



Achieving Reduction of Worst Forms of Child Labour in Support of Education: A programme to reduce worst forms of child labour in agricultural communities in BARMM

Children in Rifao, Upi, Maguindanao. ©ILO WatSan Project

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► At a glance



Partners

The Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao (BARMM) and its relevant ministries: Ministry of Labour and Employment (MOLE) with the support of Ministry of Basic, Higher and Technical Education (MBHTE), Ministry of Social Services and Development (MSSD), Ministry of Agriculture, Fisheries and Agrarian Reform (MAFAR), Ministry of Trade Investment and Tourism (MTIT), Ministry of Public Order and Safety (MPOS), Office of the Chief Minister (OCM), Bangsamoro Planning and Development Authority (BPDA), Bangsamoro Youth Commission (BYC), Bangsamoro Women Commission (BWC), Provincial Local Government Units (PLGUs) of Maguindanao and Lanao Del Sur and selected Municipal Local Government Units (MLGU)s together with CSOs, Employers and Trade Union Organizations in BARMM.



Donor

The Government of Japan through the ILO-Japan Multi-bilateral Programme



Duration

March 2020 – December 2022



Target beneficiaries

The target beneficiaries of the project are children aged between 5-17 years with risk of dropping out of school, and those who have already dropped out of school and are working in hazardous environments and any other activity incidental to the farming communities. The project will benefit families and or caregivers for children who will be supported with educational requisites. They will receive business and start-up capital as part of household economic support.



Geographical focus

Provinces of Maguindanao and Lanao Del Sur in the Bangsamoro Autonomous Region in Muslim Mindanao.

► Project objectives

The project aims to support the government's commitment to address child labour as evidenced through the outcomes of the Philippine Development Plan (PDP), Bangsamoro Development Plan (BDP) and the Philippines' Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP). Specifically, the project will develop and strengthen enabling environments to reduce child labour at both the Regional BARMM and the target provinces, based on the following nine technical areas.

- Expanding the knowledge base and strengthening the capacity of key partners for policy development and implementations, especially in agriculture sector.
- Advocacy and technical support to key partners in extending the scope and coverage of policy and legislation on child labour.
- Replication of models developed by the IPEC+ programme to enhance access of child labourers and children at risk to government education and training opportunities.
- Empowerment of communities through Community Infrastructure Programmes and Child Labour Monitoring systems for the creation of social and economic capital.
- Changing attitudes and building alliances against child labour through advocacy and awareness-raising campaigns.

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- Sensitization of local governments for allocation of resources for social development of child labour and children at risk.
- Local capacity development and knowledge to identify, monitor and reduce child labour.
- Economic empowerment of families and communities exposed to the worst forms of child labour.
- Education and training programmes to prevent child labour.

► Main activities

Upstream interventions

The BARMM level interventions (regional) undertaken by this project will create an enabling environment by strengthening the policy and legislative frameworks in the following areas:

- Enhancing national government capacity to address child labour by strengthening the legal and regulatory framework and policy.
- Strengthening the capacity of national bodies (i.e. child labour units, child labour resource centres, authorities).
- Mainstreaming child labour issues at all levels (i.e. national, district, programme, private sector, businesses, development partners) and build synergy for effective coordination.

Downstream interventions

The provincial level intervention is where both direct action and capacity development are planned to address child labour with a focus on the worst forms in agriculture sector.

- Develop procedures and mechanisms enabling for sound school management systems and structures with the local government, along with procedures in mainstreaming working children into the formal education system.
- Develop a model for vocational skills training for the working children and their families at Community-Based Service Outlets and vocational training institutions, to provide opportunities for families to combat child labour.
- Design and pilot apprenticeship scheme for working children and their families.
- Creating social and economic capital through Community Infrastructure Programmes (CIPs) to empower communities to monitor and address child labour situations and development of monitoring system.

- Enhancing knowledge on hazardous work in the agriculture sector and on child labour by using ILO tools, expertise and approaches; and organizing the informal economy through social protection (i.e. OSH) and the formation of workers' organizations.
- Develop database for its interventions and all information will be pooled in a data bank using Direct Beneficiary Monitoring System (DBMS) and Child Labour Monitoring System.

Project outcomes

- Improved non-formal education services and opportunities, and increased access to skills training.
- Economic empowerment opportunities are provided and rural farming communities mobilized to combat child labour.
- Improved policy responses to child labour through regulatory framework and institutional development for the reduction and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

Progress to date

- Project Advisory and Review Committee approved the pilot areas for provincial implementation in Maguindanao: Barangays Rifao and Renti in municipality of Upi and Barangays Looy and Romangaob in municipality of South Upi, Maguindanao.
- Development of a Training Manual on Child Labour: A compilation of laws, policies, and programmes on the elimination of child labour in the Philippines.
- Capacity building activity on child labour held for the Ministry of Labor and Employment (MOLE-BARMM) Labour Inspectorates, and Senior Technical Officers.
- Training and accreditation of Occupational Safety Officers in BARMM supported.



Children working in a field. © ILO / Joseph Fortin

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