



**From Unknown to Known:** *The Story Behind Our Stuff*  Asking the Right Questions to Trace Abuses in Global Supply Chains

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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, 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.

©Michael Dwyer/Alamy Stock Photo An immigrant Haitian boy carries rice for planting in the rice paddy. Dominican Republic. January 5, 2010.

# Foreword

or 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, capacitybuilding projects, and cutting-edge research. The USMCA explicitly



Eugene Scalia U.S. Secretary of Labor

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.

m Ms

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

he U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) published this report under the leadership of Martha Newton, Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs, who has recently left the U.S. Department of Labor to join the International Labour Organization; Mark Mittelhauser, Associate Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs; Grant Lebens, Chief of Staff; Marcia Eugenio, Director of the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking (OCFT); and Margaret Jungk, Deputy Director, OCFT.

Chanda Uluca, Austin Pedersen, Fan Yang, and Jon Underdahl-Peirce managed the research, writing, and production of this report, with major contributions from Rachel Raba, James Gyenes, Dan Arp, Sandi Giver, Claudia Guidi, and Veronica Zeitlin. The following OCFT staff carried out the underlying research that made the report possible: Ahoura Afshar, Oryza Astari, Marco Campos, Sara Christopher, Jennifer Fendrick, Matt Fraterman, Caitlin Harwood, Erica Herrmann, Jacqueline Jesus, Kyle Livingston, Eric Martin, Caleb Owen, Julia Reinitz, Rita Weiss, and Siyuan Xie. Alexa Gunter, Marina Medina Cordero, Ashby Henningsen, Annastasia Hirt, Krista Mangiardi, and Victoria Vardanega provided vital research and administrative support.

Other personnel within OCFT who made important contributions include Christine Carlson, Kathryn Chinnock, Marina Colby, Lorena Davalos, Cortney Donnalley, Rana Dotson, Tina Faulkner, Yune Lee, Marisa Ferri Light, Quinn Marschik, Eileen Muirragui, Ingris Ramos, Sherry Richmond, Doris Senko, Tanya Shugar, Shelley Stinelli, Leyla Strotkamp, Sarah Sunderlin, Honoré Tchou, Pilar Velasquez, and Kevin Willcutts.

Micole Allekotte, Tamara Hoflejzer, Jane Garrido, and Derek Baxter from the Department's Office of the Solicitor, along with Jay Berman from the Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, made major contributions. Other staff from ILAB, the Employment and Training Administration, Office of Public Affairs, Office of the Solicitor, Office of the Assistant Secretary for Policy, and the Wage and Hour Division who contributed include Olaoluwa Abina, Rebecca Azhdam, Giorleny Altamirano Rayo, Stefan Babich, Andy Bailey, Joan Barrett, Deborah Birnbaum, Ryan Carrington, Randall Denison, Cleveland Fairchild, Jared Green, Ashley Higgins, Rob Hines, Hanan Idilbi, Leena Khan, Jaclyn Lahr, Emma Laury, Ed McCarthy, Tecla Murphy, Everett Murtagh, Diana Pineros, Carlos Quintana, Egan Reich, Crispin Rigby, Cindy Riggs, Carolina Rizzo, Kathleen Ryou, Esperanza Sanchez, Pablo Solorio, Halima Woodhead, and Katherine Zhao.

Personnel at the U.S. Department of State's regional bureaus, embassies and consulates around the world, Bureau of Democracy, Human Rights, and Labor; Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons; and the United States Trade Representative coordinated valuable research and reviews of the report. Personnel from these agencies who made significant contributions include Michael O'Donovan, Desiree Ganz, Brandon Strassberg, Jason Vorderstrasse, and Jessica Chesbro.

Karen Cleek and Francis Knab of Graphic Visions produced the report's graphics and layout, and Suteera Nagavajara, Patricia Vazquez, Jo Ann Ruckel, and Marina Ratchford of ICF made significant contributions to the copyediting, fact checking, and technical editing of the report. With support from the Department's Office of the Chief Information Officer, Saliha Keddache, Praveen Bhatt, Harpreet Singh, and Aby Chalil of Zolon Tech, Inc. updated the *Sweat & Toil* and *Comply Chain* mobile application data from the report.

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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**. 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**.

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

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© Eric Lafforgue/Art in All of Us/Corbis/Getty Images 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

he 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

Children, 5-17 years old

## Working Children

million working children

## Child Labor

## Hazardous Child Labor

million<sup>\*</sup> children engaged in hazardous child labor

<sup>\*</sup>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.* 

million children in child labor

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 5 for the full TVPRA List Methodology).

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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.

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

## Global Benefits and a Persistent Problem

hat do product quality control measures have in common with efforts to eliminate child labor? In a word: traceability. In the case of product safetyrelated 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. (1) 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.

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# 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. (2) 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. (3) 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. (4) 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, 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. (5) 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.

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



©**Bruno Conjeaud** Child at work in tea fields. Rwanda. October 16, 2015

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## 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-toreach 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 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?

he word "coffee" first entered the English language in 1582. (6) 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. (7) 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. (8)

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. (9) 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. (10) A subset of these tools will be piloted in three key coffeeproducing 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. (11) 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. (12) 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. (13) 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 buyin 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.



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

Increasing the capacity of 85 countries to address child labor and forced labor

> Improving the livelihoods for nearly 170,000 vulnerable families

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

Providing over 50,000 teachers with training to work with children affected by child labor









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 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. (14) 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*. (15) 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. (16) 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?"

# 20 Years of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act

n 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 nongovernmental 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.

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©Jonas Gratzer/LightRocket/Getty Images Migrant workers on a fishing boat that is parked at a dock. Phuket, Thailand. August 8, 2014.

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

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

### About This Report

*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). (17) 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 4. 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	Сосоа		
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	Теа		Торассо
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	Торассо		

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	Теа		
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



# 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 4. 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. (18) Garment manufacturing employs an estimated 17,826 children under the age of 15 in Mexico, predominately in the states of Puebla and Guanajuato. (19-22) The survey results also estimated 5,594 children under the age of 15 working in leather goods manufacturing. (18)

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. (23)

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 <u>ilab-tvpra@dol.gov</u>, 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 4.

### Against Their Will: The Situation in Xinjiang

The People's Republic of China has arbitrarily detained more than one million Uvghurs and other mostly Muslim minorities in China's far western Xinjiang Uyghur Autonomous Region. (24) It is estimated that 100,000 Uvghurs and other ethnic minority ex-detainees in China may be working in conditions of forced labor following detention in re-education camps. (25) Many more rural poor workers also may experience coercion without detention. (26; 27) 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. (28) While previous research has focused on goods and products produced in Xinjiang, recent external reports indicate that Uvghurs 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. (26; 28) Other minorities may be forced to work under the guise of "poverty alleviation" without having been detained. (29) Moreover, the government gives subsidies to companies moving to Xinjiang or employing Muslim minority workers. (25) 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. (25) 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. (30)

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 statesponsored structure in place and the control of information, it is likely that more goods also are produced with forced labor in China. (31) 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



©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 guestions, 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



### 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	Торассо
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. (32) 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. (33-36) 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. (32: 33) 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. (37)

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. (37-40) 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 Taiwanflagged vessels face confiscation of documents, long days with little rest, physical and verbal abuse, and lack of payment. (41; 42) 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

rwan, 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 seafoodprocessing companies in Thailand, as well as their recruitment agencies, as they develop a responsible recruitment pilot model for smalland 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 multilayered 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.

# Bangladesh Shipbreaking

wenty-five-year-old Mohammod Rubel worked as a "cutter" in the shipbreaking industry near Chittagong, Bangladesh. Mohammod was just one of the estimated 50,000 workers, including 6,500 children, employed in this industry, dismantling leftover shipping vessels for scrap metal. (43) 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 Mohammod 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. (44) An average ship contains 7 metric tons of asbestos alone, and Bangladesh led the world in 2019 by dismantling 234 ships. (44; 45) 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 Mohammod was working. (46) The flames spread rapidly from the waste oil drums to the nearby engine room where Mohammod and others worked. Mohammod lost his life in that fire, dying as he was taken to the hospital. (46) Five other workers with Mohammod that morning endured severe burn injuries and others were never recovered in the wreckage. (46) 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 Mohammod'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. (47; 48) 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. (49) 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 razorsharp 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 guarantine and evaluation process. (50) 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. (51) 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. (52) 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

3

# Čonsideration 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."
- 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.

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. (53) 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 multilateral 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

©Xander Stockmans/Middle East Eye 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 27.** 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, communitybased 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, G2O, 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." (15) 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. (54) 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. (55) 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. (56) 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. (54)

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





# The U.S. Experience

"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

hether 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 14). 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 14 Preparing the 21st Century Workforce What Jobs Can | Do? or vounder? or performer You can work in a variety of specified nonmanufacturing and nonhazardous jobs under certain conditions 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 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 nonhazardous, 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. (57)

There were 1,838,000 youth ages 16 to 17 employed in 2018 and 1,790,000 employed in the United States in 2019. (58) 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. (59)

### 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 15).

"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. (60)

"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. (61) Figure 15

# 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' 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.



©Florian Kopp/imageBROKER/Alamy Stock Photo 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 antitrafficking 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.





### Appendix 1 Acronyms & Abbreviations

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

LFS	Labor Force Survey
LGBTI	Lesbian, Gay, Bisexual, Transgender, and Intersex
LSMS	Living Standards Measurement Survey
MENA	Middle East and North Africa
MERCOSUR	Common Market of the South (America); full members include Argentina, Brazil, Paraguay, Uruguay, and Venezuela (membership currently suspended)
MOU	Memorandum of Understanding
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
OAS	Organization of American States
OCFT	Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking
OSCE	Organization for Security and Co-operation in Europe
OSHA	Occupational Safety and Health Administration
Palermo Protocol	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, Supplementing the United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime
PRSP	Poverty Reduction Strategy Paper
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
SIMPOC	Statistical Information and Monitoring Program on Child Labor
TDA	Trade and Development Act
TVPRA	Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act
UCW	Understanding Children's Work
UK	United Kingdom
UN	United Nations
UN CRC	United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child
UNDAF	United Nations Development Assistance Framework
UNDP	United Nations Development Program
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
USAID	U.S. Agency for International Development
USDOJ	U.S. Department of Justice
USDOL	U.S. Department of Labor
USDOS	U.S. Department of State
USHHS	U.S. Department of Health and Human Services
WFP	World Food Program
WHD	Wage and Hour Division
WHO	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. (62; 63)

### **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. (62; 64)

### 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. (65) 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. (65)

### 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. (65)

#### **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. (66) 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. (66) 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. (67)

#### FORCED CHILD LABOR

"Forced child labor" is a categorical worst form of child labor under ILO C. 182. (65) 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. (67)

### 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. (6) 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 nonbinding 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. (69)

#### 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. (65)

### 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." (66)

#### 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. (70)

### 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. (71) 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. (72)

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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.

©U. Roberto Romano/GoodWeave International

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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.

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Appendix 4

## 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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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 Uvghurs, 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 Uvghur 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 varns. Victim testimonies, news media, and think tanks report that factories, including for thread/varn, 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 Kenva. 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 Malavsian 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.  Mexican National Institute of Geography and Statistics (INEGI). Encuesta Nacional de Ocupación y Empleo, Módulo de Trabajo Infantil (ENOE-MTI) 2017. Mexico City. 2018. https://www.inegi.org.mx/programas/mti/2017/ default.html.

## 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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# **VENEZUELA – GOLD – FORCED LABOR**

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.

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# Appendix 5 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 nonperformance 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. ILAB 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. ILAB 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 ILAB has "reason to believe" are produced using forced or child labor in violation of international standards. ILAB implemented this "reason to believe" standard by establishing five factors to be considered in evaluating information. These five factors are included in ILAB'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, ILAB evaluated each data source against each of the five criteria. ILAB researchers applied the criteria consistently across goods and countries so that ultimate findings of "reason to believe" are consistent worldwide.

Where ILAB 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, ILAB 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 ILAB 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 ILAB 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, ILAB 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.

# Appendix 6 TVPRA Procedural Guidelines

# Department Of Labor

Notice of Amendment to Procedural Guidelines for the Development and Maintenance of the List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor

**AGENCY:** Bureau of International Labor Affairs, United States Department of Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice of amendment to procedural guidelines for the development and maintenance of a list of goods produced by child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards.

**SUMMARY:** The U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs ("ILAB") amends a provision of its procedural guidelines ("Guidelines") for the development and maintenance of a list of goods from countries that ILAB has reason to believe are produced by child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards ("List"). The Guidelines establish the process for the public submission of information and the evaluation and reporting process to be used by the U.S. Department of Labor's ("DOL or Department") Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking ("Office") in ILAB in maintaining and updating the List. DOL is required to develop and make available to the public the List pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005.

DATES: This notice is effective on May 15, 2020.

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Director, Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor at (202) 693–4843 (this is not a toll-free number). Individuals with hearing or speech impairments may access the telephone number above via TTY by calling the Federal Information Relay Service at 1–877–889–5627.

Information may be submitted by the following methods:

- Facsimile (fax): ILAB/Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking at (202) 693–4830.
- Mail, Express Delivery, Hand Delivery, and Messenger Service: Austin Pederson at U.S. Department of Labor, ILAB/Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking, 200 Constitution Ave. NW, Room S-5317, Washington, DC 20210.
- Email: ilab-tvpra@dol.gov.

SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION: DOL is making no substantive changes to the Guidelines; rather, the change is technical in nature. Through this notice, DOL incorporates an amendment to the Department's mandate for the development and maintenance of the List set forth in the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018, Public Law 115–425, title I, § 133(a), Jan. 8 2019, 132 Stat. 5481. This 2018 Act directs that the List include, "to the extent practicable, goods that are produced with inputs that are produced with forced labor or child labor."

Section 105(b)(1) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 ("TVPRA of 2005"), Public Law 109–164 (2006), directed the Secretary of Labor, acting through the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, to "carry out additional activities to monitor and combat forced labor and child labor in foreign countries as described in paragraph (2)." Section 105(b) (2)(C) of the TVPRA, 22 U.S.C. 7112(b)(2)(C), directed the Department to "[d]evelop and make available to the public a list of goods from countries that the Bureau of International Labor Affairs has reason to believe are produced by forced labor or child labor in violation of international standards."

The Office carries out the Department's responsibilities in the TVPRA of 2005, as amended. Pursuant to this mandate, DOL published in the Federal Register a set of procedural guidelines that ILAB follows in the development and maintenance of the List. 72 FR 73374 (Dec. 27, 2007). The Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018, Public Law 115-425, title I, § 133(a). Jan. 8 2019, 132 Stat. 5481, expanded the scope of the Department's mandate for the development and maintenance of the List. Pursuant to this law, the List must also include, "to the extent practicable, goods that are produced with inputs that are produced with forced labor or child labor." Accordingly, the Department is amending the Guidelines to incorporate this new mandate.

Though the Guidelines were initially adopted after offering the public an opportunity to submit comments, the Department is not seeking comment on this amendment because it merely incorporates the recent changes to the statute. Cf Mack Trucks, Inc. v. EPA, 682 F.3d 87, 94 (D.C. Cir. 2012) (notice and comment rulemaking under the Administrative Procedure Act is not necessary when "the administrative rule is a routine determination, insignificant in nature and impact, and inconsequential to the industry and to the public."); Gray Panthers Advocacy Comm. v. Sullivan, 936 F.2d 1284, 1291–92 (D.C. Cir. 1991) (notice and comment rulemaking is not necessary when changes to the regulation merely restate the changes in the enabling legislation).

The Office will evaluate all information received according to the processes outlined in these amended Guidelines. Goods that meet the criteria outlined in these amended Guidelines will be placed on the List, published in the Federal Register and on the DOL website.

# Sections Revised

This notice makes only one technical revision to the Guidelines. In order to reflect the List's mandate. as revised by the Frederick Douglass Trafficking Victims Prevention and Protection Reauthorization Act of 2018, a revision to Section A of the Guidelines is necessary. The Department therefore replaces the following sentences: "Whether a good is placed on the List may depend on which stage of production used child labor or forced labor. For example, if child labor or forced labor was only used in the extraction, harvesting, assembly, or production of raw materials or component articles, and these materials or articles are subsequently used under non-violative conditions in the manufacture or processing of a final good, only the raw materials/component articles and the country/ies where they were extracted, harvested, assembled, or produced, as appropriate, may be placed on the List." with "To the extent practicable, the List will include goods that are produced with inputs that are produced with forced labor or child labor." No other revisions have been made.

# Final Procedural Guidelines

# A. Sources of Information and Factors Considered in the Development and Maintenance of the List

The Office will make use of all relevant information, whether gathered through research, public submissions of information, a public hearing, interagency consultations, or other means, in developing the List. In the interest of maintaining a transparent process, the Office will not accept classified information in developing the List. The Office may request that any such information brought to its attention be declassified. If submissions contain confidential or personal information, the Office may redact such information in accordance with applicable laws and regulations before making the submission available to the public. In evaluating information, the Office will consider and weigh several factors, including:

- 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 and probative, and meets the definitions of child labor or forced labor.
- 2. Date of information. Whether the information about child labor or forced labor in the production of the good(s) 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 that indicates an isolated incident of child labor or forced labor. will ordinarily not 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(s), although not necessarily representing a pattern or 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.

In determining which goods and countries are to be placed on the List, the Office will, as appropriate, take into consideration the stages in the chain of a good's production. To the extent practicable, the List will include goods that are produced with inputs that are produced with forced labor or child labor. If child labor or forced labor was used in both the production or extraction of raw materials/component articles and the manufacture or processing of a final good, then both the raw materials/component articles and the final good, and the country/ies in which such labor was used, may be placed on the List. This is to ensure a direct correspondence between the goods and countries which appear on the List, and the use of child labor or forced labor.

Information on government, industry, or third-party actions and initiatives to combat child labor or forced labor will be taken into consideration, although they are not necessarily sufficient in and of themselves to prevent a good and country from being listed. In evaluating such information, the Office will consider particularly relevant and probative any evidence of government, industry, and third-party actions and initiatives that are effective in significantly reducing if not eliminating child labor and forced labor.

Goods and countries ("entries") that meet the criteria outlined in these procedural Guidelines will be placed on an initial List, to be published in the Federal Register and on the DOL website. This initial List will continue to be updated as additional information becomes available. Before publication of the initial List or subsequent versions of the List, the Office will inform the relevant foreign governments of their presence on the List and request their responses. The Office will review these responses and make a determination as to their relevance. The List, along with a listing of the sources used to identify the goods and countries on it, will be published in the Federal Register and on the DOL website. The List will represent DOL's conclusions based on all relevant information available at the time of publication.

For each entry, the List will indicate whether the good is made using child labor, forced labor, or both. As the List continues to be maintained and updated, the List will also indicate the date when each entry was included. The List will not include any company or individual names. DOL's postings on its website of source material used in identifying goods and countries on the List will be redacted to remove company or individual names, and other confidential material, pursuant to applicable laws and regulations.

## **B. Procedures for the Maintenance of the List**

- Following publication of the initial List, the Office will periodically review and update the List, as appropriate. The Office conducts ongoing research and monitoring of child labor and forced labor, and if relevant information is obtained through such research, the Office may add an entry to, or remove an entry from the List using the process described in Section A of the Guidelines. The Office may also update the List on the basis of public information submissions, as detailed below.
- 2. Any party may at any time file an information submission with the Office regarding the addition or removal of an entry from the List. Submitters should take note of the criteria and instructions in the "Information Requested on Child Labor and Forced Labor" section of this notice, as well as the criteria listed in Section A of the Guidelines.
- 3. The Office will review any submission of information to determine whether it provides relevant and probative information.
- 4. The Office may consider a submission less reliable if it determines that: The submission does not clearly indicate the source(s) of the information presented; the submission does not identify the party filing the submission or is not signed and dated; the submission does not provide relevant or probative information; or, the information is not within the scope of the TVPRA and/or does not address child labor or forced labor as defined herein. All submissions received will be made available to the public on the DOL website, consistent with applicable laws or regulations.

- 5. In evaluating a submission, the Office will conduct further examination of available information relating to the good and country, as necessary, to assist the Office in making a determination concerning the addition or removal of the good from the List. The Office will undertake consultations with relevant U.S. government agencies and foreign governments, and may hold a public hearing for the purpose of receiving relevant information from interested persons.
- 6. In order for an entry to be removed from the List, any person filing information regarding the entry must provide information that demonstrates that there is no significant incidence of child labor or forced labor in the production of the particular good in the country in question. In evaluating information on government, industry, or thirdparty actions and initiatives to combat child labor or forced labor, the Office will consider particularly relevant and probative any available evidence of government, industry, and third-party actions that are effective in significantly reducing if not eliminating child labor and forced labor.
- 7. Where the Office has made a determination concerning the addition, maintenance, or removal of the entry from the List, and where otherwise appropriate, the Office will publish an updated List in the Federal Register and on the DOL website.

# C. Key Terms Used in the Guidelines

"Child Labor"—"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: (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 purposes; (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 in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety, or morals of children. The work referred to in subparagraph (D) is determined by the laws, regulations, or competent authority of the country involved, after consultation with the organizations of employers and workers concerned, and taking into consideration relevant international standards. This definition will not apply to work specifically authorized by national laws, including work done by children in schools for general, vocational or technical education or in other training institutions, where such work is carried out in accordance with international standards under conditions prescribed by the competent authority, and does not prejudice children's attendance in school or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received.

"Countries"—"Countries" means any foreign country or territory, including any overseas dependent territory or possession of a foreign country, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

"Forced Labor"— "Forced labor" under international standards means all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty for its nonperformance 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, that 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. For purposes of this definition, forced labor does not include work specifically authorized by national laws where such work is carried out in accordance with conditions prescribed by the competent authority. including: any work or service required by compulsory military service laws for work of a purely military character; work or service which forms part of the normal civic obligations of the citizens of a fully selfgoverning country; work or service exacted from any

person as a consequence of a conviction in a court of law, provided that the said work or service is carried out under the supervision and control of a public authority and that the said person is not hired to or placed at the disposal of private individuals, companies or associations; work or service required in cases of emergency, such as in the event of war or of a calamity or threatened calamity, fire, flood, famine, earthquake, violent epidemic or epizootic diseases, invasion by animal, insect or vegetable pests, and in general any circumstance that would endanger the existence or the well-being of the whole or part of the population; and minor communal services of a kind which, being performed by the members of the community in the direct interest of the said community, can therefore be considered as normal civic obligations incumbent upon the members of the community, provided that the members of the community or their direct representatives have the right to be consulted in regard to the need for such services.

"Goods"— "Goods" means goods, wares, articles, materials, items, supplies, and merchandise.

"Indentured Labor"—"Indentured labor" means all labor undertaken pursuant to a contract entered into by an employee the enforcement of which can be accompanied by process or penalties.

"International Standards"— "International standards" means generally accepted international standards relating to forced labor and child labor, such as international conventions and treaties. These Guidelines employ definitions of "child labor" and "forced labor" derived from international standards.

"Produced"—"Produced" means mined, extracted, harvested, farmed, produced, created, and manufactured.

**Authority:** 22 U.S.C. 7112(b)(2)(C) Signed at Washington, DC, this 6th day of May 2020.

#### Martha Newton,

Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs.

[FR Doc. 2020–10341 Filed 5–14–20; 8:45 am] BILLING CODE 4510–28–P

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©Jonathan Porter/Alamy Stock Photo 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 ELCARMEN DE LA FRONTERA - Ecuador border Huancabamba. Department of Piura, Peru. July 26, 2017.

# WHAT CAN MODU 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 To contact us, please email GlobalKids@dol.gov





#### www.dol.gov/ilab

For more information or to contact us, please visit USDOL's website at: https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ilab/resources/reports/child-labor/findings or email us at: GlobalKids@dol.gov



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

Bureau of International Labor Affairs United States Department of Labor

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

