



# BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS

## United States Department of Labor

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

#### *Who We Are...*

The Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking (OCFT) performs important functions within the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB). OCFT engages in research, technical assistance and policy work and coordinates with other U.S. government agencies, international bodies and other governments around the world to eradicate exploitive child labor, forced labor and human trafficking.

- Our technical assistance contributes to the eradication and prevention of exploitive child labor, forced labor and the trafficking of persons for the purpose of exploitive labor.
- Our projects, which focus on geographic areas and sectors around the world with a high incidence of exploitive child labor, aim to combat the worst forms of child labor, including forced labor, trafficking, children affected by armed conflicts, commercial sexual exploitation and hazardous work.
- We conduct research that informs U.S. policy on issues related to the incidence and nature of exploitive child labor, forced labor and human trafficking and efforts to combat these problems.

#### *Our Accomplishments*

- OCFT has funded technical cooperation projects to combat exploitive child labor in over 75 countries worldwide, including 52 in Africa, 45 in Asia, 15 in Europe and the Middle East, 51 in Latin America and the Caribbean, 35 global or multi-region projects, and 7 domestic awareness raising projects in the United States.
- To date, OCFT initiatives have benefited over one million children by preventing their involvement in, or withdrawing them from, exploitive child labor.
- OCFT's work with the U.S. Department of State and other agencies has increased awareness about human trafficking and helped governments around the world to enact meaningful reforms.
- OCFT works with other U.S. government agencies to ensure that products made by child labor and forced labor internationally are identified and not imported into the United States.

#### *Did you know?*

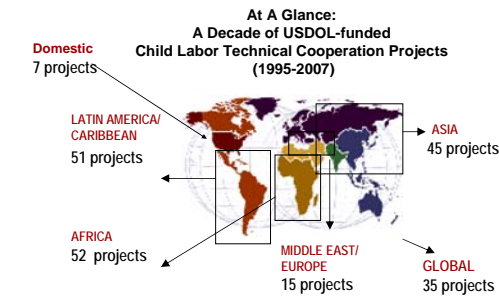
- According to the International Labor Organization, 166 million children ages 5-14 are child laborers, and 74 million participate in hazardous work that by its nature can have adverse effects on the child's safety, health and moral development.
- The worst forms of child labor include slavery or practices similar to slavery; the trafficking of children; the use of children in armed conflict or prostitution and pornography; and the use of children for illicit activities, particularly drug production and trafficking.



For more information about us or our publications or to contact us, please visit our Web site at:

<http://www.dol.gov/ilab/ocft>

# Project highlights



**Total Appropriation  
\$595 million**



Working to eliminate the worst forms of child labor worldwide

## Selected Project Focus

- India – hazardous work
- Central America and DR – educational reform for working children
- Philippines – worst forms of child labor
- Southern Africa – hazardous work
- Morocco – child domestics
- West Africa – cocoa and agriculture
- West Africa - trafficking
- Africa - HIV-AIDS affected children
- Cambodia - commercial sexual exploitation
- Ecuador and Bolivia – indigenous child labor
- Global – community-based innovations

## What We Do...

**Direct Action** – remove/prevent children from exploitive work and provide working children with *educational and training opportunities*.

**Alternative income generation and skills training for families** of working children so that they no longer need to rely on children’s income to meet their basic needs.

Workplace and community-based **monitoring systems** to ensure that children do not return to exploitive work.

**Capacity building** of national and local organizations to ensure *sustainability*.

**Awareness raising** on the hazards associated with exploitive child labor and the benefits of education.

**Data collection and research** to inform policymakers on child labor, forced labor and human trafficking.



### Congressionally-mandated Research and Reporting – since 1994

**By the Sweat and Toil Series:** 7 reports - manufactured/mined goods, agricultural and forced child labor, apparel, consumer labels, efforts, and economic issues. (Please visit <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/media/reports/iclp/main.htm> to see OCFT reports)

**Advancing the Campaign Series:** 3 reports – resource investments, efforts and strategies to address child labor by governments and international financial institutions

**Department of Labor’s Findings on the Worst of Forms of Child Labor (TDA):** 4 reports – government efforts, incidence and nature of child labor, and relevant laws and enforcement for over 140 countries

**Trade Promotion Authority (TPA):** multiple reports – laws governing exploitive child labor

### Selected Partner Organizations

|                        |                          |                       |                 |
|------------------------|--------------------------|-----------------------|-----------------|
| ILO-IPEC               | Catholic Relief Services | Save the Children     | World Education |
| CARE                   | Desarrollo y Autogestión | World Vision          | UNICEF          |
| Jesus Cares Ministries | Partners of the America  | Winrock International | World Learning  |

### Policy

**Executive Order 13126** – was issued in 1999 to prohibit federal agencies from purchasing goods made with forced or indentured child labor.

**Trafficking Victims Protection and Reauthorization Act of 2005** – requires ILAB to develop a list of foreign-made goods believed to be produced with child labor or forced labor, and to work with other federal agencies to ensure that such products are not imported into the United States.