

*IPEC+: Working for a world free from child labour,
forced labour and human trafficking*

**Today, there are 168 million children in child labour,
and 21 million women, men and children in forced labour.**

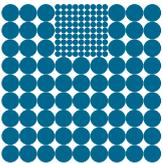
The objective of the IPEC+ Flagship – in line with target 8.7 of the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, adopted by the United Nations in 2015 – is to provide ILO leadership in global efforts to eradicate all forms of child labour by 2025 and all forms of contemporary slavery and human trafficking by 2030. It also aims to ensure that all people are protected from – and can protect themselves against – these gross human rights violations.

Basic facts

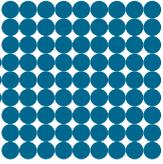
- 168 million children in child labour
- 85 million in hazardous and other worst forms, 83 million simply too young to work
- 32 per cent decline in the number of child labourers between 2000 and 2012 (60 per cent of that between 2008 and 2012)
- 21 million people in forced labour worldwide. 19 million are exploited by private individuals and enterprises: their forced labour generates US\$ 150 billion in illegal profits per year
- 2 million are in state-imposed forced labour, for example in prisons, or in work imposed by the state military or by rebel armed forces

Who we are

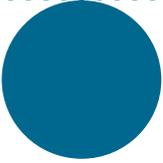
The new IPEC+ Flagship brings together two leading ILO technical cooperation programmes – the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) and the Special Action Programme to combat Forced Labour (SAP/FL) – to establish a major new force in the fight against child labour, forced labour and human trafficking. It recognizes that these unacceptable forms of work deny workers their basic human rights at work and that, while their overlap concerns 5.5 million children, they share root causes of poor governance, discrimination and social exclusion, family and community poverty and lack of access to decent work and to the rights of freedom of association and collective bargaining.

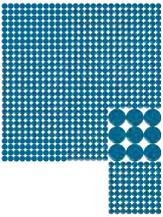


IPEC+ will work with the ILO's tripartite social partners from the village to the global stage – governments, employers' and workers' organizations – and with enterprises and small producers' organizations to promote the eradication of child labour and forced labour and the realisation of all fundamental rights at work, with a focus on:

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- the rural and informal economies
 - enterprises and global supply chains
 - countries in crisis and fragile situations

The Flagship will pursue those aims by supporting the constituents in:

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- Strengthening governance capacity to create systemic improvement in laws, public institutions, and practice at all levels – including in law enforcement, and the delivery of universal social protection, education, and other public services;
 - Strengthening the capacity of the real economy actors – especially in the most vulnerable sectors, countries and communities – to ensure decent work for adults, including by enhancing support for better business practices and for the organizing efforts of workers and small producers.
 - Encouraging effective engagement and cooperation between the ILO's constituents and other relevant stakeholders;
 - Significantly expanding knowledge, information-sharing and evidence-based policy advice.



Our mandate

The IPEC+ Flagship is built on the foundations of SDG 8.7, the ILO Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work and the corresponding instruments dealing with child labour and forced labour.

IPEC+ fundamental Conventions

(Year of adoption and number of ratifications of the Conventions)

Convention 138 on Minimum Age (1973) – 169 ratifications

Convention 182 on Worst forms of child labour (1999) – 180 ratifications

Convention 29 on Forced Labour (1930) – 179 ratifications

Convention 105 – Abolition of Forced Labour (1957) – 175 ratifications

Protocol to Convention 29 – Forced Labour (2014) – 5 ratifications

(Conventions 138 and 182 and Convention 29 and its Protocol have accompanying recommendations)



Together, these instruments provide members with the necessary policy framework to understand and fight child labour and forced labour. Regardless of ratification of the Conventions and the Protocol, all ILO member States, simply by virtue of membership, are obliged to respect, promote and realize, in good faith, the rights contained in these instruments.

What we do

Commitment is growing among the ILO's member States – as are the calls from their governments, employers' and workers' organizations and enterprises for more support and scalable models of intervention.

In response, IPEC+ is developing and testing cutting edge tools and policy advice to support new strategies to strengthen the impact of policies and programmes to eliminate all forms of child labour and forced labour. These innovations spring from the understanding that development of knowledge, public policies, laws, other forms of social and labour market governance and access to decent work for adults and youth – must be significantly accelerated if the global commitment to eliminate child and forced labour is to be realized.

These strategies will be implemented through national or sectoral Action Plans developed through social dialogue between national constituents, with the engagement of other relevant stakeholders. They will strengthen appropriate national legislation, institutions and policies on prevention, protection, remediation and enforcement.

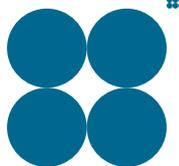
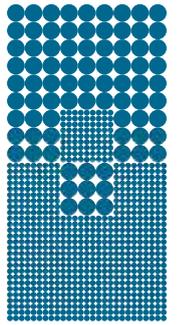
The strategy also emphasises empowerment and protection of rights-holders, including the most vulnerable and excluded workers and small producers. Supporting their organization for collective strength and voice is a central focus of this strategy.

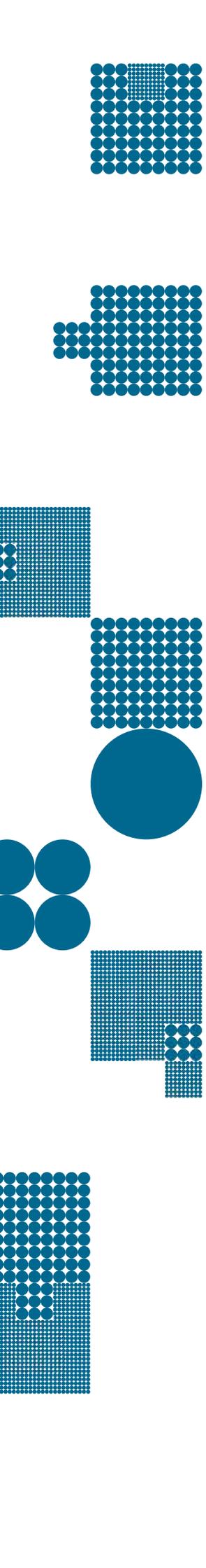
Our impact

The ILO has helped some 115 countries combat child labour. Hundreds of laws, national action plans and policies have been enacted and implemented. Employers' and workers' organizations and enterprises have played a critical role by integrating child labour in their policies, actions and business practices and by contributing to the implementation of national action plans.

The results have been significant. Between 2000 and 2012, the number of children in all forms of child labour declined by 32 per cent worldwide. From 2008 to 2012, progress accelerated: the number of children in the worst forms for child labour fell by 30 million, and the number in all other forms by 17 million. Despite the global financial and economic crisis, governments and the social partners were taking more effective – integrated – action against the root causes of child labour.

The ILO has also provided technical support on forced labour through more than 60 field projects, thereby developing effective ways to prevent and prosecute forced labour and human trafficking, assist victims, raise awareness and support the development, strengthening or implementation of new laws. This has led to many governments adopting new legislation and policies outlawing forced labour, and efforts are being made to increase prosecutions of traffickers and unscrupulous employers who use forced labour.





A range of practical products have also been developed, including handbooks and training tools for business, legislators, judges and labour inspectors; and e-learning modules for law enforcement on the identification and investigation of forced labour cases. In 2005 and 2012, the ILO produced global estimates of forced labour and trafficking and through this process, developed and implemented a methodology using indicators to measure forced labour at the national level.

To achieve further progress, the ILO is bringing together constituents and a wide range of partners to chart a road map to achieve SDG target 8.7. “SDG Alliance 8.7” will allocate key responsibilities among relevant stakeholders, facilitate partnerships, identify and fill knowledge gaps, share knowledge and good practices, and establish new, robust mechanisms to monitor progress.

Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch (FUNDAMENTALS)

Governance and Tripartism Department

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International Labour Office
4, route des Morillons
1211 Geneva 22 – Switzerland

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www.ilo.org/fundamentals
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