



Organización
Internacional
del Trabajo



Iniciativa Regional
América Latina y el Caribe
Libre de Trabajo Infantil

The International and Regional Frameworks on Child Labour and its worst forms

Resel Melville
ILO Project Coordinator
Regional Initiative
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Conceptual Framework



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The ILO considers as: fundamental rights

- Freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
- The elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labor;
- **The effective abolition of child labor and its worst forms;**
- The elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation; and
- A safe and healthy working environment.



CHILD LABOUR



- deprives children and adolescents of their childhood, their potential and their dignity.
- is detrimental to their mental, physical, social and moral development; both in the present and in the future.
- interferes with their schooling
- tends to reproduce itself from generation to generation.
- In its dangerous forms, it may cause death, injury, disability or disease..

Light Work

- work that does not interfere with the exercise of children's rights, their schooling, or their ability to benefit from it.

If a State decides to allow light work, it must determine what activities are considered light work, the number of hours and the circumstances under which they may be performed.



Worst Forms of Child Labour

- Slavery & similar practices like child trafficking, debt bondage, serfdom, children in armed conflict, etc.
- Sexual exploitation of children (prostitution, pornography and pornographic performances).
- Involvement of children in illicit activities, e.g. production and trafficking of narcotics.
- Work that is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.



Hazardous Child Labour



Work which, by its nature or the conditions under which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

- the child is exposed to physical, psychological or sexual abuse;
- performed underground, underwater, at dangerous heights or in enclosed spaces;
- performed with dangerous machinery/tools, or involves handling or transport of heavy loads;
- performed in an unhealthy environment / children exposed to hazardous substances or processes, or extreme temperatures, noise or vibration levels that are detrimental to health;
- performed in very difficult conditions- long hours or night work

Trafficking in children

The recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of children and adolescents for the purpose of exploitation

Can include- sexual exploitation, forced labour, slavery or practices similar to slavery, servitude, or the removal of organs.

CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR

- Poverty/ social and economic vulnerability due to crises (COVID 19 etc.)
- Limited access to education / cost of education/ quality of education
- Discriminatory practices in society and in the educational system.
- Cultural or traditional practices/ gender stereotypes
- Exploitative employment practices / lack of Decent Work-
- armed conflict and children forced to take up arms or support other forms of labor.

Impulsar la justicia social, promover el trabajo decente



Statistics:

2021 Global Report:

- 160 million children in Child Labour
- 62.9 million girls/ 97 million boys
- 79 million in Hazardous Child Labour
 - 70% in Agriculture (112 million)
 - 72% in Family work (up to 83%- 5 to 11yrs)
 - **First increase in 2 decades!!**

Latin America and the Caribbean Profile 2021

- 8.2 million children in Child Labour
- 2.7 million girls / 5.5 million boys
- 5.5 million in Hazardous Child Labour
- 48.7 % in Agriculture
- 49.9% in Family work (42.1% for 3rd parties)
- 12.5%- Caribbean/ 7.9% Central America/ 4.3% South America



International Legal Framework

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948

- Article 3: Everyone has the right to life, liberty and security of person
- Article 4: No one shall be held in slavery or servitude...
- Article 23: Everyone as a member of society has the right to social security...
- Article 25 (2): Motherhood and childhood are entitled to special care and assistance...
- Article 26: Everyone has the right to education. Education shall be free, at least as regards elementary and fundamental instruction. Primary education shall be compulsory. Technical and vocational education shall be made generally available.

The Convention on the Rights of the Child, 1989

- **Article 1:** a child means every human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.
- **Article 19:** States Parties shall take all appropriate measures to protect the child from all forms of physical or mental violence, injury or abuse, neglect or negligent treatment, maltreatment or exploitation, including sexual abuse
- **Article 27:** the right of every child to a standard of living adequate for the child's physical, mental, spiritual, moral and social development.
- **Article 28:** the right of the child to education; requires that primary education be compulsory and available free to all; measures to encourage regular attendance at schools and the reduction of drop-out rates

- **Article 32:** the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with his or her education, or to be harmful to his or her health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral, or social development.
 - (a) Provide for a minimum age or minimum ages for admission to employment;
 - (b) Provide for appropriate regulation of the hours and conditions of employment;
 - (c) Provide for appropriate penalties or other sanctions to ensure the effective enforcement of the present article.
- **Article 39:** take all appropriate measures to promote physical and psychological recovery and social reintegration of a child victim of: any form of neglect, exploitation, or abuse; torture or any other form of cruel, inhuman or degrading treatment or punishment; or armed conflicts

ILO Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (Child Labor), 1973

- The minimum age for admission to employment- not less than 15 years
- Exceptions for developing countries- 14 years
- Light work -13-15 years.
- Minimum age should not be lower than the age established for compulsory education in the country.
- Work considered dangerous by its nature and conditions is only allowed after the age of 18.
- Between the minimum working age and adulthood(16-18 yrs) protected work is allowed

Recommendation 146 to ILO Convention No. 138 on child labor.

Implement public policy measures to:

- Alleviate poverty,
- Improve the employment of adults so that parents do not have to resort to child labor,
- Ensure social security,
- Ensure compulsory, free, quality education
- Ensure child protection, including birth registration systems.
- Ensure enforcement of Convention 138- labour inspection/ labour administration; collaboration with education/training, welfare/guidance etc.

ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention No. 182, 1999

Article 2: the term child shall apply to all persons under the age of 18.

Article 3: the worst forms of child labour comprise- “work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.”

Requires States

- to establish lists of hazardous/ prohibited work for minors
- to ensure effective implementation/ enforcement
- provide services to identify, remove, assist and reintegrate victims.
- to ensure education and, where possible, vocational and appropriate training for persons removed in the worst forms.

Recommendation 190 to ILO Convention No. 182 on the worst forms.

- It establishes that any definition of hazardous work and the lists defined by the countries must include a series of established criteria.
- That the economic exploitation referred to in the Convention be considered a crime and promote enforcement against those responsible.



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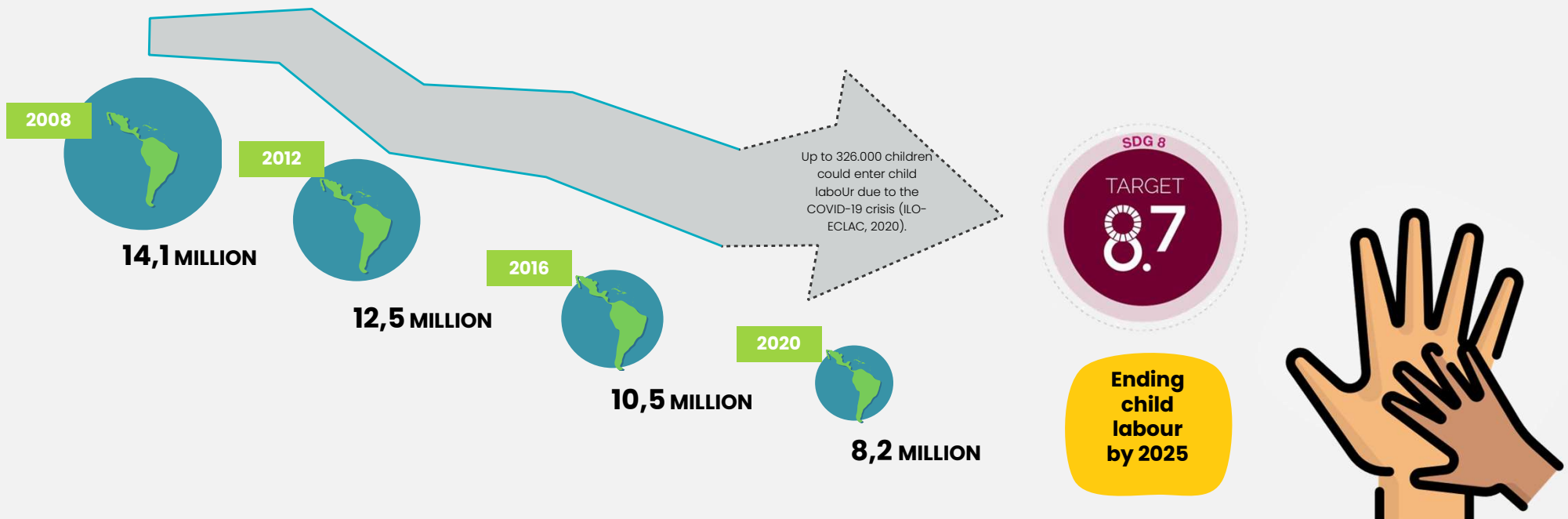
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The target is to declare **Latin America and the Caribbean** a region free of child labour

24 months before the deadline established by the Agenda 2030, there is no turning back.





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What is the Regional Initiative?

The mandate of the Regional Initiative is to accelerate actions to prevent and eradicate child labor and its worst forms through inter-institutional, intra and intersectoral coordination.





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Which countries are part of the Regional Initiative?



Antigua and
Barbuda



Argentina



Bahamas



Barbados



Bolivia



Brazil



Chile



Colombia



Costa Rica



Cuba



Ecuador



El Salvador



Grenada



Guatemala



Guyana



Haiti



Honduras



Jamaica



Mexico



Nicaragua



Panama



Paraguay



Peru



Dominican
Republic



Saint Kitts
and Nevis



Saint Lucia



Suriname



Trinidad and
Tobago



Uruguay



Venezuela

What phase is the Regional Initiative in?

Programa Regional para Acelerar la Erradicación del Trabajo infantil en América Latina y el Caribe

Phase I: 2014–2017

Emphasis:
institutionalization and
awareness

- Political advocacy
- Capacity development
- Generation and management of information and evidence
- Exchange of experiences

Phase II: 2018–2021

Emphasis:
identification and management
strengthening methodologies

- Political advocacy
- Capacity development
- Generation and management of information and evidence
- Exchange of experiences

- Sustainable management of the Regional Initiative
- Political and programmatic response with budget

Phase III: 2022–2025

Emphasis:
acceleration and sustainability

- Political advocacy
- Capacity development
- Generation and management of information and evidence
- Exchange of experiences

- Sustainable management of the Regional Initiative
- Political and programmatic response with budget

- Acceleration factors
- Regional Observatory

AXIS 1

Child labour risk identification methodologies, to promote policies of prevention and eradication of child labour



AXIS 2

Comprehensive intervention in acceleration factors



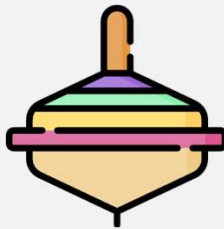
AXIS 3

Efficient actions with real impact: monitoring, follow-up and evaluation



AXIS 4

Alliances for sustainability



Results/ strategic areas of focus

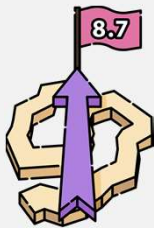
- R1. Evidence-based national and local child labour prevention and eradication policies, with sufficient budget and active participation of employers and workers, implemented.
- R2. The RI countries have cross-sectoral strategies and/or interventions focused on the promotion of decent work, quality education, vocational training, CL-free supply chains and the protection of the rights of migrant children and adolescents.
- R3. A regional information, monitoring and evaluation system based on standardized indicators has been established to generate evidence on the prevention and eradication of child labor.
- R4. Solid partnerships established for the economic sustainability of the implementation of actions aimed at the eradication of child labor.

Durban Call to Action on the Elimination of Child Labour (20 May 2022)

We commit to scale up action to:

- Accelerate multi-stakeholder efforts to prevent and eliminate child labour, with priority given to the worst forms of child labour, by making decent work a reality for adults and youth above the minimum age for work.
- End child labour in agriculture.
- Strengthen the prevention and elimination of child labour, including its worst forms, forced labour, modern slavery and trafficking in persons, and the protection of survivors through data driven and survivor-informed policy and programmatic responses.
- Realize children's right to education and ensure universal access to free, compulsory, quality, equitable and inclusive education and training.
- Achieve universal access to social protection.
- Increase financing and international cooperation for the elimination of child labour and forced labour.

Upcoming actions



Child labour identification methodologies

- CL RISK Model
- Vulnerability Index
- Others



Acceleration factors


- Education and training for employment
- Supply chains
- Migration
- Decent work and productive development





Regional Observatory

- Monitoring, follow-up and evaluation of indicators related to child labour (target 8.7)

¡Gracias!

 Red Latinoamericana contra el trabajo infantil

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 www.iniciativa2025alc.org

