

Format to identify and document good practices
on child labour in agriculture¹

**PROTECTING CHILDREN AND YOUTH IN RURAL AREAS
BY PROMOTING SOCIAL DIALOGUE
WITH YOUTH MEMBERS OF TRADE UNIONS**

Keywords: social dialogue, awareness raising, youth, vocational training

CONTEXT: INFORMATION ON THE AREA OF IMPLEMENTATION	
Please specify if data refers to the country or the specific area of the practice and indicate the most recent available data	
Country	Brazil
Province, District, Village	National
Population under the poverty line (% total population)	6.3% ²
Agricultural land (% of total land area) and other key natural resources ³	Land area (1000 ha): 6,271 Arable land (1000 ha): 1,250 Permanent crops (1000 ha): 950 Pastures (1000 ha): 440 Irrigated land (1000 ha): 570 Share in total water use by agriculture: 95.2% industry: 2.5% domestic: 2.4% Forest area (1000 ha): 1,860
Main agricultural products, including from farming, fisheries, livestock, forestry	According to FAOSTAT, the five major commodities in the country are: ⁴ Indigenous Cattle Meat 25,684,413 Sugar cane 21,882,413 Soybeans 15,490,734 Indigenous Chicken Meat 14,197,065 Cow milk, whole, fresh 8,993,846

¹ This format was developed by ILO-IPEC and FAO based on: *Guidelines on Good Practices: Identification, Review, Structuring, Dissemination and Application* (Version 2), ILO, Geneva, 2001; *Guide to produce succinct description of a Sustainable Agriculture and Rural Development (SARD) Good Practice*, FAO, Rome, 2006; and *Good practices for capacity development; Revised template for case studies*, FAO, Rome

² Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE), 2010

³ FAO Quick country facts, as of September 2011

⁴ International commodity prices are used in the ranking of commodities and countries. They are applied in order to avoid the use of exchange rates for obtaining continental and world aggregates, and also to improve and facilitate international comparative analysis of productivity at the national level. Source: <http://faostat.fao.org/site/339/default.aspx>

International partnership for cooperation on child labour in agriculture

<p>Employment in agriculture, including farming, forestry, fisheries and livestock (% of total employment) by subsector if available</p>	<p>17.4% of total employment is in agriculture</p>
<p>National legislation on child labour in agriculture (including minimum age, hazardous work list, minimum age for light work, age for compulsory education and on labour inspection in agriculture)</p>	<p>The 1988 Federal Constitution, which provided the legal basis for the creation and adoption of the Statute of the Child and Adolescent stipulates that the minimum age for admission to work is 16 years of age. Work between 14 and 16 years is permitted only under the system of apprenticeship. Under the age of 18, work that is dangerous, unhealthy, hazardous, nocturnal or harmful to the individual's physical, mental, moral or social development is prohibited (Article 7; paragraph XXXIII, as amended by Constitutional Amendment No. 20).</p> <p>Statute of the Child and Adolescent (<i>Estatuto da Criança e do Adolescente</i>, No. 8069/1990), focuses on ensuring the rights of children and adolescents</p> <p>Apprenticeship Law, regulated by Decree No. 5.598/2005, amended the Brazilian Consolidation of Labour Laws (<i>Consolidação das Leis Trabalhista</i>, No. 10.097/2000). It requires that all medium and large sized enterprises hire a number of teenagers and young adults between 14 and 24 years of age as apprentices, which should be equivalent to a minimum of 5 % and a maximum of 15% of the staff whose duties require professional training. The young apprentice must simultaneously work, receive training, attend school (if primary education has not been completed), and be enrolled in and attending a vocational education institution that has an collaboration agreement with the enterprise.</p> <p>Decree No. 6481/2008: 1) regulates Article 3, paragraph "d", and Article 4 of the ILO Convention no. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 2) approves the List of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (TIP List), with 93 items and prohibits the employment of individuals younger than 18 years of age in the activities described therein; and 3) provides that the List of the Worst Forms of Child Labour shall be periodically examined and, if necessary, revised in consultation with the relevant employers organizations and trade unions, being the responsibility of the Ministry of Labour and Employment to organize the applicable examination and consultation processes.</p>

International partnership for cooperation on child labour in agriculture

	Age for compulsory education: 6 years, during 9 years. Trafficking in Persons , especially Women and Children (also referred to as the Trafficking Protocol), ratified in 2004. ⁵
CHARACTERIZATION OF CHILD LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE Please specify if data refers to the country or the specific area of the practice	
Number of child labourers in agriculture and % of total child labour (by subsector or crop, if available)	At national level, 4,3 millions of children between 5 and 17 years are found in the labour market. 34,6% are found in agriculture. ⁶ 35.05% of these children are working in agriculture, mostly undertaking hazardous activities. ⁷
Percent of child labourers in agriculture that are aged 5-14 and percent that are aged 15-17.	60.6% of children between 5 and 13 years old 36.3% of children between 14 and 15 years old 24.3% of children between 16 and 17 years old ⁸
Percent of child labourers in agriculture that are girls and percent that are boys	59,8% boys 42,8% girls ⁹
Percent of girl child labourers working in agriculture and percent of boy child labourers working in agriculture	N/a
Typical hours spent by boys and girls in agriculture and the tasks ⁱ undertaken	Hours: 60% of children work until 20 hours/week in agriculture; 20% of children work more than 40% hours/week in agriculture ¹⁰ Tasks: planting, harvesting, carrying heavy loading goods, preparing and cleaning the land for the next harvest. ¹¹
Main hazards ⁱⁱ faced by these children	Exposure to sunlight, heat, humidity and rain. Insect bites and poisonous animals. Manual lifting and carrying of excessive weight, maintenance of awkward postures and repetitive movements. Exposure to pesticides and to accidents provoked by use of sharp tools. Long days in the field.

⁵ Find more information at

http://www.oit.org.br/sites/default/files/topic/labour_inspection/pub/child_labour_inspection_281.pdf

⁶ Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE), 2009

⁷ Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE), 2008

⁸ These data refer to child labour in agriculture as percentage of total child labour by age group. Source: Instituto Brasileiro de Geografia e Estatística (IBGE), 2008

⁹ O trabalho infantil no ramo agrícola brasileiro, ILO 2004

¹⁰ Pesquisa Nacional por Amostra de Domicílios (PNAD), 2001

¹¹ <http://sistemasiti.mte.gov.br/riscos.aspx>

International partnership for cooperation on child labour in agriculture

Describe the specific causes of child labour in agriculture in the area (for example: specific agricultural techniques and practices, labour availability, land tenure systems, employment relationships, and other relevant information)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Parents lack information on risks and hazards, and their implication on child's development • Openly accepted traditional practices to contribute to inter-generational transfer of agricultural skills
THE GOOD PRACTICE	
Time frame of the practice	8 th April 2007 30 th June 2008
Specific objective of the practice	Promoting social dialogue and awareness on child labour in agriculture among CONTAG's affiliates at national level.
Source of the objective (for example: response to a country's request; preceded by an assessment; result or follow-up of a previous good practice to eliminate child labour)	Follow-up to a previous good practice to eliminate child labour in agriculture For further details visit : http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/ipecc/publ/policy/papers/africa/annex.htm
Partners involved	Rural trade unions' federations
Agricultural subsector addressed by the practice (crop production, farming, fisheries or aquaculture, forestry, livestock)	The practice mainly covers crop production in family farming. In particular, it addressed: processing of sisal, harvesting of fruits (including orange, coconut, mango, papaya, pineapple, and cotton), cereals and horticulture, cutting of sugar cane, and extraction of timber.
Specific issues addressed <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Agricultural practices and techniques (production, processing, marketing) ▪ Education (formal and non-formal) ▪ Gender ▪ International Labour Standards, national legislation ▪ Occupational safety and health ▪ Policy development and social dialogue ▪ Community 	Education – vocational training Social dialogue with trade unions' affiliates

International partnership for cooperation on child labour in agriculture

<p>mobilization</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Others (e.g. livelihoods diversification; value chain development; income generation activities; youth employment promotion; social and economic standards and corporate social responsibility) 	
<p>Description of the approach followed (including specific steps and activities carried out)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Prevention of children from child labour Involvement of children and youth in the following programmes: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <i>Jovem Saber</i> - a capacity building/apprenticeship programme based on different modules focusing on: sustainable rural development and citizenship, land reform and family agriculture, organization of production, trade unions and management, methodology of community work and reproductive health. Training tools (booklets) and tests were periodically used by working groups constituted in almost all states in the country to monitor the learning process. <i>Consórcio Social</i> - based on non-formal education through the process of distance learning and face-to-face vocational training on: poultry and goat rearing, fruits-natives-ornamentals seeds production, fruit processing - for family agro-business, beekeeping, processing and marketing of flowers and ornamental plants and horticulture. Awareness raising and mobilization of the members of CONTAG, through events, workshops and media (including newspapers, radio programmes and spots). Launch of a national campaign on 'Protection of children and youth in agriculture: a harvest for the future'. Mainstreaming of rights of children and youth and mobilization for the inclusion of the issue in public policies.¹² Conduction of a research on the participation of children and youth in family farms, disaggregated by sex/race and ethnicity Capacity building and training activities on protection of children and youth involving 350 leaders of trade

¹² Organization of a National workshop on public policies for protecting children and youth in agriculture.

International partnership for cooperation on child labour in agriculture

	<p>unions.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening of the debate on children and youth protection, through the creation of a working group (including representatives from CONTAG and national institutions – youth, gender, agriculture, and social policy) responsible for the implementation of the activities. • Development of partnership with local stakeholders. • Monitoring of school attendance by children and youth beneficiaries of the action programme, through sistema Mercury.¹³
DEMONSTRATED IMPACT	
Indirect beneficiaries – number and categories (for examples, farmers' organizations, cooperatives, district agricultural/labour offices, community, etc.)	Children and youth involved as members of family farmers and agricultural workers in 14 states.
Direct beneficiaries – number and categories (for example, boys under 15, girls under 15, boys 15-17, girls 15-17, male/female youth (15-24), households etc.	<p>27,981 children and youth prevented from child labour and included in the programmes <i>Jovem Saber</i> and <i>Consórcio Social</i>.</p> <p>4,811 children monitored and recorded data through sistema Mercury.</p> <p>11 classes with 3,704 study groups.</p>
What was the impact of the practice in reducing child labour in agriculture? Can the impact of the practice be documented in some way, through a formal programme evaluation, impact assessment or other means?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Prevention of 23,981 children from child labour • Better understanding and knowledge base about the problem at national level • Changing of attitudes towards the issue of protecting children and adults in agriculture. Breaking down of resistances and starting of the debate on child labour in family farms.
Improvements in beneficiary livelihood derived from the practice (e.g. regarding household income, number of working hours, school attendance, access to vocational training and apprenticeships)	<p>The programme <i>Jovem Saber</i>¹⁴ contributed to: a) distance learning for youth¹⁵ members of trade unions on vocational training and unions' policy; b) empowerment of youth through micro-regional, regional and national meetings; c) development of events and projects for youth living in rural areas.</p> <p>The programme <i>Consórcio Social</i> contributed to train (workshop - school) young people to develop an individual or collective income-generating that they will</p>

¹³ Sistema Mercury is IPEC Brazil system to monitor beneficiaries of Action Programmes.

¹⁴ For additional information visit <http://www.contag.org.br/sistemas/jovemsaber/#>

¹⁵ Between 16 and 32 years old.

International partnership for cooperation on child labour in agriculture

	start-up when completing the training.
Is the practice and/or its benefits likely to continue in some way, and to continue being effective, over the medium to long term? Is the practice still used?	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The CONTAG is following up the activities with its own financial and human resources. The focus of the research has been defined, and two questionnaires have been developed, one addressing parents and /or guardians and the other children and youth. 33,940 questionnaires will be submitted by young people involved in <i>Programa Jovem Saber</i>. • Another strategy adopted to make the practice sustainable is the inclusion of messages about the prevention and eradication of child labour in the MSSTR media and the commitment of CONTAG to mainstream it within its members. • The ongoing training process on protection of children and youth in agriculture is also very important to make more families aware and responsible for the rights in ensuring their rights.
Does the practice contribute to environmental sustainability and ecological soundness, and how? (e.g. promotion of Integrated Production and Pest Management, organic agriculture, conservation agriculture, agroforestry, crop rotations/associations, integrated crop livestock production systems, and water harvesting systems)	N/a
Does the practice promote human rights (state which ones) and comply with ILO labour standards?	<p>The practice promote the right to join a trade union, which is mentioned in article 23, subsection 4 of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR), and also stated in article 20.</p> <p>The practice also complies with the following International Labour Standards related to:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Child labour • Vocational guidance and training • Employment promotion
Does the practice contribute to social dialogue (between government, workers' and employers' organization) and collective bargaining	Yes, the practice promote social dialogue and involve trade unions in the elimination of child labour in agriculture.

International partnership for cooperation on child labour in agriculture

negotiations?	
Which were the problems and challenges (risks and obstacles) faced within the process?	<p>Young people need to get support through:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - funding for projects through public and private rural credit, such as PRONAF-Youth - access to land, for example through the programme "Our First Land". <p>Resistances to discuss about protection of children and youth in family farms hindered part of the process. Time devoted to the research was not sufficient. The group of researcher conducting the interviews should have been selected within the same rural community and sensitized on the issue.</p>
Lessons learned	<p>Although there is still resistance to discuss the children/youth protection, awareness raising and social mobilization become more effective when they address the issue of child labour, showing its consequences on physical, mental and social development of children and youth. After all, fathers and mothers, with few exceptions, are concerned with the welfare of their children, but in many cases they are not aware of the risks. Therefore awareness raising campaigns and workshops need to follow up because address such issues in a playful/interactive manner.</p>
Quotes from direct beneficiaries of the practice	N/a
REPLICABILITY	
Is this a practice that might have applicability in some way to other situations or settings? What are the elements that make the practice replicable?	<p>Members of trade unions who were involved in the awareness raising activities agreed that their organizations would be responsible for mainstreaming this issue in the trade unions' agenda. Trade unions' federations have included the issue in their workplans and mainstreamed it among unions.</p>
Key political, economic, demographic or cultural dynamics that favoured or impeded the transformation process	<p>The strong commitment and capacity of the trade unions.</p>
Critical success factors ⁱⁱⁱ for development/replication of the good practice	<p>Ownership and consensus Early involvement of national actors Medium to long-term time horizon</p>
Resources and inputs needed to implement the practice, including physical (e.g. land, fertilizers, seeds), labour, financial and monetary inputs, and management capacity	<p>The strong commitment and capacity of the trade unions</p>

International partnership for cooperation on child labour in agriculture

GENERAL INFORMATION	
Organization / Institution promoting the practice	ILO-IPEC
Programme / Project	Protection of children and youth in rural areas
Overall objective	Strengthening the protection of children and young rural workers policy in the <i>Movimento sindical de trabalhadores e trabalhadoras rurais (MSSTR</i> – rural trade unions movement) with a focus on prevention and eradication of child labour, particularly its worst forms, through a participatory process of mobilization and training with family farmers.
Time frame	8 th April 2007 30 th June 2008
Implementer(s)	Confederação Nacional dos Trabalhadores na Agricultura – CONTAG (National confederation of agricultural
Source of information	<i>Proteção infanto-juvenil no Meio Rural</i> Protection of children and youth in rural areas Action programme P.260.10.216.050 / P.260.10.216.052 Final technical report (18 September 2008) Additional sources of information: - 10 ^o Congresso nacional de trabalhadores e trabalhadoras rurais, 10-14 março 2009, Brasília, Brazil - ILO Brazil website: http://www.oit.org.br/sites/all/ipec/index.php - CONTAG website: http://www.contag.org.br/
Relevant contacts	Renato Mendes , National coordinator Coordinator, IPEC-Brazil mendes@oitbrasil.org.br Tel: 55-61-21064618 Fax: 55-61-3224352
Practice edited by	Valentina Bianco

i TYPES OF TASKS

Types of tasks vary according to the each agriculture subsectors, some examples include :

- **Crop production:** preparing land; transporting and planting seedlings; weeding; applying fertilizers, pesticides or herbicides; harvesting; drying; carrying heavy loads.
- **Fisheries and aquaculture:** fishing; diving; draining boats; handling and repairing nets; herding fish into nets; crewing on fishing vessels; shoveling ice; cooking; working as porters; guarding fishing vessels in docks, piers and harbours; loading and unloading fish; sorting fish; cleaning and salting fish; smoking/drying fish; painting; fish marketing; harvesting shellfish; lifting heavy nets of fish using hand cranes; sorting, boiling and drying fish; peeling shrimp; drying, boiling and shelling various types of seafood.
- **Forestry:** climbing trees or using punting poles to harvest fruits, oils and nuts; insect raising; collecting honey from beehives; draining rubber; planting; logging; carrying heavy loads; harvesting wood and non-timber forest products, such as wild berries, bananas, nuts, oil palm, mushrooms, maple syrup, vines, ginseng, oils, resins, ferns, tree boughs, coconuts, cones, moss and cascara bark.
- **Livestock:** herding; shepherding; milking; handling livestock; leading livestock long distances to water and pastures; construction of corrals or poultry sheds; feeding, cleaning or treating poultry.

ii TYPES OF HAZARDS

A hazard can be any work material, substance, equipment, plant, work method or practice that has the potential to cause harm, injury or disease to people, and/or damage to the environment. Hazards can be:

- **Physical:** long hours of work, strenuous labour, repetitive movements, heavy loads.
- **Ergonomic:** factors affecting worker comfort and health such as lighting and temperature, noise and vibration, tools, adequacy of machinery and workstation design to height, shape, adequacy of protective equipment, work organization.
- **Chemical:** pesticides, fertilizers, herbicides and other chemicals used in agriculture.
- **Biological:** diseases caught from birds or other animals, asthma and other lung diseases for example from biologically contaminated dusts, infectious diseases, bacteria, body fluids, sexual abuse.
- **Psychosocial:** violence and harassment, discrimination, exposure to unhealthy behaviours (e.g. drug use), sexual abuse, isolation.

iii CRITICAL FACTORS

Some examples of broad categories of critical factors include:

- **Opportunity arising from interconnected national/international factors**, e.g. land reform programmes or international pressure to reduce child labour in a specific value chain.
- **Ownership and consensus**, e.g. ownership in the country derived from policy changes or reform processes initiated within countries or from the motivation of an institution or an individual.

- **The identification of champions**, e.g. a national/sub-national institution, a civil society or community-based organization that has the skills and/or motivation to guide/support capacity development in the country.
- **Early involvement of national actors**, e.g. the involvement of national actors for the definition of methodologies, work-plans, needs assessments creates important conditions for a strengthened leadership and ownership.
- **Needs assessments**, e.g. a national strategy development on education for rural people rooted in an in-depth assessment of the educational needs in rural areas.
- **Medium to long-term time horizon**, e.g. continued work for 10 years in a country/region through a series of interventions that build on each other.
- **Mix of modalities of intervention** e.g. the combination of research activities, training and the creation of formal or informal networks; or the combination of community monitoring systems with improved educational opportunities and livelihood strategies.
- **Customization of training materials** to local situation and languages with the support of national/sub-national actors.
- **Stable/strategic resource allocations**, a key to highlight a country's commitment and the future sustainability of certain approaches or programmes.
- **Empowerment**, e.g. targeted interventions at the community level that change capabilities, lead to a more active role at local level and give a voice to the poor.