



International
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Newsletter

ENHANCE* Project

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*Enhancing National Capacity to Prevent and Reduce Child Labour In Vietnam

Awareness Raising



World Day Against Child Labour 2019 events

This year's WDACL took place on 12 June across the globe, promoting a unified vision that "children shouldn't work in fields, but on dreams"! This year's campaign has coincided with ILO's centenary year, providing an opportunity to reflect on progress achieved over 100 years of ILO support to the fight against child labour. As well as looking back on past progress, the campaign in Vietnam looked forward to the country's ambition to achieve sustainable development goal (SDG) target 8.7 to eliminate child labour by 2025.

As part of the campaign, three awareness raising events were organized in Ha Noi (on 7 June), HCM city (on 11 June) and An Giang (on 18 and 10 June). Participants at the events were predominantly children, along with representatives from relevant ministries, clubs, associations, social protection centres and media outlets, as well as parents and teachers. The events involved speeches from relevant ministers and group leaders, an awareness raising animation screening, artistic displays, music and dance performances by children and a child-led discussion on the issue of child labour.

The aims of the events were to: Improve understanding about child labour, especially among the children at the events; Create an opportunity for children in the project areas to participate in the organisation of the events through artistic displays and performances; Advocate and promote Alliance 8.7 in Viet Nam amongst related Ministries and organizations and promote media coverage on the WDACL and the issue of child labour more broadly.

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Mass media campaign on child labour in agriculture

In the build up to, and following WDACL a mass media campaign was launched to promote the message that 'children shouldn't work in fields but on dreams'. A 90 second animated clip, developed by the communications centre at the Department of Child Affairs, (which can be viewed here: https://www.youtube.com/watch?time_continue=91&v=1vMTRZJiR0Q) was aired 600 times on VTV and other channels across 63 provinces; a radio message was broadcast 220 times on VOV1, VOV Traffic and Voice of Vietnam and a loudspeaker message was broadcast in project wards and communes. In addition 2 seminar programs on child labor prevention, lasting 30 minutes each, aired on An Giang Television and Ho Chi Minh City Television (HTV9). The messages reached at least 7 million viewers and listeners.



Media writing competition

The Enhance project has worked with a consulting company to launch a media writing competition on child labour to enhance the awareness of media personnel and the public on child labour. The competition was launched at an event in Hanoi on 10 June. The task for journalists is to write an engaging piece to enhance understanding of the issue and mobilize the participation of society in the fight against child labour. More information on the competition can be found here: <http://daotaobaochi.com.vn/>



Awareness raising with VGCL and VCCI

With support from Enhance, The Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) is organizing training and planning workshops with national and provincial business associations to promote awareness of child labour in the context of international economic integration. In order to prepare for the workshops, VCCI has updated and adapted existing materials such as the ILO-IOE Child Labour Guidance Tool for Business and the Code of Conduct on Child Labour for handicraft, fishery and garment enterprises. VCCI has also drafted 3 leaflets and briefs for employers about child labour and organized a consultation workshop to review the Child Labour Guidance Tool and Code of Conduct. In April and May 2019, TOT training workshops were conducted to create a pool of competent facilitators to raise awareness on child labour among the private sector and business associations.

The aim is to promote the adoption of the VCCI's guiding document for the Code of Conduct, and to plan for intervention activities in the supply chains of enterprises. The Vietnam General Confederation of Labour (VGCL) is also working with Enhance to promote awareness on child labour among workers. Two trainings were conducted in Hanoi on 9 January 2019 and in An Giang on 13 March 2019 for VGCL officials from different districts and different sectors with the involvement of 120 participants. During the training sessions, participants gained insights into the definition of Child Labour, International Standards relating to Child Labour and their respective roles and responsibilities for the prevention of Child Labour. Additionally, 2 awareness raising events to promote understanding on child labour were conducted in Hanoi on 8 March 2019 and in An Giang on 14 March 2019, with the participation of more than 300 workers at each event.

Policy dialogue on international commitments related to child labour in supply chains

On March 13, 2019 the Enhance project team and the Ministry of Labour Invalids and Social Affairs organised a business policy dialogue on international commitments related to child labour. 120 participants from relevant government agencies, business enterprises and NGOs attended the event, including specialists from Ghana, Panama and Thailand. The purpose of the event was to share good practices, address challenges and raise awareness on international standards and child labour prevention in global supply chains. The meeting also promoted Viet Nam's leading role in Global Alliance 8.7. The dialogue emphasised the shared responsibilities of stakeholders to address child labour in the context of new Free Trade Agreements and Viet Nam's deeper integration into the global economy. Presentations, panels and plenary discussions facilitated fruitful recommendations from experts and gave participants a meaningful opportunity to voice concerns and questions about their respective roles in preventing child labour. The workshop constituted the first of four thematic workshops organised in preparation for a National Strategic Planning Workshop for Alliance 8.7.



Thematic Workshops and National Strategic planning workshop for Alliance 8.7

In order to gather inputs for the roadmap to achieve target 8.7 and prepare for the National Strategic Planning Workshop for Alliance 8.7, a series of thematic workshops were organised. The workshops were organised by MoLISA, with support from ILO and other relevant UN agencies. The thematic workshops brought together a range of stakeholders from relevant ministries, UN agencies, social organisations and the private sector, with a goal to identify and prioritise key challenges and solutions regarding child labour and clarify the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders. Each preparatory workshop was organised under a different theme. The first workshop explored the theme of supply chains and took the form of the aforementioned policy dialogue. The following thematic workshops were organised as follows: Thematic workshop 2: Prevention of Child trafficking and migration for labour exploitation (24.04.2019, Hanoi); Thematic workshop 3: Child labour prevention and education (03.05.2019, Hanoi); Thematic workshop 4: Prevention of Child Labour in Agriculture (04.05.2019, Hanoi).

On 24 May in Hanoi, a National Strategic Planning workshop was convened to build on the inputs gathered from the preparatory thematic workshops, in order to refine and further develop the roadmap for achieving target 8.7. The workshop, which was organized and facilitated by MoLISA with support from ILO, gathered around 70 participants from MoLISA, The Ministry of Education and Training, the Ministry of Agriculture, The Ministry of Public Security, experts from ILO, UNICEF, IOM, UNESCO, FAO and relevant NGOs and social organisations. During the event, productive working groups were facilitated, whereby participants discussed priority solutions identified for target 8.7, with a focus on resource mobilisation, collaboration mechanisms and Monitoring and Evaluation. Following the National Strategic Planning Workshop, a multisectoral drafting team has been discussing inputs further in order to develop a detailed plan of action for target 8.7 which will be submitted to the National Committee for Children in September 2019.

Capacity Building

Training for labour inspectors

In order to enhance the knowledge and capacity of labour inspectors in Viet Nam, ENHANCE, in collaboration with ILO's SafeYouth@Work and NIRF projects, are continuing to support the MOLISA Inspectorate to conduct roll-out training. Two 10-day roll-out training courses (with two batches for each course) have been conducted for around 126 junior labour inspectors from 63 provinces and cities in Vietnam. These 2-batch training courses have been delivered by master trainers selected from the TOT course conducted in December 2018. The training was conducted throughout June 2019 in Hai Phong city, Ho Chi Minh from, Quang Ninh and Can To city, and is expected to significantly enhance the capacity of a new generation of labour inspectors to detect and prevent child labour throughout the country.

Understanding Child Labour training

The Understanding Child Labour (UCL) training package which has been supplemented, revised and updated is now being used for training, following the 10 day TOT conducted last year. This material has been used as key guidance material on tackling child labour, to provide training for hundreds of project partners and implementing agencies in the three project provinces. This training is expected to be used to train those who are implementing the National Plan of Action on Child Labour Prevention and Reduction. With this goal in mind, training for concerned staff and officers from 63 provinces and cities will be conducted throughout May – August 2019, to develop a team of master trainers with knowledge and training skills on issues related to the prevention and elimination of child labour.

Development of Monitoring and evaluation (M&E) system for the National Plan of Action (NPA)

A set of Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Indicators, data collection forms and mechanisms have been developed by the project and the Department of Child Affairs (DCA), for the M&E of the National Plan of Action for the prevention and reduction of child labour (NPA). In order to test the feasibility and applicability of these documents, they have been tested in three provinces in HCMC, Quang Nam and Lao Cai. In May 2019, DCA and the Enhance Project organised three consultation workshops on guidelines on interventions and monitoring of child labour for the NPA. The workshops involved relevant staff from concerned local agencies from 10 selected provinces and cities, including Lao Cai, Lang Son, Hoa Binh, Hanoi, Nam Dinh, Quang Nam, Dac Lac, Binh Duong, An Giang and HCMC. The aim was to collect inputs from the participants in order to modify the draft guidelines for the NPA to make them feasible and realistic in application.

Workshop for report on Viet Nam's implementation of ILO child labour conventions

In September 2019, Viet Nam is required to submit a regular report to the ILO on its implementation of Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child labour and convention 138 on the minimum working age for children. In preparation for this, the Enhance project is providing consultation and support to concerned stakeholders to prepare the report. With this aim, a one-day consultation workshop was organised in July 2019 in Quang Ninh, involving the participation of around 60 participants from relevant ministries and organizations. The workshop has collected inputs and suggestions to aid MOLISA in drafting the report on the implementation of the ILO Conventions 182 and 138, and facilitated the submission of a report that meets ILO's requirements.

Direct interventions

Livelihood support provision

Implementation Agreements (IAs) for the provision of livelihood support have been deployed with Vietnam Rural Industries Research and Development Institute (VIRI) and the Viet Nam Handicraft exporters Association (Vietcraft), through which beneficiaries undergo tailored training to produce value added products in order to enhance their incomes. Another IA has been signed with the Center of Technology Transfer & Services (CTTS) at Can Tho University, to provide livelihood support in the agricultural sector for at least 800 beneficiary households of profiled children. Value added chilli and mango production models are being piloted in Chau Phu District, alongside the provision of training on production techniques, household budget management and marketing. The aim is to improve households' livelihoods and incomes so that they can invest more in their children's education and future development.



Educational and vocational training support

As of the end of March 2019, educational support was provided to 973 children in An Giang through the provision of form of uniforms, textbooks, notebooks, pens, calculators, tables and school bags. As of April 2019, 496 children in Hanoi were provided with similar support. In addition, 12 schools at the project site in Hanoi have organized 12 meetings with teachers and parents of the project's beneficiary children, to discuss ways to support their studies. The project also conducted mission trips to the schools to examine educational facilities and improve the educational environment at these schools in general. In HCMC, similar support is currently being provided, alongside an initiative to support 226 students aged 6-13 categorized as being at high risk of engaging in child labour.

Based on the identified need for the provision of vocational skills for 14-17 year olds, calls for proposals were made to identify appropriate service providers for vocational skills training in Hanoi, HCMC and An Giang. In HCMC, a local NGO (Saigon children's charity) has been selected to assess the needs of children and households and refer them to the training schools/centers that best match their educational levels and abilities. In An Giang, a similar process is underway in collaboration with the Research Center of Social Sciences and Humanities (RCSSH) at An Giang University, to conduct vocational skills training for at least 200 14-17 year olds in the province. In Hanoi, throughout April, direct consultations with parents and children in need of apprenticeships/ vocational training were conducted in 9 project communes with about 80% of the project households attending the consultations.

Other updates and upcoming activities

Transition to a national manager

Following the departure of the Enhance Project's former Chief Technical Advisor, Minoru Ogasawara, the team is pleased to announce the appointment of Nguyen Mai Oanh as project manager. With a wealth of relevant expertise and five years' experience in the role of capacity building officer for Enhance, Ms. Oanh will continue to make significant contributions to the project through her role as manager.

Extension of project end date

Following recommendations from the mid-term evaluation, and agreement from the US Department of Labour, MoLISA and ILO, the end date of the Enhance project has been extended for an additional six months, and will continue to the end of June 2020. This extension will enable the project to continue providing vital support to beneficiaries and ensure the sustainability of these interventions following the project's completion.

Upcoming Activities

The project's endline survey is due to be completed by December 2019 and made available in February next year.

Data from the NCLS 2018 has been cleared and inputted and is due to be published around January-February next year.

An experience sharing workshop will take place from 17-18 September 2019 in Da Nang to prepare to document success stories and best practices.

SCREAM replication training for DOLISA staff from 63 provinces from November to Jan 2020, to implement awareness raising as part of the National programme of Prevention and elimination of Child Labour.

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