



# Generating Evidence to Support the Elimination of Child Labour, Forced Labour, and Human Trafficking

27-29 June 2022

An RTA-HTRI Conference

## Conference Brochure

▶ Register [here](#).

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The latest ILO global child labour estimates indicate that, despite important progress, there were still 160 million children in labour worldwide in 2020. The ILO global estimates of forced labour for the same year show a total of 25 million persons in situations of forced labour. Given the hidden nature of human trafficking, there are no prevalence estimates to capture the full scope and scale of the issue. With the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals, the international community is committed to ending child labour in all its forms by 2025 and to eradicating forced labour by 2030. The headline figures emerging from the global estimates make clear that a substantial acceleration of progress will be needed to meet these commitments.

Yet, the path forward is less clear. Beyond these headline figures there are still many unknowns for too many at-risk populations in too many geographical areas. More research is needed to identify the best course of action to tackle these issues. And where the research does exist, there are still significant barriers to translating this research into the policy action needed to make a real impact.

The Research to Action (RTA) project centres on bridging the divide between policy research and policy action to tackle issues of child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking. The primary objectives of the project are to increase access to evidence, facilitate understanding of available research and gaps, enhance capacity to provide evidence and fill gaps and promote new interest and engagement in the subject area. The project collaborates with the International Organization for Migration (IOM)'s Protection Division to address issues related to trafficking for forced labour, child trafficking, as well as child labour and forced labour in crisis-affected and migrant populations.

Innovation for Poverty Actions (IPA)'s Human Trafficking and Research Initiative (HTRI) seeks to expand the evidence on the primary drivers of human trafficking and the most effective ways to prevent this pervasive problem. HTRI brings together researchers and decision-makers to innovate on and improve research methods as well as evaluate the effectiveness of interventions to prevent trafficking, prosecute crimes, and protect trafficked persons. Through its rigorous competitive research fund, IPA initiates and funds formative pilot testing of programs and large-scale studies on efforts to combat human trafficking.

In line with RTA and HTRI's objectives, the projects are jointly organising a conference to disseminate research conducted by both established and early career scholars. Early career scholars have been awarded RTA's fellowship and seed grants and HTRI's seed grants for partnership building, pilots, and data analysis. In the conference, researchers will present key findings from their 9-12 months projects. Their topics

encompass risk factors for vulnerability, assessing the effectiveness of current policies and interventions, the prevalence and consequences of child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking associated with the COVID-19 pandemic, and more. Access to their latest research findings will advance discussions among researchers, policy actors, social partners, and practitioners around the world – to strengthen partnerships and explore the logistics of refining evidence on effective solutions to reduce child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking.

By communicating research findings to the public, ILO, IOM, and IPA hope to foster partnerships between researchers and other stakeholders to design and implement rigorous research studies while empowering governments and other stakeholders to take progressive action to end child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking.

## Awards at a glance

The RTA project launched a [global competition](#) to elicit proposals from junior researchers to address knowledge gaps in the field of child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking in March 2020. Proposals were evaluated by a scientific committee including 12 researchers from different disciplines of social science and humanities. Through the awards, the project supports [16 junior researchers](#) to conduct independent research projects with their affiliated universities.

HTRI launched its first call for applications for [seed funding](#) in March 2021 and full and partial research project funding in September 2021. Four organizations were awarded seed grant funding and an additional four organizations were provided partial and full research funding for experimental and quasi-experimental research. These [eight awards](#) are for early-stage research and randomized control trials examining the effectiveness of counter-trafficking programs in Asia, Africa, Europe, and Latin America.



Thank you for your support  
and we wish you all an  
engaging conference!



## Conference Presenters

### RTA Research Fellows

- Natalie Bau, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)  
*Proposal title:* Globalization and Child Labour  
Natalie Bau is an assistant professor of economics and holds a joint appointment with the department of public policy. She has held positions at the University of Toronto and the UCLA Luskin School of Public Affairs. She has published papers in leading economics journals, including the Journal of Political Economy, American Economic Review, and the Quarterly Journal of Economics. Her research spans a variety of topics in development and educational economics, including the effects of cultural traditions on economic decision-making and the industrial organization of educational markets.
- Samuel Kembou, Junior Lecturer, Graduate School of Public Administration, Lausanne University.  
*Proposal title:* Child labor and schooling outcomes in agricultural households in Côte d'Ivoire  
Samuel Kembou is a Junior Lecturer at the Swiss Graduate School of Public Administration, Lausanne University. His research pertains to development programs in education, social protection, and health. In an ongoing large-scale randomized evaluation, his research assesses the impact of multisectoral policies on child labor alleviation in Côte d'Ivoire. He has worked for leading research and development institutions including the WBG, the ILO, and IPA.
- Hasna Hena Sara, Senior Research Associate, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University.  
*Proposal title:* Informal child labor in Dhaka City: Exploring the pull factors and health sufferings of children involved in waste management  
Hasna Hena Sara works as a Senior Research Associate at BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University. Currently, she is working on a multi-country research project "Pathways to Equitable Healthy Cities (PEHC)" initiated by the "Our Planet, Our Health" programme of Wellcome Trust. Sara successfully completed her Bachelor of Social Sciences, and Master of Social Sciences degrees from the Department of Population Sciences, University of Dhaka. She was awarded Merit Scholarship for her outstanding results in bachelor's programs. Her research interest includes Population Health, Urban Health, Child labor, sustainable development, Maternal & Child Health, Reproductive health, etc. Sara also works as adjunct faculty at Independent University Bangladesh.
- Isabela Warioba, Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Mzumbe University.  
*Proposal title:* Child marriage as a form of human trafficking in Tanzania: A human rights perspective



## RTA Seed Grants

[\*] indicates the lead applicant.

- Alhassan Abdullah, PhD Candidate, Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong.  
*Proposal Title:* Unravelling the Normative Underpinnings of Child Labor in Ghana: A Bottom-Up Study Among Hotspot Communities  
Alhassan Abdullah is currently a PhD candidate in Social Work and Social Administration at the University of Hong Kong, and a Visiting Research Scholar at Haverford College in the United States. His research focuses on child protection and the cultural elements in child protection.
- Prachi Bansal, PhD Student, Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.  
*Proposal title:* Modern Forms of Debt-Bondage in Indian Agriculture  
Prachi Bansal is a PhD scholar from the Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University, Delhi, India. She is a development economist who works on issues related to agrarian economy, food security, labour, pulses, political economy of fertilizers and land acquisition. She has worked as agricultural statistician for FAO.
- Holly Koogler, PhD Student, Department of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University.  
*Proposal title:* Social Relationships and Child Labor Migration from Karamoja, Uganda: An Exploratory Study  
Holly Koogler is currently a PhD student in Sociology at Johns Hopkins University. Her doctoral research focuses on the transition to adulthood for disadvantaged youth in diverse settings.
- Naomi Lott, Visiting Fellow in Law and Children's Rights, Rights Lab, University of Nottingham.  
*Proposal title:* Advancing a Child Rights Informed Approach to Antislavery Policy and Practice  
Naomi Lott is a Visiting Fellow at the University of Nottingham, and an ESRC Postdoctoral Fellow at the University of Oxford. Her research focuses on children's rights, economic, social and cultural rights, and the implementation of human rights. She holds a PhD from the University of Nottingham School of Law.
- Audrey Lumley-Sapanski, Research Fellow in Migration and Integration, Rights Lab, University of Nottingham.  
*Proposal title:* Points of inflection: Analysis of the impact of Covid-19 on the vulnerabilities Eritrean refugees face to human trafficking in Sudan  
Audrey Lumley-Sapanski is a Research Fellow and the Migration and Displacement Lead at the Rights Lab (University of Nottingham) where she studies migration and human trafficking with a focus on the impacts of migration governance approaches on refugees and forced migrants. She holds a PhD from The Pennsylvania State University in Human Geography.

- Ana Montes Vinas, extra-mural research fellow at Department of Economics and Management, University of Luxembourg.

*Proposal title:* The effect of longer school days on crime: Are kids the victims or the perpetrators?

Ana Montes Vinas is a consultant for the International Organization for Migration, Costa Rica regional office and extra-mural research fellow at Department of Economics and Management, University of Luxembourg. She is also a PhD candidate at Department of Economics and Management, University of Luxembourg. Her dissertation consists of three main chapters of self-contained works about international migration and migrant's integration in the host society.
- Elyssa Schroeder, PhD Student, School of Social Work, University of Georgia.

*Proposal title:* Using the Past to Inform the Future: Archival Data Analysis to Improve Evidence for Policy and Practice for Child Labor Trafficking Survivors in Sierra Leone

Elyssa Schroeder is currently a PhD Candidate at the University of Georgia School of Social Work and a Fellow at the Center on Human Trafficking Research and Outreach researching gender-based violence, complex trauma, and survivor-driven interventions.
- Charline Sempéré, PhD Student, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Sheffield.

*Proposal title:* Women and Forced Labour: Understanding Women's Vulnerability to Exploitation in France's Agricultural Domestic Supply Chains

Charline is a PhD researcher at the University of Sheffield's Department of Politics affiliated with the Sheffield Political Economy Research Institute and the *Laboratoire d'Économie et de Sociologie du Travail* Aix-Marseille University. Her doctoral research project, which began in September 2019, explores the role of social power relations in the shaping of workers' vulnerability across supply chains in the global economy.
- David Leone Suber\*, Doctoral Researcher, Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, University College London.

Roshan De Stone, Investigative Reporter, Brush & Bow.

*Proposal title:* The risk of forced labour and exploitation that migrants and migrant workers face whilst on their undocumented journeys to Europe

David Leone Suber is a doctoral candidate at the Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, University College London where he specialises in human smuggling, trafficking and the functioning of borders.

Roshan De Stone is a researcher and investigative reporter specialising in migration, human trafficking, forced labour and human rights abuses at the border. She is also the co-director of the creative journalism platform Brush & Bow.

- Robson Tigre\*, Professor, Department of Economics, Universidade Católica de Brasília.  
Yuri Barreto, PhD Student, Department of Economics, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco  
Guilherme Bayma, PhD Student, Department of Economics, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco.  
Danny de Castro, PhD, Department of Economics, Universidade Católica de Brasília  
*Proposal title:* Preventing forced labor: causal evidence from both government and non-governmental interventions in Brazil  
Robson is a Professor at the departments of Economics and Public Policy of the Universidade Católica de Brasília. He applies microeconometrics techniques to study causal questions on crime, education, health, labor, and public governance. Recently, he served as consultant for the World Bank, Confederação Nacional da Indústria, Centro de Gestão e Estudos Estratégicos, and the Brazilian Ministério da Cidadania.
- Hanna Wang, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.  
*Proposal title:* School, Work or Marriage? Gender Gaps in Child Development  
Hanna Wang is an assistant professor in Economics at the Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona, a researcher at MOVE institute and an affiliated professor at the Barcelona School of Economics. Her research is based in Labor and Family Economics. In recent work, she examines how child-policies shape women's labor supply and fertility.
- Aye Thiri Kyaw, PhD student, Gender Violence and Health centre, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine (LSHTM)  
*Proposal title:* Opening the 'black box' of protection and reintegration interventions for trafficking survivors in Myanmar: A realist evaluation of World Vision's Anti-Trafficking in Persons (A/TIP) program  
Aye Thiri Kyaw is a first-year Ph.D. student within the Gender Violence and Health Centre, Department of Global Health and Development at LSHTM. Before commencing her Ph.D., she worked in various roles such as researcher, gender analyst, humanitarian to UN, INGOs, and Civil Society Organizations for nearly ten years. She is also a TEDx speaker, an award-winning women rights activist.

## IPA HTRI Seed Grants

- Nicola Pocock  
Head of Data & Research, Lumos Foundation. Honorary Assistant Professor, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.  
Rachael Stemp, Carl Stephan St-Louis  
*Proposal title:* Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices on Trafficking in Persons in Haiti  
Nicola Pocock is honorary faculty at the London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine and mixed methods researcher on child labour. Until recently she was Head of Data and Research at the Lumos Foundation, working alongside research and M&E colleagues Rachael Stemp and Carl Stephen St-Louis.

- Veerawit Tianchainan, Executive Director, The Freedom Story  
Lucy McCray, Director of Strategy, The Freedom Story  
*Proposal title:* Trafficking Prevention Research Development  
Lucy McCray is the Director of Strategy at The Freedom Story, where she endeavours to use data and best practices to prove that prevention is possible. She is also a PhD candidate at LSHTM studying the causal pathways to exploitative work for children of migrant workers. Veerawit Tianchainan is the Executive Director of The Freedom Story, guiding the organization's work in Thailand.
- Lucy Jordan, Professor of Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong  
*Proposal title:* An experimental intervention using social media to provide access to information and support on illegal recruitment fees and practices  
Dr. Jordan is currently Associate Professor at the University of Hong Kong, and a leading scholar of transnational migration and families in Southeast Asia. Her research practice also includes collaborate with community-based organisations and the application of innovative methods to address exploitative labor practices and human trafficking. Recently completed studies include design and implementation of social media RCTs on the demand side of commercial sexual exploitation (e.g., potential customers).
- Meredith Dank, Research Professor and Director of the Human Exploitation and Resilience initiative of the NYU Marron Institute of Urban Management  
Sheldon Zhang, Professor and Chair, School of Criminology and Justice Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Dheeraj, Praxis - Institute for Participatory Practices  
*Proposal title:* Breaking Cycles: A Community-led Intervention to Seek Innovative Solutions to Human Trafficking  
Meredith Dank is a Research Professor and Director of the Human Exploitation and Resilience initiative of the NYU Marron Institute of Urban Management. Dank has left multiple national and international projects on prevalence estimations, in-depth exploration of trafficking victim experiences, and has written and lectured extensively on trafficking related topics.  
  
Sheldon Zhang is Professor and Chair of the School of Criminology and Justice Studies at University of Massachusetts Lowell. His primary interests revolve around survey methodologies, and implementation of large scale social surveys, as well as evaluation research. He is currently active in leading and participating in multiple prevalence and anti-trafficking intervention projects around the world.  
  
Dheeraj is senior program manager with Praxis - Institute for Participatory Practices. He is a practitioner of participatory methods and has been using the same to understand and create community-led models of social change with a particular focus on marginalized groups.

## RTA Scientific Committee

- Jessie Brunner  
Director of Human Trafficking Research, Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Stanford University.
- Sarah Craggs  
Research Fellow, Center for Human Rights and International Justice, Stanford University and Human Rights Centre, University of California, Berkeley.  
Senior Programme Officer, International Organization for Migration.



- Cecile Fanton d'Andon  
Senior Program Officer, CPC Learning Network, Columbia University.
- Michaelle de Cock  
Head, Research and Evaluation Unit, Fundamentals Principles and Rights at Work Branch, International Labour Organization.
- Eric Edmonds  
Professor, Department of Economics, Dartmouth College.
- Kelly Gleason  
Data Science Officer (RTA Team), Research and Evaluation Unit, Fundamentals Principles and Rights at Work Branch, International Labour Organization.
- Samentha Goethals  
Assistant Professor in Business and Society, Centre on Sustainability, SKEMA Business School.
- Lorenzo Guarcello  
Policy Research and Statistics Officer (RTA Project Director), Research and Evaluation Unit, Fundamentals Principles and Rights at Work Branch, International Labour Organization.
- Phineas Jasi  
Data Management and Research Specialist, Protection Division, International Organization for Migration.
- Nicola Pocock  
Head of Data & Research, Lumos Foundation.  
Honorary Assistant Professor, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.
- André Portela Souza  
Professor, São Paulo School of Economics, Fundação Getúlio Vargas.  
Director, FGV EESP CLEAR Center Regional Center for Learning in Evaluation and Results for Brazil and Lusophone Africa.  
Coordinator, Center for Applied Microeconomics (C-Micro).
- Lorraine Man Wing Wong  
Research Officer (RTA team), Research and Evaluation Unit, Fundamentals Principles and Rights at Work Branch, International Labour Organization.  
Research Officer, Protection Division, International Organization for Migration.

## **HTRI Scientific Advisors**

- Guy Grossman, Professor of Political Science, University of Pennsylvania.
- Cecilia Hyunjung Mo, Judith E. Gruber Associate Professor of Political Science at University of California, Berkeley and Associate Professor of Public Policy at UC Berkeley's Goldman School of Public Policy.

## Keynote Speakers

- Eric Edmonds, Professor, Department of Economics, Dartmouth College.  
*Keynote Day 1 (June 27): From Research to Action: Improving the Policy Impact of Academic Research*  
Most academic research around issues such as child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking aims to have an impact on the design or implementation of public policy. More often than not, academic research ends up confined to the academic market, with public policymakers turning to academic research only to provide cursory support to prior beliefs. In this talk, I will argue that modest changes in how we design and discuss academic research can bridge the academic and policy markets and that the existing divide between academic and policy-directed research is unnecessary and inefficient.
- Cathy Zimmerman, Professor, Department of Global Health and Development, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.  
*Keynote Day 2 (June 28): Intervention Development Science: Do we need it? What would it do?*  
Scholars, NGOs and funding agencies often struggle to determine 'what works' to address complex social problems, especially in resource-poor settings. New interventions frequently rely on past activities that were designed for different problems or settings or 'good guesses.' Consequently, complex social interventions rarely receive adequate investment in 'research and development' (R&D), which has meant that substantial money has been invested (and likely wasted) on implementing and evaluating intervention prototypes before they were ready. This raises the question: Do we need an Intervention Development Science (IDS) to improve the methods we use to generate evidence for interventions that address complex social problems? This talk will offer some thoughts about potential IDS methods to generate evidence that might strengthen the delivery, uptake and effectiveness of an intervention.
- Joel Quirk, Professor, Political Studies, School of Social Sciences, University of the Witwatersrand.  
*Keynote Day 3 (June 29): Evidence will not be enough: How politics bends practice and what to do about it.*  
We are now in the third year of the global Covid-19 pandemic. During the early stages of the pandemic everything was murky. Reliable evidence was in short supply. Researchers sprang into action, producing a tremendous amount of new information. We are now in a position where there is a strong evidence base – and effective vaccine – yet it has proved difficult to translate evidence into practice due to the effects of entrenched interests, ideologies, and disinformation. This paper draws upon these recent experiences with Covid to reflect upon the practical limits and political challenges associated with translating evidence into effective action in relation to forced labour, child labour and human trafficking. I am particularly concerned here with way in which the emergence of the concepts of human trafficking and modern slavery have impacted policy and practice. Since the late 1990s various shortcomings within the MS/HT field have been excused or minimised because the field was 'new', and there still 'wasn't enough evidence' available. These statements were never entirely persuasive, but they have become increasingly hard to sustain in recent years owing to the volume of new information that has been generated. There is no question that further evidence is tremendously useful, but there also has to be a point where we face up to the fact that the key bottleneck here is not evidence but politics.

## Timetable

▶ Register [here](#).

Geneva time	Day 1 - June 27 (Mon)	Day 2 - June 28 (Tue)	Day 3 - June 29 (Wed)
13.15-13.30	Welcome from organizers		
13.30-15	<p><b>Human rights and legal commitments</b></p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p> <p><u>Naomi Lott (University of Nottingham)</u>, Advancing a Child Rights Informed Approach to Antislavery Policy and Practice</p> <p><u>Alhassan Abdullah (University of Hong Kong)</u>, Unravelling the Normative Underpinnings of Child Labor in Ghana: A Bottom-Up Study Among Hotspot Communities</p> <p><u>Isabela Warrioba (Mzumbe University)</u>, Child marriage as a form of human trafficking in Tanzania: A human rights perspective</p> <p>Chair: Samentha Goethals (SKEMA)</p>	<p><b>Migration and exploitation</b></p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p> <p><u>Veerawit Tianchainan &amp; Lucy McCray (The Freedom Story – Thailand)</u>, Understanding Migrant Vulnerability to Trafficking and COVID-19 in Northern Thailand</p> <p><u>Aye Thiri Kyaw (London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine)</u>, Opening the ‘black box’ of protection and reintegration interventions for trafficking survivors in Myanmar: A realist evaluation of World Vision’s Anti-Trafficking in Persons (A/TIP) program</p> <p><u>Prachi Bansal (Jawaharlal Nehru University)</u>, Modern Forms of Debt-Bondage in Indian Agriculture</p> <p>Chair: Phineas Jasi (IOM)</p>	<p><b>Identifying risk factors and vulnerabilities</b></p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p> <p><u>Audrey Lumley-Sapanski (University of Nottingham)</u>, Points of inflection: Analysis of the impact of Covid-19 on the vulnerabilities Eritrean refugees face to human trafficking in Sudan</p> <p><u>Hasna Hena Sara (BRAC University)</u>, Informal child labor in Dhaka City: Exploring the pull factors and health sufferings of children involved in waste management</p> <p><u>Lucy Jordan (University of Hong Kong)</u>, Isla Wilson (Migrasia), &amp; Junjie Zhang (University of Hong Kong), Experimental interventions using social media to provide access to information and support on illegal recruitment fees and practices</p> <p>Chair: Cecile Fanton d'Andon (Colombia)</p>
15-15.45	Social event		
16-17	<p>Keynote 1 by Eric Edmonds: From Research to Action: Improving the Policy Impact of Academic Research</p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p>	<p>Keynote 2 by Cathy Zimmerman: Intervention Development Science: Do we need it? What would it do?</p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p>	<p>Keynote 3 by Joel Quirk: Evidence will not be enough: How politics bends practice and what to do about it.</p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p>

Geneva time	Day 1 - June 27 (Mon)	Day 2 - June 28 (Tue)	Day 3 - June 29 (Wed)
17.15-17.30	Welcome from organizers		
17.30-19	<p><b>Schooling and skills development</b></p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p> <p><u>Natalie Bau (UCLA)</u>, Globalization and Child Labour</p> <p><u>Hanna Wang (Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona)</u>, School, Work or Marriage? Gender Gaps in Child Development</p> <p><u>Ana Montes Vinas (University of Luxembourg)</u>, The effect of longer school days on crime: Are kids the victims or the perpetrators?</p> <p><u>Meredith Dank (New York University)</u>, <u>Sheldon Zhang (Umass Lowell)</u>, and <u>Dheeraj (Praxis)</u>, Breaking the cycle of intergenerational practices of grooming young women and girls into the sex industry in India: Promising interventions in skills building, education, and livelihoods options for Denotified, Nomadic and Semi Nomadic Tribes</p> <p>Chair: Eric Edmonds (Dartmouth)</p>	<p><b>Incidences and determinants of child and forced labor and impact of alleviation policies: recent evidence from Côte d'Ivoire, Brazil, and France</b></p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p> <p><u>Samuel Kembou (Lausanne University)</u>, Child labor and learning outcomes in agricultural households in Côte d'Ivoire</p> <p><u>Robson Tigre (Universidade Católica de Brasília)</u>, <u>Yuri Barreto (Universidade Federal de Pernambuco)</u>, <u>Guilherme Bayma (Universidade Federal de Pernambuco)</u>, &amp; <u>Danny de Castro (Universidade Católica de Brasília)</u>, Preventing forced labor: causal evidence from both government and non-governmental interventions in Brazil</p> <p><u>Charline Sempéré (University of Sheffield)</u>, Women and Forced Labour: Evidence from the Southern French Agriculture Sector</p> <p>Chair: André Portela Souza (Fundação Getulio Vargas)</p>	<p><b>Culture / Behaviour change campaigns</b></p> <p>Show <a href="#">local time</a>.</p> <p><u>Sarah Consoli (IPA/HTRI)</u> (presenting on behalf of <u>Nicola Pocock (LSHTM &amp; Lumos)</u>, <u>Rachael Stemp</u>, &amp; <u>Carl Stephan St-Louis (Lumos)</u>, Providing conceptually grounded insights on modifiable determinants of trafficking-related outcomes to inform a counter-trafficking Behaviour Change Campaign in Haiti</p> <p><u>Elyssa Schroeder (University of Georgia)</u>, Using the Past to Inform the Future: Archival Data Analysis to Improve Evidence for Policy and Practice for Child Labor Trafficking Survivors in Sierra Leone</p> <p><u>Holly Koogler (Johns Hopkins University)</u>, Social Relationships and Child Labor Migration from Karamoja, Uganda: An Exploratory Study</p> <p><u>David Leone Suber (University College London)</u> &amp; <u>Roshan De Stone (Brush &amp; Bow)</u>, The risk of forced labour and exploitation that migrants and migrant workers face whilst on their undocumented journeys to Europe</p> <p>Chair: Jessie Brunner (Stanford)</p>
19-19.45	Social event		

## Abstracts

\*The factors and outcomes follow the taxonomy in the evidence gap maps on [child labour](#) and [forced labour](#).

### RTA Research Fellows

- Natalie Bau, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, The University of California, Los Angeles (UCLA)  
Proposal title: Globalization and Child Labour  
Day 1 June 27 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Expanded access to foreign capital could be a tool to unlock economic growth in low-income countries and consequently many low and middle-income countries have sought to increase foreign capital flows. Yet there is little information on the consequences of increased foreign capital for child labor. This project uses the staggered liberalization of access to foreign capital at the industry-level in India to estimate the effects of foreign capital liberalization. This strategy exploits cross-district variation in children's exposure to foreign capital liberalization due to the pre-reform industry-mix of the district to measure the effects of liberalization on human capital investment and child labor.

Key factors: Demand of labour, Economic structure and supply chains

Key outcomes: child work, school attendance, school dropout

- Samuel Kembou, Junior Lecturer, Graduate School of Public Administration, Lausanne University.  
Proposal title: Child labor and schooling outcomes in agricultural households in Côte d'Ivoire  
Day 2 June 28 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Our paper documents risk factors for schooling and child labor in Côte d'Ivoire. We first provide recent estimates of the prevalence of child labor disaggregated by work type. We look at hazardous work and an exhaustive range of more than 50 activities covering domestic, economic, and agricultural work. We then investigate the role of child-, household- and community-level factors in predicting agricultural child labor and schooling decisions. Our contribution offers a perspective on factors affecting these decisions on a unique sample collected during the Covid-19 pandemic. Indicators on more than 1,700 children and their families from three major cocoa-growing regions of Côte d'Ivoire are leveraged.

Key factors: Gender, Household structure, Parental Education, Education level, Poverty/Household wealth, Food (in-)security

Key outcomes: Child labor, Hazardous labor, Domestic work, Household chores, Gender, School attendance, School dropout

- Hasna Hena Sara, Senior Research Associate, BRAC James P Grant School of Public Health, BRAC University.

Proposal title: Informal child labor in Dhaka City: Exploring the pull factors and health sufferings of children involved in waste management

Day 3 June 29 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Child labor is a major social and public health conundrum in many developing countries. 152 million children (64 million girls and 88 million boys) are still engaged in child labour. Despite increasing research over the last two decades on the detrimental impacts of child labor, it remains a significant concern globally. Waste management (WM) often remains unregulated, and it is easy for disadvantaged and poor children to involve in this hazardous sector, as they find this as easy access to livelihood opportunities. It was estimated that one out of every six children in Bangladesh is working. In this backdrop, this study considers the city waste management sector and attempt to understand the socioeconomic profile of the children working in this sector in Dhaka City, Bangladesh, their working conditions, terms and conditions in their formal and informal contracts, and to review existing intervention and policies regarding child labor. This study proposes a mixed methods study among children (aged between 5 and 17 years) involved in WM including waste collection from home, waste segregation and recycling at secondary transfer station. Under the quantitative component, this study proposes to conduct a cross-sectional survey covering all STSs of Dhaka city. A structured questionnaire will be used for quantitative data collection. In-depth interviews (IDIs) and focus group discussions (FGDs) will be followed to collect qualitative data through purposive sampling. A mixed methods design provides better flexibility to the researchers to collect data using both qualitative and quantitative approaches, analyze data using the two approaches, allow data triangulation and finally draw a comprehensive conclusion based on the research findings.

Key factors: Poverty, family involvement, dropout from school, easy access to waste management related work

Key outcomes: Child labor, knowledge & attitude of waste collection, occupational safety and health

- Isabela Warioba, Lecturer, Faculty of Law, Mzumbe University.

Proposal title: Child marriage as a form of human trafficking in Tanzania: A human rights perspective

Day 1 June 27 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: This research aims to study child marriage as a form of human trafficking in Tanzania from a human rights perspective. Child marriage is a form of human trafficking and despite, Tanzania having one of the highest prevalence rates of child marriage in Tanzania the correlation between child marriage and human trafficking is not well documented. To achieve the objective, this research will employ both qualitative and quantitative study designs. To answer the research questions, data will be collected by interviews, focus group discussions, survey and documentary review. Collected data will be analysed by qualitative and quantitative research methods. A draft report of the research will be validated by stakeholders to verify the findings and improve the quality of the outcome of the research activity.



## RTA Seed Grants

- Alhassan Abdullah, PhD Candidate, Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong.  
Proposal Title: Unravelling the Normative Underpinnings of Child Labor in Ghana: A Bottom-Up Study Among Hotspot Communities  
Day 1 June 27 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Increasingly, research points toward the need to identify the socio-cultural norms of child labor as a primary measure to understand the localized risk factors underpinning child labor and better inform interventions. In this study, we explored the social norms that underpin child labor through collaborative practice research interviews with major stakeholders (children, parents and community key informants) in two hubs of child labor within the cocoa and fishing sector in Ghana. The study showed norms of gender, informal apprenticeship, succession and sustenance of family business among the core normative underpinnings of child labor practices in the cocoa and fishing sector in Ghana.

Key factors: Parental work, Informality, Family Coaching, Legal framework, Law enforcement and monitoring

Key outcomes: Child Labour, Social norms, attitudes towards child work/labour, Child participation and empowerment, Occupational safety and health

- Prachi Bansal, PhD Student, Centre for Informal Sector and Labour Studies, Jawaharlal Nehru University.  
Proposal title: Modern Forms of Debt-Bondage in Indian Agriculture  
Day 2 June 28 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: This paper re-interrogates the nature of unfreedom in Indian agriculture. Debt-bondage in agriculture has prevailed in India since ancient times. However, the nature of bondage has significantly changed over the years. The movement of workforce from agriculture to non-agriculture sectors, declining share of agriculture in the national income, mechanization of agricultural tasks and use of casual wage labour in agriculture has contributed to newer forms of forced labour in rural India. The laws preventing the use of bonded labour have not changed adequately to deal with these newer forms of bondage. This research is based on a survey of four villages in rural Haryana, India.

Key factors: Demand of Labour, Legal-framework, Monitoring, including prevalence studies, Ethnicity/Religion, debt-bondage, agriculture, siri workers, short-term bondage vs long-term bondage, alternative employment

Key outcomes: Legal frameworks, Ethnicity (or Caste), Informality, Prevalence/Incidence of forced labour, bonded labour, Why accept slavery/bondage? post covid problems, unfreedom, siri workers, debt-bondage, bondage in agriculture, post-liberalization new forms of slavery, modern slavery

- Holly Koogler, PhD Student, Department of Sociology, Johns Hopkins University.  
Proposal title: Social Relationships and Child Labor Migration from Karamoja, Uganda: An Exploratory Study  
Day 3 June 29 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: This is an exploratory, qualitative study of the role of social relationships in Karamojong child labor migration. Participants are children ages 12 to 17 from Karamoja who are planning to migrate, are in the process of migrating, or have already migrated for labor purposes. Using data from 30 in-depth interviews, I offer a detailed analysis of how children gain information about migration, how social networks facilitate migration, and how human traffickers take advantage of social relationships.

Key factors: poverty/household wealth  
Key outcomes: migrant children

- Naomi Lott, Research Fellow in Law, Survivor Support and Children's Rights, Rights Lab, University of Nottingham.  
Proposal title: Advancing a Child Rights Informed Approach to Antislavery Policy and Practice  
Day 1 June 27 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: This systematic evidence review will examine the intersections between two distinct, and traditionally separate, fields of academic research - children's rights and modern slavery - to take understandings of both fields in new directions and deliver new theoretical insights that will help reshape practice. It will demonstrate the value of applying the child rights framework to tackling modern slavery. This project will provide evidence and guidance to support policy and research, delivering meaningful research to contribute to the broader evidence-base on a child-rights informed approach to addressing modern slavery and child labour.

Key factors: legal framework, children's rights, governance, child work/labour, child exploitation, autonomy/protection, social norms/attitudes towards child labour/work, child participation and empowerment  
Key outcomes: legal framework, social norms/attitudes towards child labour/work, child participation and empowerment

- Audrey Lumley-Sapanski, Research Fellow in Migration and Integration, Rights Lab, University of Nottingham.

Proposal title: Points of inflection: Analysis of the impact of Covid-19 on the vulnerabilities Eritrean refugees face to human trafficking in Sudan

Day 3 June 29 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#)).

Abstract: Evidence is emerging that the recent in coup in Sudan, the conflict in the Tigray region of Ethiopia, and the COVID-19 pandemic are driving a human trafficking crisis for Eritrean forced migrants. Focusing on Eritrean refugees in Sudan, this project uses mixed methods combining an evidence review, stakeholder and migrant interviews in camps and the diaspora, and data from surveys (1) to evaluate and analyse how the pandemic combined with concurrent conflicts have influenced migratory ambition, route, and demographics; and (2) to identify how explanatory factors and intersecting vulnerabilities (based on the IOM vulnerabilities framework) contribute to the likelihood of experiencing human trafficking at the individual level. This serves as the basis for a set of policy recommendations and actionable items.

Key factors: legal frameworks, institutional framework and governance, crises, ethnicity, migration, access to basic services, law enforcement and monitoring

Key outcomes: legal frameworks, access to protective measures, trafficking for forced labour/sexual exploitation, migration status

- Ana Montes Vinas, PhD student, Department of Economics and Management, University of Luxembourg.

Proposal title: The effect of longer school days on crime: Are kids the victims or the perpetrators?

Day 2 June 27 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: In this research project, I study the effect of longer school days on juvenile crime and child work in illegal organizations by exploiting a policy setup in Colombia that aims to increase the length of school hours dedicated to academic activities by 7 hours per day. I exploit the exogenous time and municipality variation introduced by the education reform to identify the effect of additional hours spent in school. This research aims to give light to policy makers about preventive policies to mitigate child recruitment into working for organized criminal gangs. The project aims to investigate the relationship between education and crime while focusing on drug trafficking structures and the role of teens within these organizations.

Key factors: School quality, School access

Key outcomes: Violence, Worst forms of child labour other than hazardous, Access to preventive and protective services

- Elyssa Schroeder, PhD Student, School of Social Work, University of Georgia.  
Proposal title: Using the Past to Inform the Future: Archival Data Analysis to Improve Evidence for Policy and Practice for Child Labor Trafficking Survivors in Sierra Leone  
Day 3 June 29 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Child labor trafficking affects a significant amount of children in Sierra Leone; however, evidence of how identified victims are served and their outcomes after social service intervention are scarce. This study reviewed 3 years of archival client data for a residential child labor trafficking program, World Hope International (WHI). The case file review provided a foundation for a community-based participatory action model of collaboration between the researcher and WHI staff to improve and co-design program evaluation tools for the purpose of improving child labor trafficking survivors' experiences within services as well as their long-term outcomes.

Key factors: child labor trafficking, trafficking interventions, community-based participatory research

Key outcomes: outcome assessment tools, biopsychosocial survivor outcomes

- Charline Sempéré, PhD Student, Department of Politics and International Relations, University of Sheffield.  
Proposal title: Women and Forced Labour: Understanding Women's Vulnerability to Exploitation in France's Agricultural Domestic Supply Chains  
Day 2 June 28 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: This study aims to examine and document the context and parameters that altogether render women migrant workers vulnerable to various degrees of exploitation in domestic supply chains of the agricultural industry in southern France from a Political Economy perspective. The case study finds that migrant workers have to navigate an industry where migrant labour is considered as an adjustment variable and whose labour rights are poorly protected. Gender inequality and discrimination, reinforce migrant workers livelihood pressures and vulnerability to undergo multiple abuses and violence, which altogether heightens their exposure to forced labour and the degree of coercion they may experience. Based on the result of a nine-months fieldwork study, the report provides new evidence and guidance to support policy and future research regarding the vulnerability of women workers to exploitation.

Key factors: Gender, Ethnicity/Religion, Migration, Legal framework, Labour recruitment, Economic structure and Supply Chains

Key outcomes: Forced Labour, Gender

- David Leone Suber\*, Doctoral Researcher, Jill Dando Institute of Security and Crime Science, University College London.  
Roshan De Stone, Investigative Reporter, Brush & Bow.  
Proposal title: The risk of forced labour and exploitation that migrants and migrant workers face whilst on their undocumented journeys to Europe  
Day 3 June 29 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: This research aims to assess the risk of forced labour and exploitation that migrants and migrant workers face whilst on their undocumented journeys to Europe. Data collection takes place through direct fieldwork in two major entry points (Sanliurfa and Van) and two major exit points (Edirne and Istanbul) of irregular migration in and from Turkey. Analysis of this data looks at both the context and environment wherein forced labour emerges as a risk or unavoidable option for undocumented migrants before, during and after smuggling. The paper considers the ways in which by criminalising migrants and undocumented forms of entry, modern immigration systems can create the very conditions for migrant labour exploitation to thrive.

Key factors: migration, labour recruitment, informality

Key outcomes: forced child labour, migrant children, informality, social norms and attitudes towards forced labour

- Robson Tigre\*, Professor, Department of Economics, Universidade Católica de Brasília.  
Yuri Barreto, PhD Student, Department of Economics, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco  
Guilherme Bayma, PhD Student, Department of Economics, Universidade Federal de Pernambuco.  
Danny de Castro, PhD Student, Department of Economics, Universidade Católica de Brasília  
Proposal title: Preventing forced labor: causal evidence from both government and non-governmental interventions in Brazil  
Day 2 June 28 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: This proposal lays the grounds for an impact evaluation aimed at assessing the potential of two types of interventions in curbing the use of forced labor in Brazil. More specifically, we analyze in a quasi-experimental manner (i) whether specialized state presence, in the form of Labor Judicial Courts and Labor Offices, diminishes the use of forced labor in Brazilian municipalities and (ii) whether the intervention of an NGO, through educational activities, is effective in curbing the use of slave-like labor. At last, we aim to analyze how the interaction of these two institutions may be complementary in achieving socially efficient outcomes. Once with the final results, we intend to help authorities and the third sector in designing joint policies to fight slave and slave-like labor in Brazil.

Key factors: Law enforcement and monitoring, Institutional framework and governance

Key outcomes: Forced labor, Access to preventive and protective services

- Hanna Wang, Assistant Professor, Department of Economics, Universitat Autònoma de Barcelona.  
Proposal title: School, Work or Marriage? Gender Gaps in Child Development  
Day 1 June 27 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Using detailed child-level panel data and geo-coded data on agricultural shocks from Uganda this project examines how girls' and boys' schooling, work and marriage respond to changes in agricultural income. Shocks are computed from changes in local rainfall and crop prices. We show that both have effects of the same sign, positive shocks increase agricultural work and decrease domestic work for children, especially for girls. Girls also experience negative effects on schooling and a drop in marriage probability, while boys, if at all, are more likely to be enrolled in school.

Key factors: Gender, Exposure to shocks, Poverty/Household Wealth

Key outcomes: Hours in Child labor, Domestic work, Household Chores, Child Marriage, School attendance, School Drop out

- Aye Thiri Kyaw, PhD Student, London School of Hygiene and Tropical Medicine.  
Proposal title: Opening the 'black box' of protection and reintegration interventions for trafficking survivors in Myanmar: A realist evaluation of World Vision's Anti-Trafficking in Persons (A/TIP) program  
Day 2 June 28 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: This study evaluates how World Vision's (WV) Anti-Trafficking in Persons (A/TIP) programming, aimed to strengthen protection and reintegration services for survivors of trafficking in Myanmar. It employs a realist evaluation of the second phase of A/TIP, which was implemented between 2019-2021. It analyses WV's administrative data and interviews with survivors and case managers to identify how core elements of the programs influence the outcomes, examines the main contextual influences.. The study findings develop the program-specific Theory of Change and articulate WV's program model in detailed and replicable ways, which can be used for future programming and potential adaptation for other settings.

Key factors: Trafficking interventions, realist evaluation, survivors of trafficking.

Key outcomes: Forced labor, reintegration, well-being, empowerment



## IPA HTRI Seed Grants

- Sarah Consoli (presenting on behalf of Nicola Pocock, Rachael Stemp, and Carl Stephan St-Louis)  
Proposal title: Knowledge, Attitudes, and Practices on Trafficking in Persons in Haiti  
Day 3 June 29 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Internal and cross-border trafficking of people in Haiti remains an important challenge, with an estimated 59,000 Haitians living in situations of modern slavery. Children are regularly trafficked to residential institutions as well as for child domestic servitude (CDS), a socially normative practice known as restavek. Researchers will analyze previously gathered project survey data and conduct interviews with the general population, vulnerable families, and police officers and judges to understand practices around child domestic servitude. The research team will examine the attitudes and practices of people who place children in residential institutions, place children in child domestic work, or employ child domestic workers in their homes. The findings from this research will be used to provide conceptually-grounded insights to inform an anti-trafficking Behaviour Change Campaign scheduled to take place through 2022.

Key factors: Knowledge and Attitudes towards trafficking

Key outcomes: Potential Behaviours and Practices related to institution-related trafficking, restavek (child domestic servitude) and cross border migration and trafficking

- Veerawit Tianchainan, Lucy McCray  
Proposal title: Trafficking Prevention Research Development  
Day 2 June 28 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: The Freedom Story has been working to prevent child trafficking in Northern Thailand for 13 years, with projects in Chiang Rai and Nan provinces in Thailand, both rural trafficking hotspots with high rates of poverty, low levels of education, and social isolation (including issues such as family breakdown, child abuse, and statelessness). This partnership with HTRI has allowed us to develop relationships with researchers to support The Freedom Story's research agenda. These efforts will build on annual surveys and research implemented for the past three years by The Freedom Story to monitor knowledge, attitudes, and practices related to trafficking and the risk of trafficking among the organization's target populations. This includes research conducted to understand the impact of COVID-19 on vulnerable populations, including migrant workers who are also vulnerable to exploitation and trafficking.

Key factors: migration, other health interventions, attitudes toward forced labor

Key outcomes: working conditions, social norms, social norms and attitudes towards forced labour

- Lucy Jordan, Professor of Social Work and Social Administration, University of Hong Kong  
Proposal title: An experimental intervention using social media to provide access to information and support on illegal recruitment fees and practices  
Day 3 June 29 | 13.30-15 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Migration intermediaries play a legitimate role in the efficient matching of labor supply and demand across borders. However, exploitation and forced labor can occur when unethical intermediaries take advantage of information asymmetries to charge exorbitant fees to migrant workers for their services, who often take on substantial debt and risks to finance recruitment related costs. Migrasia, a think tank devoted to migration in Asia, has used social media to overcome information barriers and improve the identification, protection, and empowerment of migrant workers and increase accountability of malicious recruitment agencies and other migration intermediaries. Researchers are assessing the feasibility and suitability of conducting a randomized evaluation to determine the effectiveness of Migrasia's social media campaigns in reducing the incidence of migrant worker exploitation.

Key factors: Gender, Ethnicity, Identification/Referral System, Legal Framework, Law Enforcement & Monitoring, Legal Documentation & Entitlements, Poverty/Household Wealth, Migration, Labour Mobility, Labour Recruitment, Remedial Education and vocational training, Access to Information and communication technologies (ICT), Women's economic capacity, Orientation and Information for migrants (before departure/upon arrival), Communication and advocacy

Key outcomes: Forced Labour, Forced Labour Exploitation, Bonded Labour, Trafficking for Forced Labour/sexual exploitation, Sector, Gender, Ethnicity, Migrant Status, Legal Frameworks, Access to Preventive Measures, Access to Protective Measures, Access to Remedies

- Meredith Dank, Research Professor and Director of the Human Exploitation and Resilience initiative of the NYU Marron Institute of Urban Management  
Sheldon Zhang, Professor and Chair, School of Criminology and Justice Studies, University of Massachusetts Lowell  
Proposal title: Breaking Cycles: A Community-led Intervention to Seek Innovative Solutions to Human Trafficking  
Day 1 June 27 | 17.30-19 (show [local time](#))

Abstract: Almost 20 percent of victims of human trafficking globally are sexually exploited (ILO and Walk Free Foundation 2017). In India's sex industry, many young women and girls come from impoverished, low-caste communities, including Nomadic, Semi-Nomadic, and Denotified tribes. They can be often trafficked at a young age, making it difficult for them to choose to leave the sex industry and find different livelihood options. The Praxis Institute for Participatory Practices, a social development organization based in India, has enrolled young women into an intervention program to build their skills and confidence, promote agency and decision making, and provide them with educational and skills building opportunities to expand their choices of livelihood options. Researchers are collaborating with the Praxis Institute to explore and design a rigorous randomized evaluation to measure the effectiveness of the Institute's interventions.

Key factors: systemic discrimination, barriers to services, inter-generational poverty, viable economic alternatives

Key outcomes: reduced participation in or resistance from the sex trade, entrance into alternative life trajectories that involve high education and viable economic alternatives