



Evaluation Summary



International
Labour
Office

Evaluation
Office

National Programme on the elimination of child labour in Yemen - Midterm evaluation

Quick Facts

Countries:	<i>Yemen</i>
Mid-Term:	<i>2/2004</i>
Evaluation Mode:	<i>Independent</i>
Administrative Office:	<i>IPEC</i>
Technical Office:	<i>IPEC</i>
Project Code:	<i>YEM/00/50/USA</i>

Background & Context

This report reflects the midterm evaluation on the National Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour in Yemen carried out in October 2003. The Programme started in 2001 and is expected to end in 2004. The main aim of the Programme is to contribute to the elimination of exploitative child labour using an integrated, coordinated and multidisciplinary approach. The mid-term evaluation was carried out based on the consultation of the Programme reports and other secondary data, as well as interviews with key stakeholders and a two-day stakeholder workshop. The main findings are that given this programme is the first of its kind in Yemen, and considering the wider socio-economic and institutional context of Yemen which makes addressing child labour issues a real challenge, the Programme has been able to make good progress. The Programme includes seven Action Plans involving the main tripartite partners with which ILO/IPEC works. These APs are at different stages of their development due to different reasons related to political

commitment, institutional arrangements and capacity as well as magnitude of the contextual and institutional problems they face.

While the Programme has achieved a great deal, it still faces a number of challenges. These are about two interrelated areas, the context of Yemen and the internal running of the Programme. In terms of the former, the situation of child labour is grave and made difficult to address because amongst others, the problem of scarcity of resources, poverty, adult unemployment and problems of education exist in Yemen. In these circumstances child labour is generally not seen as a problem and above all there is very little in terms of proper alternatives in place. This is where the Programme's greatest challenge lies. The related challenge is the Programme itself, while having put down the infrastructure to start to deal with these problems now there is a need to consolidate what is in place, and to focus more on addressing the issue of alternatives to working girls and boys. Some of the areas that need to be consolidated relate to methodological issues, such as the more systematic mainstreaming of child labour and gender into the different levels of the Programme. Those that relate to more focused interventions are about working towards the putting in place of alternatives starting with carrying out research and putting in place a solid referral system.

It is the view of the evaluator that it is extremely important that this Programme goes into a second phase. If the Programme succeeds in consolidating and focusing its activities, it will be on its way to achieving important results. By the end of this Programme, which can really be considered in many ways experimental, a second phase can effectively and sustainably address elimination of child labour in Yemen, bringing about much needed positive results.

Recommendations:

1. Focus of the Programme and definition of the approach

1.1 To sharpen and redefine the overall approach including the purpose and the methodology

2. Coordination and definition of roles and responsibilities

2.1 Based on recommendation 1, to strengthen the coordination amongst and between Yemeni partners

2.2 To consolidate and redefine the roles and responsibilities of IPEC/ILO management system at HQ, regional and local levels

2.3 To strengthen capacity and speed up reporting and payment

3. Information and knowledge of child labour issues

3.1 To create a documentation centre containing studies related directly and indirectly to CL in Yemen

4. Gender Mainstreaming

4.1 To strengthen gender mainstreaming in the Programme in order to achieve more equal and effective targeting

5. Alternatives for working girls and boys and their families (mothers, fathers, brothers and sisters)

5.1 To identify further opportunities in existing programmes and projects for working and withdrawn girls and boys and their families

5.2 To create/strengthen the links to existing sectoral and cross-sectoral projects and programmes

5.3 To create a referral system

6. Monitoring: 'Tracing and Tracking system' 6.1

To create/strengthen a monitoring or 'tracing and tracking system for withdrawn girls and boys'

7. Consolidation of actions that will progressively eliminate child labour in Yemen

7.1 To consolidate a clear plan over the whole cycle of activities from identification of the target groups, to actions taken to withdraw girls and boys from work, to finding alternatives for them and their families to monitoring their progress