ATLAS Progress Report Highlights

Period Covered: January 1, 2019 - June 30, 2020

Empowering Governments to Combat Labor and Trafficking Crimes

The Attaining Lasting Change for Better Enforcement of Labor and Criminal Law to Address Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking (**ATLAS**) project supports government efforts to combat **child labor (CL)**, **forced labor (FL)**, and **human trafficking (HT)** through **strengthening legal frameworks, improving enforcement** of the labor and criminal frameworks, and **increasing coordination** between government and social protection entities. ATLAS is a four-year project currently operating in Thailand and Paraguay, with discussions underway with the governments of Liberia and Argentina to begin work in those countries in the fourth quarter. In 2019, ATLAS laid the groundwork for the project by opening field offices; hiring staff; and developing key project documents, including the Body of Knowledge, Pre-Situational Analysis, and the Comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation (M&E) Plan, which are described below.

Differentiated Model of Practice Strategy

To strengthen enforcement systems and coordination mechanisms, ATLAS developed a unique, evidence-based approach known as differentiated model of practice (DMOP) for achieving project outcomes. This nine-step strategy will tailor interventions based on the Body of Knowledge and the in-country pre-situational analysis of each ATLAS country; pilot and evaluate interventions for effectiveness; and refine, implement, and institutionalize them.
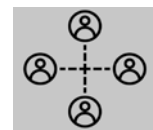
ATLAS Key Indicators

Number of activities implemented to strengthen the labor and/or criminal judicial system for child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking

Number of individuals provided with training or other support to improve enforcement of, or compliance with CL, FL, or other workers' rights law or policies

Number of evidence-based coordination models that address institutional priorities

ATLAS Start-Up Highlights

Body of Knowledge (BOK)
To support and inform ATLAS' work, the project compiled a research document that evaluates the effectiveness of interventions in the realms of legal frameworks, enforcement, and coordination. ATLAS assessed existing studies to determine whether specific interventions successfully reduced CL, FL, and HT.

Comprehensive Monitoring and Evaluation Plan (CMEP) Workshops
In preparation for the CMEP, the project held two workshops, one in Bangkok and one in Washington, DC. The workshops brought together stakeholders—including the ATLAS team, partner organizations, and representatives from the US and international governments—to learn about the project's key definitions, theory of change, activity map and result framework, indicator development, and donor M&E and reporting requirements.

January 2019	ATLAS Project Launch
May 2019	CMEP Workshop
August 2019	CMEP Package 1
November 2019	CMEP Workshop Thailand
February 2020	CMEP Package 2
April 2020	Thailand PSA
April 2020	BOK Submitted
April 2020	Paraguay PSA Submitted
May 2020	CMEP Approved

Pre-Situational Analyses (PSAs)
ATLAS conducts a PSA before initiating activities in a country to inform the design of the interventions. The PSA analyzes the country's laws, statements, enforcement, and coordination around CL, FL, and HT. The PSA serves as a baseline for ATLAS and identifies the gaps and recommends solutions to improve instances of CL, FL, and HT. ATLAS has completed the PSAs for Thailand and Paraguay, which it will share with partner organizations and government stakeholders.
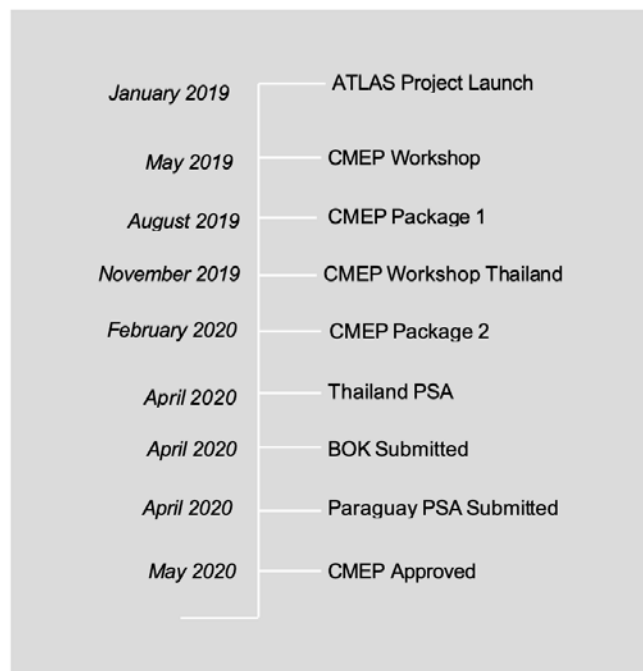
Paraguay PSA Validation Meeting
ATLAS held a validation meeting in Paraguay that brought together representatives from government ministries, international organizations, workers unions, business associations, and civil society organizations. At the meeting, participants validated the PSA findings, ranked the effective interventions by their relevance to ATLAS' objectives, and provided input on proposed activities to address the findings.

Thailand Government Engagement
ATLAS engaged productively with the Thai government at every step of the process and received their endorsement to operate in Thailand. Before beginning activities there, ATLAS held coordination meetings with various ministries to ensure that the project's vision aligned with that of the government. The CMEP workshop held in Bangkok included presentations from the Ministry of Labor, Royal Thai Police, and Office of the Attorney General, which all submitted input that was included in the final version of the Thailand PSA.

ATLAS Takeaway

In the first year and a half of the project, ATLAS has developed a significant **knowledge base** from which it can build interventions, design activities, and establish **strong relationships** with host country governments, partner organizations, and others. ATLAS also has developed the innovative **DMOP** strategy that allows interventions to be tailored to specific country contexts and integrated sustainably into existing frameworks.

For more information about the Attaining Lasting Change for Better Enforcement of Labor and Criminal Law to Address Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking (ATLAS) project, please contact Ms. Tanya Andrade, Project Director (tanya.andrade@winrock.org)