

Evaluation Summary: Support to the Indonesian National Plan of Action and the Development of the TBP for the Elimination of the WFCL (including Aceh Addendum)

Project and Evaluation Facts

Region/Country: ASIA/Indonesia

Grantee: International Labor Organization's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (ILO-IPEC)

Project Duration: September 30, 2003 – March 31, 2008

Fiscal Year and Funding Level:

FY 2003 USD 4,065,000

FY 2005 USD 1,500,000

Type of Evaluation: Final

Date of Evaluation: January 2008

Mode of Evaluation: Independent

Evaluation Management: ILO-IPEC DED

Evaluator(s): Clarence Schubert (Team Leader), Lamtiur Tampubolon, Antiani Arna

Background and Context

Summary of Project Objectives and Focus

The project supported the implementation of the first phase of the 20-year National Plan of Action and Time Bound Program for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor (WFCL) in Indonesia.

The project was focused on children engaged in or at risk of engaging in child labor in the following commercial sectors: prostitution; the sale, production and trafficking of drugs; footwear production; mining; and off-shore fishing. The project was guided by the following Development and Immediate Objectives:

Development Objective: To contribute to the elimination of the worst forms of child labor in Indonesia, including post-tsunami Aceh.

Immediate Objectives:

- National, provincial and district development plans and policies include child labor concerns;
- Education and training policies will be more responsive to the needs of children engaged in or at risk of engaging in WFCL;
- Knowledge base on child labor will be enhanced and used to monitor trends and assist in the development and implementation of relevant policies;

- Legislative framework will be enhanced and better enforced;
- Behavior and attitudes toward WFCL will be changed;
- Capacities of key stakeholders to plan, monitor, implement, and evaluate actions to prevent and eliminate WFCL will be strengthened;
- Detailed information on the extent and nature of WFCL in targeted provinces will be available and will be used to inform interventions;
- Children will have been withdrawn from WFCL and will have been prevented from engaging in WFCL as a consequence of direct interventions;
- Poor families will have been provided with new socio-economic opportunities to increase their incomes; and
- Assistance for non-formal education and vocational training in schools and community learning centers in Aceh and Nias will be provided.

The project was designed to work closely with government, workers' organizations, employers' organizations as well as various NGO's and community-based organizations.

Purpose and Scope of Evaluation

The final evaluation examined project performance during the cooperative agreement in relation to stated objectives. Specifically, the evaluation reviewed and assessed activities with respect to their relevance, effectiveness, efficiency, impact, and sustainability. Further, the evaluation was designed to be a learning process that could serve to inform future developments in the elimination of child labor in Indonesia and world-wide, as applicable.

Methodology of Evaluation

The evaluation was based on a desk review of relevant documentation, followed by a field mission to Jakarta and four provinces by the evaluation team from the 13th of January 2008 to the 26th of January 2008. The field work consisted of

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interviews, focus groups and other information collection techniques with stakeholders including government representatives, trade unions and employers' organizations, NGO's at the national, provincial, and district level, children, parents of beneficiaries, teachers, project staff, and USDOL representatives. The evaluation conformed to ILO-IPEC guidelines, and was affected in accordance with the terms of reference (TOR), as prepared by IPEC-DED with input from USDOL and other key stakeholders.

Evaluation's Main Findings & Conclusions

Performance Summary

At its conclusion, the project has successfully achieved all of its stated objectives, not only strengthening the domestic policy environment, but also achieving overall targets for the withdrawal and prevention of children from WFCL. Further, the project successfully provided assistance to Aceh following the tsunami in 2005.

Nonetheless, the withdrawal of children engaged in the illegal drug trade remains a notable challenge, and the establishment of the Aceh Provincial Action Committee was not realized at the time of the evaluation.

Lessons Learned & Recommendations

Lessons Learned

- Efforts that served to combine policy and regulatory initiatives with direct action interventions have proved to be the most effective;
- Involvement of community organizations and local government actors with NGO projects has proved to be critical for implementation and sustainability;
- Provincial and district Action Committees have proved to be a requisite to ensure government and NGO coordination. Action Committees under the Commission for Protection of Children have proved to be more influential;

- Direct management of small short-term contracts has proved to be appropriate for the first phase of the project, however the structure may not prove to be suitable for the second phase of the project; and
- The following interventions have served to effectively expand access to and improve secondary education:
 - Grants to poor families and students for education-related expenses;
 - Remedial education for at risk students;
 - Teacher training on active, creative, effective, and enjoyable methods;
 - Training on life skills, child rights, and the risks of child labor; and
 - Combine elementary and junior high in one roof schools in remote locations.

Key Recommendations

- Develop long-term contracts with a few key partners to mentor, monitor and assist reporting by small project implementers;
- Support establishment of Action Committees in remaining 12 provinces and districts;
- Support the establishment of a Commission for Protection of Children in every province and district and place Action Committees for elimination of WFCL under it;
- Partner with national teachers union and Ministry of National Education to disseminate modules on child rights, child labor, and life skills;
- Partner with national NGO network to increase training and monitoring capacity;
- Partner with Indonesian Employers Association to connect private sector with pre-vocational and vocational training;
- Partner with key stakeholders to develop systematic training, monitoring and networking of peer educators and counselors;
- Conduct relevant monitoring and evaluation training with new and existing partners; and
- Identify and support the most cost effective and sustainable interventions.