



U.S. DEPARTMENT OF LABOR'S  
**2018** LIST OF  
**GOODS** PRODUCED  
BY **CHILD LABOR**  
OR **FORCED LABOR**

Required by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005

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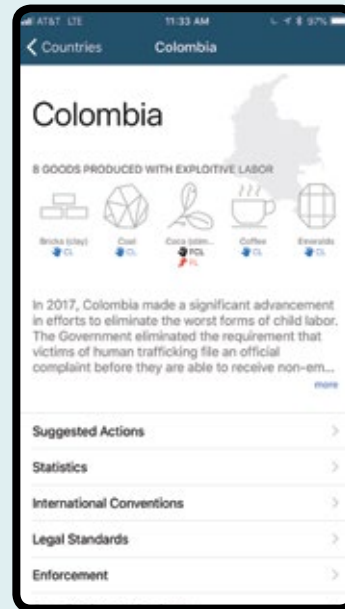


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## ON PAPER

Our *Findings* report is available in a hard-copy magazine format, which provides an overall summary of the report, regional findings related to meaningful efforts made and gaps for countries to address, and the assessment levels of each of the 132 countries. In addition, our *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor* is also available in hard copy format. Send an e-mail to [GlobalKids@dol.gov](mailto:GlobalKids@dol.gov) to request hard copies or download them from the USDOL website at <https://www.dol.gov/ilab/reports>.

# Foreword

When the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) began researching international child labor 25 years ago, information moved slowly. Policy analysts placed phone calls to overseas organizations and waited for faxes from foreign governments. This was all to shed more light on a problem that mostly existed in the dark, and global estimates on the magnitude of child labor did not yet exist. The result was the first ILAB child labor report, *By the Sweat & Toil of Children*, which was mailed to hundreds of locations across the globe.

Today, information moves faster, and the knowledge base is broader. *Sweat & Toil* is now an app, available on iTunes and Google Play, that aggregates over 1,000 pages of child labor and forced labor research.

This is an "Age of Acceleration." Technology is changing the way we live and work, and inventors and companies are spearheading innovation to improve our lives. Yet, a relic of the previous era persists: 152 million child laborers and 25 million forced laborers are estimated to still sweat and toil worldwide. These adults and children work in hazardous, abusive, or even slave-like conditions. And U.S. workers have been left to compete on an uneven playing field.



R. Alexander Acosta, U.S. Secretary of Labor

The United States should not have to compete with other countries that fail to play by the rules, and seek an unfair advantage by turning a blind eye to labor abuses. Trade between nations should be fair, and profits should not come from the backs of children or slaves. The cost of child labor and forced labor is simply too high for all involved.

I am proud to release the 17<sup>th</sup> edition of the annual Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor, and the 8<sup>th</sup> edition of the List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor—the flagship reports in the series we began publishing 25 years ago. The research in these reports helps shine a light on these conditions overseas, and offers concrete actions U.S. trading partners can take to accelerate efforts to eliminate child labor and forced labor. While there has been significant progress over the last two decades, including 94 million fewer child laborers estimated today than there were in 2000, these reports show us that we need to accelerate progress toward ending child labor, forced labor, human trafficking, and modern slavery. This is vital if we are to make trade fair for all.

American workers cannot compete with producers abroad who use child labor or forced labor, provide unsafe working conditions, or do not pay workers what they are legally owed. These reprehensible practices undercut the higher standards we maintain to protect the well-being of our workforce here at home.

Accelerating progress means intensifying efforts on what we are already doing and what we know works. That means enforcing trade commitments, strengthening labor standards, and removing children from dangerous or demeaning work that robs them of their childhoods. This means prosecuting and holding accountable those individuals who force children to traffic drugs, wage battle as part of armed groups, or perform sex acts. It means permanently shuttering dishonest recruitment agencies and illicit companies that lure workers with false promises of decent work into abhorrent conditions of forced labor. And as we intensify our efforts, we must also seek innovations and creative solutions to more effectively address these challenges.

At the U.S. Department of Labor and across federal agencies, we are doing our part to accelerate progress on these issues. Here at home, our Wage and Hour Division investigated 750 cases with child labor violations last year, and debarred employers from applying for certification to request temporary foreign workers due to frequent abuse of workers in the H-2A agricultural worker visa program. Our Occupational Safety and Health inspectors have also assessed thousands of dollars in civil penalties for failing to protect employees from falls and other safety hazards. We must also seek innovations and creative solutions to more effectively address these challenges. Businesses can also accelerate progress by using our data and consulting our Comply Chain app, now available in Spanish and French, to be vigilant and dig deeper in their supply chains to ensure that child labor and forced labor are not in the mix of goods or services they offer.

In May of 2018, the Department of Homeland Security's Customs and Border Protection (CBP) used ILAB's extensive research documenting the use of forced labor in the production of cotton from Turkmenistan in making the historic decision to block all goods made with Turkmen cotton from entering the United States. The message here is clear: If you are a trading partner that does not abide by and uphold your commitments to end child labor or forced labor, the U.S. will do what it takes to protect vulnerable workers from exploitation, safeguard American jobs, and create a fair playing field for countries that play by the rules.

Like the rest of the international community, as communicated in the G20 Labor and Employment Ministers' Hamburg Declaration, the United States acknowledges that meeting the ambitious goal of ending child labor, forced labor, human trafficking, and all forms of modern slavery requires that we accelerate the very real progress that has been made over the past quarter-century. In this Age of Acceleration, we must keep pace by forging new partnerships, introducing innovations, and accelerating actions that take us closer to a world free of child labor and forced labor.

It is my hope that these reports will provide you with a renewed sense of urgency to continue this fight and bring others along who will join us in the race toward fair global trade—one that gives children their childhoods, forced laborers their freedom, and U.S. workers a fair playing field.

R. ALEXANDER ACOSTA  
Secretary of Labor  
September 2018

When Secretary of Labor Alexander Acosta named me to be Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs in September 2017, it was my great honor to return to a bureau I had departed over 10 years earlier, but whose mission had never left me. My return marked the 70th anniversary of the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, or ILAB, as we call it. While our work, like the world, may look very different today than it did in 1947 or even in 2006, it still serves the same vital purpose: to help ensure a fair playing field for U.S. workers and businesses by improving labor standards overseas.

“The Age of Acceleration” Secretary Acosta mentioned has resulted in the swift rise of international trade and increasingly complex global supply chains. Yet we must ensure that as we accelerate, we also leave behind backward practices like child labor and forced labor.

Whether these abusive labor practices are checked or unchecked, the existence of child labor and forced labor run counter to our values as a nation. We want the goods we consume to be made by workers free from exploitation, not made by children or slaves. We also want workers in the U.S. to be able to compete on a fair global playing field.



Martha E. Newton, Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs

That is why Secretary Acosta is committed to seeing accelerated action among our trade partners, including stronger enforcement against labor violations and demonstrated action to protect workers and children, especially those most vulnerable to exploitation. I am particularly proud that creating the knowledge base for such accelerated action is one of ILAB’s key contributions to the global effort to protect workers around the world.

Over the past 25 years, ILAB’s Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking has been providing groundbreaking and influential research that equips governments, workers, businesses, and civil society with the information they need to take effective action against labor exploitation.

And we’re not resting on our laurels. The country assessments in this year’s Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor report, mandated by the Trade and Development Act of 2000, are based on the most stringent criteria ever. In order to earn a “Significant Advancement” assessment, a country must establish a basic floor of labor protections. This year, there were 14 countries that achieved this distinction, including Colombia, Paraguay, and India.

Of the approximately 1,700 country-specific suggested actions in this report, 1,100 of them are directed at improving laws and strengthening enforcement, providing a roadmap for over 140 governments to follow to accelerate progress in eliminating child labor in their own countries.

These are concrete actions governments can take to accelerate change and improve lives. The Government of Uzbekistan's work with the international community to significantly reduce the forced mobilization of children in the cotton fields is one example of how such change can and does happen. We commend this effort and appeal to the government to build on it by extending protections to adults who are forced to work under the threat of retaliation.

Our List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor, mandated by the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005, also provides vital information for both governments and businesses to accelerate change in improving the lives of workers abroad and creating a level playing field. The 2018 edition covers 148 goods in 76 countries. This includes the addition of 10 new goods, including some goods that consumers in the United States use every day, such as peppers from Mexico and mica from India.

By pinpointing specific industries where child labor and forced labor are occurring, the report equips governments and companies with information to help them target appropriate policy responses or direct resources as part of due-diligence or risk-management

systems. While there are new goods from the governments of Brazil, El Salvador, and Paraguay, it is because they have proactively invested resources and collected and used their own data to determine where they can be most effective in addressing labor abuses in their own countries. Their commitment to data-driven policy-making serves as an example to other countries working to end child labor and forced labor, and these governments should be commended for these efforts.

Consumers, too, are growing more savvy and selective in their purchases—demanding not only quality products but responsible production practices—and social entrepreneurs are channeling the report's data into point-of-sale tools to inform purchases. ILAB welcomes this virtuous cycle of consumer advocacy and business response to consumer demand, as it gets more people involved, who can be a part of the solution.

Twenty years ago, 7 million people marched across 5 continents in the Global March Against Child Labor. The spirit of that march continues today, and must energize our collective commitment to march on behalf of the 152 million children still in child labor and 25 million adults and children in forced labor. As we seek inspiration from the past, let us recommit ourselves and show a renewed sense of purpose to accelerate progress toward the goal of eliminating child labor and forced labor.

MARTHA E. NEWTON  
Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs  
September 2018



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Laborers in a diamond mine, Sierra Leone, 2017.



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Copies of this and other reports in ILAB's child labor and forced labor series may be obtained by contacting the Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor, 200 Constitution Avenue, NW, Room S-5315, Washington, DC 20210. Telephone: (202) 693-4843; Fax: (202) 693-4830; e-mail: [GlobalKids@dol.gov](mailto:GlobalKids@dol.gov). The reports are also available on the Web at <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/>. Comments on the reports are also welcomed and may be submitted to [GlobalKids@dol.gov](mailto:GlobalKids@dol.gov).



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Brick kiln workers in Varanasi, India.

# Table of Contents

## FOREWORD

## ACKNOWLEDGMENTS

## PURPOSE OF THIS REPORT ..... 3

## DATA FOR GOOD: The 2018 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor ..... 5

## THE 2018 TVPRA LIST ..... 8

ANALYSIS OF ADDITIONS TO THE LIST ..... 21

ANALYSIS OF REMOVALS FROM THE LIST ..... 27

## WORKING TOGETHER TO END CHILD LABOR AND FORCED LABOR ..... 33

GOVERNMENTS ..... 33

COMPANIES AND INDUSTRY GROUPS ..... 35

CIVIL SOCIETY ..... 37

MULTILATERAL BODIES ..... 38

THE U.S. EXPERIENCE ..... 39

COLLABORATION ACROSS SECTORS ..... 40

A CALL TO ACTION ..... 44

## LIST OF TABLES

TABLE 1: The 2018 TVPRA List by Country ..... 8

TABLE 2: The 2018 TVPRA List by Good ..... 11

TABLE 3: Additions to the List in 2018 ..... 21

## LIST OF BOXES

BOX 1: International Labor Organization Global Estimates on Child Labor and Forced Labor ..... 5

BOX 2: Selected Indicators of Forced Labor ..... 6

BOX 3: Full Transparency: The TVPRA Bibliography ..... 7

BOX 4: The Labor Recruitment Experience in Nepal, Paraguay, and Kenya ..... 22

BOX 5: Toward Responsible Mica Production in India ..... 24

BOX 6: Supporting Efforts to End Child Labor in Burma's Garment Industry ..... 26

BOX 7: Learning from Nestlé and its Supply Chain Partners ..... 35

BOX 8: Technology and Modern Slavery ..... 36

BOX 9: Consumer Goods Forum: Priority Industry Principles on Forced Labor ..... 36

BOX 10: The List of Goods in Your Grocery Store ..... 37

BOX 11: ILAB's Efforts to Address Abuses in the Fishing Sector ..... 42

BOX 12: Bringing Stakeholders Together to Reduce Child Labor in Panamanian Agriculture ..... 43

## LIST OF FIGURES

FIGURE 1: The List in Numbers ..... 16

FIGURE 2: Think About It ..... 20

FIGURE 3: North Korean Overseas Laborers ..... 23

FIGURE 4: The Bad News About Bling ..... 25

FIGURE 5: Consideration of Goods for Removal from the List ..... 28

FIGURE 6: What Can You Do? ..... 45

## APPENDIX 1: Paragraphs And Bibliographies For 2018 Additions ..... 50

## APPENDIX 2: Methodology ..... 66

## APPENDIX 3: Procedural Guidelines ..... 71



© Getty Images, Spencer Platt.  
Men pan for gold at an abandoned industrial mine in Mongbwalu, Democratic Republic of Congo.

# Purpose of this Report

The U.S. Department of Labor (USDOL) has produced this eighth edition of the List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor in accordance with the Trafficking Victims Protection Act (TVPRA), as amended. The TVPRA requires USDOL's Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) to "develop and make available to the public a list of goods from countries that [ILAB] has reason to believe are produced by forced labor or child labor in violation of international standards" 22 U.S.C. § 7112(b)(2)(C) (TVPRA List or the List). It also requires submission of the TVPRA List to Congress not later than December 1, 2014, and every two years thereafter. 22 U.S.C. § 7112(b)(3).

The TVPRA directs ILAB "to work with persons who are involved in the production of goods on the list ... to create a standard set of practices that will reduce the likelihood that such persons will produce goods using [child labor or forced labor]," and "to consult with other departments and agencies of the United States Government to reduce forced and child labor internationally and ensure that products made by forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards are not imported into the United States." 22 U.S.C. § 7112(b)(2)(D)-(E).

## Research Focus

The research methodology used to compile the TVPRA List is based on ILAB's Procedural Guidelines. (See Appendix 3.) For this edition, ILAB reviewed new information on goods from 153 countries and territories. A list of these countries and territories can be found on ILAB's Web site. ILAB continues to carry out research for future editions of the TVPRA List.

### Population Covered

In researching child labor, ILAB focused on children under the age of 18 years. For forced labor, the research covered workers of all ages. The population included persons in foreign countries only, as directed by statute. Populations within the United States were not included in this study.

### Reporting Period

In developing the TVPRA List, ILAB generally relied on sources that are no more than five years old at the time of receipt. This policy is to ensure consistency with other ILAB reporting on international child labor.

### Type of Work

Research covered all economic activity for adults and children in the production of goods, including formal and informal sector production and goods produced for personal and family consumption. Examples of informal sector activity include day labor hired without contract; small-scale farming and fishing; artisanal mining and quarrying; and manufacturing work performed in home-based workshops. Some illicit goods are also included in the TVPRA List; this is not intended to condone or legitimize the production or consumption of these goods.

### Sources Used

To make determinations about the List, ILAB relies upon a wide variety of publicly-available primary and secondary sources. Our primary sources included surveys carried out by foreign governments in conjunction with the ILO; site visits and data gathered by ILAB staff and other U.S. Government personnel; and quantitative and qualitative studies carried out by a variety of governmental and nongovernmental entities, including academic institutions.

See Appendix 2 for the full TVPRA List Methodology.



# Data for Good:

## The 2018 List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor

An exposé in a major international newspaper finds 7- and 8-year-old children sewing clothing for 60 hours a week.<sup>1</sup> A video, widely shared on social media, features a child describing an open-pit gold mine collapsing on top of him.<sup>2</sup> Several electronics factory workers commit suicide, making headlines around the world and sparking allegations of forced labor.<sup>3</sup> Consumers boycott well-known food and beverage brands due to watchdog reports of exploitative working conditions and child labor on palm oil plantations.<sup>4</sup> International organizations express concern over the continuing practice of hereditary slavery in certain countries, leading those governments to commit to international standards on forced labor.<sup>5</sup>

Child labor and forced labor are global realities, increasingly documented by researchers and the media, understood by consumers, and acknowledged by governments. The numbers are clear and striking: the International Labor Organization (ILO) estimates that at least 152 million children are in child labor and 25 million people are in forced labor worldwide. While child labor has declined by 94 million over the past two decades, we are still learning about the true magnitude of forced labor. Box 1 provides further detail on the ILO's 2017 global estimates.

Sometimes these abuses happen behind closed doors, and other times they are hidden in plain sight. A family with children harvesting crops may seem, on the surface, very ordinary; in reality, the family may be in debt bondage to a landowner or employer, unable to escape. A teenage boy fishing on a boat is an everyday sight in Southeast Asia; yet he may have been trafficked there—tricked, threatened, or even drugged into submission.

Yet we do have knowledge that can help bring these underlying realities to the surface. We know, for example, the conditions that make people most vulnerable to these abuses. Those most vulnerable to child labor are from impoverished families or communities, in rural areas and in the informal economy, or living in crisis situations resulting from conflicts or disasters.<sup>6</sup> Those most vulnerable to forced labor work in low-wage jobs, informal workplaces, or industries with many layers of subcontracting that decrease visibility, transparency, and accountability for abuses.<sup>7</sup> We also know the warning signs of forced labor, and it is important to be able to recognize these hallmarks so that workers can seek help and others can help identify victims. (See Box 2.)

### BOX 1

## International Labor Organization Global Estimates on Child Labor and Forced Labor

Of the **152 million children in child labor** in 2016:

- **73 million** were in hazardous work
- Over **70 percent** worked in agriculture
- **48 percent** were below age 12
- **58 percent** were boys

Of the **25 million people in forced labor** in 2016:

- **64 percent** were in the Asia-Pacific region
- Over **8 million** experienced debt bondage
- Over **4 million** were in government-imposed forced labor

**Source:** International Labor Organization and the Walk Free Foundation, 2017

**BOX 2**

## Selected Indicators of Forced Labor

- Coercive recruitment
- Deception about the nature of work
- Confiscation of identity papers or travel documents
- Physical or sexual violence
- Forced overtime
- Limited freedom of movement or communication
- Withholding or delay of wages
- Denunciation to authorities
- No freedom to resign in accordance with legal requirements

**Source:** ILO. *Hard to See, Harder to Count: Survey guidelines to estimate forced labour of adults and children*. 2012.

Amid a proliferation of credible research, consumer attention, and on-the-ground efforts to tackle child labor and forced labor, turning a blind eye is no longer an option. Governments that do not acknowledge or address these problems will confront them in trade negotiations, trade enforcement actions, or multilateral fora. CEOs who turn a blind eye to labor exploitation will face the issue in shareholder resolutions or face questions from their Boards. These stakeholders and others who stay on the sidelines of this issue could end up in the headlines.

As public pressure mounts, the momentum is shifting toward positive change: from denial to ownership and from finger-pointing to collaborative action. With support from donors and international organizations, governments are moving toward robust data collection and dissemination, stronger laws, better enforcement, and more effective services to victims. Unions and other worker representative organizations are educating workers about their rights and increasing their access to remedies for abuses. The private sector is applying technology to find new ways to mitigate risks, identify victims, and provide

remediation. Advocacy groups, research organizations, service providers, the media, and other stakeholders are creating and using a proliferation of information and technologies to attack the problems of child labor and forced labor from multiple angles.

By publishing the TVPRA List, the U.S. Department of Labor's (USDOL) Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) seeks to stimulate action to address labor abuses in the listed countries, and in other countries where information may not be available, but where these abuses are an everyday reality. This publication helps to curtail these abuses globally, but also helps ensure that American workers and companies do not face unfair competition from overseas counterparts that do not respect basic labor rights. Simply put, the purpose of this report is to help end child labor and forced labor. From garment production in Burma and Turkey, to mica mining in India, to chile pepper cultivation in Mexico, this 2018 edition of the TVPRA List brings new awareness of abuses occurring around the world. Since 2009, this report has been one of the USDOL's key tools for shifting momentum from inaction to action.

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The mission of the Bureau of International Labor Affairs is to promote a fair global playing field for workers in the United States and around the world by enforcing trade commitments, strengthening labor standards, and combating international child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking.

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# About this Report

This report begins with the full 2018 TVPRA List and an analysis of what the sectors and countries on the List tell us about child labor and forced labor in the world today. We then present the 2018 additions to the List and discuss not only key findings, but also the source materials that are critical to bringing these issues into the open. Next, we look in depth at this year's removals from the List, discussing the factors that contributed to the reduction or elimination of child labor or forced labor in each case. Finally, we point to notable efforts that governments, the private sector, social partners and civil society, and multilateral organizations are undertaking to eradicate these problems, and examine what still needs to be done to achieve our goals.

## BOX 3

### Full Transparency: The TVPRA Bibliography

In an effort to maintain full transparency, USDOL publishes a bibliography of the sources (studies, articles, reports, publications, communications, etc.) that were used in reaching the determination to add each good to the List. The bibliography for the full List can be found on the ILAB Web site at <http://www.dol.gov/ilab/reports/child-labor/list-of-goods>. All of the sources in the bibliography are publicly available. Many can easily be found on the Internet. Readers may also request a copy of any source from ILAB, by sending an e-mail to [ilab-tvpra@dol.gov](mailto:ilab-tvpra@dol.gov). Bibliographies for all new goods added to the List in 2018 can be found in Appendix 1.



# The 2018 TVPRA List

The 2018 edition of the TVPRA List adds 10 new goods (amber, bovines, cabbages, carrots, cereal grains, lettuce, mica, peppers, sheep, and sweet potatoes), 1 new country (Eswatini), and 42 new line items to the List. (A line item is a unique combination of a country and a good.) The full List, representing 148 goods, 76 countries, and 418 line items, is shown in Table 1 and Table 2. Figure 1 presents graphical analyses of the goods and countries on the List. Box 3 provides information on the sources that USDOL uses to support its listings.

**TABLE 1**

## The 2018 TVPRA List by Country

COUNTRY	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
<b>Afghanistan</b>	Carpets, Coal, Poppies, Salt		Bricks
<b>Angola</b>			Diamonds
<b>Argentina</b>	Blueberries, Bricks, Cotton, Garlic, Grapes, Olives, Strawberries, Tobacco, Tomatoes, Yerba Mate (stimulant plant)		Garments
<b>Azerbaijan</b>	Cotton		
<b>Bangladesh</b>	Bidis (hand-rolled cigarettes), Bricks, Footwear, Furniture (steel), Garments, Glass, Leather, Matches, Poultry, Salt, Shrimp, Soap, Textiles, Textiles (jute)		Dried Fish
<b>Belize</b>	Bananas, Citrus Fruits, Sugarcane		
<b>Benin</b>	Granite (crushed)		Cotton
<b>Bolivia</b>	Bricks, Gold, Silver, Tin, Zinc	Cattle, Peanuts	Brazil Nuts/Chestnuts, Corn, Sugarcane
<b>Brazil</b>	Bananas, Beef, Bricks, Cashews, Ceramics, Cocoa, Coffee, Corn, Cotton, Fish, Footwear, Hogs, Manioc/Cassava, Pineapples, Poultry, Rice, Sheep, Sisal, Tobacco	Garments, Timber	Cattle, Charcoal, Sugarcane
<b>Burkina Faso</b>	Granite		Cotton, Gold
<b>Burma</b>	Garments	Palm Thatch, Sesame, Shrimp, Sunflowers	Bamboo, Beans (green, yellow, soy), Bricks, Jade, Rice, Rubber, Rubies, Sugarcane, Teak
<b>Cambodia</b>	Alcoholic Beverages, Bricks, Fish, Manioc/Cassava, Meat, Rubber, Salt, Shrimp, Sugarcane, Textiles, Timber, Tobacco		
<b>Cameroon</b>	Cocoa		
<b>Central African Republic</b>	Diamonds		
<b>Chad</b>	Cattle		
<b>China</b>	Textiles	Artificial Flowers, Christmas Decorations, Coal, Footwear, Garments, Nails	Bricks, Cotton, Electronics, Fireworks, Toys
<b>Colombia</b>	Bricks (clay), Coal, Coffee, Emeralds, Gold, Pornography, Sugarcane		Coca (stimulant plant)
<b>Costa Rica</b>	Cattle, Coffee		
<b>Côte d'Ivoire</b>			Cocoa, Coffee
<b>Democratic Republic of the Congo</b>	Cobalt Ore (heterogenite), Copper, Diamonds		Gold, Tantalum Ore (coltan), Tin Ore (cassiterite), Tungsten Ore (wolframite)
<b>Dominican Republic</b>	Baked Goods, Coffee, Rice, Tomatoes		Sugarcane
<b>Ecuador</b>	Bananas, Bricks, Flowers, Gold		

## The 2018 TVPRA List by Country, continued

COUNTRY	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
<b>Egypt</b>	Bricks, Cotton, Stones (limestone)		
<b>El Salvador</b>	Baked Goods, Cattle, Cereal Grains, Coffee, Fireworks, Shellfish, Sugarcane		
<b>Eswatini</b>	Bovines		
<b>Ethiopia</b>	Cattle, Gold		Textiles (hand-woven)
<b>Ghana</b>	Cocoa, Gold		Fish, Tilapia (fish)
<b>Guatemala</b>	Broccoli, Coffee, Corn, Fireworks, Gravel (crushed stones), Sugarcane		
<b>Guinea</b>	Cashews, Cocoa, Coffee, Diamonds, Gold		
<b>Honduras</b>	Coffee, Lobsters, Melons		
<b>India</b>	Bidis (hand-rolled cigarettes), Brassware, Cotton, Fireworks, Footwear, Gems, Glass Bangles, Incense (agarbatti), Leather Goods/Accessories, Locks, Matches, Mica, Silk Fabric, Silk Thread, Soccer Balls, Sugarcane, Thread/Yarn		Bricks, Carpets, Cottonseed (hybrid), Embellished Textiles, Garments, Rice, Stones
<b>Indonesia</b>	Footwear (sandals), Gold, Oil (palm), Rubber, Tin, Tobacco		Fish
<b>Iran</b>	Bricks, Carpets		
<b>Kazakhstan</b>			Cotton
<b>Kenya</b>	Coffee, Fish, Miraa (stimulant plant), Rice, Sand, Sisal, Sugarcane, Tea, Tobacco		
<b>Kyrgyz Republic</b>	Cotton, Tobacco		
<b>Lebanon</b>	Potatoes, Tobacco		
<b>Lesotho</b>	Cattle		
<b>Liberia</b>	Diamonds, Rubber		
<b>Madagascar</b>	Sapphires, Stones, Vanilla		
<b>Malawi</b>	Tea		Tobacco
<b>Malaysia</b>		Electronics, Garments	Oil (palm)
<b>Mali</b>	Cotton, Gold		Rice
<b>Mauritania</b>	Cattle, Goats		
<b>Mexico</b>	Beans (green), Coffee, Cucumbers, Eggplants, Melons, Onions, Poppies, Pornography, Sugarcane, Tobacco		Chile Peppers, Tomatoes
<b>Mongolia</b>	Coal, Fluorspar (mineral), Gold		
<b>Mozambique</b>	Tobacco		
<b>Namibia</b>	Cattle		
<b>Nepal</b>			Bricks, Carpets, Embellished Textiles, Stones
<b>Nicaragua</b>	Bananas, Coffee, Gold, Gravel (crushed stones), Shellfish, Stones (pumice), Tobacco		
<b>Niger</b>	Gold, Gypsum (mineral), Salt, Trona (mineral)	Cattle	
<b>Nigeria</b>	Gold, Manioc/Cassava, Sand		Cocoa, Granite, Gravel (crushed stones)
<b>North Korea</b>		Bricks, Cement, Coal, Gold, Iron, Textiles, Timber	

## The 2018 TVPRA List by Country, continued

COUNTRY	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
<b>Pakistan</b>	Glass Bangles, Leather, Surgical Instruments	Cotton, Sugarcane, Wheat	Bricks, Carpets, Coal
<b>Panama</b>	Coffee, Melons		
<b>Paraguay</b>	Beans, Bricks, Cabbages, Carrots, Corn, Fish, Goats, Hogs, Lettuce, Manioc/ Cassava, Melons, Onions, Peanuts, Peppers, Pornography, Poultry, Sesame, Sheep, Stones (limestone), Sugarcane, Sweet Potatoes, Tomatoes, Yerba Mate (stimulant plant)		Cattle
<b>Peru</b>	Bricks, Coca (stimulant plant), Fireworks, Fish	Brazil Nuts/Chestnuts, Timber	Gold
<b>Philippines</b>	Bananas, Coconuts, Corn, Fashion Accessories, Fish, Gold, Hogs, Pornography, Pyrotechnics, Rice, Rubber, Sugarcane, Tobacco		
<b>Russia</b>		Bricks, Timber	Pornography
<b>Rwanda</b>	Tea		
<b>Senegal</b>	Gold		
<b>Sierra Leone</b>	Cocoa, Coffee, Granite, Oil (palm)		Diamonds
<b>South Sudan</b>			Cattle
<b>Sudan</b>	Gold		
<b>Suriname</b>	Gold		
<b>Tajikistan</b>			Cotton
<b>Tanzania</b>	Cloves, Coffee, Gold, Nile Perch (fish), Sisal, Tanzanite (gems), Tea, Tobacco		
<b>Thailand</b>	Pornography, Sugarcane	Fish	Garments, Shrimp
<b>Turkey</b>	Citrus Fruits, Cotton, Cumin, Footwear, Furniture, Garments, Hazelnuts, Peanuts, Pulses (legumes), Sugar Beets		
<b>Turkmenistan</b>			Cotton
<b>Uganda</b>	Bricks, Cattle, Charcoal, Coffee, Fish, Gold, Rice, Sand, Stones, Sugarcane, Tea, Tobacco, Vanilla		
<b>Ukraine</b>	Amber, Coal, Pornography		
<b>Uzbekistan</b>		Cotton, Silk Cocoons	
<b>Vietnam</b>	Bricks, Cashews, Coffee, Fish, Footwear, Furniture, Leather, Pepper, Rice, Rubber, Sugarcane, Tea, Textiles, Timber, Tobacco		Garments
<b>Yemen</b>	Fish		
<b>Zambia</b>	Cattle, Cotton, Gems, Stones, Tobacco		

TABLE 2

## The 2018 TVPRA List by Good

GOOD	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
<b>Alcoholic Beverages</b>	Cambodia		
<b>Amber</b>	Ukraine		
<b>Artificial Flowers</b>		China	
<b>Baked Goods</b>	Dominican Republic, El Salvador		
<b>Bamboo</b>			Burma
<b>Bananas</b>	Belize, Brazil, Ecuador, Nicaragua, Philippines		
<b>Beans</b>	Paraguay		
<b>Beans (green)</b>	Mexico		
<b>Beans (green, yellow, soy)</b>			Burma
<b>Beef</b>	Brazil		
<b>Bidis (hand-rolled cigarettes)</b>	Bangladesh, India		
<b>Blueberries</b>	Argentina		
<b>Bovines</b>	Eswatini		
<b>Brassware</b>	India		
<b>Brazil Nuts/Chestnuts</b>		Peru	Bolivia
<b>Bricks</b>	Argentina, Bangladesh, Bolivia, Brazil, Cambodia, Ecuador, Egypt, Iran, Paraguay, Peru, Uganda, Vietnam	North Korea, Russia	Afghanistan, Burma, China, India, Nepal, Pakistan
<b>Bricks (clay)</b>	Colombia		
<b>Broccoli</b>	Guatemala		
<b>Cabbages</b>	Paraguay		
<b>Carpets</b>	Afghanistan, Iran		India, Nepal, Pakistan
<b>Carrots</b>	Paraguay		
<b>Cashews</b>	Brazil, Guinea, Vietnam		
<b>Cattle</b>	Chad, Costa Rica, El Salvador, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mauritania, Namibia, Uganda, Zambia	Bolivia, Niger	Brazil, Paraguay, South Sudan
<b>Cement</b>		North Korea	
<b>Ceramics</b>	Brazil		
<b>Cereal Grains</b>	El Salvador		
<b>Charcoal</b>	Uganda		Brazil
<b>Chile Peppers</b>			Mexico
<b>Christmas Decorations</b>		China	
<b>Citrus Fruits</b>	Belize, Turkey		
<b>Cloves</b>	Tanzania		
<b>Coal</b>	Afghanistan, Colombia, Mongolia, Ukraine	China, North Korea	Pakistan
<b>Cobalt Ore (heterogenite)</b>	Democratic Republic of the Congo		
<b>Coca (stimulant plant)</b>	Peru		Colombia
<b>Cocoa</b>	Brazil, Cameroon, Ghana, Guinea, Sierra Leone		Côte d'Ivoire, Nigeria
<b>Coconuts</b>	Philippines		
<b>Coffee</b>	Brazil, Colombia, Costa Rica, Dominican Republic, El Salvador, Guatemala, Guinea, Honduras, Kenya, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Sierra Leone, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam		Côte d'Ivoire

## The 2018 TVPRA List by Good, continued

GOOD	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
<b>Copper</b>	Democratic Republic of the Congo		
<b>Corn</b>	Brazil, Guatemala, Paraguay, Philippines		Bolivia
<b>Cotton</b>	Argentina, Azerbaijan, Brazil, Egypt, India, Kyrgyz Republic, Mali, Turkey, Zambia	Pakistan, Uzbekistan	Benin, Burkina Faso, China, Kazakhstan, Tajikistan, Turkmenistan
<b>Cottonseed (hybrid)</b>			India
<b>Cucumbers</b>	Mexico		
<b>Cumin</b>	Turkey		
<b>Diamonds</b>	Central African Republic, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Guinea, Liberia		Angola, Sierra Leone
<b>Dried Fish</b>			Bangladesh
<b>Eggplants</b>	Mexico		
<b>Electronics</b>		Malaysia	China
<b>Embellished Textiles</b>			India, Nepal
<b>Emeralds</b>	Colombia		
<b>Fashion Accessories</b>	Philippines		
<b>Fireworks</b>	El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Peru		China
<b>Fish</b>	Brazil, Cambodia, Kenya, Paraguay, Peru, Philippines, Uganda, Vietnam, Yemen	Thailand	Ghana, Indonesia
<b>Flowers</b>	Ecuador		
<b>Fluorspar (mineral)</b>	Mongolia		
<b>Footwear</b>	Bangladesh, Brazil, India, Turkey, Vietnam	China	
<b>Footwear (sandals)</b>	Indonesia		
<b>Furniture</b>	Turkey, Vietnam		
<b>Furniture (steel)</b>	Bangladesh		
<b>Garlic</b>	Argentina		
<b>Garments</b>	Bangladesh, Burma, Turkey	Brazil, China, Malaysia	Argentina, India, Thailand, Vietnam
<b>Gems</b>	India, Zambia		
<b>Glass</b>	Bangladesh		
<b>Glass Bangles</b>	India, Pakistan		
<b>Goats</b>	Mauritania, Paraguay		
<b>Gold</b>	Bolivia, Colombia, Ecuador, Ethiopia, Ghana, Guinea, Indonesia, Mali, Mongolia, Nicaragua, Niger, Nigeria, Philippines, Senegal, Sudan, Suriname, Tanzania, Uganda	North Korea	Burkina Faso, Democratic Republic of the Congo, Peru
<b>Granite</b>	Burkina Faso, Sierra Leone		Nigeria
<b>Granite (crushed)</b>	Benin		
<b>Grapes</b>	Argentina		
<b>Gravel (crushed stones)</b>	Guatemala, Nicaragua		Nigeria
<b>Gypsum (mineral)</b>	Niger		
<b>Hazelnuts</b>	Turkey		
<b>Hogs</b>	Brazil, Paraguay, Philippines		
<b>Incense (agarbatti)</b>	India		
<b>Iron</b>		North Korea	
<b>Jade</b>			Burma
<b>Leather</b>	Bangladesh, Pakistan, Vietnam		

## The 2018 TVPRA List by Good, continued

GOOD	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
<b>Leather Goods/Accessories</b>	India		
<b>Lettuce</b>	Paraguay		
<b>Lobsters</b>	Honduras		
<b>Locks</b>	India		
<b>Manioc/Cassava</b>	Brazil, Cambodia, Nigeria, Paraguay		
<b>Matches</b>	Bangladesh, India		
<b>Meat</b>	Cambodia		
<b>Melons</b>	Honduras, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay		
<b>Mica</b>	India		
<b>Miraa (stimulant plant)</b>	Kenya		
<b>Nails</b>		China	
<b>Nile Perch (fish)</b>	Tanzania		
<b>Oil (palm)</b>	Indonesia, Sierra Leone		Malaysia
<b>Olives</b>	Argentina		
<b>Onions</b>	Mexico, Paraguay		
<b>Palm Thatch</b>		Burma	
<b>Peanuts</b>	Paraguay, Turkey	Bolivia	
<b>Pepper</b>	Vietnam		
<b>Peppers</b>	Paraguay		
<b>Pineapples</b>	Brazil		
<b>Poppies</b>	Afghanistan, Mexico		
<b>Pornography</b>	Colombia, Mexico, Paraguay, Philippines, Thailand, Ukraine		Russia
<b>Potatoes</b>	Lebanon		
<b>Poultry</b>	Bangladesh, Brazil, Paraguay		
<b>Pulses (legumes)</b>	Turkey		
<b>Pyrotechnics</b>	Philippines		
<b>Rice</b>	Brazil, Dominican Republic, Kenya, Philippines, Uganda, Vietnam		Burma, India, Mali
<b>Rubber</b>	Cambodia, Indonesia, Liberia, Philippines, Vietnam		Burma
<b>Rubies</b>			Burma
<b>Salt</b>	Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cambodia, Niger		
<b>Sand</b>	Kenya, Nigeria, Uganda		
<b>Sapphires</b>	Madagascar		
<b>Sesame</b>	Paraguay	Burma	
<b>Sheep</b>	Brazil, Paraguay		
<b>Shellfish</b>	El Salvador, Nicaragua		
<b>Shrimp</b>	Bangladesh, Cambodia	Burma	Thailand
<b>Silk Cocoons</b>		Uzbekistan	
<b>Silk Fabric</b>	India		
<b>Silk Thread</b>	India		
<b>Silver</b>	Bolivia		
<b>Sisal</b>	Brazil, Kenya, Tanzania		

## The 2018 TVPRA List by Good, continued

GOOD	CHILD LABOR	FORCED LABOR	CHILD LABOR & FORCED LABOR
<b>Soap</b>	Bangladesh		
<b>Soccer Balls</b>	India		
<b>Stones</b>	Madagascar, Uganda, Zambia		India, Nepal
<b>Stones (limestone)</b>	Egypt, Paraguay		
<b>Stones (pumice)</b>	Nicaragua		
<b>Strawberries</b>	Argentina		
<b>Sugar Beets</b>	Turkey		
<b>Sugarcane</b>	Belize, Cambodia, Colombia, El Salvador, Guatemala, India, Kenya, Mexico, Paraguay, Philippines, Thailand, Uganda, Vietnam	Pakistan	Bolivia, Brazil, Burma, Dominican Republic
<b>Sunflowers</b>		Burma	
<b>Surgical Instruments</b>	Pakistan		
<b>Sweet Potatoes</b>	Paraguay		
<b>Tantalum Ore (coltan)</b>			Democratic Republic of the Congo
<b>Tanzanite (gems)</b>	Tanzania		
<b>Tea</b>	Kenya, Malawi, Rwanda, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam		
<b>Teak</b>			Burma
<b>Textiles</b>	Bangladesh, Cambodia, China, Vietnam	North Korea	
<b>Textiles (hand-woven)</b>		Ethiopia	
<b>Textiles (jute)</b>	Bangladesh		
<b>Thread/Yarn</b>	India		
<b>Tilapia (fish)</b>			Ghana
<b>Timber</b>	Cambodia, Vietnam	Brazil, North Korea, Peru, Russia	
<b>Tin</b>	Bolivia, Indonesia		
<b>Tin Ore (cassiterite)</b>			Democratic Republic of the Congo
<b>Tobacco</b>	Argentina, Brazil, Cambodia, Indonesia, Kenya, Kyrgyz Republic, Lebanon, Mexico, Mozambique, Nicaragua, Philippines, Tanzania, Uganda, Vietnam, Zambia		Malawi
<b>Tomatoes</b>	Argentina, Dominican Republic, Paraguay		Mexico
<b>Toys</b>			China
<b>Trona (mineral)</b>	Niger		
<b>Tungsten Ore (wolframite)</b>			Democratic Republic of the Congo
<b>Vanilla</b>	Madagascar, Uganda		
<b>Wheat</b>		Pakistan	
<b>Yerba Mate (stimulant plant)</b>	Argentina, Paraguay		
<b>Zinc</b>	Bolivia		





© REUTERS/Ulises Rodriguez

A boy sorts fish at Lake Ilopango on the outskirts of San Salvador. March 20, 2013.

Figure 1

# The List in Numbers

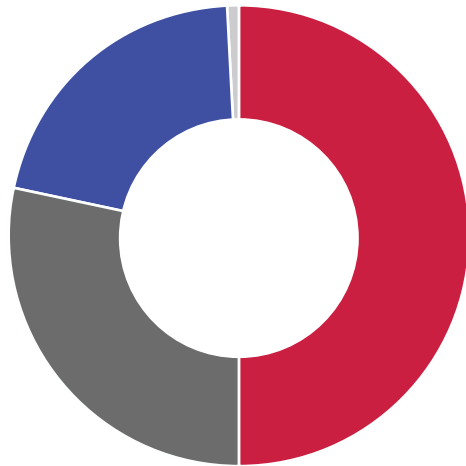
**148**  
goods

**76**  
countries

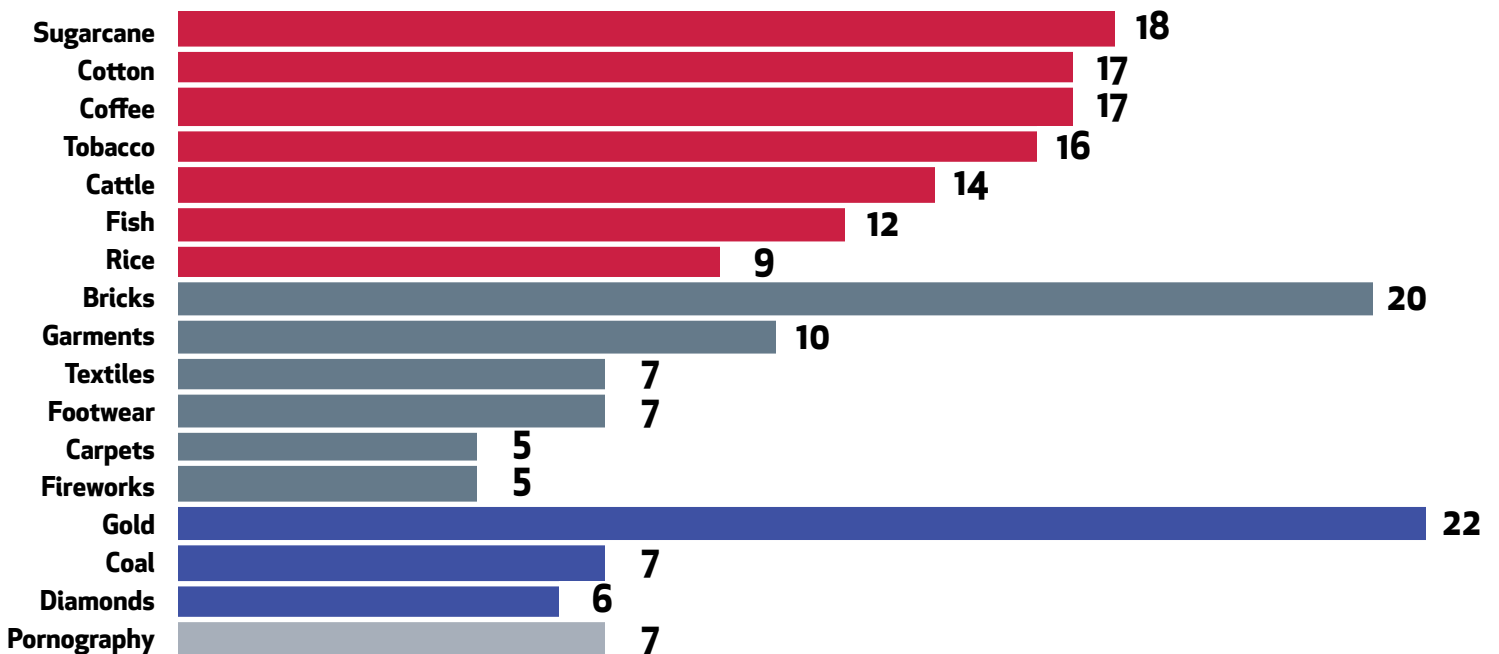
**418**  
line items

## Number of Goods Produced Globally by Child Labor or Forced Labor, by Production Sector

<b>Agriculture</b>	<b>74</b>
<b>Manufacturing</b>	<b>42</b>
<b>Mining/Quarrying</b>	<b>31</b>
<b>Pornography</b>	<b>1</b>

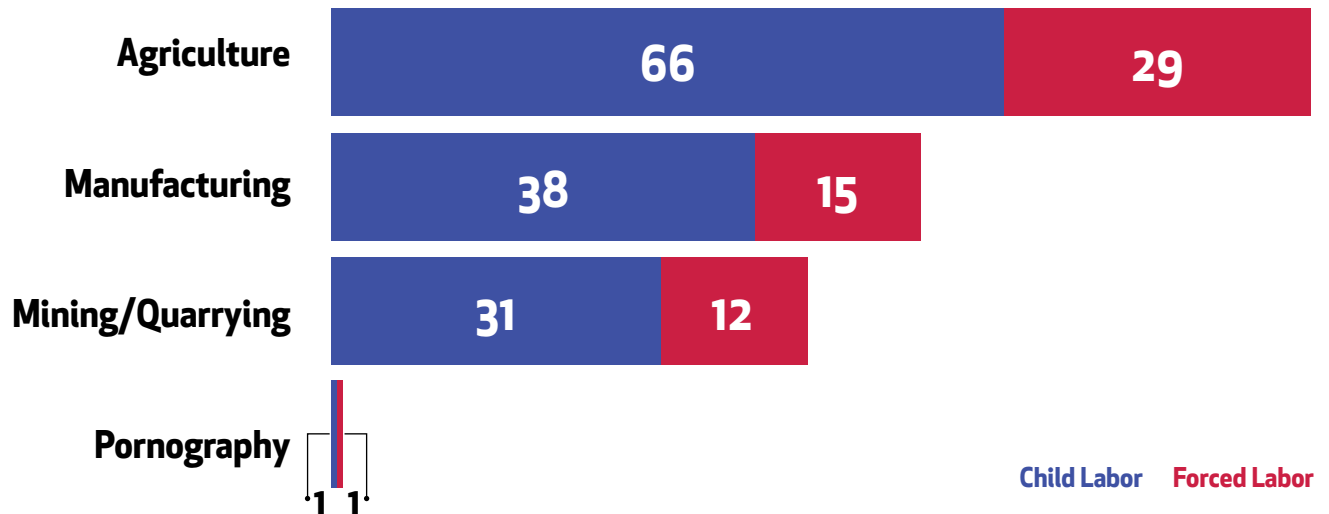


## Goods with Most Child Labor and Forced Labor Listings by Number of Countries

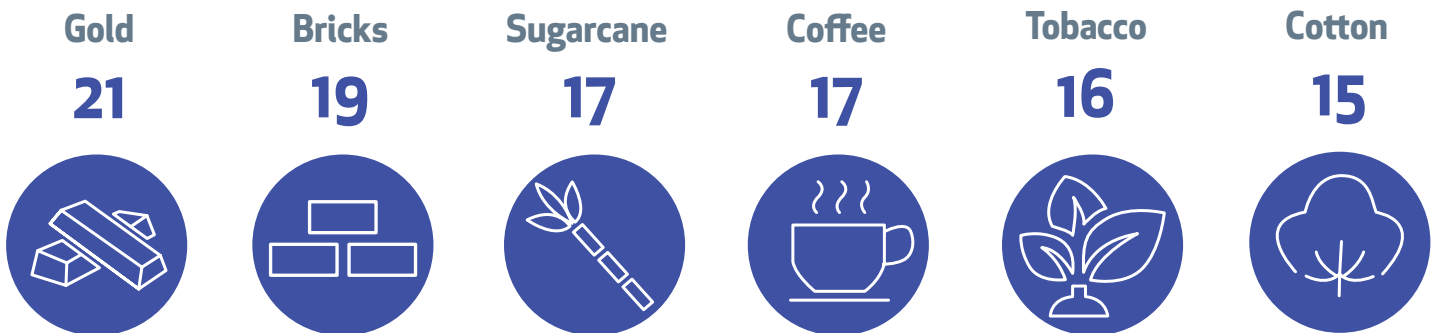


Source: Based on research by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs

## Number of Goods Produced Globally by Production Sector, Disaggregated by Child Labor and Forced Labor



## Goods with the Most Child Labor Listings by Number of Countries



## Goods with the Most Forced Labor Listings by Number of Countries





© Mario Tama/Getty Images

Workers haul bags of charcoal produced from illegally-harvested Amazon rainforest wood onto a truck. June 8, 2012, Rondon do Para, Brazil.



Figure 2

# Think About It

Do you know how your favorite goods are made? You may be surprised to learn that items you use every day may be produced by child or forced labor.

**COFFEE AND SUGAR.** There is evidence of child labor or forced labor in sugarcane and coffee harvesting in a combined 25 countries worldwide. Workers, some of them trafficked or in debt bondage, toil for long hours in the heat. They often lack protective equipment, increasing the risk of physical injury and exposure to chemicals.

**CELL PHONE.** Children in the Democratic Republic of the Congo labor in harsh and dangerous conditions to mine cobalt ore, a mineral essential to the rechargeable lithium-ion batteries in our cell phones, laptops, and electric cars.

**GOLD.** Children mine gold underwater or along river shorelines, using oxygen tubes to breathe; they process gold using mercury, a poisonous substance, which causes irreversible damage to their health. Twenty-two countries are known to use child labor or forced labor in gold, the most of any good on the List.

**CHOCOLATE DESSERT.** Adults and children are forced to harvest palm oil, an ingredient found in nearly 50% of packaged supermarket products, and cocoa, the main ingredient in chocolate. According to a 2013/14 report from Tulane University, there are an estimated 2 million children working in the cocoa sector in West Africa.

**CLOTHES.** Labor abuse of children and adults in garment manufacturing occurs in numerous countries from South America to Southeast Asia. From simple T-shirts to luxury eveningwear, your clothes may have been cut, stitched, or embellished by an exploited worker.



**TOYS.** Both child labor and forced labor are found in the manufacturing of toys in China. The toys in our children's hands may have been handled by another child: one for whom work takes the place of play.

**SUSHI.** Child labor and forced labor is used to catch and process fish and seafood in oceans, lakes, farms, and processing facilities around the world. Workers are coerced into working on fishing vessels, forced to fish for up to 22 hours a day with little or no pay, and subjected to threats and severe physical abuse.

**MAKEUP.** Children in India face health and safety hazards mining mica, a mineral commonly found in lipstick, eye shadow, face powder, and nail polish.

**LEATHER.** Children are exposed to hazardous working conditions in the leather tanning industry in Bangladesh, India, Pakistan, and Vietnam. This leather is used to produce handbags and other goods.

**SHOES.** Footwear manufacturing, primarily in Asia, has a documented child labor problem. Children are more likely to be involved when production is subcontracted from formal workplaces to informal workplaces, making it harder to detect and deter.

Source: Based on research by the U.S. Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs.

# Analysis of Additions to the List

Table 3 shows the new line items being added to the List in 2018. For full paragraph descriptions of each good being added to the List in 2018, see Appendix 1. Aligning with the ILO's findings regarding the prevalence of child labor in rural, agricultural economies, approximately 78 percent of the List's new additions are agricultural goods, while 13 percent are manufactured goods and 9 percent are mined.

**TABLE 3**

## Additions to the List in 2018

COUNTRY	GOOD	CATEGORY	COUNTRY	GOOD	CATEGORY
Afghanistan	Salt	child labor	Paraguay	Cattle	child labor
Brazil	Bananas	child labor	Paraguay	Corn	child labor
Brazil	Cocoa	child labor	Paraguay	Fish	child labor
Brazil	Coffee	child labor	Paraguay	Goats	child labor
Brazil	Corn	child labor	Paraguay	Hogs	child labor
Brazil	Fish	child labor	Paraguay	Lettuce	child labor
Brazil	Hogs	child labor	Paraguay	Manioc/Cassava	child labor
Brazil	Poultry	child labor	Paraguay	Melons	child labor
Brazil	Sheep	child labor	Paraguay	Onions	child labor
Brazil	Sugarcane	child labor	Paraguay	Peanuts	child labor
Burma	Garments	child labor	Paraguay	Peppers	child labor
Egypt	Bricks	child labor	Paraguay	Poultry	child labor
El Salvador	Baked Goods	child labor	Paraguay	Sesame	child labor
El Salvador	Cattle	child labor	Paraguay	Sheep	child labor
El Salvador	Cereal Grains	child labor	Paraguay	Sweet Potatoes	child labor
Eswatini	Bovines	child labor	Paraguay	Tomatoes	child labor
India	Mica	child labor	Paraguay	Yerba Mate (stimulant plant)	child labor
Mexico	Chile Peppers	forced labor	Russia	Bricks	forced labor
Mexico	Poppies	child labor	Russia	Timber	forced labor
Mexico	Tomatoes	forced labor	Turkey	Footwear	child labor
Paraguay	Beans	child labor	Turkey	Garments	child labor
Paraguay	Cabbages	child labor	Uganda	Sand	child labor
Paraguay	Carrots	child labor	Ukraine	Amber	child labor

Those agricultural supply chains are also tied to other forms of exploitation. Mexican poppies, like the poppies from Afghanistan already on the List, are the principal ingredient in heroin. Deeply impoverished families, many in the Mexican state of Guerrero, grow opium poppies in a business dominated by Mexican drug cartels, which sometimes results in violence.<sup>9</sup> Among the new agricultural listings are tomatoes (forced labor), chile peppers (forced labor), and poppies (child labor) from Mexico. The United States is Mexico's principal agricultural trading partner, receiving nearly 80 percent of Mexico's agricultural exports; in 2016, the U.S. imported nearly \$24 billion in agricultural products from across the southern border.<sup>8</sup> In effect, our salsa, ketchup, or pizza—all containing tomatoes or chile peppers—may be tainted with forced labor. (See Figure 2.)

The List's new additions also include one good produced by expatriate North Korean workers—timber from Russia. Worldwide, there are an estimated 100,000 North Korean citizens sent by the North Korean regime to work in approximately 42 countries, the majority in Russia and China.<sup>10</sup> (See Figure 3.) These workers are employed in a variety of sectors, which include, but are not limited to, construction; seafood processing; logging; textile, apparel and footwear manufacturing; pharmaceuticals; and shipbuilding.<sup>11</sup> They are compelled by their government to do this work, and their wages are mostly channeled back to North Korea's capital, Pyongyang, to support the regime.<sup>12</sup>

For the vast majority of goods (33 of the 46 new line items) being added to the List, ILAB's evidence comes from nationally-representative child labor prevalence surveys conducted by, or with the support of, national governments. Since 1995, ILAB has partnered with governments around the world to collect robust, actionable data—resulting in the collection and analysis of over 100 national household surveys worldwide. Over this time, we have seen the integral

role robust data have played in empowering governments with the information needed to inform effective action. The governments of Paraguay, Brazil, El Salvador, and Eswatini have made commendable efforts in this regard, using data they have collected to develop evidence-based policies and programs to address child labor in their countries. By collecting this data and, just as critically, releasing survey results publicly, these governments have shown their commitment to ending forced labor and child labor and served as an example to other countries seeking to use data to protect their most vulnerable children. The addition of goods from these countries to the List should not be viewed as a punitive action, but rather as recognition that these governments value transparency and are making significant efforts to address these labor abuses.

In addition to nationally-representative prevalence surveys, ILAB has also supported qualitative and mixed-methods research on topics critical to stakeholders. See Box 4 for an example of an ILAB-funded qualitative study on the labor recruitment industry.

#### BOX 4

## The Labor Recruitment Experience in Nepal, Paraguay, and Kenya

Responsible recruitment is a process that assists companies with finding the right workers and assisting workers with finding decent jobs. Yet all too often in the global economy, the recruitment process provides an opportunity for exploitation to unscrupulous actors. The recruitment process often lacks transparency or a clear line of accountability for the actors involved to uphold worker protections. When employers use third-party labor recruiters, they risk losing control of the recruitment process, particularly if it diffuses across several agencies and agents, each fulfilling discrete roles and many charging associated fees. One agency may recruit workers, while another transports workers to the job site, while yet a different agency is responsible for their documentation and overseeing their employment contracts. Informality in the process can also make it challenging to bring recruitment processes into compliance with international guidelines.

To better understand these dynamics, ILAB provided support to the ILO to study the risk factors for exploitation in labor recruitment processes in Nepal, Paraguay, and Kenya. This qualitative study examined recruitment from Nepal into Malaysia and into countries in the Middle East; recruitment from Paraguay to Brazil; and recruitment from Kenya into countries in the Middle East. Researchers interviewed workers, labor recruiters, government officials, and civil society representatives to better understand how and why recruitment firms engage in abusive business practices as well as why the recruitment industry predominates in some national contexts and not in others.

In the cases of the Nepal to Malaysia and Middle East corridor and the Kenya to Middle East corridor, where recruitment agencies are often used, the report found there was widespread non-compliance by licensed recruiters with legal and policy frameworks; few penalties applied by authorities; systemic illegal recruitment; and the ability to legally charge recruitment fees. In the Paraguay to Brazil corridor, the study found that informal networks of friends and family played a large role in helping workers find jobs and in organizing travel and accommodation. Additionally, the report noted that travel between the two countries is inexpensive, and easy to arrange. These findings suggest further research should be done into the impacts of informal recruitment networks in terms of protecting migrant workers' rights, as well as how to better address regulatory and enforcement gaps.

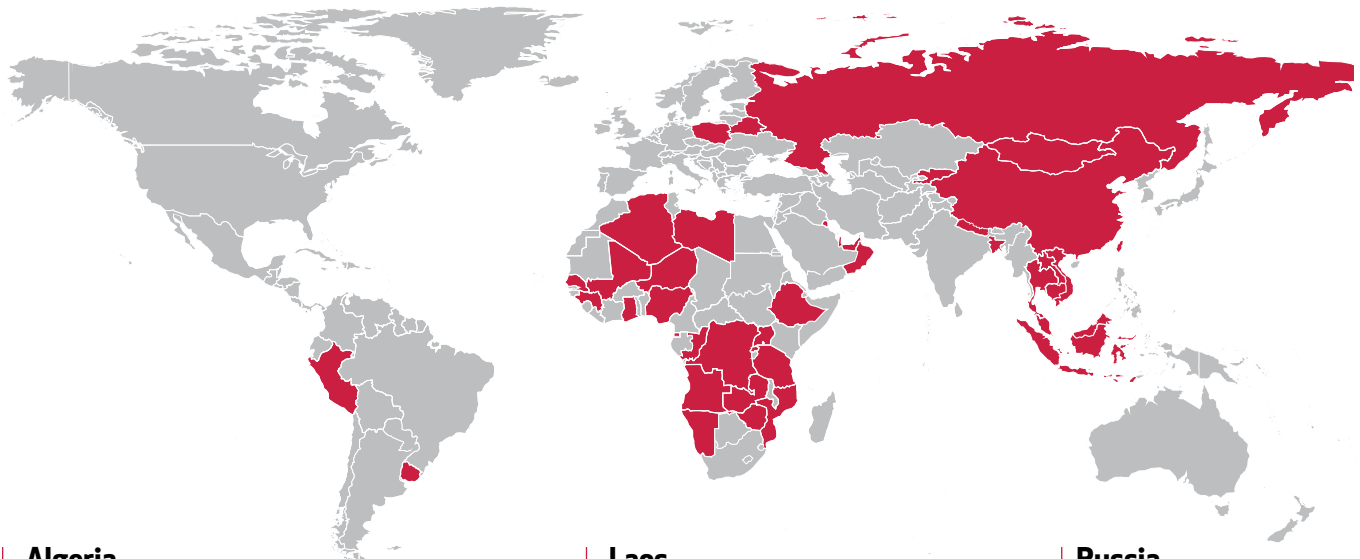
**Source:** International Labor Organization. *The Migrant Recruitment Industry: Profitability and unethical business practices in Nepal, Paraguay and Kenya*. 2017.



Figure 3

# North Korean Overseas Laborers

In July 2018, the Department of State, Department of the Treasury, and Department of Homeland Security issued an advisory that listed countries where North Korean laborers are present, indicating heightened risk of forced labor. The North Korean government reportedly earns hundreds of millions of dollars each year from its citizens working overseas. Foreign employers pay salaries directly to the North Korean government, or workers are forced to relinquish 70-90% of their earnings to the authorities. These revenues are used to support the regime.



**Algeria**

**Angola**

**Bangladesh**

**Belarus**

**Cambodia**

**China**

**Democratic Republic of the Congo**

**Equatorial Guinea**

**Ethiopia**

**Ghana**

**Guinea**

**Indonesia**

**Kyrgyzstan**

**Kuwait**

**Laos**

**Libya**

**Mali**

**Malaysia**

**Mongolia**

**Mozambique**

**Namibia**

**Nepal**

**Nigeria**

**Oman**

**Peru**

**Poland**

**Qatar**

**Republic of Congo**

**Russia**

**Rwanda**

**Senegal**

**Singapore**

**Tanzania**

**Taiwan**

**Thailand**

**Uganda**

**United Arab Emirates**

**Uruguay**

**Vietnam**

**Zambia**

**Zimbabwe**

**Source:** Department of State, Department of the Treasury, Department of Homeland Security. North Korean Sanctions and Enforcement Actions Advisory: Risks for Businesses with Supply Chain Links to North Korea. July 23, 2018. <https://www.state.gov/e/eb/tfs/spi/northkorea/advisories/284241.htm>

In some cases, ILAB-funded research has been used to support removals from the TVPRA List. In 2018, ILAB funded a mixed-methods research study in Panama that found no more than an isolated incidence of child labor in sugarcane, directly leading to the removal of that good from the TVPRA List. ILAB also funded a rural agricultural survey in Paraguay that found no children working in cotton, evidence which supports the removal of that good from the List this year. These cases clearly illustrate that information on child labor and forced labor is useful not only to highlight problems that need to be addressed, but also for tracking progress toward achieving our common goal of ending such abusive labor practices.

Mica, a mineral frequently used for cosmetics, automobiles, and electronics, is a new addition to the 29 mined and quarried

goods already on the List. Child labor and forced labor in mining, particularly in the extraction of minerals, has been increasingly recognized as a widespread and serious issue. Box 5 discusses efforts currently underway to address child labor in India's mica mines, and Figure 4 shows how our lives are touched by various tainted minerals.

The additions of garments from Turkey and Burma join eight garment and textile related listings. Globally, it is widely recognized that the garment industry's business model is vulnerable to labor abuses. The industry's short turnaround cycle between order and delivery leads producers to subcontract production to informal workplaces, where abuses often hide. And consumer demand for low-cost clothing squeezes producers' profit margins, often resulting in very low pay or exploitative payment practices.<sup>13</sup> Box 6 discusses efforts ongoing in one garment-producing country to address these challenges.



#### BOX 5

## Toward Responsible Mica Production in India

From glittery eye shadow to flashy car paint, mica is a mineral used in a number of the products consumers buy, including cosmetics, automobiles, and electronics. Reportedly, 25 percent of the world's mica production originates from the Indian states of Bihar and Jharkhand, where child labor and hazardous working conditions are pervasive in informal mining and collecting operations which have not been permitted by the government.

In 2017, over 40 companies and NGOs established the Responsible Mica Initiative (RMI), committing its members to achieving a responsible mica supply chain over the next five years. The initiative seeks to work closely with producers to implement sustainable collection, processing, and sourcing practices, as well as to improve supply chain traceability. Through the initiative, members are investing in community-building activities to address the underlying causes of labor violations. These activities complement sustainable procurement practices that many sourcing companies are already implementing. For example, RMI member L'Oréal works with a limited number of suppliers who commit to sourcing mica from legal, gated mines, where working conditions and human rights, including the prevention and elimination of child labor, can be monitored by independent compliance auditors. Finally, the RMI seeks to work together with the Indian government and local authorities to bring about lasting change in the industry.

Media reports indicate that the Government of India plans to adopt legislation to permit mining by regulated operators in currently abandoned mines or areas where informal mining activity is taking place, to help reduce the chances that children will be employed in these areas. Stakeholders hope that by legalizing and regulating this industry, the wages and livelihoods of workers will improve, and the use of child labor will be significantly reduced.

Figure 4

# The Bad News About Bling

From the mining of precious metals and gems from the earth, to the final polishing, a child or a slave could have had a hand in producing the jewelry that adorns red carpet-walkers and shines from newlyweds' fingers.

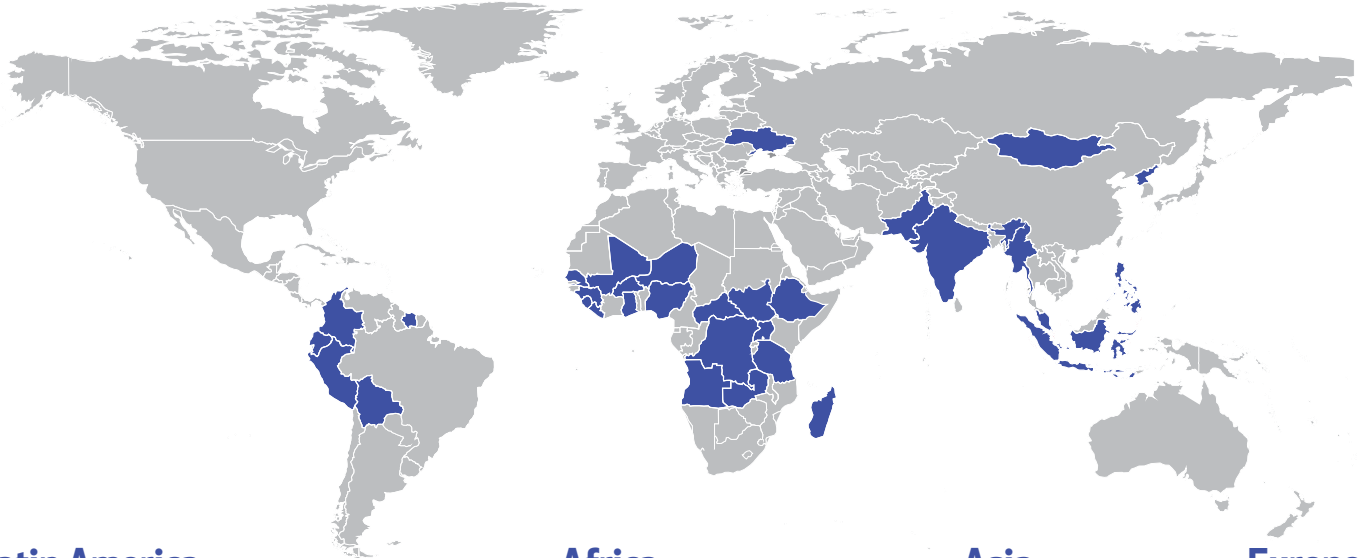
Child labor and forced labor can be found at every step along the jewelry supply chain.

Glimmering in a shop window to catch the eyes of shoppers, the beauty of a necklace, bracelet, or pair of earrings may mask a darker reality.

**Ask your jeweler what steps they are taking to keep exploitation from tainting this luxury good—and show off your bling with pride!**

## Key

amber	diamonds	emeralds	tanzanite	glass bangles	gold	jade	rubies	sapphires	silver



### Latin America

- Bolivia  
- Colombia  
- Ecuador 
- Nicaragua 
- Peru 
- Suriname 

### Africa

- Angola 
- Burkina Faso 
- Central African Republic 
- Democratic Republic of the Congo  
- Ethiopia 
- Ghana 
- Guinea  
- Liberia 
- Madagascar 

### Asia

- Mali 
- Niger 
- Nigeria 
- Senegal 
- Sierra Leone 
- Sudan 
- Tanzania  
- Uganda 
- Zambia 

### Europe

- Ukraine 

## BOX 6

# Supporting Efforts to End Child Labor in Burma's Garment Industry

While the 2018 TVPRA List adds child labor in garment production in Burma, the garment industry has been active in combatting this issue for several years. Since 2014, the Myanmar Garments Manufacturing Association (MGMA) has been working to combat child labor, including with the assistance of the ILO-funded Myanmar Program on the Elimination of Child Labor. The MGMA has organized seminars for its members to raise awareness about child labor and find ways to mainstream the issue into its Code of Conduct and 10-year Industry Strategy (2015-2024). Through these efforts, the Code now requires companies to implement effective age-verification procedures during recruitment. It also requires that children of legal working age not perform hazardous work, prohibiting them from using fabric-cutting machines, certain chemicals, and working during night hours.

More recently, the MGMA has drafted a Framework of Action for preventing and remediating child labor in the garment industry, which includes broad strategies and specific actions that can be taken by employers, the government and local authorities, workers' organizations, and civil society organizations. While these efforts are a work in progress, these steps demonstrate the industry's growing understanding of and commitment to meaningfully addressing child labor.



# Analysis of Removals from the List

This edition removes one good (physic nuts) and a total of four line items from the List, as discussed below. Removals from the List demonstrate that governments, companies, industry groups, social partners, and civil society groups, working individually or collectively to eradicate child labor and forced labor, can have a dramatic impact. According to the Procedural Guidelines governing the TVPRA List (see Appendix 3), ILAB must have evidence that demonstrates that there is no significant incidence of child labor or forced labor in the production of a particular good in a particular country in question for it to be removed from the List. In reviewing goods for possible removal, ILAB carefully examines evidence of all stakeholders' efforts, evaluating whether they have been effective in significantly reducing or eliminating the problem.

The way to significantly reduce or eliminate child labor or forced labor varies from good to good and from country to country. Solutions must be designed to fit each context and must account for a variety of factors, such as the legal, regulatory, and enforcement context; the number of producers of a particular good in a country; the structure of supply chains; geography; infrastructure; and the social programs in place to assist victims. Solutions rarely result from unilateral action and, instead, often are cross-sectoral and collaborative, leveraging the unique strengths, resources, and positions of multiple stakeholders. Figure 5 provides more information on what type of information ILAB considers when reviewing goods for possible removal.

ILAB welcomes comments relating to any good on the List, and to date ILAB has received hundreds of comments.<sup>14</sup> In some cases, commenters have contended that a good should be removed from the List, but have not provided sufficient evidence that the problem of child or forced labor has been significantly reduced or eliminated. The examples below demonstrate the evidence that ILAB considers sufficient to remove a good from the List.

## Forced Labor in Physic Nut Production in Burma

In 2018, USDOL determined that the incidence of forced labor in the production of physic nuts in Burma has been eliminated, and available evidence supports the removal of this good from the TVPRA List. When ILAB placed physic nuts from Burma on the TVPRA List in 2009, evidence indicated that Burma's military dictatorship ordered villagers and households throughout Burma to grow physic nut plants for biofuel production.<sup>15</sup> Local government authorities

implemented the program by requiring communities to plant physic nuts, including civil servants on government facilities, army units on military farms, and households on village and township plantations. They ordered that physic nuts be grown in all empty spaces, including along highways and roads, in house gardens, and cemeteries. Villagers and households were required to pay fines, or have their land confiscated by government officials if they did not grow physic nut plants.<sup>16</sup>

However, since 2012, human rights organizations and the ILO have not received reports or documented cases of forced labor in physic nuts. According to expert interviews and news reports, all production of physic nuts in Burma has ceased due to the failure of the government's agricultural promotion program. Reportedly, program mismanagement and poor crop production led to the demise of the program and the end of physic nut production in Burma.<sup>17</sup> In 2017, ILAB determined that forced labor is no longer used in the production of physic nuts due to a lack of evidence that this crop is currently being produced in Burma.

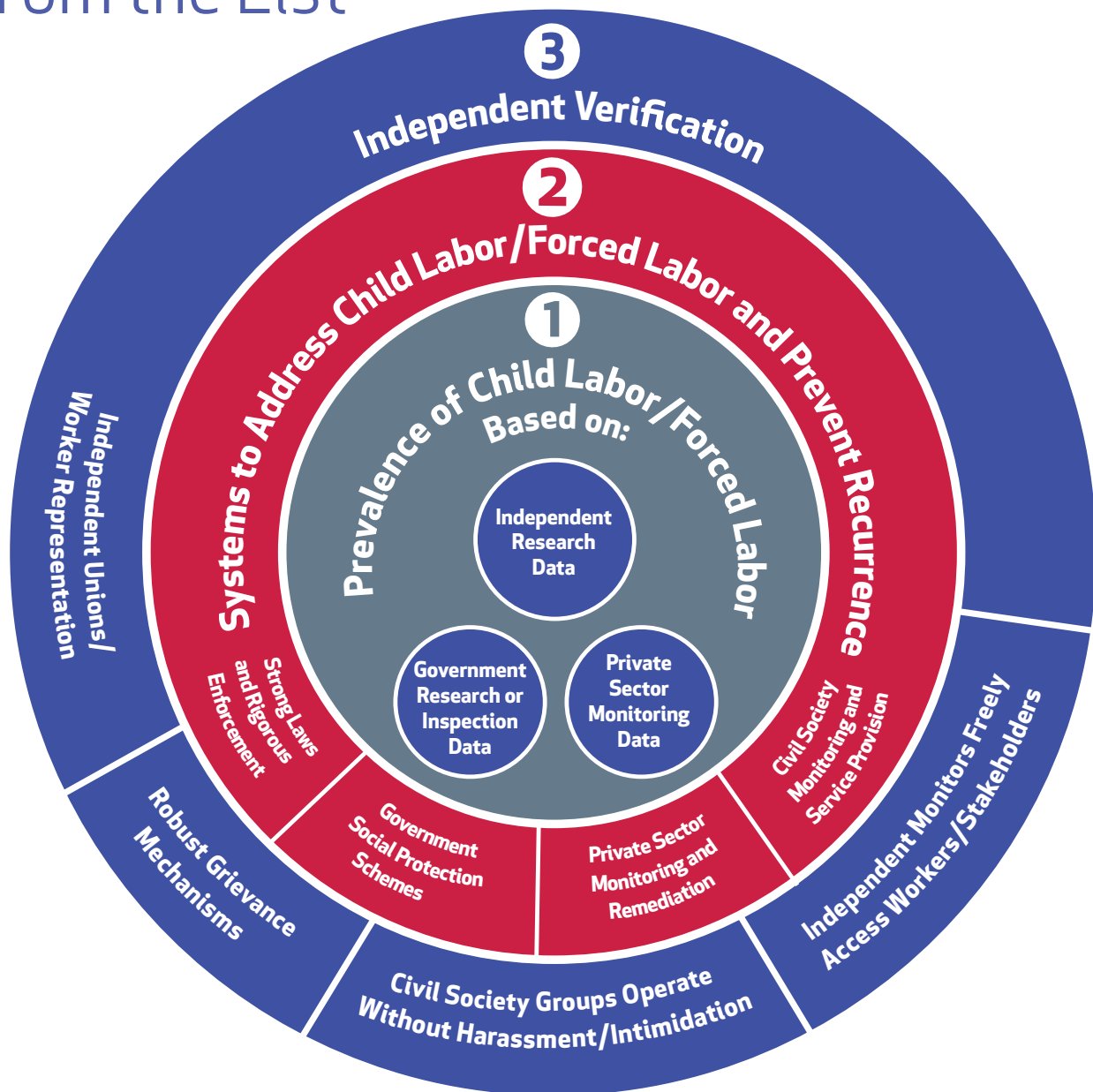
## Child Labor in Sugarcane Production in Panama

In 2018, USDOL determined that the incidence of child labor in the production of sugarcane in Panama has been significantly reduced, and available evidence supports the removal of child labor in the production of this good from the TVPRA List. When USDOL placed this good on the TVPRA List in 2009, USDOL's sources indicated that children, including indigenous *Ngäbe Bugle* children, worked in the harvesting of sugarcane. In 2014-2015, USDOL received reports indicating that child labor in the production of sugarcane was no longer a significant problem in Panama, and began an assessment of the situation.

USDOL carried out desk research, travel to Panama, and telephone interviews with experts. Some sources indicated that child labor still occurred in the production of sugarcane; however, USDOL was unable to determine whether this was occurring beyond isolated incidents. USDOL provided funding through the MAP16 project for a mixed-methods study conducted by the ILO during the 2018 sugarcane harvest to understand the current situation of child labor in the industry.<sup>18</sup> The study included a survey with sugarcane workers, their children and families; focus groups with children and adults in sugarcane workers' home communities; interviews with experts including government officials and sugarcane industry representatives; and a desk review.

Figure 5

# Consideration of Goods for Removal from the List



- 1** ILAB examines all available data on the prevalence of child or forced labor in the production of the good. If such data are not publicly available, ILAB may request it from stakeholders or support new data collection efforts. In examining this data, ILAB seeks to confirm whether child or forced labor is occurring in “more than an isolated incident.”
- 2** If available data indicates that the prevalence of child or forced labor falls below this threshold, ILAB then examines the governmental, private sector, and civil society systems in place to assist victims and prevent recurrence of the problem. ILAB seeks to confirm that any isolated cases of child or forced labor found in the sector are addressed timely, through appropriate protections and services.
- 3** In examining all evidence related to a removal, ILAB seeks corroboration from multiple sources. ILAB confirms that its sources are not tainted by bias or corruption, and that independent parties confirm its findings.

The study focused on the three different ways in which sugarcane is produced in Panama: directly by the formal sugarcane companies, by independent producers known as *colonos*, and through traditional, family-based production. In the case of sugarcane directly cultivated and harvested by the sugarcane companies, no child labor was found. In the *colonos* and family farms, cases of child labor were found, but were few in number.

USDOL's research also confirmed that the Government of Panama, sugar producers, and civil society have all played an active role in reducing child labor in the sugarcane sector. On a general level, the Government of Panama regularly collects and publishes national child labor data, and carries out awareness raising campaigns on child labor. In 2016, the government updated its list of hazardous occupations for children, and institutionalized a national training agenda for child labor inspectors.<sup>19</sup> In 2017, it made modifications to the Labor Code that strengthened and clarified the penalties for child labor, and launched a child labor monitoring information system to strengthen interagency coordination on child labor cases. Also in 2017, labor inspectors received training on agricultural labor inspections and occupational safety and health.<sup>20</sup>

Specific to the sugarcane industry, Panama's Labor Inspectorate carries out labor inspection of sugar mills, liquor producers, and some *colonos*.<sup>21</sup> Civil society organizations in Panama confirmed that in recent years the government had intensified efforts to eradicate child labor, with a particular emphasis on child labor in agriculture and sugarcane, including unannounced labor inspections of sugarcane producers. The Government of Panama also collaborates with civil society groups to provide services to children in child labor and their families, and those at risk. These include direct removal of children from exploitative situations, provision of food and school scholarships, support for sports activities, training for teachers, and conditional cash transfers. The government also collaborates with USDOL-funded projects working to eradicate child labor in Panama, including Partners of the Americas' EducaFuturo project and the ILO's Building Effective Policies Against Child Labor and MAP16 projects.

Sugar mills and liquor companies have policies in place prohibiting families from bringing their children to the fields and children from participating in the harvest. They check identity documents of all workers and conduct surprise inspections of the *colonos* from which they source sugarcane to ensure that children are not working. A civil society representative corroborated that companies enforce a zero tolerance child labor policy, noting that *colonos* who used children would be fined and lose access to credit.

Sugar mills and liquor producers provide transportation for the workers to the farms, and the drivers are forbidden to take

minors to work areas. Security personnel do not allow minors onto the property unless they are visitors and accompanied by a responsible adult. Workers must show their badges to enter, and managers refuse to issue badges to minors and check identity documents to verify age before issuing badges to adults. Sugar mills and liquor producers also collaborate with civil society groups. Companies support organizations, like *Casa Esperanza*, that provide services to children. Some companies have centers on-site with teachers that care for the children of cane-cutters and provide them meals and transportation.

Based on this information and evidence, USDOL has concluded that child labor in Panama's sugarcane sector has been significantly reduced to isolated incidents. In addition, if a case of child labor were to be found in the sector, mechanisms are in place to remedy the situation, although these mechanisms should continue to be strengthened.

## Child Labor in Cotton Production in Paraguay

In 2018, USDOL determined that the incidence of child labor in the production of cotton in Paraguay has been significantly reduced, and available evidence supports the removal of child labor in the production of this good from the TVPRA List. Historically, cotton has been an important crop in Paraguay, and in 2009, USDOL added child labor in the production of cotton in Paraguay to the TVPRA List. In 2015, USDOL began to receive limited reports from stakeholders that cotton was no longer a key crop for the country's economy and that child labor in cotton was no longer a significant problem in Paraguay as cotton production had greatly decreased. In response to these reports, USDOL carried out research to understand the current labor conditions in cotton and analyze the factors that may have affected any changes in the sector.

In addition, in 2016, the Government of Paraguay published the results of the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents (EANA Rural 2015) examining child labor in agriculture.<sup>22</sup> The report did not include information on cotton, other than to indicate that the incidence of child labor in cotton was too low to include in the report due to insufficient cases in the sample. The survey covered all of the Departments where Paraguay's Ministry of Agriculture data indicates cotton is produced in Paraguay.

USDOL's research found that the reduction of cotton production had also resulted in a reduction of child labor in the sector. Available evidence from Paraguay indicates the prevalence of child labor in cotton correlates with the production of cotton in the country. These findings corroborate the results of the EANA

Rural 2015 that did not find sufficient cases of child labor in cotton to include in the survey report and indicate that child labor in cotton in Paraguay has been reduced to an isolated incidence. These findings suggest that if cotton production were to increase in Paraguay, the prevalence of child labor may also increase, unless the Government of Paraguay continues to increase its capacity to enforce child labor laws in the agriculture sector. As a result, the Government of Paraguay should closely monitor the cotton sector to ensure that any increase in cotton production does not result in an increase in child labor.

## Child Labor in Cotton Production in Uzbekistan

In 2018, USDOL determined that the incidence of child labor in the production of cotton in Uzbekistan has been significantly reduced, and available evidence supports the removal of child labor in the production of this good from the TVPRA List.

### Review of Evidence of Child Labor in Cotton Production in 2009 and in the 2017 Harvest

USDOL placed child labor in the production of cotton from Uzbekistan on the List in 2009, based on 22 sources dating from 2002 to 2008. Sources indicated that children as young as age 7 were systematically mobilized by their schools for labor in the cotton harvest.<sup>23</sup>

In 2009, children were reportedly subject to coercive and unfree recruitment practices, as schools were closed during the harvest and children were mobilized by their schools to pick cotton. Children who refused to participate in the cotton harvest were also reportedly punished with expulsion from school, being held back in school, or receiving bad grades.<sup>24</sup> Children's freedom of movement was limited during the time of the harvest.<sup>25</sup> Some children were reportedly forced to live in makeshift accommodations in schools, where they slept on concrete floors and were given inadequate food.<sup>26</sup> In addition, children commonly either were not paid, were paid extremely low wages, or had wages withheld for food and housing costs during the harvest.<sup>27</sup>

Since 2009, child labor in cotton picking has remained on the List. Although reporting indicated that the scope of the child labor problem had greatly decreased by 2015, there continued

to be reports of systematic mobilization of children.<sup>28</sup> However, current reports indicate that the incidence of child labor in the sector has been significantly reduced to isolated incidents.<sup>29</sup>

For the 2017 harvest, reporting from independent activists and private citizens documented only a small number of cases of child labor. In some of these cases, children were picking cotton as part of a school group, in what appeared to be mobilization of a class of children.<sup>30</sup> Unlike in previous years, upon receiving allegations of child labor from independent activists, the government made efforts to investigate and remediate such cases.<sup>31</sup>

In addition, ILO monitoring in 2017 identified 12 children ages 10 to 14 engaged in child labor in one field in Karakalpakstan. In this case, the children were immediately removed from the field, and the local *mahalla* leader, the local Ministry of Education representative, the district prosecutor, and the district *hokim* each participated in investigation of the issue. ILO monitors concluded that the case was an isolated incident. The Uzbek government's Coordination Council-led monitoring separately identified 18 children engaged in child labor in the cotton harvest. The Government of Uzbekistan issued administrative penalties for using child labor.<sup>32</sup>

Based on this reporting, the evidence available indicates that child labor in the production of cotton has been reduced to isolated incidents.

### The Path to Removal: Multi-Stakeholder Efforts to Address Child Labor in Cotton Production

The removal of child labor in the production of Uzbek cotton from the List is a result of targeted action, the collection and reporting of credible information, and the investment of significant resources on the part of the Government of Uzbekistan, the ILO, Uzbek and international civil society groups, and the U.S. Government. Working together, these actors have achieved a significant reduction in the incidence of child labor in the sector.

Over the past decade, the international community has exerted increasing pressure on the Government of Uzbekistan to address child labor, forced child labor, and forced labor of adults in the cotton harvest. USDOL's *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor* (TDA) report has reported on mobilizations of children for the cotton harvest since 2001. Since 2011, Uzbekistan had received an annual assessment of "No Advancement" due to government complicity in forced child labor. In addition, the State Department's Trafficking in Persons Report downgraded Uzbekistan to Tier 3 in 2013 due to use of forced labor of children and adults in the harvest.





© Stephane Lemaire/ Hemis.fr/Alamy Stock Photo  
Uzbekistan Silk Road Khorezm province women picking cotton, September 2013.

In 2010, the ILO Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations and the Committee on the Application of Standards (CAS) began recommending that Uzbekistan allow the ILO to conduct monitoring of the cotton harvest. These calls were also echoed by the Cotton Campaign, a coalition of human rights and labor rights-focused NGOs, responsible investor organizations, and businesses that since 2007 has advocated for an end to labor abuses in the cotton harvest.<sup>33</sup>

In 2013, the Government of Uzbekistan committed to addressing the issue of child labor in the cotton harvest and accepted the ILO CAS recommendation to allow ILO monitoring of the cotton harvest. ILO monitoring of the cotton harvest subsequently expanded in 2015 when it partnered with the World Bank to implement Third Party Monitoring (TPM) of the cotton harvest. In the 2015 and 2016 harvests, ILO TPM determined that the use of children in the cotton harvest was rare and sporadic, but found that 16- and 17-year-old children remained at risk of mobilization. Both years, despite the national prohibition on this practice, independent human rights monitors continued to report that younger children were being mobilized by their schools at the direction of regional and local government officials.

Uzbekistan also undertook efforts to address child labor in the cotton harvest. For example, in 2014, the government signed an MOU with the ILO to implement a Decent Work Country Program (DWCP project) in Uzbekistan, supported by USDOL funding. Under the project, the government and the ILO conducted extensive annual awareness-raising activities on the prohibition of child labor and conducted research on recruitment and employment conditions in the cotton harvest. The government also established and maintained its own monitoring program for child and forced labor in the cotton harvest, for which the DWCP project provided annual trainings.

In 2017, the government established a Parliamentary Commission on Ensuring Guaranteed Labor Rights of Citizens, which monitors activities of central and local-level government bodies involved in preventing child labor and forced labor. The government has also developed and begun implementing a plan to modernize the agriculture sector, which includes increasing crop diversification, decreasing production of cotton, increasing the procurement price of cotton, mechanizing the cotton harvest, and allowing private companies that produce finished textile goods to vertically integrate into cotton farming.<sup>34</sup>

## The Road Ahead—Full Elimination of Child and Forced Labor in Cotton Production

Despite the significant reduction in the use of child labor in cotton production achieved through these efforts, continued improvement will be important to ensure that the use of adult forced labor is also addressed in the sector and progress continues toward the full elimination of child labor. The quota system remains intact, and continues to incentivize regional and local government officials to mobilize adults for forced labor in the harvest. Evidence indicates that more than 300,000 adults were forced to pick cotton in the 2017 harvest.<sup>35</sup> Recommendations for the sector include:

- Revise policies that mandate cotton harvest quotas and incentivize mobilization of forced labor to meet production targets and which may create a continued risk of mobilization of children and adults.
- Continue working with the ILO to introduce measures to eliminate forced labor and attract labor voluntarily for the cotton harvest through formalization of the recruitment process and improvement of employment conditions.
- Work to improve enforcement of labor laws in Uzbekistan, by ensuring that the Labor Inspectorate has adequate inspectors to cover the country's workforce and that inspectors are permitted to conduct unannounced inspections in all sectors.
- Build public trust in the Feedback Mechanism hotlines and other mechanisms for receiving child labor and forced labor complaints, especially by ensuring individuals who make use of these mechanisms do not experience retaliation.
- Continue to coordinate with human rights activists and to allow independent observers unrestricted access to monitor labor conditions during the cotton harvest through unannounced site visits.
- Utilize the Parliamentary Commission and other available resources to increase coordination efforts directed at regional and district governments. ILO Monitoring and USDOL research observed a need for continued coordination and capacity building to ensure that governments at the regional and district level are consistently enforcing national prohibitions on forced labor of adults, especially teachers.

The Government of Uzbekistan has demonstrated the political will to work towards the elimination of forced labor. This is perhaps best exemplified by President Shavkat Mirziyoyev's September 2017 speech to the UN General Assembly, in which he committed to addressing forced labor in Uzbekistan. USDOL urges the government to continue to follow through on these commitments. USDOL continues to support the government's efforts to address issues of child labor and forced labor through funding for implementation of the DWCP.

# Working Together to End Child Labor and Forced Labor

As the above examples from Uzbekistan, Panama, and many others illustrate, the elimination of child labor and forced labor in a specific industry and country is achievable when stakeholders make it a priority. At the global level, the international community has set a goal of eradicating all forms of child labor by 2025, and all forced labor by 2030. The United States has always played a leadership role in this fight. Achieving these goals will not be easy, and will require all stakeholders—governments, companies and industry groups, social partners and civil society groups, multilateral bodies—to do their part.

The United States sees the vital importance of eradicating these global abuses in order to level the playing field on which our businesses and workers compete. And while we put the American worker first, “America First” does not mean America alone. It means protecting and advancing our vital interests, while also fostering cooperation and strengthening relationships with our allies and partners.<sup>36</sup> The United States will continue to work with other governments to ensure that all countries share these responsibilities, and will continue to support companies and industry groups, workers and civil society organizations, and multilateral bodies to accelerate progress. The section below discusses significant achievements during the reporting period by each of these actors.

## Governments

Efforts to address child labor and forced labor worldwide depend, first and foremost, on government leadership and action. By ratifying international conventions such as ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labor and Convention 29 on Forced Labor, governments commit themselves to upholding the international standards enshrined in these instruments. Yet the gap between standards and on-the-ground realities is often wide: many countries have ratified international standards but do not meaningfully implement them, for lack of will, capacity, or resources. In November 2017, at the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labor in Buenos Aires, Argentina, representatives of governments, social partners, and civil society gathered to discuss challenges and solutions on the path to achieving the goal of eliminating child labor and forced labor by 2030. The outcome was the Buenos Aires Declaration on Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Youth Employment (Declaration).<sup>37</sup> Delegates at the conference urged the wider international community to commit to actions in the areas of policy and governance; knowledge, data, and monitoring; and partnerships and innovation to accelerate action to reduce child labor and forced labor.

The first of the three areas, policy and governance, rests squarely in the purview of government. The actions promoted



© Juliane Kozel, Stansberry Children's Home  
Students outside of their classroom at the Guarderia Moises in Santa Cruz, Bolivia.

by the Declaration include strengthening legal frameworks; aligning policies, strategies, and action plans; building capacity of enforcement bodies; and protecting vulnerable populations. Our current reporting period has seen several notable government achievements. For example, the Government of India strengthened its legal framework in 2016 by adopting the Child Labor (Prohibition and Regulation) Amendment Act, which set the minimum age for work at 14 and raised the minimum age for hazardous work to 18. In 2017, the Government of India furthered its commitment to combating child labor by ratifying ILO Convention 138 on the minimum age for work and ILO Convention 182 on the worst forms of child labor. In the area of policy and governance, as noted above, the Government of Uzbekistan took concerted policy action over a period of many years to achieve near-elimination of child labor in the production of cotton.

The Declaration's second area of action is knowledge, data, and monitoring; it calls for data collection and dissemination on child labor and forced labor. A key tool for governments in this area is the nationally- or sectorally-representative survey. As noted above, the additions to the 2018 List include a large number of goods being added based on survey data. Paraguay, Brazil, and El Salvador all conducted nationally-representative child labor prevalence surveys in recent years, and Eswatini conducted a representative survey on child labor in herding. The collection and dissemination of child labor data demonstrates these countries' commitment to addressing child labor and recognition of the importance of data to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs. In some cases, countries such as Paraguay, Brazil, and Vietnam have a number of goods on the List, in part, because those governments demonstrated their commitment to the prevention and reduction of child labor by carrying out rigorous survey efforts and publishing the data. It does not mean these countries have a larger problem of child labor than other countries. Rather, it shows that they are leaders in the global effort to address these issues.

### **Brazil's Leadership on Forced Labor Eradication**

There is perhaps no better example of efforts to address forced labor than those of the Government of Brazil. The government has incorporated forced labor questions into its national household survey and implemented a forced labor survey in the state of Maranhão. Its Labor Prosecutor's Office has developed an online tool called SmartLab to identify risks associated with forced labor, as well as an online platform for social partners and civil society to submit forced labor complaints. During the past six years, ILAB has supported the Government of Brazil's efforts through a \$6.8 million technical assistance project. The project has worked with government to assist persons vulnerable to forced labor in the states of Bahia and Mato Grosso. It has also sought to build off these efforts by

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"Countries such as Paraguay, Brazil, and Vietnam have a number of goods on the List, in part, because those governments demonstrated their commitment to the prevention and reduction of child labor by carrying out rigorous survey efforts and publishing the data. It does not mean these countries have a larger problem of child labor than other countries. Rather, it shows that they are leaders in the global effort to address these issues."

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establishing an exchange program between the Government of Brazil and the Government of Peru to develop pilot tools to investigate forced labor cases, conduct joint inspections, and strengthen the role of the judicial system.

### **Paraguay's Leadership on Labor Law Enforcement**

The Government of Paraguay's efforts to address child labor did not begin with the recent survey. The Government of Paraguay has partnered with ILAB to address child labor since 2000. Most notably, after the Government of Paraguay established the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security (MTESS) in 2014, MTESS and ILAB collaborated to help build the capacity of the new ministry and tackle important challenges, including combating child labor and strengthening enforcement of its labor laws. Poverty, social exclusion, and limited education, training, and livelihood opportunities created vulnerabilities to child labor exploitation. In Paraguay, almost a quarter of the population lives below the poverty line, and in rural areas, agricultural workers often receive the lowest wages. Enforcing labor laws in agriculture,

such as the minimum wage, is particularly challenging, but low wages contribute to families struggling to feed themselves, many times propelling children to work in the fields to help sustain the household.

Building on previous efforts, in 2015, ILAB awarded \$6 million to Partners of the Americas to implement the project *Paraguay Okakuaa*, which means “Paraguay Progresses” in the Guaraní language. Led by the MTESS, *Paraguay Okakuaa* has been working to reduce child labor, improve working conditions, and strengthen the enforcement of labor laws in agriculture in the Department of Guairá. The project has been working closely with the MTESS to help strengthen the effectiveness of the Labor Inspectorate by establishing a specialized training program for a new cadre of highly qualified labor inspectors and piloting a new system to track cases of labor law violations. To complement these efforts, USDOL’s Wage and Hour Division (WHD) and Occupational Safety and Health Administration (OSHA) have also provided technical advice to the MTESS Labor Inspectorate on techniques and procedures for agricultural inspections.

Additionally, in response to the Government of Paraguay’s desire to prevent forced labor in the Chaco region, in 2017, *Paraguay Okakuaa* expanded efforts to the Chaco, a significant cattle- and beef-exporting area. As part of MTESS’s commitment to increase protection of vulnerable workers and families in that area, MTESS established a new regional office in the city of Filadelfia to respond to workers’ complaints and conduct compliance outreach to employers. In March 2018, the Minister of Labor, the Governor of the Department

of Boquerón, other national and local authorities, business representatives, and indigenous and other community leaders participated in the opening event for the new MTESS office and presentation of *Paraguay Okakuaa* in the Chaco. These events emphasized MTESS’ presence in the Chaco, a vast and isolated area, and an awareness campaign developed by MTESS and *Paraguay Okakuaa* will further amplify MTESS’ existence.

## Companies and Industry Groups

Private sector leadership is critical in the global fight against child labor and forced labor. Not only do these abuses cause serious and long-lasting harm to victims, they also present serious and material risks to companies and industries.

A growing body of law in countries around the world is shifting private sector action on these issues from a purely voluntary endeavor toward a mandatory one.<sup>38</sup> Some jurisdictions require companies to take specific measures, such as ensuring that no misleading or fraudulent practices are used in the process of recruiting workers, or ensuring that workers’ identity or immigration documents are not destroyed, concealed, confiscated, or otherwise denied to workers. Other jurisdictions require various forms of transparency, such as disclosure of supply chain partners, or disclosure of the measures a company has taken to combat forced labor. These requirements are fragmented, however, and by and large, private sector action to combat these abuses remains a voluntary undertaking.

### BOX 7

## Learning from Nestlé and its Supply Chain Partners

Agriculture is everywhere. Beyond just food and drink, agricultural goods like rubber, bamboo, and flowers are vital to a broad set of industries. Given that agriculture accounts for a high proportion of child labor and forced labor globally, more and more companies that use agricultural inputs are facing these risks. The *U.S. Department of Agriculture (USDA) Guidelines for Eliminating Child and Forced Labor in Agricultural Supply Chains* is a tool developed by the U.S. Departments of Labor, State, and Agriculture, along with representatives of business and civil society, to address these risks. The Guidelines outline specific elements that should be integrated into any agricultural company program to reduce child or forced labor, such as mapping supply chains and conducting risk assessments; designing communication and monitoring mechanisms; and developing plans and programs for remediating violations.

From 2015-2018, ILAB collaborated with the Fair Labor Association, multinational company Nestlé, and two of Nestlé’s suppliers, Balsu and Olam-Progida, to pilot-test the Guidelines in the Turkish hazelnut supply chain. This project was a key opportunity to demonstrate the application of the Guidelines in practice, and to learn lessons that can be applied in other agricultural contexts. The partners’ challenges, successes, and learnings along the way are documented in a new report from the Fair Labor Association, *Harvesting the Future: Piloting the U.S. Department of Agriculture Guidelines for Eliminating Child Labor and Forced Labor in Turkey’s Hazelnut Harvest*.<sup>43</sup> Ultimately, ILAB hopes that this report will help other companies to replicate and adapt this important tool, the Guidelines, to various locations and commodities.

**BOX 8**

## Technology and Modern Slavery

It is ultimately up to human beings to acknowledge and solve the problems of child labor and forced labor. But technology can help, and the international community is increasingly availing itself of an ever-more sophisticated tool set. A plethora of technologies have been developed or applied to addressing specific challenges. For example, tracking technologies can help governments and/or service providers to identify where exploited workers are located; these technologies can also trace the paths of goods through often complex supply chains to hold exploiters accountable at every step. Many workers have access to an increasing number of mobile applications that enable them to share information about employers and recruiters with each other or about exploitative practices with supply chain actors who may be able to provide remedy. Some employers are leveraging electronic and “smart” payment systems to ensure that workers are able to receive and keep their wages safe. And we’ve only hit the tip of the iceberg: new methods are constantly being developed to share data among those who can use it to solve problems and analyze patterns in data in order to respond more effectively.

have a social compliance system in place or those needing to strengthen their existing systems. The app contains many examples of specific good practices that companies, industry groups, and multi-stakeholder initiatives have put in place in these eight areas. In September 2018, ILAB is releasing French and Spanish versions of this app to increase its utility for a wider audience, including small and medium-sized enterprises.

As we engage with private sector actors to encourage them to adopt these practices, we also continue to learn about new practices that industry leaders are implementing. Electronics companies are leading the way on bonded labor, ensuring that millions of dollars in recruitment fees are reimbursed to workers who found themselves in debt bondage.<sup>40</sup> Agricultural companies are hiring social workers to provide services to families and children in sourcing communities and to remediate child labor and forced labor where found (see Box 7).<sup>41</sup> Financial services companies are using technology to identify cash flows related to trafficking in persons, and screening clients based on labor and human rights criteria.<sup>42</sup> And innovators across various industries are developing new technologies to help them combat these abuses (see Box 8).

### Corporate Efforts on the Rise

Companies looking to collaborate with peers to address child labor and forced labor have no shortage of options. Forward-leaning companies have joined the Institute for Human Rights and Business’s Leadership Group for Responsible Recruitment, a collaboration seeking to drive positive change in the way that migrant workers are recruited.<sup>44</sup> The Responsible Business Alliance is consulting with workers in Malaysia and the region to develop solutions to transform the market for ethical business practices, including foreign migrant worker recruitment.<sup>45</sup> Over 250 apparel and textile companies have signed the Responsible Sourcing Network’s Cotton Pledge Against Forced Labor, committing to end the practice of forced labor in the cotton sector in Uzbekistan.<sup>46</sup> The Consumer Goods Forum’s membership of over 400 retailers and manufacturers have all endorsed Priority Industry Principles on forced labor



### Comply Chain: ILAB’s Tool for the Private Sector

ILAB’s mobile application *Comply Chain: Business Tools for Labor Compliance in Global Supply Chains* is a resource for

companies and industry groups seeking to develop voluntary social compliance systems to mitigate child labor and forced labor risks in their global production. The *Comply Chain* app responds to the TVPRA of 2005 mandate that ILAB “work with persons who are involved in the production of goods on [the TVPRA List] to create a standard set of practices that will reduce the likelihood that such persons will produce goods using [forced or child labor].”<sup>39</sup> *Comply Chain* provides practical, step-by-step guidance on eight critical elements of social compliance, and is designed for companies that do not

**BOX 9**

## Consumer Goods Forum Priority Industry Principles on Forced Labor

- Every worker should have freedom of movement
- No worker should pay for a job
- No worker should be indebted or coerced to work

(see Box 9). In June 2018, the ILO launched a Global Business Network Against Forced Labor and Human Trafficking as a forum for peer learning and collective problem-solving. Based on stakeholder input, the Network plans to focus on assisting companies to address issues at lower tiers of supply chains, working with Small and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) on social compliance, and catalyzing business to play an active role in legal and policy advocacy. The ILO continues to welcome additional companies to join the Network.

## Civil Society

Civil society organizations play a vital role in the fight against child labor and forced labor. Some focus directly on research or policy advocacy on these issues, or service provision to victims, while others work to promote the fundamental principles and rights at work and basic social protections that must underlie the sustainable eradication of these problems. Workers and workers' organizations, community-based organizations and other non-governmental organizations all play a part.

ILAB supports numerous civil society organizations through technical assistance funding, to promote labor law enforcement and help end child labor and forced labor in trade partner countries. In 2017, ILAB funded projects to build the capacity of civil society to address these issues and promote acceptable conditions of work in the supply chains of several goods on the TVPRA List. These projects are now being implemented

in Colombia's coffee and mining industries, Bangladesh's dried fish and garment industries, and Vietnam's garment sector. Since 2015, ILAB has also supported the ILO to work with the International Trade Union Confederation to form and strengthen a forced labor focal point network of unions to provide support to national efforts against forced labor in Malaysia, Paraguay, and Niger. This has included such activities as trainings on worker rights in Paraguay and awareness-raising events among workers in other countries.<sup>47</sup> Through the partnerships we have developed with these organizations, ILAB has helped create an incubator for positive social change.

ILAB also produces tools to assist civil society in developing good practices. The Reducing Incidence of Child Labor and Harmful Conditions of Work in Economic Strengthening Initiatives (RICHERS) project aims to integrate the issues of child labor alleviation and acceptable conditions of work into women's economic empowerment initiatives. The project, implemented by the Grameen Foundation, will develop and deploy tools to better equip policymakers and service providers to educate women entrepreneurs to comply with laws protecting children and promoting acceptable conditions of work. The tools will be tested in two strategic locations, El Salvador and the Philippines. Once tested, the tools will be available for broader distribution and global application.

Consumers are also important users of the TVPRA List. Box 10 provides an example of one way in which the List reaches consumers.

### BOX 10

## The List of Goods in Your Grocery Store

HowGood is a social and environmental impact ratings company that has built the largest food sustainability database in the world. The company uses these data to evaluate impacts across three benchmarks: Growing Guidelines, Processing Practices, and Company Conduct. These benchmarks include 12 standards and more than 70 specific indicators, summarized into a simple rating scheme for food products on the market. The ratings are communicated directly to consumers at point of purchase in grocery stores (like Giant Foods and Ahold-Delhaize) and online, and have been proven to shift purchasing behavior towards more sustainable products.

HowGood's evaluations consider the impacts associated with each specific ingredient used in a product. Many globally-sourced agricultural commodities (such as cocoa, tea, coffee, palm oil, and sugar) include significant risks of child and forced labor in their supply systems. During the research process for each commodity, HowGood refers to the List of Goods as an authoritative source of information on labor risks. Products containing ingredients from commodities included on the List can receive lower ratings in the HowGood system unless a company can show definitive and third-party-verified mitigation of the potential labor risk. As a result, millions of US consumers in 26 states are indirectly using the TVPRA List to minimize the risk that their purchases inadvertently support exploitative labor practices around the world.

**Source:** HowGood, <https://howgood.com/#/>.



# Multilateral Bodies

ILAB also engages in multilateral fora, such as the ILO, OECD, G20, and G7, to develop strategies to improve working conditions and respect for labor rights in global supply chains. For example, in June 2018, the International Labor Conference's Committee on the Application of Standards discussed and provided recommendations on a child labor case involving Bolivia, and forced labor cases involving Eritrea, Cambodia, and Belarus.<sup>48</sup>

In May 2017, the G20 Labor and Employment Ministers committed to taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate modern slavery, forced labor, and human trafficking, and by 2025, end child labor in all its forms.<sup>49</sup> This commitment was reaffirmed by the G20 Leaders in July 2017.<sup>50</sup> In February 2018, in response to a request from G20 Labor and Employment Ministers, the ILO recommended concrete actions for G20 countries to undertake to achieve the goals of eradicating child labor, forced labor, human trafficking, and modern slavery, with an emphasis on global supply chains.<sup>51</sup> Based on these recommendations, ILAB is exploring opportunities for further G20 action on this critical issue by building on the commitments made at the IV Global Conference.

The Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) and Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe (OSCE) play important roles in educating member states and private sector actors about child labor, forced labor, and related issues; addressing specific cases of alleged labor rights violations; and providing guidance to address these problems. In 2017, the OECD launched much-anticipated Garment and Footwear Due Diligence Guidance,<sup>52</sup> following that in 2018 with its General Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct.<sup>53</sup> Both are designed to align with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Also in 2018, the OECD released Model Guidelines on Government Measures to Prevent Trafficking for Labour Exploitation in Supply Chains<sup>54</sup> and a Compendium of relevant reference materials and resources on ethical sourcing and prevention of trafficking in human beings for labor exploitation in supply chains.<sup>55</sup> The Bali Process on People Smuggling, Trafficking in Persons and Related Transnational Crime's Working Group on Trafficking in Persons promotes more effective and coordinated law and justice responses to combat trafficking in persons in the Asia-Pacific region. In 2017, the Bali Process expanded their work to establish the Government and Business Forum to bring together high-level officials from member countries and senior private sector actors to combat the worst forms of child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking in the

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“Common operational definitions and data collection strategies on forced labour will allow the international community working on forced labour issues to have high-quality internationally comparable forced labour statistics, as well as comparability across time within countries, allowing better-informed policymaking on the issue.”

— **Michelle de Cock**, Head of Research and Evaluation, Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch, International Labor Organization

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region.<sup>56</sup> Finally, the International Organization for Migration (IOM) published Remediation Guidelines for Victims of Human Trafficking in Mineral Supply Chains to help companies ensure that victims of exploitation have access to remediation wherever they have been harmed by exploitative business practices.<sup>57</sup>

A lesser-known, yet vital multilateral contribution to the fight against forced labor is the International Conference of Labor Statisticians (ICLS), the world's recognized standard-setting body in the area of labor statistics. Convened by the ILO every five years, ICLS issues resolutions and guidelines on selected topics of labor statistics, which are then approved by the ILO's Governing Body. The 20th ICLS will meet in October 2018 to discuss guidelines on the measurement of forced labor. These guidelines have been developed after 6 preparatory technical meetings and one working group meeting with experts from national statistical offices, employers' and workers' organizations, and discussions with international organizations, academia, and research centers to agree on concepts and standardize the statistical measurement of forced labor.<sup>58</sup>





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Burmese children in school, January 27, 2016.

## The U.S. Experience

The TVPRA mandates that ILAB research the production of goods “in foreign countries.” As a result, the List does not cover domestically-produced goods. However, child labor and forced labor are problems that all countries share, including the United States. The Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division enforces the Fair Labor Standards Act (FLSA), which prohibits oppressive child labor and, in the course of its civil law enforcement investigations, may detect instances of forced labor. For example, in 2017, the U.S. Department of Labor finalized a series of settlements with four Chinese construction firms on Saipan in the Commonwealth of the Northern Mariana Islands. The firms were required to pay nearly \$14 million in back wages and damages for Fair Labor Standards Act violations to thousands of employees who came from China to build the Saipan Casino and Hotel on the island.<sup>59</sup>

USDOL investigators found that the firms had confiscated the workers’ passports upon arrival in Saipan, paid employees below minimum wage, and required them to work 13 hours a day without weekends or holidays. Many of the employees had arrived in Saipan already indebted by thousands of dollars for airfare and recruitment fees.<sup>60</sup>

In 2018, a Texas couple was prosecuted for the enslavement of a Nigerian nanny. Throughout the two-year-period when the victim worked for the couple, her passport and visa were confiscated, her wages withheld and her movement restricted to the couple’s residence or short walks around the block. The couple also verbally and psychologically abused the victim. Following a tip-off to the National Human Trafficking Resource Center, the case was investigated by members of the Human Trafficking Rescue Alliance, which included representatives of the Department of Homeland Security/Immigration and

Customs Enforcement’s Homeland Security Investigations, the Department of Labor’s Wage and Hour Division, the Fort Bend County Sheriff’s Office, and the Department of State’s Diplomatic Security Service. The victim was awarded more than \$100,000 in restitution.<sup>61</sup>

USDOL’s Wage and Hour Division also enforces the labor provisions of the H-2A agricultural worker visa program. In a recent example, a farm owner was debarred from the program for three years and assessed a \$35,755 civil penalty for violating the labor provisions of the H-2A program, and was found to owe \$58,820 in back wages to 14 employees.<sup>62</sup> The farm owner had failed to reimburse foreign workers for their transportation expenses to and from their home countries as the law requires, failed to reimburse employees for expenses related to obtaining their visas, failed to keep required time and pay records, and failed to pay employees their wages when due.

Additional examples of U.S. Government efforts to address forced labor within our borders can be found in the U.S. Department of State’s 2018 Trafficking in Persons Report—Country Narrative on the United States; the Attorney General’s Annual Report to Congress and Assessment of U.S. Government Activities to Combat Trafficking in Persons; and in a report required by the Justice for Victims of Trafficking Act of 2015.<sup>63</sup> To learn more on the laws about child labor in the United States, as well as the U.S. Government’s efforts to implement them, see The Department of Labor’s 2017 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.<sup>64</sup>

### **Preventing the Importation of Goods Made by Forced Labor**

While the TVPRA List does not cover domestically-produced goods, the TVPRA requires that ILAB “consult with other departments and agencies of the U.S. Government to reduce forced and child labor internationally and to ensure that products made by forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards are not imported in the United States.” The U.S. Government has passed legislation in recent years that relates directly to this mandate and seeks to better address the use of forced labor in the production and importation of goods.

The Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act (TFTEA) was enacted in 2016.<sup>65</sup> The law included an amendment to the Tariff Act of 1930 removing the “consumptive demand” exemption to the Tariff Act’s prohibition on the importation of goods into the United States produced by forced, convict, forced child, or indentured labor.<sup>66</sup> Previously, the exemption had allowed for goods made by such labor into the United States, if the goods were not produced domestically in sufficient quantities to meet U.S. consumer demand.

Since the passage of TFTEA, there has been an increase in enforcement by the Department of Homeland Security’s (DHS) Customs and Border Protection (CBP) of the Tariff Act. For example, in March of 2018, CBP issued a Withhold Release Order (WRO) for toys made by forced labor from China.<sup>67</sup> Toys from China are on the List for both forced labor and child labor. In addition, in May of 2018, CBP issued a WRO for all cotton from Turkmenistan or products made in whole or in part with Turkmen cotton.<sup>68</sup> Turkmen cotton is also on the List for both forced labor and child labor.

The U.S. Government’s efforts to prevent forced labor in goods produced overseas does not stop there. On August 2, 2017, the President signed into law the Countering America’s Adversaries Through Sanctions Act (CAATSA).<sup>69</sup> CAATSA, which amended the North Korea Sanctions and Policy Enhancement Act of 2016, creates a rebuttable presumption that goods produced wholly or in part by North Korean nationals or North Korean citizens anywhere in the world are forced labor goods prohibited from importation into the U.S. under the Tariff Act, unless the CBP finds by clear and convincing evidence that the goods were not produced using a prohibited form of labor.<sup>70</sup> In 2017, CBP seized 10,000 cartons of frozen squid produced by North Korean workers, valued at more than \$200,000.<sup>71</sup>

## **Collaboration Across Sectors**

As noted above, the Buenos Aires Declaration’s third area of action is partnerships and innovation. No stakeholder can, or should be expected to, tackle these issues in isolation. The most successful achievements of the global community have come when actors worked together across dividing lines toward common interests.

### **Cross-sectoral Efforts to Address Child Labor in Chocolate and Cocoa Production**

The majority of the world’s cocoa comes from Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana. Research also indicates more than 2 million children<sup>72</sup> are engaged in the worst forms of child labor in the production of cocoa from these two countries. In recent years, we have seen increasing momentum from governments, the private sector, and civil society to address the issue. There continues to be a strong public-private partnership, through the Child Labor Cocoa Coordinating Group,<sup>73</sup> that includes the international chocolate and cocoa industry and the governments of Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana. The governments of Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana are at the forefront of this effort and are taking important steps forward through their respective National Plans of Action on child labor.

In recent years, a number of governments and companies have taken steps to sustainably source cocoa.<sup>74</sup> The governments of the Netherlands, Germany, and Switzerland have each worked with their respective cocoa industries to set targets on sustainable sourcing of cocoa. We have also seen a number of companies make pledges to sustainably source 100 percent of the cocoa in their supply chains, including Mars Incorporated,<sup>75</sup> Olam,<sup>76</sup> and The Hershey Company<sup>77</sup> by 2020; Barry Callebaut<sup>78</sup> and Ferrero<sup>79</sup> by 2025; and Cargill<sup>80</sup> by 2030. Other companies, including Blommer,<sup>81</sup> Mondelez International,<sup>82</sup> and Nestlé<sup>83</sup> have also made their own commitments regarding the sustainable sourcing of cocoa within in their supply chains. In addition, companies are working with the International Cocoa Initiative, an organization promoting child protection in cocoa-growing communities, to pilot-test child labor monitoring and remediation systems as a potential model for identifying and addressing child labor in cocoa supply chains. Ensuring there is transparency and accountability within the cocoa supply chain is an important step toward addressing the issue.

Civil society also continues to play a crucial role. For example, the Voice Network,<sup>84</sup> an association of NGOs and trade unions working on sustainability in cocoa, regularly publishes the Cocoa Barometer,<sup>85</sup> which serves as a valuable source of information on the issue. In addition, the U.S.-based Child Labor Coalition<sup>86</sup> continues to serve as an important voice for civil society organizations committed to the elimination of the worst forms of child labor around the world, including in the cocoa sector of West Africa. More recently, the Japanese organization Action against Child Exploitation (ACE)<sup>87</sup> is playing a leading role in raising awareness in Japan about efforts to address the child labor in cocoa supply chains.

Boxes 11 and 12 illustrate other examples of cross-sectoral collaboration in the Southeast Asian fishing industry and in Panamanian agricultural supply chains. In these and many other industries, stakeholders are taking positive steps forward to address child labor and forced labor. However, it is important to recognize that many challenges remain. Actions taken in recent years need to contribute to a building of momentum in a way that is sustainable for the long-term.





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Indonesian naval officers guard Thai fishermen arrested for fishing illegally.

## BOX 11

# ILAB's Efforts to Address Abuses in the Fishing Sector

Workers at sea are among the world's most vulnerable. The geography of the ocean, gaps in applicable laws, and other factors often combine to leave workers without adequate labor protections. In the mid-2010's, investigative journalists began shedding more light on forced labor abuses in the fisheries industry. They detailed fishers, many of them migrants, being coerced or tricked into working on vessels by brokers who promise jobs in other sectors, held in forced labor for up to 10 years, forced to fish for 20 to 22 hours a day with little or no pay, and subjected to threats and severe physical abuse.

ILAB added seven seafood-related goods to the initial TVPRA list published in 2009, including both Thai and Burmese shrimp produced by forced labor. Additionally, ILAB has been funding civil society organizations to combat labor abuses in the sector in numerous countries for almost twenty years, including in Bangladesh, Cambodia, Ghana, Honduras, Haiti, Indonesia, Philippines, and Thailand. Beginning in 1999, the Project to Combat Child Labor in the Fishing Sector in Indonesia and the Philippines worked to combat hazardous child labor on fishing platforms (jermals) off North Sumatra in Indonesia and bubble fishing (*pa-aling*) and night fishing in Cebu and Palawan in the Philippines. The project withdrew and prevented 1,234 children from hazardous work in fishing and developed monitoring teams with the Department of Labor and Employment, Bureau of Fisheries and Aquatic Resources, and the ILO. In 2010, ILAB funded a project to combat the worst forms of child labor in shrimp and seafood-processing areas in Thailand. The Royal Thai government continues to implement several pilot initiatives developed by this project, such as the Good Labor Practices (GLP) program, which is a comprehensive fisheries industry improvement program that combines establishment of industry labor guidelines with a training program.

As a result of efforts by ILAB and many others, more governments now have a greater understanding of the issue and are beginning to act. They are extending protections to migrant fishers working on their vessels and instituting joint inspections so that labor issues can be checked even when Labor Ministries do not have a mandate to inspect vessels. Civil society groups and the private sector are creating tools to help the sector combat labor abuses, several of which incorporate the TVPRA List into their methodology or resource lists. For example, the ResponsibleSourcingTool.org is a suite of tools that provide guidance to companies on how to develop compliance plans to address and prevent human trafficking in their supply chains. Its Seafood Compliance Tool 4: Risk Assessment Guidance for the Seafood Supply Chain draws on the TVPRA List as its source of documented incidences of forced labor in the industry. The Seafood Slavery Risk Tool, which rates the likelihood that forced labor, human trafficking, or hazardous child labor is occurring within a fishery, and the Labor Safe Screen, which helps clients trace seafood supply chains and focus resources on the riskiest fisheries, also use the TVPRA List as a key source of data.



## BOX 12

# Bringing Stakeholders Together to Reduce Child Labor in Panamanian Agriculture

Since first bringing the issue of child labor in Panamanian agricultural production to light via the TVPRA List, ILAB has funded two complementary projects to address child labor in Panama's coffee industry. The first project, EducaFuturo, implemented by Partners of the Americas (Partners) and the International Initiative to End Child Labor (IIECL), began by conducting a study to identify risk factors for child labor in coffee, banana, and plantain production. The study looked at both internal operations within the companies, and external factors in the companies' operating environment. Working with over 30 producers, Partners and IIECL developed a Model Code of Conduct on child labor for the coffee, banana and plantain sectors, engaging producers from the Chiriquí, Vulcan and Changuinola regions. EducaFuturo and partners are providing training and technical assistance to coffee, banana, and plantain producers to adopt the code and create plans of action to achieve compliance.

In 2018, the Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor (CLEAR II) project, implemented by Winrock International and its partner Verité, began work in Panama, providing assistance to the government to strengthen systems for the reduction of child labor. This project worked with EducaFuturo to build on the adoption and implementation of the Model Code of Conduct. Drawing on the implementers' collective experience in working with the coffee, banana, and other agricultural industries around the world, the CLEAR II project proposed changes to make the Model Code more focused on preventing and reducing the risks of child labor within producers' operations. The next-generation Model Code of Conduct was discussed at a series of workshops in mid-2018, involving producers, key stakeholders, and collaborating partners. CLEAR II plans to develop and deliver training to the Panamanian government's Labor Inspectorate on how the code may be used as a resource to support their mandate to address systemic child labor issues in the coffee sector. CLEAR II and EducaFuturo are working together to promote the implementation of the Code and action plans within the coffee sector, and to bolster collaboration between inspectors and the companies implementing the Code and action plans in pursuit of their common goals.

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Children and an adult woman pick ripe coffee cherries during harvest season in Panama, December 2010.

# A Call to Action

The IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labor imparted a new sense of urgency to the cause of addressing child labor and forced labor around the world. The delegates recognized the tremendous progress that has been made over the past two decades, a decline in child labor by 94 million children. However, despite the growth we have seen in information and awareness, laws and policies, and successful models for eradicating child labor, the initial goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labor by 2016 was not reached. As reflected in the ILO's 2017 Global Estimates, the pace of decline in child labor has slowed in recent years, and the number of people in forced labor has remained high. It is estimated that, at the present pace

of progress, it would take nearly 40 years to eliminate all forms of child labor.<sup>88</sup>

Yet we remain hopeful. The examples in this report—meaningful and impactful actions being taken by governments, companies, and civil society groups—are just the tip of the iceberg. Where there once was ignorance, there is knowledge. Where there was once denial, there is ownership. Where there was avoidance, there is increasing accountability resulting in action. We are all part of a growing community seeking, and finding, solutions. The 2018 List of Goods, the Comply Chain application, and ILAB's other reports, including our annual Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor report and the Sweat & Toil app, form part of the constellation of tools needed to make progress toward the global goal of eradicating child labor and forced labor.



Figure 6

# WHAT CAN YOU



## DO TO HELP ADDRESS CHILD LABOR AND FORCED LABOR?

### ASK QUESTIONS.

Could some of the goods I buy be made by child labor or forced labor?

Do workers have a voice to speak out against labor abuses?

What are companies doing to end child labor and forced labor in global supply chains?

What are governments doing to combat child labor and forced labor?

### TAKE ACTION.

Empower yourself with knowledge and download USDOL's *Sweat & Toil* and *Comply Chain* apps.

Make your voice heard by spreading the word among friends, family, and the companies you buy from and invest in.

Show your support for organizations that are working to end these abuses.

### DEMAND CHANGE.

#### Advocate for a world in which:

Workers everywhere can raise their voices against child labor, forced labor, and other abuses.

Companies make serious commitments to ensure that global supply chains are free of products made by child labor and forced labor, especially those on USDOL's *List of Goods Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor*.

Your investments have a positive social impact by promoting responsible labor practices.

Governments work vigorously to adopt the country-specific suggested actions in USDOL's *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*.



Learn more: [dol.gov/EndChildLabor](https://dol.gov/EndChildLabor)  
To contact us, please email [GlobalKids@dol.gov](mailto:GlobalKids@dol.gov)



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© Lisa Kristine/Human Thread Foundation  
Girl with stone on her back, Nepal.

## Appendix 1

# Paragraphs and Bibliographies for 2018 Additions

### **Afghanistan – Salt – Child Labor**

There are reports that children ages 8-17 produce salt in Afghanistan. According to media reports, hundreds of children work in salt mines, with one source confirming nearly 400 children found at the Taqcha Khana mine in the Namakab district of Takhar province. Some boys work up to 19-hour days. Children's activities include extracting salt stones from underground tunnels as deep as 55 meters (180 feet), loading the stones onto donkeys, and carrying the stones distances over 1 mile. Child laborers are unable to attend school, work long days, and reportedly suffer from muscular and respiratory ailments.

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### **Brazil – Bananas – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 13 cultivate bananas in Brazil. The Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Survey considers all work performed by children below age 14 to be child labor. Based on an analysis of the survey, an estimated 2,936 child laborers cultivate bananas. The ILO has found that generally children who work in agriculture may be at risk of exposure to hazards including, working long hours, carrying heavy loads, using dangerous tools, and exposure to the elements, physical injuries, and chemicals, such as pesticides. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Brazil – Cocoa – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 13 cultivate cocoa in Brazil. In the North of Brazil, children work with family members to cultivate cocoa. The ILO has found that generally children who work in agriculture may be at risk of exposure to hazards including, working long hours, carrying heavy loads, using dangerous tools, and exposure to the elements, physical injuries, and chemicals, such as pesticides. The Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Survey considers all work performed by children below age 14 to be child labor. Based on an analysis of the survey, an estimated 2,597 child laborers cultivate cocoa. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Brazil – Coffee – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 10 to 13 cultivate coffee in Brazil. In the states of São Paulo and Minas Gerais, parents often bring their children to work on coffee plantations to support the family income. The Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Surveys considers all work performed by children below age 14 to be child labor. Based on an analysis of the survey an estimated 4,993 child laborers cultivate coffee. Individuals, including children, who work in coffee production often do so without contracts and protective equipment, and some of the children and adolescents drop out of school. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Brazil – Corn – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 13 cultivate corn in Brazil. The ILO has found that generally children who work in agriculture may be at risk of exposure to hazards including, working long hours, carrying heavy loads, using dangerous tools, and exposure to the elements, physical injuries, and chemicals, such as pesticides. The Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Survey considers all work performed by children below age 14 to be child labor. Based on an analysis of the survey, an estimated 17,049 child laborers cultivate corn. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Brazil – Fish – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 13 engage in fishing in Brazil. The ILO has found that generally children who fish may be at risk of exposure to hazards, including long hours, extreme temperatures and harsh weather conditions. The Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Survey considers all work performed by children below age 14 to be child labor. Based on an analysis of the survey, an estimated 12,325 child laborers are involved in fishing. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Brazil – Hogs – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 13 raise hogs in Brazil. The ILO has found that generally children who care for farm animals may be at risk of exposure to potential health consequences, including injuries from kicks and infections from animal bites and exposure to harmful bacteria. The Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Survey considers all work performed by children below age 14 to be child labor. Based on an analysis of the survey, an estimated 5,896 child laborers raise hogs. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Brazil – Poultry – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 13 raise poultry in Brazil. The ILO has found that generally children who care for farm animals may be at risk of exposure to potential health consequences, including infections from animal bites and exposure to harmful bacteria. The Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Survey considers all work performed by children below age 14 to be child labor. Based on an analysis of the survey, an estimated 65,775 child laborers raise poultry. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Brazil – Sheep – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 13 raise sheep in Brazil. The ILO has found that generally children who care for farm animals may be at risk of exposure to potential health consequences, including injuries from kicks and infections from animal bites and exposure to harmful bacteria. The Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Survey considers all work performed by children below age 14 to be child labor. Based on an analysis of the survey, an estimated 5,773 child laborers raise sheep. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Brazil – Sugarcane – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 14 to 17 cultivate sugarcane in Brazil. Brazilian law prohibits all children under age 18 from producing sugarcane. Based on an analysis of the Government of Brazil's 2015 National Household Survey, an estimated 5,503 child laborers cultivate sugarcane. Individuals, including children, who work in sugarcane production are exposed to long hours and high temperatures, and lack protective equipment. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Brazil's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Burma – Garments – Child Labor**

There are reports that children ages 12 to 17, mainly girls, produce garments in Burma. According to international organizations and NGOs, child labor in the garment industry is concentrated in Yangon State. For example, research has found at least eight garment factories in Yangon State with incidents of child labor, and reports indicate that child labor remains present in the industry. Though the government has placed legal restrictions on working hours and types of work for children under age 18, there are reports that children work the same hours as adults with higher risks of abuse. There are reports of

supervisors or shift leaders physically punishing children if they make mistakes in their work. Some children carry heavy bags and boxes and work long hours, sometimes up to 15-16 hours per day or 60 hours per week, and late into the night. Factories are often poorly ventilated, with temperatures, at times, rising above 100 degrees Fahrenheit.

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### **Egypt – Bricks – Child Labor**

There are reports that children ages 9 to 17 produce bricks in Egypt. The country's brick factories are located in or near the cities of Cairo, Giza, Helwan, and in Qalyobia governorate. One news article estimated that hundreds of children worked in brickmaking; another estimated that there were more than 10,000. Children work generally 8 to 13 hours per day, according to several news sources. Their work activities are reported to include moving sand and mud into brick-making machines, moving bricks into ovens, and loading baked bricks onto trucks. Brickmaking typically involves exposure to extreme temperatures at different stages of production, due to both the hot sun and working close to ovens set to temperatures reaching nearly 1,000 degrees Celsius. This work is often done without protective gear, helmets, or gloves.

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### **El Salvador – Baked Goods – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 are engaged in the production of baked goods in El Salvador. According to the Government of El Salvador's Multi-Purpose Household Survey of 2015, a working child is considered to be engaged in hazardous child labor if the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 123,259 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous child labor in El Salvador, including using dangerous tools, carrying heavy loads, working with chemicals, working long or night shifts, and being exposed to dust, smoke, or extreme heat or humidity. Approximately 9,737 of these children in hazardous child labor are engaged in the production of baked goods. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of El Salvador's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **El Salvador – Cattle – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 are engaged in cattle raising in El Salvador. According to the Government of El Salvador's Multi-Purpose Household Survey of 2015, a working child is considered to be engaged in hazardous child labor if the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 123,259 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous child labor in El Salvador, including using dangerous tools, carrying heavy loads, working with chemicals, working long or night shifts, and being exposed to dust, smoke, or extreme heat or humidity. Approximately 3,698 of these children in hazardous child labor are engaged in cattle raising. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of El Salvador's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **El Salvador – Cereal Grains – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 are engaged in the production of cereal grains in El Salvador. According to the Government of El Salvador's Multi-Purpose Household Survey of 2015, a working child is considered to be engaged in hazardous child labor if the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 123,259 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous child labor in El Salvador, including using dangerous tools, carrying heavy loads, working with chemicals, working long or night shifts, and being exposed to dust, smoke, or extreme heat or humidity. Approximately 40,675 of these children in hazardous child labor are engaged in the production of cereal grains. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of El Salvador's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **Eswatini – Bovines – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 8 to 17 raise bovines in Eswatini. Child labor in this sector is concentrated in the rural areas of Hhohho, Lubombo, Manzini, and Shiselweni. In 2018, the Government of Eswatini and the International Labor Organization published results from the 2014 Survey on Child Labor in Herding in Rural Areas in Eswatini. According to international standards on the minimum age for work, children working below the age of 15 are engaged in child labor. The survey estimates that 72,332 children below the age of 15 raise bovines. Children perform physically arduous tasks while herding in the grasslands and mountainous regions, and risk occupational injury and disease from exposure to dangerous tools, insecticides and herbicides. Children's injuries include fractures, dislocations and sprains, burns, frostbite, breathing problems, skin problems, extreme fatigue, and snake bites. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Eswatini's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

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### **India – Mica – Child Labor**

There are reports that children ages 5 to 17 are engaged in collecting mica from abandoned mines, primarily in illegal mining operations in India. Children are primarily found mining in the major mica-producing states of Bihar, Jharkhand, and Rajasthan, often in lieu of attending school. NGOs and media sources have documented hundreds of children working in



mica across these states. Children's tasks reportedly include breaking apart rocks to mine the minerals, carrying loads of rocks, and sorting and separating mica from other mined minerals. According to media reports and interviews, children's inhalation of mica dust has contributed to respiratory health issues. Children also reportedly experience other health and safety hazards, resulting in injuries such as scorpion bites and broken bones, or in some cases, even death in poorly-maintained and unregulated mineshafts.

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## **Mexico – Chile Peppers – Forced Labor**

There are reports that men and women are forced to work in the production of chile peppers in Mexico. According to media reports, NGOs, and the U.S. Department of State, there are hundreds of forced labor victims working to produce chile peppers. Many of these victims report being recruited by middlemen, called enganchadores, that lie to workers about the nature and conditions of the work, wages, hours, and quality of living conditions. Sources report that cases of forced labor in chile peppers production predominantly occurs in small and medium holder farms and have been found in states such as Baja California, Chihuahua, Jalisco, and San Luis Potosi. According to available reports, indigenous farmworkers from impoverished regions of central and southern Mexico are particularly vulnerable to forced labor in the agricultural sector due to low education levels, linguistic barriers, and discrimination. Once on the farms, some men and women work up to 15 hours per day under the threat of dismissal and receive subminimum wage payments or no payment at all. There are reports of some workers being threatened with physical violence or physically abused for leaving their jobs. Workers also report finding themselves in overcrowded and unsanitary housing facilities with no access to potable water, latrines, electricity, and medical care. Some workers face growing indebtedness to company stores that often inflate the prices of their goods, forcing workers to purchase provisions on credit and limiting their ability to leave the farms.

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2. U.S. Embassy- Mexico City. Reporting November 17, 2017.
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### **Mexico – Poppies – Child Labor**

There are reports that children as young as 7 years old cultivate and harvest poppies in Mexico, especially in impoverished indigenous communities where they work alongside family members. Opium from the poppy plant is a highly addictive narcotic that is used in the production of illegal drugs, such as heroin. According to media reports, NGOs, Government of Mexico reports, and the U.S. Department of State, child labor has been reported in remote areas of Guerrero, including in the mountainous regions of La Montaña and La Sierra where most of the poppy fields are located. Many children miss school to work in the fields during harvest time, often work long hours in hazardous environments, and use sharp tools to extract the opium from the poppy plant.

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### **Mexico – Tomatoes – Forced Labor**

There are reports that men and women are forced to work in the production of tomatoes in Mexico. According to media reports, NGOs, and the U.S. Department of State, there are hundreds of forced labor victims working to produce tomatoes. Many of these victims report being recruited by middlemen, called enganchadores, that lie to workers about the nature and conditions of the work, wages, hours, and quality of living conditions. Sources report that cases of forced labor occur on both commercial tomato plantations and smallholder farms, and have been found in states such as Baja California, Coahuila, Jalisco, San Luis Potosi, and Sinaloa. According to available reports, indigenous farmworkers from impoverished regions of central and southern Mexico are particularly vulnerable to forced labor in the agricultural sector due to low education levels, linguistic barriers, and discrimination. Once on the farms, some men and women work up to 15 hours per day under the threat of dismissal and receive subminimum wage payments. There are reports of some workers being threatened with physical violence or physically abused for leaving their jobs. Workers also report finding themselves in overcrowded and unsanitary housing facilities with no access to potable water, latrines, electricity, and medical care. Some workers face growing indebtedness to company stores that often inflate the prices of their goods, forcing workers to purchase provisions on credit and limiting their ability to leave the farms.

1. U.S. Embassy- Mexico City. Reporting, November 7, 2017.
2. U.S. Embassy- Mexico City. Reporting, November 17, 2017.
3. Polaris Project. Landscape Analysis: Human Trafficking for the Purpose of Labor Exploitation in Mexico. 2017. [Source on file].
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### **Paraguay – Beans – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow beans in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 71,839 child laborers grow potato beans throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 31,372 of child laborers growing

poroto beans are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that child labor also occurs in the cultivation of other varieties of beans, including habilla, poroto manteca, and feijao, and that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing beans. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Cabbages – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow cabbages in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 4,146 child laborers grow cabbages throughout rural areas in Paraguay. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Carrots – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow carrots in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 4,877 child laborers grow carrots throughout rural areas in Paraguay. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Cattle – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 raise cattle in Paraguay. National legislation designates cattle raising as a hazardous activity prohibited for children in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 142,127 child laborers raise cattle throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 67,141 child laborers raising cattle are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor in cattle raising. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do;jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Corn – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow corn in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 92,208 child laborers grow the tupí variety of corn and 89,293 child laborers grow the chipá (canary) variety of corn throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 38,584 children growing tupí corn and 37,598 children growing chipá (canary) corn are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing corn. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas u Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do;jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Fish – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 are engaged in fishing in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 20,188 child laborers work in fishing throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Of these children, 20,082 handle hooks or harpoons; 18,886 prepare bait; and 11,475 clean fish. Approximately 11,023 child laborers working in fishing are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor in fishing. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do;jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Goats – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 raise goats in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015, a representative survey of children's work in rural areas. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 8,584 child laborers raise goats throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 4,714 child laborers raising goats are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor in goat raising. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=clV9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Hogs – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 raise hogs in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 199,333 child laborers raise hogs throughout Paraguay. Approximately 120,414 child laborers raising hogs are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor in hog raising. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=clV9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Lettuce – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow lettuce in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 9,397 child laborers grow lettuce throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 5,915 child laborers growing lettuce are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=clV9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay - Manioc/Cassava – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow manioc/cassava in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 159,167 child laborers grow manioc/cassava throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 71,932 child laborers growing manioc/cassava are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing manioc/cassava. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=clV9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Melons – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow melons in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 8,879 child laborers grow watermelons and 5,292 child laborers grow melons throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 4,879 child laborers growing watermelons are under the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys are engaged in child labor producing watermelons and melons than girls. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ippecinfo/product/viewProduct.do;jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Onions – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow onions in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 5,937 child laborers grow onions (cebollita en hoja) throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 3,850 child laborers growing onions (cebollita en hoja) are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ippecinfo/product/viewProduct.do;jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Peanuts – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow peanuts in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015, a representative survey of children's work in rural areas. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 33,165 child laborers grow peanuts throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 15,384 child laborers growing peanuts are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing peanuts. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ippecinfo/product/viewProduct.do;jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Peppers – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow peppers in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers

a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 6,594 child laborers grow peppers throughout rural areas in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing peppers. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Poultry – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 raise poultry in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 297,598 child laborers raise poultry throughout rural Paraguay. Approximately 196,572 child laborers raising poultry are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Sesame – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow sesame in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 17,670 child laborers grow sesame throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 5,793 child laborers growing sesame are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing sesame. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?sessionId=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay – Sheep – Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 raise sheep in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015, a representative survey of children's work in rural areas. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture

do not attend school. The survey estimates that 9,790 child laborers raise sheep throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 4,856 child laborers raising sheep are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor in sheep raising. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay - Sweet Potatoes - Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow sweet potatoes in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 8,143 child laborers grow sweet potatoes throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 4,912 of child laborers growing sweet potatoes are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing sweet potatoes. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay - Tomatoes - Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow tomatoes in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that 13,095 child laborers grow tomatoes throughout rural areas in Paraguay. Approximately 6,363 child laborers growing tomatoes are below the minimum age for employment in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing tomatoes. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipeinfo/product/viewProduct.do?jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykvJLkT4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Paraguay - Yerba Mate - Child Labor**

There is evidence that children ages 5 to 17 grow yerba mate (stimulant plant) in Paraguay. In 2016, the Government of Paraguay published representative results from the Survey of Activities of Rural Area Children and Adolescents 2015. The survey considers a working child to be engaged in child labor if the child is below the minimum age for employment of 14 or the child is performing work that is hazardous according to national legislation. The survey estimates that 301,827 children ages 5 to 17 perform hazardous work in rural areas of Paraguay and indicates that children working in agriculture experience accidents and illnesses, including from using dangerous tools and handling chemicals. According to the survey, almost 13 percent of Paraguayan children engaged in child labor in agriculture do not attend school. The survey estimates that estimated 3,464 child laborers grow yerba mate throughout rural areas in Paraguay. The survey indicates that more



boys than girls are engaged in child labor producing yerba mate. The release of this survey demonstrates the Government of Paraguay's commitment to addressing child labor and its acknowledgment that data collection is vital to the design and implementation of sound policies and programs.

1. ILO and Dirección General de Estadística, Encuestas y Censos. Trabajo infantil y adolescente en el sector rural agrícola, pecuario, forestal y de pesca y piscicultura en Paraguay - Encuesta de actividades de niños, niñas y adolescentes - EANA Rural 2015. September 27, 2016. <http://www.ilo.org/ipainfo/product/viewProduct.do?jsessionid=cLv9YLFcXjWykJKt4Qp17JpmLpgy9m2l1JDGvdH9FgkDTQb5qh!-758118105?productId=28676>.

### **Russia – Bricks – Forced Labor**

There are reports that adults are forced to produce bricks in Russia. Both men and women are exploited for forced labor in informal brick factories in the Northern Caucasus region of Dagestan; however, victims are primarily male job-seekers recruited in Moscow. According to a local NGO and media reports, hundreds of individuals have been subjected to forced labor in brick factories. Recruiters in Moscow frequently drug and abduct victims who are then sold to brick factory owners in Dagestan. Other victims are recruited through deception regarding the location of work and the anticipated wages. Victims and a local NGO report that factories frequently withhold all wages, sometimes confiscate workers' passports and cellphones, and sometimes use physical violence, especially when workers try to leave.

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### **Russia – Timber – Forced Labor**

There are reports that adults are forced to produce timber in Russia. Adults from North Korea are sent to Russia to produce timber by the North Korean government. According to media reports, approximately 2,000 North Koreans produce timber in Russia. A South Korean NGO reports that North Korean workers in the forestry sector work from 12 to 18 hours a day under growing debts incurred to pay bribes during the selection process. Many workers in the sector are isolated in remote, prison-like logging camps in the far east of the country. An NGO reports that workers are forced to remit 80 percent of their wages to the North Korean government in addition to paying for room and board, and are allowed to keep only \$30 to \$50 per month, far below the minimum wage. In compliance with UN Security Council Resolution 2397, Russia announced its intention in 2017 to cease issuing or renewing work visas for North Korean workers.

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## Turkey - Footwear - Child Labor

There are reports that children as young as 9 produce footwear in Turkey. Both boys and girls, including many in the Syrian refugee community, are engaged in work activities in this sector. According to international organizations, NGOs, and media sources, there is credible evidence that the use of child labor is common in footwear production, including in major production areas such as Gaziantep and Istanbul. Children work long hours, with some reports of working up to 12 hours per day, 6 days per week. Due to the long hours worked, many child workers in this sector are unable to attend school. Some child laborers in this sector use hazardous chemicals, machinery, and materials.

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## Turkey - Garments - Child Labor

There are reports that children as young as 10 produce garments in Turkey. Both boys and girls, including many in the Syrian refugee community, are engaged in work activities in this sector. According to international organizations, NGOs, and media sources, there is credible evidence of the use of child labor in small and medium-sized garment manufacturers in various cities nationwide, including Gaziantep, Istanbul, Ankara, and Izmir. Children work long hours, with some reporting working up to 15 hours per day, 6 days per week, and earn exceptionally low wages. Due to the long hours worked, many child laborers in this sector are unable to attend school. Reports indicate that conditions of work in the garment industry are often poor, with crowded, informal workshops often lacking proper ventilation and reaching high temperatures in the summer.

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## **Uganda – Sand – Child Labor**

There are reports that school-aged children harvest sand in Uganda, particularly in the Central, Eastern, and Northeastern regions of the country. According to a Government of Uganda official, sand harvesting is one of the main occupations in which child laborers work. Children harvest sand for long hours, which prevents them from attending school. Children dive underwater, scoop up sand, and transport it to boats on the river bank. This work exposes children to severe health and safety hazards, including drowning, injury, and water-borne disease.

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## **Ukraine – Amber – Child Labor**

There are reports that children as young as 7 engage in illegal amber extraction in Ukraine. Children from low-income families in the Polesia region of western Ukraine, including in Rivne, Volyn, and Zhytomyr Oblasts, are particularly vulnerable to involvement in amber extraction. For example, one human rights organization reports that thousands of school children extract amber, and that their labor is essential to the amber industry. According to media reports and local government officials, child labor is systemic in the illegal amber extraction industry and is a growing problem. The amber extraction process creates large pits and exposes children to risk of injuries when extraction pits collapse. Children engaged in illegal amber extraction are also at risk of violence at the mining site.

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## Appendix 2

# Methodology

## Research Focus

The research methodology used to compile the TVPRA List is based on ILAB's Procedural Guidelines. For this edition, ILAB reviewed new information on goods from 154 countries and territories. See above for a link to the list of these countries and territories. ILAB continues to carry out research for future editions of the TVPRA List.

## Population Covered

In researching child labor, ILAB focused on children under the age of 18 years. For forced labor, the research covered workers of all ages. The population included persons in foreign countries only, as directed by statute. Populations within the United States were not included in this study.

## Nature of Employment

Where ILAB research indicated situations of exploitative working conditions, these situations were reviewed to determine whether they constituted "child labor" or "forced labor" under international labor standards. ILAB's complete definitions of child labor and forced labor can be found in its Procedural Guidelines.

**"Child labor"** under international standards means all work performed by a person below the age of 15. It also includes all work performed by a person below the age of 18 in the following practices: (A) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale or trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom, or forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; (B) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic purposes; (C) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs; and (D) 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.<sup>i</sup>

The definitions used in developing the TVPRA List are based on standards adopted by the ILO. The ILO has adopted two conventions relating to child labor, the Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (C. 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labor Convention, 1999 (C. 182). The ILO has also adopted two conventions relating to forced labor, the Forced Labor Convention, 1930 (C. 29) and the Abolition of Forced Labor Convention, 1957 (C. 105).

**"Forced labor"** under international standards means all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty for its nonperformance and for which the worker does not offer himself voluntarily, and includes indentured labor. "Forced labor" includes work provided or obtained by force, fraud or coercion, including: (1) by threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint against any person; (2) by means of any scheme, plan or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that, if the person did not perform such labor or services, that person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or (3) by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process.<sup>ii</sup>

Evidence of child labor and forced labor was considered separately to determine whether—for each good on the TVPRA List—there should be a finding that child labor, forced labor, or both were used in the production of the good in violation of international standards. Some goods are listed as produced with both child labor and forced labor, but this does not necessarily mean that the goods were produced with *forced child labor*.

## Sector of Employment

The TVPRA List comprises goods from the agricultural, manufacturing, and mining/quarrying sectors, as well as pornography. ILAB's research did not include the service sector, which was beyond the scope of the legislated mandate.

## Type of Employment

Research covered all economic activity for adults and children in the production of goods, including formal and informal sector production and goods produced for personal and family consumption. Examples of informal sector activity include day labor hired without contract; small-scale farming and fishing; artisanal mining and quarrying; and manufacturing work performed in home-based workshops.

The TVPRA List includes many goods for which ILAB has evidence of child labor or forced labor only in informal sector production. These include garments from Bangladesh, gold from Suriname, and tobacco from Tanzania.

Some illicit goods are also included in the TVPRA List; this is not intended to condone or legitimize the production or consumption of these goods.

## Stage of Production

Goods are placed on the TVPRA List at the stage of production at which ILAB determined that there was reason to believe that child labor or forced labor was involved. For example, if there was reason to believe that child labor or forced labor was used in the extraction, harvesting, assembly or production of raw materials or component articles and these materials or articles are subsequently used as inputs in the manufacture or processing of final goods under non-violative conditions, only the raw materials or component articles are included on the TVPRA List and only for those countries where they were extracted, harvested, assembled or produced. If child labor or forced labor was used in both the production and extraction of raw materials or component articles and the manufacture or processing of final goods, the raw materials or component articles and the final goods are included on the TVPRA List for those countries where the violative conditions were found.

In placing items on the TVPRA List, ILAB names the most specific good possible given the available evidence. Therefore, ILAB may identify child labor or forced labor in the production of a general category of good from one country (e.g., stones from Nepal), while it may have evidence of labor exploitation in the production of a more precise good from another country (e.g., limestone from Egypt). However, ILAB does not place broad sectors on the TVPRA List. For example, though there is evidence of child labor in agriculture in nearly every country in the world, ILAB would not include "agricultural goods" on the TVPRA List. However, when there is credible evidence of child labor or forced labor in a particular agricultural good, that specific good would be included on the TVPRA List.

## Market for Goods

Most economically active children are involved in the production of goods or services for local consumption,<sup>iv</sup> rather than for international trade. Data is limited on the consumption patterns of goods made with forced labor. In conducting research, ILAB did not distinguish between goods produced for domestic consumption and for export, due to data limitations and because this is not part of the mandate of the TVPRA.

# Data Sources and Analysis

## Sources and Collection of Data

To ensure a transparent process, ILAB will not accept classified information in developing the List. ILAB utilized a wide variety of publicly-available primary and secondary sources to conduct the research. Primary sources

include original quantitative and qualitative research studies and other data or evidence gathered first-hand, while secondary sources are those that cite, comment on or build upon primary sources. ILAB's primary sources included surveys carried out by foreign governments in conjunction with the ILO; site visits and data gathered by ILAB staff and other U.S. Government personnel; and quantitative and qualitative studies carried out by a variety of governmental and nongovernmental entities, including academic institutions. Where available, ILAB relied on statistically representative studies in which participants are chosen through random sampling. This type of research produces reliable estimates of the number of individuals in child labor or forced labor working in particular activities in a given sector or geographic area. Because these studies provide empirical, quantitative evidence about both the nature and prevalence of the problem, ILAB sometimes based a determination to add a good to the TVPRA List on a single, representative survey when it was confident in the rigor of the methodology and execution.

ILAB's secondary sources included information reported by U.S. Government agencies, foreign governments and civil society organizations, including reporting from U.S. Government-funded technical assistance projects. The Department of State and U.S. embassies and consulates abroad provided important information by gathering data from local contacts, conducting site visits and reviewing local media sources. ILAB issued a notice in the Federal Register requesting information from the public on child labor and forced labor in the production of goods globally and reached out to the embassies of all countries researched requesting this information, as well. ILAB monitored reports from international institutions, non-governmental organizations, and academic journals and media sources on an ongoing basis.

## Data Analysis

The TVPRA mandates USDOL to publish a List of goods that ILAB has "reason to believe" are produced using forced or child labor in violation of international standards. ILAB implemented this "reason to believe" standard by establishing five factors to be considered in evaluating information. These five factors are included in ILAB's Procedural Guidelines.

1. *Nature of information.* Whether the information about child labor or forced labor gathered from research, public submissions, hearing testimony or other sources is relevant, probative and meets the definitions of child labor or forced labor.
2. *Date of information.* Whether the information about child labor or forced labor is no more than 7 years old at the time of receipt. More current information will generally be given priority, and information older than 7 years will generally not be considered.<sup>v</sup>
3. *Source of information.* Whether the information, either from primary or secondary sources, is from a source whose methodology, prior publications, degree of familiarity and experience with international labor standards and/or reputation for accuracy and objectivity warrants a determination that it is relevant and probative.
4. *Extent of corroboration.* The extent to which the information about the use of child labor or forced labor in the production of a good(s) is corroborated by other sources.
5. *Significant incidence of child labor or forced labor.* Whether the information about the use of child labor or forced labor in the production of a good(s) warrants a determination that the incidence of such practices is significant in the country in question. Information that relates only to a single company or facility or that indicates an isolated incident of child labor or forced labor will not ordinarily weigh in favor of a finding that a good is produced in violation of international standards. Information that demonstrates a significant incidence of child labor or forced labor in the production of a particular good, although not necessarily representing a practice in the industry as a whole, will ordinarily weigh in favor of a finding that a good is produced in violation of international standards.

For each good that was reviewed, ILAB evaluated each data source against each of the five criteria. ILAB researchers applied the criteria consistently across goods and countries so that ultimate findings of "reason to believe" are consistent worldwide.

Where ILAB found reason to believe that child labor or forced labor was used in the production of a particular good, prior to adding that good to the TVPRA List, ILAB also considered evidence of government, industry or third party initiatives to combat the problem. This included evidence about ongoing initiatives brought to our attention through public submissions. If ILAB determined that the problem of child labor or forced labor persisted despite existing efforts to address the issue, the good was still added to the TVPRA List. If the only evidence ILAB had about child labor or forced labor in the production of a good discussed government law enforcement or other efforts to address or remediate the problem, ILAB did not use that evidence to place a good on the List.

## Limitations

### Data Availability

A wide range of challenges contributes to the continued scarcity of information on international child labor and forced labor.

### Countries Not Appearing on the TVPRA List

A country's absence from the TVPRA List does not necessarily indicate that child labor and/or forced labor are not occurring in the production of goods in that country. Data can be unavailable for various reasons, including both research and policy considerations. Forced laborers often work in isolated locations, such as rural areas, or clandestine settings, such as workshops hidden in large cities. Research survey methodologies on such hard-to-reach populations, especially for individuals in forced labor, are still in developmental stages and continue to be piloted and refined in order to capture the appropriate constructs. While research on child labor is more advanced, and has gone beyond population estimates, data on the specific types of work in which children are involved beyond aggregated industry data are still not collected in a universal manner. For example, national child labor surveys often produce estimates of the number of children working in agriculture, but statistics are often not available on the specific agricultural goods children are producing. Policy decisions that affect the availability of data on child labor or forced labor include government failure to allocate sufficient financial resources or hesitancy to collect and make publicly available data on such sensitive issues. ILAB seeks to corroborate information with multiple sources; however, in some instances only certain types of sources are available. For example, in cases where only media sources are available, ILAB will review the body of evidence against its five criteria to determine if it can establish a "reason to believe."

The existence of child labor and forced labor also often involves violations of laws and regulations, including serious criminal violations in some cases. Information may be intentionally suppressed to protect powerful interests, in the face of which the victims of these egregious labor practices may be too vulnerable or politically weak to assert their rights or even communicate their situations. Among the 154 countries and territories researched for this edition of the TVPRA List, there were several for which ILAB could not find adequate information to determine that any goods should be placed on the TVPRA List because very little recent research on child labor and forced labor has been done in those countries. This was the case, for example, in Algeria, Gabon, Guyana, Jamaica, Maldives, Morocco, South Africa, Togo, Tunisia, Venezuela, and Zimbabwe.

### Countries with Data Gaps on TVPRA List

ILAB's TVPRA List includes goods from some countries known to restrict data collection on forced labor and child labor or to suppress information dissemination. Examples include China, Iran, and North Korea. Where ILAB was able to find even limited sources, despite data availability constraints, indicating significant incidence of forced labor or child labor in the production of a particular good, and these sources were judged credible and timely, ILAB determined that there was "reason to believe" that child labor or forced labor was occurring with respect to that good.

## Countries with Disproportionate Representation on the TVPRA List

Some countries with relatively large numbers of goods on the TVPRA List may not have the most serious problems of child labor or forced labor. Often, these are countries that have more openly acknowledged the problems, have better research and have allowed information on these issues to be disseminated. Such countries include Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Ecuador, El Salvador, India, Kenya, Mexico, Paraguay, Philippines, Tanzania, Turkey, Uganda, Vietnam, and Zambia. The number of goods on the TVPRA List from any particular country should not be interpreted as a direct indicator that these countries have the most extensive problems of child labor or forced labor.

## Generalizability of Findings

The TVPRA List is comprised of goods and countries that ILAB found to have a significant incidence of child labor and/or forced labor. However, it is important to understand that a listing of any particular good and country cannot be generalized to all production of that good in the country. In a given country there may be firms that produce the good in compliance with the law and international standards, and others that employ child labor and forced labor. The TVPRA List does not name specific companies using child labor or forced labor. It would be immensely difficult for ILAB to attempt to track the identity of every company producing a good using child labor or forced labor. In addition, it is ILAB's experience that child labor and forced labor frequently occur in small local enterprises, for which company names, if they are available, have little relevance. ILAB is also aware that it is often a simple matter to change or conceal the name of a company. Consequently, ILAB has concluded that seeking to track and name individual companies would be of limited value to the primary purpose of the TVPRA List, which is to promote ameliorative efforts at the country and sector levels.

<sup>i</sup> *Procedural Guidelines*, 72 Fed. Reg. at 73378.

<sup>ii</sup> *Procedural Guidelines*, 72 Fed. Reg. at 73378.

<sup>iii</sup> ILO, *Resolution concerning statistics of the economically active population, employment, unemployment and underemployment*, ILO, Geneva, October 1982; available from [http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/-dgreports/-stat/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms\\_087481.pdf](http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/-dgreports/-stat/documents/normativeinstrument/wcms_087481.pdf). See also ILO, *18<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians*, Geneva, November, 2007; available from: [http://ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/meetings-and-events/international-conference-of-labour-statisticians/WCMS\\_092024/lang-en/index.htm](http://ilo.org/global/statistics-and-databases/meetings-and-events/international-conference-of-labour-statisticians/WCMS_092024/lang-en/index.htm).

<sup>iv</sup> Edmonds, Eric. "Trade, Child Labor, and Schooling in Poor Countries," in *Trade Adjustment Costs in Developing Countries: Impacts, Determinants, and Policy Responses*, ed. G. Porto and B. Hoekman, Washington, DC: The World Bank Press, 2010; available from [http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETTRADE/Resources/239054-1239120299171/5998577-1244842549684/6205205-1247069686974/Trade\\_Adjustment\\_Costs.pdf](http://siteresources.worldbank.org/INTRANETTRADE/Resources/239054-1239120299171/5998577-1244842549684/6205205-1247069686974/Trade_Adjustment_Costs.pdf).

<sup>v</sup> Since 2011, ILAB has chosen to rely on sources that are no more than five years old. This policy is to ensure consistency with other ILAB reporting on international child labor.



## Procedural Guidelines

73374

Federal Register / Vol. 72, No. 247 / Thursday, December 27, 2007 / Notices

*Type of Review:* Extension of a currently approved collection of information.

*Agency:* Office of the Solicitor.

*Title:* Equal Access to Justice Act.

*OMB Number:* 1225-0013.

*Affected Public:* Individuals or household; Business or other for-profit; Not-for-profit institutions; Federal Government; State, Local or Tribal Government.

*Number of Respondents:* Varies by year; usually less than 10.

*Frequency:* On occasion.

*Total Responses:* See Number of Respondents.

*Average Time per Response:* 5 hours.

*Estimated Total Burden Hours:* 50 hours.

*Total annualized capital/startup costs:* \$0.

*Total Annualized costs (operation and maintenance):* \$0.

Comments submitted in response to this notice will be summarized and may be included in the request for OMB approval of the final information collection request. The comments will become a matter of public record.

Signed this 19th day of December, 2007.

**William W. Thompson, II,**

*Associate Solicitor for Management and Administrative Legal Services.*

[FR Doc. E7-25120 Filed 12-26-07; 8:45 am]

BILLING CODE 4510-23-P

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Office of the Secretary

#### Notice of Procedural Guidelines for the Development and Maintenance of the List of Goods From Countries Produced by Child Labor or Forced Labor; Request for Information

**AGENCY:** Bureau of International Labor Affairs, Department of Labor.

**ACTION:** Notice of procedural guidelines for the development and maintenance of a list of goods from countries produced by child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards; Request for information.

**SUMMARY:** This notice sets forth final procedural guidelines (“Guidelines”) for the development and maintenance of a list of goods from countries that the Bureau of International Labor Affairs (“ILAB”) has reason to believe are produced by child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards (“List”). The Guidelines establish the process for public submission of information, and the evaluation and reporting process to be used by the U.S. Department of Labor’s (“DOL”) Office of

Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking (“Office”) in maintaining and updating the List. DOL is required to develop and make available to the public the List pursuant to the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005. This notice also requests information on the use of child labor and/or forced labor in the production of goods internationally, as well as information on government, industry, or third-party actions and initiatives to address these problems. This information will be used by DOL as appropriate in developing the initial List.

**DATES:** This document is effective immediately upon publication of this notice. Information submitted in response to this notice must be received by the Office no later than March 26, 2008. Information received after that date may not be taken into consideration in developing DOL’s initial List, but such information will be considered by the Office as the List is maintained and updated in the future.

**TO SUBMIT INFORMATION, OR FOR FURTHER INFORMATION, CONTACT:** Director, Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking, Bureau of International Labor Affairs, U.S. Department of Labor at (202) 693-4843 (this is not a toll-free number). Information may be submitted by the following methods:

- *Facsimile (fax):* ILAB/Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking at 202-693-4830.
- *Mail, Express Delivery, Hand Delivery, and Messenger Service:* Charita Castro or Rachel Rigby at U.S. Department of Labor, ILAB/Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking, 200 Constitution Ave., NW., Room S-5317, Washington, DC 20210.
- *E-mail:* [ilab-tvpra@dol.gov](mailto:ilab-tvpra@dol.gov).

**SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:** Section 105(b)(1) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Reauthorization Act of 2005 (“TVPRA of 2005”), Public Law 109-164 (2006), directed the Secretary of Labor, acting through the Bureau of International Labor Affairs, to “carry out additional activities to monitor and combat forced labor and child labor in foreign countries.” Section 105(b)(2) of the TVPRA, 22 U.S.C. 7112(b)(2), listed these activities as:

- (A) Monitor the use of forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards;
- (B) Provide information regarding trafficking in persons for the purpose of forced labor to the Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking of the Department of State for inclusion in [the] trafficking in persons report required by section

110(b) of the Trafficking Victims Protection Act of 2000 (22 U.S.C. 7107(b));

(C) Develop and make available to the public a list of goods from countries that the Bureau of International Labor Affairs has reason to believe are produced by forced labor or child labor in violation of international standards;

(D) Work with persons who are involved in the production of goods on the list described in subparagraph (C) to create a standard set of practices that will reduce the likelihood that such persons will produce goods using the labor described in such subparagraph; and

(E) Consult with other departments and agencies of the United States Government to reduce forced and child labor internationally and ensure that products made by forced labor and child labor in violation of international standards are not imported into the United States.

The Office carries out the DOL mandates in the TVPRA. These Guidelines provide the framework for ILAB’s implementation of the TVPRA mandate, and establish procedures for the submission and review of information and the process for developing and maintaining the List. In addition to the Office’s efforts under the TVPRA, the Office conducts and publishes research on child labor and forced labor worldwide. The Office consults such sources as DOL’s *Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor*; the Department of State’s annual *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices and Trafficking in Persons Reports*; reports by governmental, non-governmental, and international organizations; and reports by academic and research institutions and other sources.

In addition to reviewing information submitted by the public in response to this Notice, the Office will also conduct a public hearing to gather information to assist in the development of the List. The Office will evaluate all information received according to the processes outlined in these Guidelines. Goods that meet the criteria outlined in these Guidelines will be placed on an initial List, published in the **Federal Register** and on the DOL Web site. DOL intends to maintain and update the List over time, through its own research, interagency consultations, and additional public submissions of information. Procedures for the ongoing maintenance of the List, and key terms used in these Guidelines, are described in detail below.

### Public Comments

On October 1, 2007, ILAB published a **Federal Register** notice of proposed procedural guidelines, requesting public comments on the proposed guidelines (72 FR 55808 (Oct. 1, 2007)). The notice provided a 30-day period for submitting written comments, which closed on Oct. 31, 2007. Written comments were received from nine parties. Several of the comments strongly supported the Department's efforts to combat child labor and forced labor. All of the comments were given careful consideration and where appropriate, changes were made to the Guidelines. The comments and any revisions to the proposed Guidelines are explained in detail below.

#### *A. Comments Concerning the Office's Evaluation of Information*

Several commenters questioned the Department's decision to consider information up to seven years old. One commenter asserted that even one-year-old information should be considered too dated to be relevant. The Department appreciates the importance of using up-to-date information. It is also the Office's experience that the use of child labor and forced labor in a country or in the production of a particular good typically persists for several years, particularly when no meaningful action is taken to combat it. Information about such activities is often actively concealed. Information that is several years old therefore can provide useful context for more current information. The Office will consider the date of all available information, and, as stated in the proposed Guidelines, "more current information will generally be given priority."

One commenter questioned how the Office would treat information on government efforts to combat the use of child labor and forced labor, stating that where a government undertakes voluntary efforts to regulate the production of goods and/or prosecutes incidents of child labor or forced labor, such government initiatives should not result in designating a particular good on the List. In response, the Office affirms the important role of government law enforcement, as well as other government, private sector, and third-party voluntary actions and initiatives to combat child labor and forced labor such as company and industry codes of conduct. However, the Office notes that some voluntary actions, as with some enforcement actions, are more effective than others. For example, some prosecutions may result in minimal or suspended

sentences for the responsible parties, and some voluntary actions by government, industry, or third parties, may be ineffective in combating the violative labor practices at issue. Accordingly, in determining whether to include a good and country on the List, the Office will consider particularly relevant and probative any available evidence of government, industry, and third-party actions and initiatives that are effective in significantly reducing if not eliminating child labor and forced labor.

Two commenters questioned why the Office would not consider confidential information in a submission, with one commenter stating that a submitter should have the option of providing information containing confidential information to the Office while also providing a redacted version for public release. In response, the Office has clarified its handling of submissions containing confidential, personal, or classified information. In the interest of maintaining a transparent process, the Office will not accept classified information in developing the List. The Office may request that any such information brought to its attention be declassified. The Office will accept submissions containing confidential or personal information, but pursuant to applicable laws and regulations may redact such submissions before making them publicly available.

#### *B. Comments Concerning the List of Goods and Countries*

Several commenters questioned why the List includes raw materials and/or components directly produced using child labor and forced labor, but not final goods made in part (indirectly produced) with such materials or components. Another commenter suggested that any final good produced indirectly with child labor or forced labor at any point in its production chain should be placed on the List, and that the List should specify where in the production chain the child labor or forced labor occurred. While the Office appreciates the importance of tracking raw materials or components produced in violation of international child labor or forced labor standards through the production chain, the difficulty of accurately conducting such tracking places it beyond the scope of these Guidelines. Ideally, the Office would have access to public information that would permit the comprehensive tracking of raw materials and component parts in the global supply chain, but the Office is unaware of any such publicly available information. Moreover, the Office is aware that many

goods used as raw materials or components in the production of other goods may be sourced from multiple locations within a country or even from several different countries.

Consequently, it would likely be extremely difficult to develop reliable information on the final destination or use of every good produced with child labor or forced labor. Inasmuch as the primary purpose of the List is to promote efforts at the country level to combat child labor and forced labor, that purpose is best served by identifying goods directly produced with child labor and forced labor. The Office observes that nothing in these Guidelines would prevent a member of the public from tracking the final destination or use of any good on the List.

Several commenters requested that the List name individual companies using child labor or forced labor, with two commenters suggesting that this practice would protect entities that do not use child labor or forced labor in their supply chains, or that might otherwise unknowingly trade in such goods. One commenter suggested that, in addition to listing goods and countries, the Office name industries using such goods. Another commenter suggested that the Office distinguish among individual factories within a country on the List, to ensure that goods not produced with child labor or forced labor are not subject to the same treatment as goods that are so produced. Another commenter suggested that the Department hold individual violators publicly accountable.

The TVPRA mandated a List of goods and countries, not company or industry names. It would be immensely difficult for the Office to attempt to track the identity of every company and industry using a good produced with child labor or forced labor. In addition, it is the Office's experience that child labor and forced labor frequently occur in small local enterprises, for which company names, if they are available, have little relevance. The Office is also aware that it is often a simple matter to change or conceal the name of a company. Consequently, the Office has concluded that seeking to track and name individual companies would be of limited value to the primary purpose of the List, which is to promote ameliorative efforts at the country level. Moreover, holding individual violators accountable would exceed the mandate of the TVPRA of 2005. However, the TVPRA of 2005 requires that the Department work with persons who are involved in the production of goods on the List to create a standard set of

practices to reduce the likelihood that such persons will produce goods using such labor. The Department intends to work with such persons once the initial List is developed.

*C. Comments Concerning the Development and Maintenance of the List*

One commenter suggested that the List be updated at regular intervals, and at least annually. Another commenter noted that the proposed Guidelines do not set a limit on how long a good may remain on the List, or a time period within which DOL must review the designation of a particular good. The Office anticipates that the addition, maintenance, or removal of an item on the List will be driven largely by the availability of accurate information. The Office will conduct its own research on goods produced with child labor and forced labor, and anticipates that additional information used to develop and maintain the List will be provided by the public. Consequently, the Office considers it a more efficient use of resources to re-examine goods on the List as pertinent information becomes available, rather than adhering to a fixed review schedule.

One commenter suggested that the Office provide a fixed time period within which it will decide whether to accept a submission of information. The Office has revised section B.3 of the Guidelines to remove the possibility that a submission of information will not be accepted. All submissions of information (with the exception of those containing classified information) will be accepted and evaluated for their relevance and probative value.

One commenter suggested that the Guidelines provide that the Office make a final determination whether to place a good on the List within a specific timeframe, such as within 120 days of receiving the submission. Although the Office intends to expedite its evaluation of any information submitted in response to this notice, it cannot guarantee that the Office's evaluation of a particular submission will be completed within a set timeframe. Some submissions may require further investigation by the Office, and other submissions may result in responsive submissions by other parties. Setting a fixed deadline may result in the inclusion or exclusion of a good on the List without the most comprehensive review possible.

One commenter suggested that before an entry is removed from the List, the Office should publish a notice in the **Federal Register** announcing its intention to consider removal of the

entry and giving interested parties an opportunity to comment. The Office does not intend to provide advance notice before an item is added to or removed from the List; however, if information is submitted that tends to support a change to the List, that information will be publicly available on the Office's Web site and will provide notice to the public that the status of a particular good is under review. Moreover, the Office retains the discretion to request additional information from time to time concerning a particular good; such a request will also provide notice to the public that the status of a good is under active consideration.

One commenter suggested that the Office ensure that any information indicating a possible violation of U.S. law is referred to an appropriate law enforcement agency. The Department has well-established procedures for the referral of information indicating a possible violation of U.S. laws to appropriate law enforcement agencies, and these procedures will be followed throughout the development and maintenance of the List.

*D. Comments Concerning Definitions and Terms*

Two commenters were concerned about the definitions of child labor and forced labor in the proposed Guidelines, questioning why they did not expressly reference International Labor Organization (ILO) conventions addressing child labor and forced labor. The commenters questioned why there were apparent differences between the definitions of terms in the proposed Guidelines and the corresponding definitions in the relevant ILO conventions. The Office has carefully considered these comments. Consequently, the definitions used in the final Guidelines have been revised to clarify that the Office will apply international standards.

Four commenters questioned the use of the terms "significant incidence" and "isolated incident" in the proposed Guidelines. One commenter raised an apparent inconsistency between the terms "significant," "prevalent," and "pattern of practice," in the proposed Guidelines' description of the amount of evidence that would weigh in favor of a finding that a particular good is produced in violation of international standards. Another commenter stated that the terms "significant" and "prevalent" provide inadequate guidance, because they do not address the percentage of workplaces in a country producing a particular good in violation of international standards, or

whether a good produced in one location represents a large or small share of a country's total exports of the good. One commenter recommended that the terms "significant" and "prevalent" be replaced with "recurring." Another commenter recommended that a more precise guideline be developed with respect to how much child labor or forced labor warrants the placement of a good on the List. One final commenter on this issue suggested that a good be removed from the List only if the use of child labor or forced labor is "insignificant," stating that that term is more precise than the terms used in the proposed Guidelines.

It is neither possible nor useful to precisely quantify the amount or percentage of child labor or forced labor that will be considered "significant," since what is considered "significant" will vary with a number of other factors. For that reason, the Guidelines provide that a "significant incidence" of child labor or forced labor occurring in the production of a particular good is only one among several factors that would be weighed before a good is added to, or removed from, the List. Other factors include whether the situation described meets the definitions of child labor or forced labor; the probative value of the evidence submitted; the date and source(s) of the information; and the extent to which the information is corroborated. The Guidelines also make clear that the Office will consider any available evidence of government, industry, and third-party actions and initiatives that are effective in significantly reducing if not eliminating child labor and forced labor. However, in response to these comments, the Office has decided to clarify the nature of the information sought by deleting the use of the term "prevalent." The Office will also change the phrase, "pattern of practice," to "pattern or practice." The suggested terms "recurring" or "insignificant" provide no additional precision.

Two commenters requested that the goods on the List be identified as specifically as possible, to avoid confusion with similar goods that have not been produced using child labor or forced labor in violation of international standards. Some commenters suggested that the List use product codes developed for the Harmonized Tariff Schedule (HTS), reasoning that the use of such codes would both provide more specificity and improve interagency consultation. The Office intends to identify all goods on the List as specifically as possible, depending on available information. However, parties submitting information on a particular

good may not have the necessary expertise to properly utilize the product codes developed for the HTS.

Another commenter suggested that the Office specifically include agricultural commodities in the definition of "goods." The Office considers that the term "goods" includes agricultural products and the definition of "produced" in the Guidelines expressly covers goods that are harvested or farmed.

#### Final Procedural Guidelines

##### *A. Sources of Information and Factors Considered in the Development and Maintenance of the List*

The Office will make use of all relevant information, whether gathered through research, public submissions of information, a public hearing, interagency consultations, or other means, in developing the List. In the interest of maintaining a transparent process, the Office will not accept classified information in developing the List. The Office may request that any such information brought to its attention be declassified. If submissions contain confidential or personal information, the Office may redact such information in accordance with applicable laws and regulations before making the submission available to the public.

In evaluating information, the Office will consider and weigh several factors, including:

1. *Nature of information.* Whether the information about child labor or forced labor gathered from research, public submissions, hearing testimony, or other sources is relevant and probative, and meets the definitions of child labor or forced labor.

2. *Date of information.* Whether the information about child labor or forced labor in the production of the good(s) is no more than 7 years old at the time of receipt. More current information will generally be given priority, and information older than 7 years will generally not be considered.

3. *Source of information.* Whether the information, either from primary or secondary sources, is from a source whose methodology, prior publications, degree of familiarity and experience with international labor standards, and/or reputation for accuracy and objectivity, warrants a determination that it is relevant and probative.

4. *Extent of corroboration.* The extent to which the information about the use of child labor or forced labor in the production of a good(s) is corroborated by other sources.

5. *Significant incidence of child labor or forced labor.* Whether the

information about the use of child labor or forced labor in the production of a good(s) warrants a determination that the incidence of such practices is significant in the country in question. Information that relates only to a single company or facility; or that indicates an isolated incident of child labor or forced labor, will ordinarily not weigh in favor of a finding that a good is produced in violation of international standards. Information that demonstrates a significant incidence of child labor or forced labor in the production of a particular good(s), although not necessarily representing a pattern or practice in the industry as a whole, will ordinarily weigh in favor of a finding that a good is produced in violation of international standards.

In determining which goods and countries are to be placed on the List, the Office will, as appropriate, take into consideration the stages in the chain of a good's production. Whether a good is placed on the List may depend on which stage of production used child labor or forced labor. For example, if child labor or forced labor was only used in the extraction, harvesting, assembly, or production of raw materials or component articles, and these materials or articles are subsequently used under non-violative conditions in the manufacture or processing of a final good, only the raw materials/component articles and the country/ies where they were extracted, harvested, assembled, or produced, as appropriate, may be placed on the List. If child labor or forced labor was used in both the production or extraction of raw materials/component articles and the manufacture or processing of a final good, then both the raw materials/component articles and the final good, and the country/ies in which such labor was used, may be placed on the List. This is to ensure a direct correspondence between the goods and countries which appear on the List, and the use of child labor or forced labor.

Information on government, industry, or third-party actions and initiatives to combat child labor or forced labor will be taken into consideration, although they are not necessarily sufficient in and of themselves to prevent a good and country from being listed. In evaluating such information, the Office will consider particularly relevant and probative any evidence of government, industry, and third-party actions and initiatives that are effective in significantly reducing if not eliminating child labor and forced labor.

Goods and countries ("entries") that meet the criteria outlined in these procedural Guidelines will be placed on

an initial List, to be published in the **Federal Register** and on the DOL Web site. This initial List will continue to be updated as additional information becomes available. Before publication of the initial List or subsequent versions of the List, the Office will inform the relevant foreign governments of their presence on the List and request their responses. The Office will review these responses and make a determination as to their relevance. The List, along with a listing of the sources used to identify the goods and countries on it, will be published in the **Federal Register** and on the DOL Web site. The List will represent DOL's conclusions based on all relevant information available at the time of publication.

For each entry, the List will indicate whether the good is made using child labor, forced labor, or both. As the List continues to be maintained and updated, the List will also indicate the date when each entry was included. The List will not include any company or individual names. DOL's postings on its website of source material used in identifying goods and countries on the List will be redacted to remove company or individual names, and other confidential material, pursuant to applicable laws and regulations.

##### *B. Procedures for the Maintenance of the List*

1. Following publication of the initial List, the Office will periodically review and update the List, as appropriate. The Office conducts ongoing research and monitoring of child labor and forced labor, and if relevant information is obtained through such research, the Office may add an entry to, or remove an entry from the List using the process described in section A of the Guidelines. The Office may also update the List on the basis of public information submissions, as detailed below.

2. Any party may at any time file an information submission with the Office regarding the addition or removal of an entry from the List. Submitters should take note of the criteria and instructions in the "Information Requested on Child Labor and Forced Labor" section of this notice, as well as the criteria listed in Section A of the Guidelines.

3. The Office will review any submission of information to determine whether it provides relevant and probative information.

4. The Office may consider a submission less reliable if it determines that: the submission does not clearly indicate the source(s) of the information presented; the submission does not identify the party filing the submission

or is not signed and dated; the submission does not provide relevant or probative information; or, the information is not within the scope of the TVPRA and/or does not address child labor or forced labor as defined herein. All submissions received will be made available to the public on the DOL Web site, consistent with applicable laws or regulations.

5. In evaluating a submission, the Office will conduct further examination of available information relating to the good and country, as necessary, to assist the Office in making a determination concerning the addition or removal of the good from the List. The Office will undertake consultations with relevant U.S. government agencies and foreign governments, and may hold a public hearing for the purpose of receiving relevant information from interested persons.

6. In order for an entry to be removed from the List, any person filing information regarding the entry must provide information that demonstrates that there is no significant incidence of child labor or forced labor in the production of the particular good in the country in question. In evaluating information on government, industry, or third-party actions and initiatives to combat child labor or forced labor, the Office will consider particularly relevant and probative any available evidence of government, industry, and third-party actions that are effective in significantly reducing if not eliminating child labor and forced labor.

7. Where the Office has made a determination concerning the addition, maintenance, or removal of the entry from the List, and where otherwise appropriate, the Office will publish an updated List in the **Federal Register** and on the DOL Web site.

#### C. Key Terms Used in the Guidelines

**“Child Labor”**—“Child labor” under international standards means all work performed by a person below the age of 15. It also includes all work performed by a person below the age of 18 in the following practices: (A) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale or trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom, or forced or compulsory labor, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict; (B) the use, procuring, or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic purposes; (C) the use, procuring, or offering of a child for illicit activities in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs; and (D) 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. The work referred to in subparagraph (D) is determined by the laws, regulations, or competent authority of the country involved, after consultation with the organizations of employers and workers concerned, and taking into consideration relevant international standards. This definition will not apply to work specifically authorized by national laws, including work done by children in schools for general, vocational or technical education or in other training institutions, where such work is carried out in accordance with international standards under conditions prescribed by the competent authority, and does not prejudice children’s attendance in school or their capacity to benefit from the instruction received.

**“Countries”**—“Countries” means any foreign country or territory, including any overseas dependent territory or possession of a foreign country, or the Trust Territory of the Pacific Islands.

**“Forced Labor”**—“Forced labor” under international standards means all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty for its nonperformance and for which the worker does not offer himself voluntarily, and includes indentured labor. “Forced labor” includes work provided or obtained by force, fraud, or coercion, including: (1) By threats of serious harm to, or physical restraint against any person; (2) by means of any scheme, plan, or pattern intended to cause the person to believe that, if the person did not perform such labor or services, that person or another person would suffer serious harm or physical restraint; or (3) by means of the abuse or threatened abuse of law or the legal process. For purposes of this definition, forced labor does not include work specifically authorized by national laws where such work is carried out in accordance with conditions prescribed by the competent authority, including: any work or service required by compulsory military service laws for work of a purely military character; work or service which forms part of the normal civic obligations of the citizens of a fully self-governing country; work or service exacted from any person as a consequence of a conviction in a court of law, provided that the said work or service is carried out under the supervision and control of a public authority and that the said person is not hired to or placed at the disposal of private individuals, companies or associations; work or service required in cases of emergency, such as in the event of war or of a calamity or threatened

calamity, fire, flood, famine, earthquake, violent epidemic or epizootic diseases, invasion by animal, insect or vegetable pests, and in general any circumstance that would endanger the existence or the well-being of the whole or part of the population; and minor communal services of a kind which, being performed by the members of the community in the direct interest of the said community, can therefore be considered as normal civic obligations incumbent upon the members of the community, provided that the members of the community or their direct representatives have the right to be consulted in regard to the need for such services.

**“Goods”**—“Goods” means goods, wares, articles, materials, items, supplies, and merchandise.

**“Indentured Labor”**—“Indentured labor” means all labor undertaken pursuant to a contract entered into by an employee the enforcement of which can be accompanied by process or penalties.

**“International Standards”**—“International standards” means generally accepted international standards relating to forced labor and child labor, such as international conventions and treaties. These Guidelines employ definitions of “child labor” and “forced labor” derived from international standards.

**“Produced”**—“Produced” means mined, extracted, harvested, farmed, produced, created, and manufactured.

#### Information Requested on Child Labor and Forced Labor

DOL requests current information about the nature and extent of child labor and forced labor in the production of goods internationally, as well as information on government, industry, or third-party actions and initiatives to address these problems. Information submitted may include studies, reports, statistics, news articles, electronic media, or other sources. Submitters should take into consideration the “Sources of Information and Factors Considered in the Development and Maintenance of the List” (Section A of the Procedural Guidelines), as well as the definitions of child labor and forced labor contained in section C of the Guidelines.

Information tending to establish the presence or absence of a significant incidence of child labor or forced labor in the production of a particular good in a country will be considered the most relevant and probative. Governments that have ratified International Labor Organization (“ILO”) Convention 138 (Minimum Age), Convention 182 (Worst Forms of Child Labor), Convention 29

(Forced Labor) and/or Convention 105 (Abolition of Forced Labor) may wish to submit relevant copies of their responses to any Observations or Direct Requests by the ILO's Committee of Experts on the Application of Conventions and Recommendations.

Where applicable, information submissions should indicate their source or sources, and copies of the source material should be provided. If primary sources are utilized, such as research studies, interviews, direct observations, or other sources of quantitative or qualitative data, details on the research or data-gathering methodology should be provided.

Information should be submitted to the addresses and within the time period set forth above. Submissions made via fax, mail, express delivery, hand delivery, or messenger service should clearly identify the person filing the submission and should be signed and dated. Submissions made via mail, express delivery, hand delivery, or messenger service should include an original and three copies of all materials and attachments. If possible, submitters should also provide copies of such materials and attachments on a computer disc. Note that security-related screening may result in significant delays in receiving comments and other written materials by regular mail.

Classified information will not be accepted. The Office may request that classified information brought to its attention be declassified. Submissions containing confidential or personal information may be redacted by the Office before being made available to the public, in accordance with applicable laws and regulations. All submissions will be made available to the public on the DOL Web site, as appropriate. The Office will not respond directly to submissions or return any submissions to the submitter, but the Office may communicate with the submitter regarding any matters relating to the submission.

#### Announcement of Public Hearing

DOL intends to hold a public hearing in 2008 to gather further information to assist in the development of the List. DOL expects to issue a **Federal Register** Notice announcing the hearing at least 30 days prior to the hearing date. The scope of the hearing will focus on the collection of information on child labor and forced labor in the production of goods internationally, and information on government, industry, or third-party actions and initiatives to combat child labor and forced labor. Information tending to demonstrate the presence or

absence of a significant incidence of child labor or forced labor in the production of a particular good in a country will be considered the most relevant and probative.

Signed at Washington, DC, this 20th day of December, 2007.

**Charlotte M. Ponticelli,**

*Deputy Undersecretary for International Affairs.*

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**BILLING CODE 4510-28-P**

## DEPARTMENT OF LABOR

### Bureau of Labor Statistics

#### Proposed Collection; Comment Request

**ACTION:** Notice.

**SUMMARY:** The Department of Labor, as part of its continuing effort to reduce paperwork and respondent burden, conducts a pre-clearance consultation program to provide the general public and Federal agencies with an opportunity to comment on proposed and/or continuing collections of information in accordance with the Paperwork Reduction Act of 1995 (PRA95) [44 U.S.C. 3506(c) (2)(A)]. This program helps to ensure that requested data can be provided in the desired format, reporting burden (time and financial resources) is minimized, collection instruments are clearly understood, and the impact of collection requirements on respondents can be properly assessed. Currently, the Bureau of Labor Statistics (BLS) is soliciting comments concerning the proposed revision of the "Current Population Survey (CPS)." A copy of the proposed information collection request (ICR) can be obtained by contacting the individual listed below in the **ADDRESSES** section of this notice.

**DATES:** Written comments must be submitted to the office listed in the Addresses section below on or before February 25, 2008.

**ADDRESSES:** Send comments to Amy A. Hobby, BLS Clearance Officer, Division of Management Systems, Bureau of Labor Statistics, Room 4080, 2 Massachusetts Avenue, NE., Washington, DC 20212, 202-691-7628. (This is not a toll-free number.)

**FOR FURTHER INFORMATION CONTACT:** Amy A. Hobby, BLS Clearance Officer, 202-691-7628. (See **ADDRESSES** section.)

#### **SUPPLEMENTARY INFORMATION:**

##### **I. Background**

The CPS has been the principal source of the official Government

statistics on employment and unemployment for over 60 years. The labor force information gathered through the survey is of paramount importance in keeping track of the economic health of the Nation. The survey is the only source of monthly data on total employment and unemployment, with the Employment Situation report containing data from this survey being a Primary Federal Economic Indicator (PFEI). Moreover, the survey also yields data on the basic status and characteristics of persons not in the labor force. The CPS data are used monthly, in conjunction with data from other sources, to analyze the extent to which, and with what success, the various components of the American population are participating in the economic life of the Nation.

The labor force data gathered through the CPS are provided to users in the greatest detail possible, in conjunction with the demographic information obtained in the survey. In brief, the labor force data can be broken down by sex, age, race and ethnic origin, marital status, family composition, educational level, and other characteristics. Beginning in 2009, a breakdown by disability status will also be possible. Through such breakdowns, one can focus on the employment situation of specific population groups as well as on general trends in employment and unemployment. Information of this type can be obtained only through demographically oriented surveys such as the CPS.

The basic CPS data also are used as an important platform on which to base the data derived from the various supplemental questions that are administered in conjunction with the survey. By coupling the basic data from the monthly survey with the special data from the supplements, one can get valuable insights on the behavior of American workers and on the social and economic health of their families.

There is wide interest in the monthly CPS data among Government policymakers, legislators, economists, the media, and the general public. While the data from the CPS are used in conjunction with data from other surveys in assessing the economic health of the Nation, they are unique in various ways. Specifically, they are the basis for much of the monthly Employment Situation report, a PFEI. They provide a monthly, nationally representative measure of total employment, including farm work, self-employment and unpaid family work; other surveys are generally restricted to the nonagricultural wage and salary sector, or provide less timely



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**Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking**

Bureau of International Labor Affairs

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