



Evaluation Summaries

Supporting the time-bound programme for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in El Salvador, Phase II

Quick Facts

Countries: *El Salvador*

Final Evaluation: *Dec 2009*

Mode of Evaluation: *independent*

Technical Area: *Child Labour*

Evaluation Management: *IPEC/DED*

Evaluation Team: *Mauricio Benito Durá, Oscar Godoy, Rhina López Bernal*

Project Code: *ELS/06/50/USA*

Donor: *United States*

Keywords: *child labour*

Extracted from the Executive Summary of the report

This document is the Expanded Final Evaluation Report of the Project of Support to the Time-Bound Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in El Salvador, Phase II (henceforth "the Support Project"). The Support Project was funded by the Department of Labour of the United States (USDOL) and implemented by the International Programme for the Eradication of Child Labour (IPEC) of the International Labour Organisation (ILO). The project began implementation in September 2006 with a budget of U.S. \$ 3,380,000 and a duration of 39 months.

While the conclusions of this report focus on the activities of the second phase of the project (September 2006 to December 2009) the impact analysis cannot be separated from the background built during Phase I.

The evaluation took place during the second half of October 2009 with an evaluation team composed of three persons: one with experience in conducting project evaluations in the context of ILO Convention 182 in the Central American region; one with knowledge of the national efforts to eradicate child labour and IPEC's contribution towards this goal; and a third evaluator who analyzed the impact of the programme on public policy – whose analysis is annexed to this Expanded Final Evaluation.

It began with a review of project documents and telephone conversations with USDOL representatives in Washington and ILO/IPEC/DED representatives in Geneva. Over a period of two weeks, the team visited the country and conducted 49 interviews with project technical staff, government officials, members of the executing agencies, members of trade unions, employers and parents of child beneficiaries of the Action Programmes. Fourteen group interviews were carried out, 7 with children and adolescents and 7 with parents, with a total of 117 participants. Information from these interviews was supplemented by discussions and presentations from the stakeholder workshop held in San Salvador on 30 October 2009.

In an overall assessment, the interviewed counterparts expressed that, in implementing the Support Programme in its two phases, the country achieved significant progress in eradicating the worst forms of child labour. Among the most valuable contributions of IPEC was the permanent support given to various public and private institutions. That is, technical assistance and transfer of know-how.

The design of the second phase drew on the existence of the National Committee Against Child

Labour (CNTI, by its acronym in Spanish) to conduct a design process with the participation of its members, especially with the Ministry of Labour, the National Committee's coordinating institution.

The existence of the National Plan for the Eradication of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (PNETI, by its acronym in Spanish) allowed further alignment with national policy and a greater degree of development of the conceptual proposal of the Time-Bound Programme (TBP).

In its design, the Support Project formulated the achievement of 13 outputs articulated around two immediate objectives. Through direct action (immediate objective 2) it intended to develop (and document locally) effective and replicable child labour reduction models through 7 outputs. In terms of capacity building (immediate objective 1) the strategy was geared towards the adoption of public policies by the various State institutions and the generation of monitoring mechanisms in order to identify demands of the target population that may be served by the various CNTI member institutions, as well as provide technical assistance to the National Committee so that it can take ownership of the National Plan and comply with it. Therefore, a high degree of alignment with national policy, in terms of eradicating child labour in harmony with the Paris Declaration, and relevance, relating to a need that is clearly-felt and prioritised by the Salvadoran State, was observed.

Overall project design is coherent, as it presents a clear language showing a logical connection between activities to be performed, expected outputs and how these should allow the achievement of specific objectives.

The project has made significant progress in the adoption of public policy instruments, prominently by the Ministry of Education, and the creation of instruments to help raise awareness on child labour.

This applies to the Multipurpose Households Survey, the School Census and the Health Census. Based on the experiences, achievements and lessons learned through the Support Project in its two previous phases, the evaluation team recommends that IPEC/ILO and USDOL continue supporting the TBP through a third phase which should be directed towards:

- Promoting coordination between policies to combat child labour and those aimed at reducing poverty.
- Providing technical assistance for implementation of the Roadmap to make El Salvador a country free of child labour and its worst forms.
- Providing technical assistance through specialised human resources and long-term contracts so as to complete the transfer and strengthening process.
- Strengthening the various institutions' steering bodies to contribute to improved and public policy making and implementation.
- Systematising the expertise provided by ILO/IPEC to the TBP in El Salvador.