



BUREAU OF INTERNATIONAL LABOR AFFAIRS

United States Department of Labor

Current Projects in AGOA Countries

Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor & Human Trafficking-funded Projects

Benin

Benin participates in a five-year, \$1.5 million global data collection project for four countries, implemented by the International Labor Organization's (ILO) Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor (SIMPOC). This project is helping build the capacity of Benin to conduct national child labor surveys. Benin is also part of two West Africa regional projects funded by the U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) that are assisting countries that are members of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to address the worst forms of child labor. These two projects, totaling nearly \$13 million, include a specific focus on direct interventions to help children and their families in Benin, Côte d'Ivoire, Ghana, and Nigeria. In Benin and Nigeria, USDOL funding is helping to address cross-border trafficking of Beninese children to Nigeria to work in artisanal mines and quarries. Benin is also part of a four-year, \$4 million global project to provide training to government representatives, non-governmental organizations, trade unions and employer organizations in preparation for the launch of the National Action Plan for Child Labor.

Ghana

In September 2010, the Governments of the United States, Ghana, and Cote d'Ivoire and representatives of the International Cocoa and Chocolate Industry signed the Declaration of Joint Action to Support Implementation of the Harkin-Engel Protocol. The main goal of its accompanying Framework of Action is to reduce the worst forms of child labor by 70 percent in aggregate in the cocoa sectors of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana by 2020 through joint efforts by key stakeholders.

Under the Framework, Ghana participates in a four-year, \$10 million regional project, funded by USDOL, to reduce the worst forms of child labor in the cocoa sectors of Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire. The project aims to withdraw and prevent a minimum of 5,000 children from exploitative labor in cocoa-growing areas through direct educational services; livelihood services for the households of children in cocoa growing communities; and through implementation of a credible and transparent sector-wide child labor monitoring system across cocoa growing regions in the two countries.

Guinea

Guinea participates in a three-year, \$3.5 million USDOL-funded project, which is raising awareness about the dangers of exploitative child labor; working with community members to build capacity to combat exploitative child labor; and targeting 3,930

children for withdrawal or prevention from exploitative child labor through the provision of direct educational services.

Kenya

Kenya participates in a four-year, \$4.6 million USDOL-funded project that supports the implementation of Kenya's National Action Plan to Eliminate Child Labor. The project also builds stakeholder capacity to combat exploitative child labor and targets over 8,000 children for withdrawal and prevention from exploitative child labor through the provision of direct educational services.

Lusophone Africa: Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe

Angola, Cape Verde, Guinea Bissau, Mozambique, and Sao Tome and Principe participate in a two-year, \$500,000 USDOL-funded regional project that aids Lusophone African countries in developing their national action plans against child labor. The project also promotes South-South cooperation by providing funding for Brazil to share knowledge on its best practices in eliminating child labor.

Madagascar

Madagascar participates in a four-year, \$4.5 million USDOL-funded project that provides economic empowerment opportunities for families with children who are participating in, or are at risk of, exploitative child labor. The project builds partnerships with the private industry to enhance social responsibility, raises awareness about the dangers of exploitative child labor, and is targeting 9,000 children for withdrawal and prevention from exploitative child labor through the provision of direct educational services.

Malawi

Malawi participates in a three-year, \$2.7 million USDOL-funded project supporting the implementation of Malawi's National Action Plan to Eliminate Child Labor. The project aims to strengthen the legislative and policy environment and to withdraw and prevent 4,350 children from exploitative child labor through the provision of direct educational services.

Rwanda

Rwanda participates in a four-year, \$4.5 million UDSOL-funded project to strengthen national institutions and policies on child labor; conduct awareness raising campaigns about child labor; and withdraw and prevent 8,300 children from exploitative labor through the provision of direct educational services.

Southern Africa: Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa

Botswana, Namibia, and South Africa participate in a four-year, \$4.75 million USDOL-funded regional project that provides assistance to ensure the mainstreaming of the National Action Plan to Eliminate Child Labor into national policy frameworks; to train stakeholders on and raise awareness about child labor issues; and to withdraw and

prevent 8,400 children from exploitative child labor through the provision of direct educational services.

Togo

Togo participates in a five-year, \$5 million USDOL-funded project that aims to mobilize Togolese society to support the fight against child labor, strengthen the legal framework on exploitative child labor, and withdraw and prevent 10,000 children from exploitative child labor through the provision of direct educational services.

Uganda

Uganda participates in two USDOL-funded projects. One is a four-year, \$6.1 million project (\$5.5 USDOL-funded) that aims to contribute to the prevention and elimination of child labor in the Karamoja region and Northern Uganda, with a focus on war-affected children. The project targets over 11,000 children for withdrawal or prevention from exploitative child labor through the provision of direct educational services. It also raises awareness about child labor and improves access to education by facilitating teacher development and standardizing and enhancing curricula for non-formal education.

The second project is a four-year, \$4.8 million USDOL-funded project that aims to strengthen the legal and regulatory frameworks of Uganda to combat the worst forms of child labor; to support the finalization and adoption of the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labor; and to withdraw and prevent 8,138 children from exploitative child labor through the provision of direct educational services.

West Africa: Cote d'Ivoire (non-AGOA), Ghana, Nigeria and Benin (core countries) and Burkina Faso, Cape Verde, The Gambia, Guinea, Guinea Bissau, Liberia, Mali, Niger, Senegal, Sierra Leone, and Togo (non-core countries)

USDOL has funded two projects to assist ECOWAS member states in combating the worst forms of child labor. ECOWAS Phase I is a four-year, \$7.95 million regional project that reinforces the capacity of the Economic Community of West African States (ECOWAS) to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. It assists the ECOWAS member countries of Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana and Nigeria by strengthening and enforcing child labor laws and national action plans. A child labor monitoring system will be developed for the cocoa sector and scaled up and adapted across ECOWAS nations. The project aims to withdraw and prevent 9,600 children from exploitative labor through the provision of direct educational services in the cocoa, fishing, and mining sectors of Ghana and the cocoa sectors and domestic service in Cote d'Ivoire.

ECOWAS Phase II is a three-year, \$5 million regional project which builds on the first ECOWAS-based project. It assists regional efforts to combat the worst forms of child labor in the ECOWAS countries, with direct action in Cote d'Ivoire, Ghana, Benin and Nigeria. The project targets children working in exploitative labor in the cocoa sectors of Cote d'Ivoire and Ghana, mining and quarrying in Benin, and the cross-border trafficking of Beninese children to Nigeria for work in the mining sector. The project aims to withdraw and prevent a total of 4,000 children from exploitative labor through the provision of direct educational services and to provide livelihood services to their families.

Zambia

Although USDOL does not currently have projects in Zambia, it has previously provided over \$21 million in funding for six country-specific and three regional projects that included Zambia. The projects provided technical assistance to support the development and roll out of the Government's National Action Plan to Combat the Worst Forms of Child Labor and the creation of a child labor monitoring system, and they built national capacity through training and awareness-raising. The projects also withdrew and prevented thousands of children from the worst forms of child labor through the provision of direct educational services.

Office of Trade & Labor Affairs-funded Projects

Lesotho

Lesotho participates in a four-year, \$1.96 million USDOL-funded project to assist in protecting the basic rights of workers in the apparel industry. The Better Work Lesotho project, which started in September 2009 with funding ending in March 2014, provides independent labor assessments of participating factories, and uses transparent reporting to disseminate results. Technical assistance is provided to any factory reported to have labor code violations. Each factory develops an action plan to ensure that labor rights are observed and to help promote Lesotho as an ethical sourcing location.

Project implementation has just begun and 10 factories have registered. The Ministries of Labor and Trade are committed to facilitating sector-wide participation. USDOL is exploring the possibility of using Lesotho as a hub for a regional Better Work Project.

Botswana, Lesotho and Swaziland

Botswana, Lesotho, and Swaziland participate in an HIV/AIDS Education in the Workplace Project. The project, in its 11th year, was originally funded by USDOL in 2003 with \$2.26 million and continues with the U.S. President's Emergency Plan for AIDS Relief (PEPFAR) funding. Total funding for this regional project is \$4.75 million. The project targets workers, government, employers, and the informal economy workers with interventions to reduce HIV/AIDS behavior among all stakeholders and discrimination in the workplace of those living with HIV/AIDS.

Tanzania and Zanzibar

Tanzania and Zanzibar participate in a four-year, \$1.71 million USDOL-funded project that educates government, workers, and employers in national labor law and internationally recognized worker rights to enhance labor law compliance in the workplace. The Strengthening Labor Law Compliance in the United Republic of Tanzania and Zanzibar Project engages all stakeholders to create decent places of work in all sectors. The project has trained 298 representatives from unions, government, and employers associations.