TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

**Project Title**: To Contribute to Developing National Capacities to Achieve the 2015 National Child Labor Reduction Targets and the ILO Global Targets for Ending the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Cambodia by 2016.

**Region/Country**: SOUTHEAST ASIA/Cambodia

**Project Duration**: September 30, 2008 – December 31, 2012

**Fiscal Year & Funding Level**: FY 2008: USD 4,310,000

**Problem to be Addressed**: In Cambodia, child labor is a common phenomenon. Extensive rural poverty, including food and income shortages, has led to increased migration to urban and border areas for work in high growth and export industries. Children work under hazardous conditions in small industries such as brick-making, salt farms, fishing and fish-products processing, as well as in the informal sector as domestic workers and porters. Cross-border migration to Thailand and Vietnam for work has also increased children’s risk for trafficking for sexual and labor exploitation. In urban areas, children work in restaurants, construction, and tourism, in addition to working as street vendors and scavengers.

**Results**: Through the provision of education services, this project withdrew 5,860 children and prevented 5,884 children from the worst forms of child labor (WFCL), including trafficking and hazardous work in brick-making, portering, salt production, fishing, and urban child labor. The project worked in 15 provinces: Sihanoukville, Kampot, Kep, Phnom Penh, Kampong Cham, Siem Reap, Banteay Meanchey, Koh Kong, Kandal, Svey Reang, Krachie, Rattanakiri, Kompong Thom, Kampong Channam, and Battambang.

**Project Objectives**: Reduce the number of children engaged in the worst forms of child labor in Cambodia.

Intermediate objectives include:

- Improve national and provincial policy frameworks to support the achievement of National and ILO targets for reducing child labor by 2015 and ending WFCL by 2016;
- Strengthen the capacity of national institutions and key stakeholders; mobilize networks at the provincial and national levels to effectively combat WFCL and increase public awareness.
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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

- Provided training on ways to build linkages between institutions implementing the National Plan of Action to eliminate child labor;
- Enhanced national and provincial capacity to engage, plan, and coordinate efforts between government and NGOs;
- Raised awareness on child labor in 15 provinces through print, audio, and visual media;
- Conducted and supported research studies on child labor to improve the knowledge base;
- Supported networking among employer and worker organizations to advocate for combating child labor and safe migration for decent work;
- Selected a target group of working children and those at-risk and provided educational or vocational training and other support needs;
- Strengthened and expanded child labor monitoring systems in existing and new provinces and municipalities;
- Piloted the creation of child labor free zones to identify and withdraw child laborers and to prevent at-risk children from trafficking and child labor;
- Prepared good practices and intervention models for monitoring, evaluation and research, and shared information with a broad audience of policy makers and stakeholders.

GRANTEE

International Labor Organization’s International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (ILO-IPEC)

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training; Ministry of Education, Youth and Sports; Ministry of Women’s Affairs; Ministry of Information; Ministry of Interior; Ministry of Planning; National Sub-committee on Child Labor; Provincial/Municipal Departments of Labor and Vocational Training; Employers and Workers Organizations; and NGOs yet to be determined

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking (OCFT), 202-693-4843

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