of the Interior (MOI), and comprises 16 government entities and 6 permanent invitees, including private sector and international organizations. (25) During the reporting period, the committee conducted 20 anti-trafficking in person trainings. MOI met in both September and December with more than 35 civil society organizations to evaluate weaknesses and goals of the government's national anti-trafficking strategy and establish indicators to measure performance under a forthcoming strategy slated to run through 2022. (4.60.61.62) MOI also continued to lead the hotline that reports and tracks cases of human trafficking, and facilitated access to social services for victims. (36)

• †The government has other coordinating mechanisms that may have addressed child labor issues or had an impact on child labor. (81-83.85,86)

**Section V: Government Policies on Child Labor.** The fifth section describes a country's policies and plans to combat child labor and the development of 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, and whether policy gaps exist that hinder efforts to address child labor.

**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. The table note identifies policies that were approved during the reporting period and indicates small-scale policies that may have addressed child labor issues or had an impact on child labor.

- The narrative following the table notes includes findings related to whether existing policies sufficiently address child labor issues 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, and programs that address poverty, education, and other related matters that could have a beneficial effect on child labor. It begins with a statement as to whether the government funded or participated in social programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, and whether gaps exist in these social programs.

**Table 10, Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor,** lists the country's key social programs and descriptions, including its activities and accomplishments, to the extent known, during the reporting period. Where possible, programs are hyperlinked to project websites for additional information. Table notes identify social programs that are funded by the government or were launched during the reporting period, and whether the government had small-scale social programs with the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor.

- The narrative following the tables also may include an analysis of the extent to which social programs were sufficient to address the scope of the problem or covered the key sectors in which children are known to work in the country.

**Section VII: Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor.** The last section of each country profile (Table 11) is a set of suggested actions for the country to consider taking in order to advance the elimination of child labor.

## V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established policies that are consistent with relevant international standards on child labor (Table 9).

**Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor**

Policy	Description
National Policy Guidelines to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor and Protect the Adolescent Worker (2017–2027)	Aims to address child labor in the agriculture sector, develop child labor prevention strategies, improve the quality and coverage of child protection services, protect adolescent workers from hazardous work, create strategies to address child labor in domestic work, and establish evaluation and monitoring mechanisms to assess progress. (7) The policy also contains a Roadmap for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor in Mining and a cooperative agreement between the Ministry of Mining and Energy and ICBF to prevent child labor in mining. (72,73,74) Under the cooperative agreement, ICBF trained 1,003 officials in agencies in the National System of Family Welfare on the National Policy Guidelines to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labor and Protect the Adolescent Worker. (4) In 2019, ICBF also worked in partnership with MOL under these guidelines to build the capacity of local committees to prevent child labor (CETLs) at the department and municipal levels, which resulted in the development of local action plans to combat child labor. (4) In addition, MOL held 75 technical workshops and trainings, which included capacity building related to the 2018 revision of the hazardous occupations prohibited to children. These workshops and trainings were attended by 1,320 CETL and other officials, as well as civil society representatives, from 537 municipalities in 29 departments. (4) Under the Progressive Plan for the Social Protection and Defense of Rights for Rural Workers, the government conducted various outreach activities during the reporting period, including socializing the National Policy Guidelines to Eradicate and Prevent Child Labor and Protect the Adolescent Worker across 17 municipalities with workshops and radio and social media outreach. (4)
National Policy on Childhood and Adolescence (2018–2030)	Articulates multiple sub-policies on the worst forms of child labor, protection of adolescents, prevention and eradication of commercial sexual exploitation of children, and prevention of the recruitment and use of children by non-state armed groups. (1,75) Focuses on the comprehensive welfare and development of children and adolescents, recognizing them as rights-bearing subjects and integral to national development. (1,75) In 2019, under this policy, ICBF began implementing the Strategy for the Prevention of Specific Risks, which involved undertaking actions to prevent the recruitment and use of children for illicit activities and commercial sexual exploitation. (4)

† 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. (6,98–100)

## VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2019, the government funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor (Table 10). However, civil society organizations agree that these programs remain insufficient to fully address child labor.

**Table 10. Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor**

Program	Description
Campaigns Against Child Labor†	ICBF-led campaigns to increase coordination among ICBF, Child Protection Police, MOL, and municipal authorities on child labor issues, and to promote education about the risks of hazardous work. (83) In 2019, the government began a campaign, "Working for the Children," to end child labor in shopping markets. (84) In November, program leaders began public awareness efforts in banana, grain, and fishing markets in the city of Barranquilla, where 180 children joined the program and were returned to school, and their parents were educated on child labor laws. (84) The ICBF produced extensive online resources to educate children on child labor, inform youth on their rights, and the general public on how to report child labor. (85) ICBF also continued the use of Mobile Teams for Comprehensive Protection Child Labor (EMPIs), which, between January and October 2019, conducted 1,389 day-long awareness-raising programs to prevent child labor in 176 municipalities across the country and identified 2,466 children engaged in child labor. (4,86) ICBF worked with families and local authorities to remove these children from child labor. (4) EMPIs also implemented the "One Hour Against Child Labor" program in 152 educational institutions nationwide to train teachers and students on child labor issues. (4)

• In 2019, the National Police implemented "Open Your Eyes" ("Abre Tus Ojos"), a public awareness and child protection program to combat child labor and promote attendance in the educational system for children who may be involved in street work. (10) The Colombian Network Against Child Labor (Red Colombia Contra el Trabajo Infantil) also continued its work throughout the reporting period, including by collaborating with MOL on activities dedicated to the protection of legal adolescent work. (10) Despite these efforts, research indicates that existing social programs are insufficient to address the scope of the worst forms of child labor problem in Colombia. (10)

## VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor in Colombia (Table 11).

**Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor**

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Raise the minimum age for work to the age up to which education is compulsory	2018 – 2019
Enforcement	Ensure that all labor inspectors have sufficient resources, especially in rural areas, to perform inspections.	2009 – 2019
	Increase the number of labor inspectors to meet the ILO's technical advice.	2009 – 2019
	Publish information on labor law enforcement efforts, including the number of inspections conducted, child labor violations found, and penalties imposed that were collected for child labor violations.	2009 – 2019
	Publish information on the number of child labor violations found, whether labor inspectors receive training on new laws and refresher courses, and whether new criminal investigators receive initial training.	2018 – 2019

## Appendix 5

# TDA Country Assessment Criteria

Each country in this report receives an assessment to indicate the USDOL's findings on the country's level of advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor during the reporting period. There are five possible assessment levels: Significant Advancement, Moderate Advancement, Minimal Advancement, No Advancement, or No Assessment. (41)

## SIGNIFICANT ADVANCEMENT

For a country to be assessed as having significantly advanced efforts in 2019, the country must have (1) instituted the minimum requirements related to laws and regulations, mechanisms, and programs to address and prevent the worst forms of child labor (see Exhibit 1); and (2) during the reporting period, made meaningful efforts in all relevant areas covering laws and regulations, enforcement, coordination, policies, and social programs, which may have included taking the suggested actions recommended in the 2018 report.

### Exhibit 1

#### Minimum Requirements Needed to be Considered for a Significant Advancement Assessment

In order for a country to be eligible to receive an assessment of Significant Advancement, a country must have:

- Established a minimum age for work that meets international standards;
- Established a minimum age for hazardous work that meets international standards;
- Established legal prohibitions against forced labor that meet international standards;
- Established legal prohibitions against child trafficking that meet international standards;
- Established legal prohibitions against commercial sexual exploitation of children that meet international standards;
- Established legal prohibitions against the use of children for illicit activities that meet international standards;
- Designated a competent authority or implemented institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor;
- Imposed penalties for violations related to the worst forms of child labor;
- Taken active measures to ensure that children are not inappropriately incarcerated, penalized, or physically harmed for unlawful acts as a direct result of being a victim of the worst forms of child labor;
- Taken active measures to investigate, prosecute, convict, and sentence public officials who participate in or facilitate the worst forms of child labor;
- Made a good faith effort to collect and publish labor and criminal law enforcement data; and
- Directly funded a significant social program that includes the goal of eliminating child labor or addressing the root causes of the problem, such as lack of educational opportunities, poverty, or discrimination.

## MODERATE ADVANCEMENT

A country moderately advanced its efforts in eliminating the worst forms of child labor in 2019 if it made meaningful efforts during the reporting period in some relevant areas covering laws and regulations, enforcement, coordination, policies, and social programs, which may have included taking the suggested actions recommended in 2018.

## MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT

Three types of countries made minimal advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in 2019. The first is a country that made meaningful efforts during the reporting period in a few relevant areas covering laws and regulations, enforcement, coordination, policies, and social programs, which may have included taking the suggested actions recommended in 2018.

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 or using children in armed conflict, and continuing to impose administrative barriers to child labor inspections. The following points make distinctions between regression and continued law, policy, or practice:

- **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.

## NO ADVANCEMENT

Three types of countries made no advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor in 2019. The first is a country that made no 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, had a policy or demonstrated a practice of being complicit in the use of forced child labor in more than isolated incidents, 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 incidents involve direct or proactive government action to compel children under age 18 to work. The following points make distinctions between a country making no efforts and being complicit and a country making efforts but being complicit:

- **No Efforts and Complicit in Forced Child Labor.** This type of country made no meaningful efforts, took no suggested actions reported in 2018, and had a policy or demonstrated a practice of being complicit in the use of forced child labor in more than isolated incidents in 2019.
- **Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor.** This type of country made meaningful efforts, which may have included taking the suggested actions reported in 2018, but had a policy or demonstrated a practice of being complicit in the use of forced child labor in more than isolated incidents in 2019.

## 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 the 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, only Mexico and Wallis and Futuna fall into this category.

# TDA Country Assessments, by Assessment

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
<b>SIGNIFICANT ADVANCEMENT</b>		
Argentina	LAC	Significant Advancement
Colombia	LAC	Significant Advancement
Costa Rica	LAC	Significant Advancement
Ecuador	LAC	Significant Advancement
Guatemala	LAC	Significant Advancement
Namibia	AF	Significant Advancement
Paraguay	LAC	Significant Advancement
Peru	LAC	Significant Advancement
<b>MODERATE ADVANCEMENT</b>		
Albania	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Algeria	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Angola	AF	Moderate Advancement
Bangladesh	IP	Moderate Advancement
Belize	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Benin	AF	Moderate Advancement
Bhutan	IP	Moderate Advancement
Bolivia	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Bosnia and Herzegovina	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Brazil	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Burundi	AF	Moderate Advancement
Cabo Verde	AF	Moderate Advancement
Cameroon	AF	Moderate Advancement
Central African Republic	AF	Moderate Advancement
Chad	AF	Moderate Advancement
Chile	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Christmas Island	IP	Moderate Advancement
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	IP	Moderate Advancement
Comoros	AF	Moderate Advancement
Congo, Republic of the	AF	Moderate Advancement
Côte d'Ivoire	AF	Moderate Advancement
Djibouti	AF	Moderate Advancement
Dominican Republic	LAC	Moderate Advancement

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
<b>Moderate Advancement (Continued)</b>		
Egypt	MENA	Moderate Advancement
El Salvador	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Eswatini	AF	Moderate Advancement
Ethiopia	AF	Moderate Advancement
Fiji	IP	Moderate Advancement
Gambia, The	AF	Moderate Advancement
Georgia	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Guyana	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Honduras	LAC	Moderate Advancement
India	IP	Moderate Advancement
Indonesia	IP	Moderate Advancement
Jamaica	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Jordan	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Kazakhstan	IP	Moderate Advancement
Kenya	AF	Moderate Advancement
Kosovo	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Lebanon	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Lesotho	AF	Moderate Advancement
Madagascar	AF	Moderate Advancement
Malawi	AF	Moderate Advancement
Mali	AF	Moderate Advancement
Montenegro	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Mozambique	AF	Moderate Advancement
Nepal	IP	Moderate Advancement
Niger	AF	Moderate Advancement
Norfolk Island	IP	Moderate Advancement
North Macedonia	EUR	Moderate Advancement
Oman	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Pakistan	IP	Moderate Advancement
Panama	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Philippines	IP	Moderate Advancement
Rwanda	AF	Moderate Advancement
Saint Lucia	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Senegal	AF	Moderate Advancement
Serbia	EUR	Moderate Advancement

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
<b>MODERATE ADVANCEMENT</b> (Continued)		
Sierra Leone	AF	Moderate Advancement
Sri Lanka	IP	Moderate Advancement
Suriname	LAC	Moderate Advancement
Thailand	IP	Moderate Advancement
Tunisia	MENA	Moderate Advancement
Tuvalu	IP	Moderate Advancement
Uzbekistan	IP	Moderate Advancement
Zambia	AF	Moderate Advancement
Zimbabwe	AF	Moderate Advancement
<b>MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT</b>		
Botswana	AF	Minimal Advancement
Burkina Faso	AF	Minimal Advancement
Cook Islands	IP	Minimal Advancement
Dominica	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Ghana	AF	Minimal Advancement
Guinea	AF	Minimal Advancement
Guinea-Bissau	AF	Minimal Advancement
Haiti	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Kiribati	IP	Minimal Advancement
Liberia	AF	Minimal Advancement
Maldives	IP	Minimal Advancement
Mauritius	AF	Minimal Advancement
Morocco	MENA	Minimal Advancement
Nicaragua	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Nigeria	AF	Minimal Advancement
Papua New Guinea	IP	Minimal Advancement
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha	EUR	Minimal Advancement
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	LAC	Minimal Advancement
Samoa	IP	Minimal Advancement
São Tomé and Príncipe	AF	Minimal Advancement
Solomon Islands	IP	Minimal Advancement
South Africa	AF	Minimal Advancement
Togo	AF	Minimal Advancement

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
<b>MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT</b> (Continued)		
Vanuatu	IP	Minimal Advancement
West Bank and the Gaza Strip	MENA	Minimal Advancement
Western Sahara	MENA	Minimal Advancement
<b>MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT EFFORTS MADE BUT REGRESSION IN LAW/POLICY/PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT</b>		
Cambodia	IP	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Kyrgyz Republic	IP	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Law that Delayed Advancement
Timor-Leste	IP	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Uganda	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Ukraine	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Law that Delayed Advancement
<b>MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW/POLICY/PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT</b>		
Armenia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Azerbaijan	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Gabon	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Iraq	MENA	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Mauritania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy and Practice that Delayed Advancement
Moldova	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law and Practice that Delayed Advancement
Mongolia	IP	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Somalia	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practices that Delayed Advancement
Tanzania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Tonga	IP	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Yemen	MENA	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
<b>NO ADVANCEMENT</b>		
Anguilla	EUR	No Advancement
British Virgin Islands	EUR	No Advancement
Grenada	LAC	No Advancement
Montserrat	EUR	No Advancement
Niue	IP	No Advancement
Tokelau	IP	No Advancement
<b>NO ADVANCEMENT – EFFORTS MADE BUT COMPLICIT IN FORCED CHILD LABOR</b>		
Afghanistan	IP	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Burma	IP	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Eritrea	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
South Sudan	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
<b>NO ASSESSMENT</b>		
Mexico	LAC	No Assessment
Wallis and Futuna	EUR	No Assessment

# Comparisons in TDA Assessments From 2018 to 2019, by Country

COUNTRY	REGION	2018 ASSESSMENT LEVEL	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
Afghanistan	IP	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Albania	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Algeria	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Angola	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Anguilla	EUR	Minimal Advancement	No 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 – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Bangladesh	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Belize	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Benin	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Bhutan	IP	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Bolivia	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Bosnia and Herzegovina	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Botswana	AF	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Brazil	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
British Virgin Islands	EUR	No Advancement	No Advancement
Burkina Faso	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Burma	IP	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Burundi	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Cabo Verde	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Cambodia	IP	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Cameroon	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Central African Republic	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement

COUNTRY	REGION	2018 ASSESSMENT LEVEL	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
Chad	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Chile	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Christmas Island	IP	No Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Cocos (Keeling) Islands	IP	No Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Colombia	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Comoros	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Congo, Republic of the	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Cook Islands	IP	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Costa Rica	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Côte d'Ivoire	AF	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Djibouti	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Dominica	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Dominican Republic	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Ecuador	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Egypt	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
El Salvador	LAC	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Eritrea	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor
Eswatini	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Ethiopia	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)	EUR	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Fiji	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Gabon	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Gambia, The	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Georgia	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Ghana	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Grenada	LAC	No Advancement	No Advancement
Guatemala	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement

COUNTRY	REGION	2018 ASSESSMENT LEVEL	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
Guinea	AF	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Guinea-Bissau	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Guyana	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Haiti	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Honduras	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
India	IP	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Indonesia	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Iraq	MENA	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Jamaica	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Jordan	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Kazakhstan	IP	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Kenya	AF	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Kiribati	IP	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Kosovo	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Kyrgyz Republic	IP	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Law that Delayed Advancement
Lebanon	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Lesotho	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Liberia	AF	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Madagascar	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Malawi	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Maldives	IP	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Mali	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Mauritania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy and Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy and Practice that Delayed Advancement
Mauritius	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Mexico	LAC	N/A	No Assessment
Moldova	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Law and Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law and Practice that Delayed Advancement
Mongolia	IP	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement
Montenegro	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement

COUNTRY	REGION	2018 ASSESSMENT LEVEL	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
Montserrat	EUR	Minimal Advancement	No Advancement
Morocco	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Mozambique	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Namibia	AF	Moderate Advancement	Significant Advancement
Nepal	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Nicaragua	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Niger	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Nigeria	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Niue	IP	Minimal Advancement	No Advancement
Norfolk Island	IP	No Advancement	Moderate Advancement
North Macedonia	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Oman	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Pakistan	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Panama	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Papua New Guinea	IP	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Paraguay	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Peru	LAC	Significant Advancement	Significant Advancement
Philippines	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Rwanda	AF	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha	EUR	Significant Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Saint Lucia	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Samoa	IP	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
São Tomé and Príncipe	AF	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Senegal	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Serbia	EUR	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Sierra Leone	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Policy that Delayed Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Solomon Islands	IP	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement

COUNTRY	REGION	2018 ASSESSMENT LEVEL	2019 ASSESSMENT LEVEL
Somalia	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practices that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practices that Delayed Advancement
South Africa	AF	Minimal Advancement	Minimal 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	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Suriname	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Tanzania	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Thailand	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Timor-Leste	IP	Minimal Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Togo	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement
Tokelau	IP	Minimal Advancement	No Advancement
Tonga	IP	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Tunisia	MENA	Significant Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Tuvalu	IP	Minimal Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Uganda	AF	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement
Ukraine	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Law that Delayed Advancement
Uzbekistan	IP	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Vanuatu	IP	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	Minimal Advancement
Yemen	MENA	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement
Zambia	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement
Zimbabwe	AF	Moderate Advancement	Moderate Advancement

## Appendix 6

## TDA Laws and Ratifications, by Country

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT		ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS		PALERMO PROTOCOL	MIN. AGE FOR WORK	EDUCATION	
		CRC-CSEC	CRC-AC				COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION			COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION
Afghanistan	IP	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Albania	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Algeria	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Angola	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	14	Yes
Anguilla	EUR	No Advancement	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	12	17	Yes
Argentina	LAC	Significant Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	18	Yes
Armenia	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	19	Yes
Azerbaijan	EUR	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Bangladesh	IP	Moderate Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	10	Yes
Belize	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	12	14	Yes
Benin	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	16	Yes
Bhutan	IP	Moderate Advancement	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	13	N/A	Yes
Bolivia	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	17	Yes
Bosnia and Herzegovina	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Botswana	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	N/A	Yes
Brazil	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	17	Yes

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT			CRC 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC CSEC	CRC- AC	CRC OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS	PALERMO PROTOCOL	MIN. AGE FOR WORK	COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION	EDUCATION	
		ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC												
British Virgin Islands	EUR	No Advancement	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	16	17	Yes	Yes
Burkina Faso	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes	Yes
Burma	IP	No Advancement - Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	10	Yes	Yes
Burundi	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	12	Yes	Yes
Cabo Verde	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes	Yes
Cambodia	IP	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	N/A	Yes	Yes
Cameroon	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	Yes	14	12	No	No
Central African Republic	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	15	Yes	Yes
Chad	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	16	Yes	Yes
Chile	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	18	Yes	Yes
Christmas Island	IP	Moderate Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	17.5	Yes	Yes
Cocos (Keeling) Island	IP	Moderate Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	17.5	Yes	Yes
Colombia	LAC	Significant Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	18	Yes	Yes
Comoros	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	12	No	No
Congo, Democratic Republic of the	AF	No Advancement - Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	12	Yes	Yes

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT		ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS		PALERMO PROTOCOL	MIN. AGE FOR WORK	EDUCATION	
		CRC-CSEC	CRC-AC				COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION			COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION
Congo, Republic of the	AF	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	16	16	Yes
Cook Islands	IP	Minimal Advancement		No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	16	16	Yes
Costa Rica	LAC	Significant Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	17	Yes
Côte d'Ivoire	AF	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Djibouti	AF	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Dominica	LAC	Minimal Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Dominican Republic	LAC	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	14	Yes
Ecuador	LAC	Significant Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Egypt	MENA	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
El Salvador	LAC	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	18	Yes
Eritrea	AF	No Advancement – Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	14	Yes
Eswatini	AF	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	12/13	No
Ethiopia	AF	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	N/A	No
Falkland Islands (Islas Malvinas)	EUR	Minimal Advancement										
Fiji	IP	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	15	15	Yes
Gabon	AF	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Gambia, The	AF	Minimal Advancement – Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement										
Georgia	EUR	Moderate Advancement		Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Ghana	AF	Minimal Advancement		Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT			ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS		PALERMO PROTOCOL	MIN. AGE FOR WORK	COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION
		CRC- CSEC	CRC- CSEC	CRC-AC				CRC- CSEC	CRC- CSEC				
Grenada	LAC	No Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Guatemala	LAC	Significant Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Guinea	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	No
Guinea-Bissau	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	15	No
Guyana	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Haiti	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	15	Yes
Honduras	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	17	Yes
India	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	15	Yes
Indonesia	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Iraq	MENA	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	12	Yes
Jamaica	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	16	Yes
Jordan	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Kazakhstan	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	17	Yes
Kenya	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	17	14	Yes
Kiribati	IP	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	15	Yes
Kosovo	EUR	Moderate Advancement	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A	15	15	Yes
Kyrgyz Republic	IP	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Regression in Law that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	15	Yes
Lebanon	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	14	15	Yes
Lesotho	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	13	Yes
Liberia	AF	Minimal Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	Yes	N/A	14	Yes
Madagascar	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT		ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS		PALERMO PROTOCOL	MIN. AGE FOR WORK	EDUCATION	
		CRC	CRC- CSEC				CRC- CSEC	CRC- AC			COMPELLSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION
Malawi	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	18	Yes
Maldives	IP	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Mali	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Mauritania	AF	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Continued Policy and Practice that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	16	14	Yes
Mauritius	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Mexico	LAC	No Assessment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	18	Yes
Moldova	EUR	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Continued Law and Practice that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	18	Yes
Mongolia	IP	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Continued Law that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
Montenegro	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Montserrat	EUR	No Advancement	No	No	No	No	No	No	No	16	16	Yes
Morocco	MENA	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Mozambique	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes
Namibia	AF	Significant Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	14	Yes
Nepal	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	14	14	Yes
Nicaragua	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	12	Yes
Niger	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	N/A	Yes
Nigeria	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	12	15	Yes
Niue	IP	No Advancement	No	No	Yes	No	No	No	No	N/A	16	Yes

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT			ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC CSEC	CRC CSEC- AC	CRC OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS	PALERMO PROTOCOL	MIN. AGE FOR WORK	COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION	EDUCATION
		ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC											
Norfolk Island	IP	Moderate Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	N/A	17	Yes	Yes
North Macedonia	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	16	Yes	Yes
Oman	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes	Yes
Pakistan	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	14	16	Yes	Yes
Panama	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	15	Yes	Yes
Papua New Guinea	IP	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	16	N/A	No	No
Paraguay	LAC	Significant Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	17	Yes	Yes
Peru	LAC	Significant Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	17	Yes	Yes
Philippines	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	18	Yes	Yes
Rwanda	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	12	No	No
Saint Helena, Ascensión, and Tristán da Cunha	EUR	Minimal Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	16	16	Yes	Yes
Saint Lucia	LAC	Moderate Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes	Yes
Saint Vincent and the Grenadines	LAC	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	16	Yes	Yes
Samoa	IP	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	15	16	No	No
São Tomé and Príncipe	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes	Yes
Senegal	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	16	Yes	Yes
Serbia	EUR	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes	Yes
Sierra Leone	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes	Yes
Solomon Islands	IP	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	No	No	No	12	N/A	No	No

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT		ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS		PALERMO PROTOCOL	MIN. AGE FOR WORK	EDUCATION	
		CRC CSEC	CRC- CSEC				COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION			COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION
Somalia	AF	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Continued Practices that Delayed Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	15	14	Yes	No
South Africa	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes	No
South Sudan	AF	No Advancement - Efforts Made but Complicit in Forced Child Labor	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	13	Yes	Yes
Sri Lanka	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	16	Yes	Yes
Suriname	LAC	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	Yes	16	12	Yes	Yes
Tanzania	AF	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	14	No	No
Thailand	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	16	Yes	Yes
Timor-Leste	IP	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	16	Yes	Yes
Togo	AF	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	15	Yes	Yes
Tokelau	IP	No Advancement	No	No	No	No	No	No	N/A	16	Yes	Yes
Tonga	IP	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	N/A	18	No	No
Tunisia	MENA	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes	Yes
Tuvalu	IP	Moderate Advancement	No	Yes	Yes	No	No	No	15	15	No	No
Uganda	AF	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Regression in Practice that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	13	No	No

COUNTRY	REGION	2019 ASSESSMENT			ILO C. 138	ILO C. 182	CRC	CRC CSEC	CRC CSEC- AC	PALERMO PROTOCOL	MIN. AGE FOR WORK	COMPULSORY EDUCATION AGE	FREE PUBLIC EDUCATION
		CRC OPTIONAL PROTOCOLS											
Ukraine	EUR	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Regression in Law that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	17	Yes
Uzbekistan	IP	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	18	Yes
Vanuatu	IP	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	14	N/A	No
Wallis and Futuna	EUR	No Assessment	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	16	Yes
West Bank and the Gaza Strip	MENA	Minimal Advancement	N/A	N/A	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	16	Yes
Western Sahara	MENA	Minimal Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	15	16	Yes
Yemen	MENA	Minimal Advancement - Efforts Made but Continued Practice that Delayed Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	14	15	Yes
Zambia	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	No	No	Yes	Yes	15	N/A	Yes
Zimbabwe	AF	Moderate Advancement	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes	16	12	No



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GoodWeave works with carpet, home textile and apparel producing communities in South Asia to ensure that children have access to education. Afghanistan. 2012.

## Appendix 7

# Paragraphs and Bibliographies for 2020 TVPRA Additions

## BRAZIL – COFFEE – FORCED LABOR

There are reports that adults are forced to work in the production of coffee in Brazil. According to media reports and NGOs, cases of forced labor within the coffee sector are a recurring problem. A large number of these violations occur in the state of Minas Gerais, which is responsible for about 70 percent of the coffee produced in the country. There are more than 100,000 coffee plantations in Minas Gerais, with an estimated 245,000 workers, most working informally, thus increasing the probability of their exploitation. Sources indicate that forced labor in coffee is widespread in this state. Intermediaries, called *gatos*, recruit workers from poorer neighboring states, and often lie about working conditions, wages, hours, and the quality of living conditions. According to investigations, workers face up to 15-hour workdays, and often receive sub-minimum wage payments. Reports also indicate that a number of workers face precarious and unsanitary housing accommodations with no access to potable water, and a lack of proper bathroom and cooking facilities. Some workers report finding themselves in a debt spiral because they owe money to the plantation owners for food, their journey to the plantation, and even the equipment they must use during the harvest. These debts incurred hinder the workers' ability to leave the coffee plantations. A number of workers also report fear of punishment for complaining about the poor conditions, or for speaking to outside sources about their work and living conditions. Some workers have had their working papers or identity papers confiscated by their employer.

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## CAMBODIA – BOVINES – CHILD LABOR

There is evidence that children between the ages of 5 and 14 engage in the production of bovines in Cambodia. In Cambodia, bovines are primarily used for domestic consumption and for farming purposes, and are raised by approximately 1.4 million smallholders primarily located in provinces bordering the Mekong River, with a heavy concentration found in the southern rice-producing provinces. Based on analysis of the 2016 Cambodian Socio-Economic Survey, an estimated 59,693 children are involved in child labor in the production of bovines. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Cambodia's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **CAMBODIA – BRICKS – FORCED LABOR**

There are reports that adults are forced to work in the production of bricks in Cambodia. According to recent research conducted by independent entities, tens of thousands of debt-bonded Cambodians work in more than 460 operational brick kilns across the country to help meet the demand for bricks fueled by the construction boom in Phnom Penh. Adults, particularly farmers, frequently find themselves unable to pay back debts and they transfer these debts to brick kiln owners who offer additional loans to cover daily expenses, thus adding to their indebtedness and bonding them to the brick kiln. Due to the high interest charged on loans offered by brick kiln owners, adults find that they are unable to pay back their debts during their lifetime, and are forced to pass along outstanding debts to their children, creating a cycle of multi-generation debt bondage. Research also found that during the rainy season, when bricks are slow to dry and incomes drop, workers are not permitted to leave the kilns to find alternate sources of income. Workers also are threatened with arrest or are forced to pay additional debt if they try to leave the brick kiln without repaying their debts in full.

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### **CHINA – FISH – FORCED LABOR**

There are reports that adults are forced to work in the production of fish on China's distant-water fishing fleet. China's fleet is the largest in the world, with an estimated 3,000 fishing vessels, and contains a wide variety of vessels, from longliners to purse seiners, operating on the high seas and in foreign countries' exclusive economic zones in every region of the world. The majority of the crew on board are migrant workers from Indonesia and the Philippines, who are particularly vulnerable to forced labor. It is estimated that there are tens of thousands of workers who are sometimes recruited by agencies that deceive workers with false information regarding their wages and the terms of the contracts, and require the workers to pay recruitment fees and sign debt contracts. According to various sources, numerous incidents of forced labor have been reported on Chinese fishing vessels. While on board the vessels, workers' identity documents are often confiscated, the crew spends months at sea

without stopping at a port of call, and they are forced to work 18 to 22 hours a day with little rest. Workers face hunger and dehydration, live in degrading and unhygienic conditions, are subjected to physical violence and verbal abuse, are prevented from leaving the vessel or ending their contracts, and are frequently not paid their promised wages.

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## CHINA – GLOVES – FORCED LABOR

There are reports that adults are forced to produce gloves in China. Researchers estimate at least 100,000 Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, and other Muslim minorities are being subjected to forced labor in China following detention in re-education camps, in addition to rural poor workers who may also experience coercion without detention. Workers are either placed at factories within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, where the camps are located, or transferred out of Xinjiang to factories in eastern China. There are reports of glove factories training and employing 1,500 to 2,000 ethnic minority workers with the government's support. Victim testimonies, news media, and think tanks report that factories, including for gloves, frequently engage in coercive recruitment; limit workers' freedom of movement and communication; and subject workers to constant surveillance, retribution for religious beliefs, exclusion from community and social life, and isolation. Further, reports indicate little pay, mandatory Mandarin lessons, ideological indoctrination, and poor living conditions. In some instances, workers have been reported to be subject to torture.

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## CHINA – HAIR PRODUCTS – FORCED LABOR

There are reports that adults are forced to produce hair products in China. Researchers estimate that at least 100,000 Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, and other Muslim minorities are being subjected to forced labor in China following detention in re-education camps, in addition to rural poor workers who may also experience coercion without detention. Workers can be placed at factories within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, where the camps are located, or be transferred out of Xinjiang to factories in eastern China. Available reports suggest that thousands of ethnic minority workers are employed in factories producing hair products such as wigs. China produces more than 80 percent of the global market's products made from hair and is the world's largest exporter of these products. Victim testimonies, news media, and think tanks report that factories, including for hair products, frequently engage in coercive recruitment; limit workers' freedom of movement and communication; and subject workers to constant surveillance, retribution for religious beliefs, exclusion from community and social life, and isolation. Further, workers in these factories can be subject to regular government propaganda, extremely long hours, and little to no pay.

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## CHINA – TEXTILES – FORCED LABOR

There are reports that adults are forced to produce textiles in China. Researchers estimate that at least 100,000 Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, and other Muslim minorities are being subjected to forced labor in China following detention in re-education camps, in addition to rural poor workers who may also experience coercion without detention. Workers can be placed at factories within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, where the camps are located, or be transferred out of Xinjiang to factories in eastern China. According to think tank and media reports, the textile industry works with the Government of China to make use of ethnic minority groups for exploitative labor. Researchers note that Xinjiang is undergoing an expansion of the textile industry, and it is possible that hundreds of thousands of workers are being subjected to forced labor as part of this effort. Victim testimonies, news media, and think tanks report that factories, including for textiles, frequently engage in coercive recruitment; limit workers' freedom of movement and communication; and subject workers to constant surveillance, retribution for religious beliefs, exclusion from community and social life, and threaten family members. Further, some workers have been subject to military-style management, government indoctrination, and are paid below the minimum wage.

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- CHINA – THREAD/YARN – FORCED LABOR**
- There are reports that adults are forced to produce thread/yarn in China. Researchers estimate that at least 100,000 Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, and other Muslim minorities are being subjected to forced labor in China following detention in re-education camps, in addition to rural poor workers who may also experience coercion without detention. Workers can be placed at factories within the Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region, where the camps are located, or be transferred out of Xinjiang to factories in eastern China. Reports indicate that more than 2,000 Uyghur and ethnic Kazakh workers have been transferred out of Xinjiang to yarn factories in the east. It also is likely that many others are subjected to forced labor at yarn factories within Xinjiang, particularly for cotton yarns. Victim testimonies, news media, and think tanks report that factories, including for thread/yarn, frequently engage in coercive recruitment; limit workers' freedom of movement and communication; and subject workers to constant surveillance, retribution for religious beliefs, exclusion from community and social life, and threaten family members. Further, workers may undergo re-education to eradicate "extremism".
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### CHINA – TOMATO PRODUCTS – FORCED LABOR

There are reports that adults are forced to produce tomato products in China. Researchers estimate that at least 100,000 Uyghurs, ethnic Kazakhs, and other Muslim minorities are being subjected to forced labor in China following detention in re-education camps, in addition to rural poor workers who may also experience coercion without detention. Xinjiang is a major producer of tomato products, especially tomato paste. Victim testimonies, news media, and think tanks report that factories, including for tomato products, frequently engage in coercive recruitment; limit workers' freedom of movement and communication; and subject workers to constant surveillance, retribution for religious beliefs, exclusion from community and social life, and isolation.

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### COLOMBIA – FRUITS (POME AND STONE) – CHILD LABOR

There is evidence that children between the ages of 5 and 14 work in the harvesting and production of pome and stone fruits in Colombia. Based on an analysis of the Colombia Great Household Survey – Child Labor Module, an estimated 10,679 children under the minimum age for work are involved in child labor in pome and stone fruits. The release of this survey demonstrates the

Government of Colombia's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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## COLOMBIA – GRAPES – CHILD LABOR

There is evidence that children between the ages of 5 and 14 work in the harvesting and production of grapes in Colombia. Based on an analysis of the Colombia Great Household Survey – Child Labor Module, an estimated 31,834 children under the minimum age for work are involved in child labor in the harvesting and production of grapes. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Colombia's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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## ETHIOPIA – KHAT (STIMULANT PLANT) – CHILD LABOR

There are reports that children ages 8 to 17 produce *khat* in Ethiopia. According to a study from 2017, between 50 percent and 70 percent of *khat* workers in Wondo Genet's Chuko town and Aweday, in Eastern Hararge, are children. Sources estimate that 5,000 children in Aweday are connected to the industry, approximately 2,000 of whom are under age 15. Although *khat* (*Catha edulis*) is legal in Ethiopia, the plant releases two highly addictive central nervous system stimulants – cathinone and cathine – whose acute and long-term neurological effects include *khat*-induced psychosis. Children involved in *khat* cultivation, pruning, and bundling may become addicted to the drug due to contact with excretions from the plant. Moreover, child laborers are unable to attend school and they work long nights.

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## INDIA – SANDSTONE – CHILD LABOR

There are reports that children ages 6 to 17 produce sandstone in India. In Rajasthan, which produces 90 percent of India's sandstone, boys and girls as young as age 6 or 7 work chiseling sandstone cobblestones, and boys ages 13 to 17 quarry sandstone. Children from migrant families or children belonging to scheduled castes, a socially disadvantaged group in India, are particularly vulnerable to child labor in producing sandstone. Based on estimates from international organizations, NGOs, and academic researchers, thousands of children work in Rajasthan's sandstone quarries. Children working in the quarries are rarely given protective equipment such as goggles or masks, and are exposed to hazards including severe injury from stone chips; hearing loss from drilling and blasting noise; extreme heat; and inhalation of silica dust, which can lead to chronic lung disease and death. Some children also work at night or operate dangerous equipment.

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- INDIA – SANDSTONE – FORCED LABOR**
- There are reports that adult workers are forced to work in the production of sandstone in India. Migrant workers and individuals from scheduled castes, a socially disadvantaged group in India, are especially vulnerable to forced labor in sandstone quarries. According to international organizations, NGOs, and academic researchers, incidents of forced labor and debt bondage are widespread in sandstone quarries in Rajasthan, which is the source of 90 percent of India's sandstone. Migrant and marginalized workers are lured to the quarries with the promise of well-paying jobs, only to work in dangerous conditions for pay at a daily or per piece rate that is too low to manage basic expenses. Sandstone quarry workers are highly vulnerable to silicosis, a fatal lung disease caused by breathing the dust produced by drilling or breaking quartz-rich rocks. In many cases, quarry owners give workers advances and loans to pay for growing household and medical expenses related to silicosis. Quarry owners withhold workers' wages as repayment for this debt, which in turn continuously accumulates due to compound interest and additional expenses. Employers record attendance informally and rarely issue written accounts of debt owed, enabling quarry owners to deduct money from the workers' wages and inflate debts. When an indebted worker grows too ill to work or dies, this debt is transferred to his or her family, who must forfeit property or themselves labor in the quarry to pay off the debt.
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## INDONESIA – OIL (PALM) – FORCED LABOR

There are reports that adult workers are forced to work in the production of palm oil in Indonesia. The palm oil industry is labor-intensive and employs between 3.7 million and 8 million workers. According to local media and NGO reports, thousands of individuals have been subjected to forced labor in the production of palm oil. Many of the workers on palm oil plantations are internal migrants within Indonesia, some of whom had to pay high recruitment fees leading to debt. It is widely reported that palm oil harvesters' daily targets, which are set by companies, are unachievable within a 7-hour workday, compelling workers to work several hours beyond what the law permits without overtime pay because they fear steep deductions in wages if they do not meet their targets. Individuals work in remote, isolated plantations with limited freedom of movement and communication. Victims and local NGOs report that some workers who live on the plantation experience degrading living conditions, with no access to clean water or latrines. Some workers who work with hazardous pesticides and fertilizers are not provided with personal protective equipment, and they experience health problems and increased risks of injury from exposure to dangerous chemicals.

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### KENYA – GOLD – CHILD LABOR

There are reports that children as young as age 12 produce gold in Kenya. Children reportedly work at small-scale and artisanal mining sites in western Kenya. Local government officials estimate that there are 8,000 children working at informal gold mining sites in Migori County, while other media and NGO reports document widespread cases of children engaged in mining activities related to the production of gold throughout western Kenya. In many cases, children drop out of school to work at gold mining sites. Children are involved in hazardous forms of work, including using pick axes, engaging in work underground, and carrying heavy loads. In some cases, children working in gold mining have been trapped in collapsed mines, have suffocated, or have been exposed to mercury.

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### MADAGASCAR – MICA – CHILD LABOR

There are reports that children ages 3 to 17 produce mica in Madagascar, primarily in the southern provinces of Androy, Anosy, and Ihorombe. A study published in 2019 estimated that 10,800 children are involved in mining and sorting mica. Adolescent boys dig mines and risk injury from falling rocks as they use sharp tools to extract mica from underground with no protective gear. Both boys and girls work long hours in the hot sun carrying heavy loads and are exposed to mica and sand dust throughout the production process. Child laborers usually do not attend school, and girls working at the mines are particularly vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation.

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## MALAYSIA – RUBBER GLOVES – FORCED LABOR

There are reports that adults are forced to produce rubber gloves in Malaysia. Forced labor predominately occurs among migrant laborers from Bangladesh, India, Myanmar, and Nepal working in more than 100 rubber glove factories throughout Malaysia. Reports indicate that there are an estimated 42,500 migrant workers employed in the Malaysian rubber glove industry. Workers are frequently subject to high recruitment fees to secure employment that often keeps them in debt bondage; forced to work overtime in excess of the time allowed by Malaysian law; and work in factories where temperatures can reach dangerous levels. Additionally, laborers work under the threat of penalties, which include the withholding of wages, restricted movement, and the withholding of their identification documents.

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### MEXICO – CATTLE – CHILD LABOR

There is evidence that children between the ages of 5 and 17 are involved in cattle raising in Mexico. Based on an analysis of Mexico’s National Survey of Occupation and Employment – Child Labor Module 2017, an estimated 18,501 children work in cattle raising. According to Mexico’s national legislation, agricultural activities, which include cattle raising, are considered to be hazardous occupations and are prohibited for children younger than age 18. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Mexico’s commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### MEXICO – GARMENTS – CHILD LABOR

There is evidence that children between the ages of 5 and 14 work in garment manufacturing in Mexico. Based on an analysis of Mexico’s National Survey of Occupation and Employment – Child Labor Module 2017, an estimated 17,826 children work in garment production. The survey indicates that the majority of children and adolescents working in garment manufacturing are in Puebla and Guanajuato states. Other sources report that cases of child labor in garment manufacturing have been found in Puebla. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Mexico’s commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### MEXICO – LEATHER GOODS – CHILD LABOR

There is evidence that children between the ages of 5 and 14 work in the production of leather goods in Mexico. Based on an analysis of Mexico’s National Survey of Occupation and Employment – Child Labor Module 2017, an estimated 5,594 children work in leather goods manufacturing. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Mexico’s commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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## TAIWAN – FISH – FORCED LABOR

There are reports that adults are forced to work in the production of fish on Taiwan's distant-water fishing fleet. Taiwan's fleet is the second largest in the world, with more than 1,100 fishing vessels, comprising approximately 36 percent of the world's tuna longliner fleet, and operating on the high seas and in the exclusive economic zones of more than 30 countries. An estimated 35,000 migrant workers are employed by the fleet. The majority of these workers are recruited overseas, mostly from Indonesia and the Philippines, by agencies that sometimes deceive workers with false information regarding their wages and the terms of the contracts, and require the workers to pay recruitment fees and sign debt contracts. According to various sources, numerous incidents of forced labor have been reported on Taiwan-flagged fishing vessels. While on board the vessels, workers' identity documents are often confiscated, and the crew spends months at sea without stopping at a port of call, and they are forced to work 18 to 22 hours a day with little rest. Workers face hunger and dehydration, live in degrading and unhygienic conditions, are subjected to physical violence and verbal abuse, are prevented from leaving the vessel or ending their contracts, and are frequently not paid their promised wages or have food and lodging fees illegally deducted from their wages.

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There are reports that adults are forced to work in the mining of gold in Venezuela. Research indicates that forced labor occurs throughout the Orinoco Mining Arc, a swath of land in Venezuela's southern Bolivar state, where the majority of Venezuela's gold is concentrated. It is estimated that there are between 300,000 and 500,000 gold miners in Venezuela. Mines are largely run by armed and violent criminal groups, and research shows evidence that officials from the

Government of Venezuela, including members of security forces and local authorities, have colluded with and allowed members of non-state armed groups to commit human rights violations and labor abuses. Miners experience unsafe working conditions, unsafe and degrading living conditions, extortion and financial penalties, limited freedom of communication, and threats of violence and torture.

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### ZIMBABWE – SUGARCANE – CHILD LABOR

There are reports that children as young as age 9 produce sugarcane in Zimbabwe. Multiple local media reports identify cases of children working on sugarcane farms, particularly on outgrower farms in Masvingo Province, which is the main area for sugarcane cultivation in Zimbabwe. One source estimates that there are as many as 10,000 children working in the sector. Children working on farms producing sugarcane perform tasks related to irrigation, the cutting of sugarcane, and guarding crops. Children perform work at night and engage in hazardous activities, such as using machetes and chasing away wild animals. Many child laborers working in sugarcane production do not attend school because of their work.

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### ZIMBABWE – TOBACCO – CHILD LABOR

There are reports that children produce tobacco in Zimbabwe. According to Human Rights Watch and local media reports, there are numerous cases of children working on tobacco farms in Zimbabwe's northeastern provinces, including Mashonaland West, Mashonaland Central, Mashonaland East, and Manicaland. There are reports of increasing numbers of children working on small, non-commercial farms. In many cases, children drop out of school to work on tobacco farms. Children perform hazardous forms of work, including mixing, handling, and spraying pesticides. Children also experience adverse health effects related to exposure to nicotine, which enters their bodies through the skin during the handling of tobacco.

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Smiling children in the playground of an elementary school in the rainforest village of Nueva Libertad, Ecuador. Nueva Libertad, Ecuador. October 15, 2010.

## Appendix 8

# TVPRA List Methodology

## Research Focus

The research methodology used to compile the TVPRA List is based on ILAB's Procedural Guidelines. For this edition, ILAB reviewed new information on goods from 154 countries, territories, and areas. ILAB continues to carry out research for future editions of the TVPRA List.

### *Population Covered*

In researching child labor, ILAB focused on children under the age of 18. For forced labor, the research covered workers of all ages. The population included persons in foreign countries only, as directed by statute. Populations within the United States were not included in this study.

### *Nature of Employment*

Where ILAB research indicated situations of exploitative working conditions, these situations were reviewed to determine whether they constituted "child labor" or "forced labor" under international labor standards. ILAB's complete definitions of child labor and forced labor can be found in its Procedural Guidelines.

**"Child labor"** under international standards means all work performed by a person below the age of 15. It also includes all work performed by a person below the age of 18 in the following practices: (1) 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; (2) the use, procuring, or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography, or for pornographic purposes; (3) the use, procuring, or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs; and (4) work that, by its nature or the circumstances under which

it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children.

The definitions used in developing the TVPRA List are based on standards adopted by the ILO. The ILO has adopted two conventions relating to child labor – the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (C. 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (C. 182). The ILO also has adopted two conventions relating to forced labor – the Forced Labor Convention, 1930 (C. 29) and the Abolition of Forced Labor Convention, 1957 (C. 105).

**"Forced labor"** under international standards means all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty for its non-performance and for which the worker does not offer himself voluntarily, and includes indentured labor. Forced labor includes work provided or obtained by force, fraud, or coercion, including: (1) by threats 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, the 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.

Evidence of child labor and forced labor was considered separately to determine whether – for each good on the TVPRA List – there should be a finding that child labor, forced labor, or both were used in the production of the good in violation of international standards. Some goods are listed as produced with both child labor and forced labor; however, this does not necessarily mean that the goods were produced with forced child labor.

### *Sector of Employment*

The TVPRA List comprises goods from the agricultural, manufacturing, and mining/quarrying sectors, as well

as pornography. ILAB's research did not include the service sector, which was beyond the scope of the legislated mandate.

### Type of Employment

Research covered all economic activity for adults and children in the production of goods, including formal and informal sector production and goods produced for personal and family consumption. Examples of informal sector activity include day labor hired without contract, small-scale farming and fishing, artisanal mining and quarrying, and manufacturing work performed in home-based workshops.

The TVPRA List includes many goods for which ILAB has evidence of child labor or forced labor only in informal sector production. These include garments from Bangladesh, gold from Suriname, and tobacco from Tanzania.

Some illicit goods also are included on the TVPRA List; this is not intended to condone or legitimize the production or consumption of these goods.

In placing items on the TVPRA List, ILAB names the most specific good possible given the available evidence. Therefore, ILAB may identify child labor or forced labor in the production of a general category of good from one country (e.g., stones from Nepal), while it may have evidence of labor exploitation in the production of a more precise good from another country (e.g., limestone from Egypt). However, ILAB does not place broad sectors on the TVPRA List. For example, although there is evidence of child labor in agriculture in nearly every country in the world, ILAB would not include "agricultural goods" on the TVPRA List. However, when there is credible evidence of child labor or forced labor in a particular agricultural good, that specific good would be included on the TVPRA List.

ILAB's mandate also requires the TVPRA List to include, to the extent practicable, goods that are produced *with inputs that are produced with forced labor or child labor.*

### Market for Goods

Most economically active children are involved in the production of goods or services for local consumption,

rather than for international trade. Data is limited on the consumption patterns of goods made with forced labor. In conducting research, ILAB did not distinguish between goods produced for domestic consumption and for export, due to data limitations and because this is not part of the mandate of the TVPRA.

## Data Sources and Analysis

### Sources and Collection of Data

To ensure a transparent process, ILAB does not accept classified information in developing the List. ILAB utilized a wide variety of publicly available primary and secondary sources to conduct the research.

Primary sources include original quantitative and qualitative research, studies, and other data or evidence gathered firsthand, while secondary sources are those that cite, comment on, or build upon primary sources. ILAB's primary sources included surveys carried out by foreign governments in conjunction with the ILO, site visits and data gathered by ILAB staff and other U.S. Government personnel, and quantitative and qualitative studies carried out by a variety of governmental and non-governmental entities, including academic institutions. Where available, ILAB relied on statistically representative studies in which participants are chosen through random sampling. This type of research produces reliable estimates of the number of individuals in child labor or forced labor working in particular activities in a given sector or geographic area. Because these studies provide empirical, quantitative evidence about both the nature and prevalence of the problem, ILAB sometimes based a determination to add a good to the TVPRA List on a single, representative survey when it was confident in the rigor of the methodology and execution.

ILAB's secondary sources included information reported by U.S. Government agencies, foreign governments, and civil society organizations, including reporting from U.S. Government-funded technical assistance projects. The U.S. Department of State and U.S. embassies and consulates abroad provided

important information by gathering data from local contacts, conducting site visits, and reviewing local media sources. I LAB issued a notice in the *Federal Register* requesting information from the public on child labor and forced labor in the production of goods globally, and reached out to the embassies of all countries researched to request this information as well. I LAB monitored reports from international institutions, NGOs, and academic journals and media sources on an ongoing basis.

### *Data Analysis*

The TVPRA mandates that the USDOL publish a list of goods that I LAB has “reason to believe” are produced using forced or child labor in violation of international standards. I LAB implemented this “reason to believe” standard by establishing five factors to be considered in evaluating information. These five factors are included in I LAB’s Procedural Guidelines.

1. Nature of information. Whether the information about child labor or forced labor gathered from research, public submissions, hearing testimony, or other sources is relevant, probative, and meets the definitions of child labor or forced labor.
2. Date of information. Whether the information about child labor or forced labor is no more than 7 years old at the time of receipt. More current information will generally be given priority, and information older than 7 years will generally not be considered.
3. Source of information. Whether the information, either from primary or secondary sources, is from a source whose methodology, prior publications, degree of familiarity and experience with international labor standards, and/or reputation for accuracy and objectivity warrants a determination that it is relevant and probative.
4. Extent of corroboration. The extent to which the information about the use of child labor or forced labor in the production of a good(s) is corroborated by other sources.
5. Significant incidence of child labor or forced labor. Whether the information about the use of child labor or forced labor in the production of a good(s) warrants a determination that the incidence of such

practices is significant in the country in question. Information that relates only to a single company or facility, or which indicates an isolated incident of child labor or forced labor, will not ordinarily weigh in favor of a finding that a good is produced in violation of international standards. Information that demonstrates a significant incidence of child labor or forced labor in the production of a particular good, although not necessarily representing a practice in the industry as a whole, will ordinarily weigh in favor of a finding that a good is produced in violation of international standards.

For each good that was reviewed, I LAB evaluated each data source against each of the five criteria. I LAB researchers applied the criteria consistently across goods and countries so that ultimate findings of “reason to believe” are consistent worldwide.

Where I LAB found reason to believe that child labor or forced labor was used in the production of a particular good, prior to adding that good to the TVPRA List, I LAB also considered evidence of government, industry, or third-party initiatives to combat the problem. This included evidence about ongoing initiatives brought to our attention through public submissions. If I LAB determined that the problem of child labor or forced labor persisted despite existing efforts to address the issue, the good was still added to the TVPRA List. If the only evidence I LAB had about child labor or forced labor in the production of a good discussed government law enforcement or other efforts to address or remediate the problem, I LAB did not use that evidence to place a good on the List.

## Limitations

### *Data Availability*

A wide range of challenges contributes to the continued scarcity of information on international child labor and forced labor.

### *Countries Not Appearing on the TVPRA List*

A country’s absence from the TVPRA List does not necessarily indicate that child labor and/or forced labor

are not occurring in the production of goods in that country. Data can be unavailable for various reasons, including both research and policy considerations. Forced laborers often work in isolated locations, such as rural areas, or clandestine settings, such as workshops hidden in large cities. Research survey methodologies on such hard-to-reach populations, especially for individuals in forced labor, are still in the developmental stages and continue to be piloted and refined in order to capture the appropriate constructs. While research on child labor is more advanced and has gone beyond population estimates, data on the specific types of work in which children are involved beyond aggregated industry data are still not collected in a universal manner. For example, national child labor surveys often produce estimates of the number of children working in agriculture; however, statistics are often not available on the specific agricultural goods that children are producing. Policy decisions that affect the availability of data on child labor or forced labor include government failure to allocate sufficient financial resources or hesitancy to collect and make publicly available data on such sensitive issues. ILAB seeks to corroborate information with multiple sources; however, in some instances, only certain types of sources are available. For example, in cases where only media sources are available, ILAB will review the body of evidence against its five criteria to determine whether it can establish a “reason to believe.”

The existence of child labor and forced labor also often involves violations of laws and regulations, including serious criminal violations in some cases. Information may be intentionally suppressed to protect powerful interests, in the face of which the victims of these egregious labor practices may be too vulnerable or politically weak to assert their rights or even communicate their situations. Among the 154 countries, territories, and areas researched for this edition of the TVPRA List, there were several for which ILAB could not find adequate information to determine that any goods should be placed on the TVPRA List because very little recent research on child labor and forced labor has been done in those countries. This was the case, for example, in Algeria,

Gabon, Guyana, Jamaica, Maldives, Morocco, South Africa, Togo, and Tunisia.

### *Countries With Data Gaps on the TVPRA List*

ILAB’s TVPRA List includes goods from some countries known to restrict data collection on forced labor and child labor, or to suppress information dissemination. Examples include China, Iran, and North Korea. Where ILAB was able to find even limited sources, despite data availability constraints, indicating significant incidence of forced labor or child labor in the production of a particular good, and these sources were judged to be credible and timely, ILAB determined that there was “reason to believe” that child labor or forced labor was occurring with respect to that good.

### *Countries With Disproportionate Representation on the TVPRA List*

Some countries with relatively large numbers of goods on the TVPRA List may not have the most serious problems with child labor or forced labor. Often, these are countries that have more openly acknowledged the problems, have better research, and have allowed information on these issues to be disseminated. Such countries include Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, India, Kenya, Mexico, Paraguay, the Philippines, Tanzania, Turkey, Uganda, Vietnam, and Zambia. The number of goods on the TVPRA List from any particular country should not be interpreted as a direct indicator that these countries have the most extensive problems with child labor or forced labor.

### *Generalizability of Findings*

The TVPRA List is comprised of goods and countries that ILAB found to have a significant incidence of child labor and/or forced labor. However, it is important to understand that a listing of any particular good and country cannot be generalized to all production of that good in the country. In a given country, there may be firms that produce the good in compliance with the law and international standards, and others that employ child labor and forced labor.



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School children play in their village in the Lira district of northern Uganda.  
Lira, Uganda. May 3, 2012.



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On the cover:

© Michele Zousmer/Children of the Coffee.

Young girl harvesting coffee.  
Coto Brus, Costa Rica. 2015.



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Washing coffee in EL CARMEN DE LA FRONTERA - Ecuador border -  
Huancabamba, Department of Piura, Peru. July 26, 2017.

# WHAT CAN **YOU** DO TO HELP ADDRESS CHILD LABOR AND FORCED LABOR?



## ASK QUESTIONS.

- Could some of the goods I buy be made by child labor or forced labor?
- Do workers have a voice to speak out against labor abuses?
- What are companies doing to end child labor and forced labor in global supply chains?
- What are governments doing to combat child labor and forced labor?

## TAKE ACTION.

- Empower yourself with knowledge and download USDOL's **Sweat & Toil** and **Comply Chain** apps.
- Make your voice heard by spreading the word among friends, family, and the companies you buy from and invest in.
- Show your support for organizations that are working to end these abuses.

## DEMAND CHANGE.

### ADVOCATE FOR A WORLD IN WHICH:

- Workers everywhere can raise their voices against child labor, forced labor, and other abuses.
- Companies make serious commitments to ensure that global supply chains are free of products made by child labor and forced labor, especially those on USDOL's **List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor**.
- Your investments have a positive social impact by promoting responsible labor practices.
- Governments work vigorously to adopt the country-specific suggested actions in USDOL's **Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor**.

Learn more: [dol.gov/EndChildLabor](http://dol.gov/EndChildLabor)  
To contact us, please email [GlobalKids@dol.gov](mailto:GlobalKids@dol.gov)



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**Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking**

Bureau of International Labor Affairs  
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Access our Sweat & Toil mobile app, containing this and other  
USDOL reports on international child labor and forced labor:

