

ILO TECHNICAL COOPERATION – CHILD LABOUR

Project Snapshot

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| DOMESTIC WORK | Combating exploitation of child domestic workers TCRAM (Global Project) | |
| | Duration: February 2002 – February 2004 | |
| | Donor & Budget | Objectives for Sri Lanka |
| | <p>Netherlands, Ministry of Foreign Affairs</p> <p>USD 1,980,107 (Global Budget)</p> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Intensifying both technical and financial support towards integration of child domestic labour into the National Plan of Action on Child Labor. • Expansion of geographical coverage of action to the Northern and Eastern provinces affected by the armed conflict. • Improvement of preventive measures such as Vocational Training (VT) focusing on developing the capacity of the VT centers/providers; developing mobile skills training facilities and standardized training curricula, providing life-skills education, Non-Formal Education (NFE), and Early Childhood Development (ECD) particularly in the CDW sending areas. • Introducing action aimed at the withdrawal and reintegration of children abused and exploited in domestic service. • Harnessing the support of the employers of both the parents of vulnerable children as well as employers of child domestic workers in the national effort to eliminate child domestic labour and other forms of WFCL. • Increasing male participation through awareness and mobilization in the development of the family and community. |
| Results and Outcomes | | |
| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Mini-programs were implemented to capacitate IPEC's partner organizations in the Eastern province in the areas of training of trainers programs in food processing through the Cathy Rich Memorial Food Processing Centre, which is a recognised training institute in Sri Lanka and grassroots management for rural communities through Sarvodaya Economic Enterprise Development Services (Gte) Ltd (SEEDS). A household survey to identify and select the most vulnerable children for the CDW project in Batticaloa in the Eastern Province was conducted by South Asia Perspectives Network Association (SAPNA). ○ In 2003, a list of Hazardous Labour was compiled by a Technical Committee appointed by the Secretary to the Ministry of Employment & Labour and facilitated by IPEC, in consultation with stakeholders and adopted by the National Labour Advisory Council (NLAC). As a result of successful awareness raising among stakeholders, certain aspects of child domestic labour addressed under Section 3(d) of Recommendation 190 was also included in the List of Hazardous Labour. ○ Efforts are also underway to raise the minimum age of employment for domestic work among others, from 14 years to 16 years of age. ○ The Action Programmes (APs) in the plantation sector and Eastern province were | | |

mainly preventive in nature, however children who were rescued from exploitative or underage domestic labour were provided with counselling by professional counsellors and assisted with catch-up education to help them re-enter mainstream education or with skills training to empower them to seek non-exploitative forms of employment. In addition to skills training, sustainable mechanisms were put in place by the partners to provide micro credit for self-employment opportunities. This program was mainly made available to the women in the family to help increase their income levels and keep children in school.

- Many of the families working on the estates are among the key suppliers of child domestic labour, and plantation management are sometimes responsible for trafficking children into domestic labour in urban areas or turning a blind eye to the problem. Partners conducted awareness raising programs on the dangers of children entering the domestic labour market, for plantation management and this has resulted in greater cooperation between the management and the Trade Unions in the national effort to eliminate child labour prioritising its worst forms.
- The strategic capacitating of Labour, Police and Probation & Child Care officers through the AP implemented by the Department of Women & Children's Affairs has been extremely successful. A multi-inspection procedure was developed as a result of the action program. The outcome was that 45 court cases were filed in 2003, showing an increase of 100% when compared to 1999.
- The Human Resource Development Officers (HRDOs) of the Department of Labour, were provided training in career guidance and motivational skills.. The HRDOs also conducted job fairs and skills training programs through out the country for out-of-school youth, while providing them with career guidance and motivational skills, etc.
- The National Child Protection Authority in addition to developing information, education and communication material on child labour, also facilitated the development of the Draft Code of Conduct for Employers of Youth as Child Domestic Workers.

| Other beneficiaries | Sri Lanka |
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| 1. Members of implementing agencies and NGOs | 31 |
| 2. Members of local authorities, police officers, labour inspectors, etc. | 514 |
| 3. Parents / Families | 1271 |
| 4. Religious leaders | |
| 5. Teachers | 383 |
| 6. Trade unions organizations | 890 |
| 7. Youth collaborators | |
| Total other beneficiaries | 3,089 |

July 2014