

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	PARAGUAY OKAKUAA ("Paraguay Progresses" in Guaraní)
REGION/COUNTRY	THE AMERICAS / Paraguay
PROJECT DURATION	November 3, 2015 – November 4, 2019
FISCAL YEAR & FUNDING LEVEL	FY 2015 USD 6,000,000
PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED	<p>In Paraguay, recurrent labor violations include the worst forms of child labor (WFCL), illegal and unregistered adolescent labor, and failure to observe minimum wage and maximum hours of work for adolescents of legal working age and adults. Poverty, social acceptance, and limited education, training and livelihood opportunities create vulnerabilities to child labor exploitation in agriculture, domestic service, and urban work. There is also both youth unemployment and underemployment, especially among girls in rural areas, which can limit their future employment prospects and professional development. The Paraguayan Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security (MTESS), which became an independent ministry in 2014, seeks to build a highly effective, professional labor inspectorate to improve labor law compliance.</p>
TARGETS	<p>The project will provide direct services to 1,240 children (ages 5-13), 1,650 adolescents, and 1,350 households in the Department of Guairá (Borja, Iturbe, Mauricio José Troche, Paso Yobai, and Villarrica Districts).</p>
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p><i>Paraguay Okakuaa</i> has the goals of supporting Paraguay in its efforts to reduce the WFCL and improving labor law compliance and working conditions, with a particular focus on the Department of Guairá.</p> <p>The project has two key objectives:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Children protected and educational opportunities expanded in the Department of Guairá; and• Labor laws enforced and working conditions improved in the Department of Guairá.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Paraguay Okakuaa will use an area-based approach to combat the WFCL in urban work and agriculture, and it will continue the progress already made in eliminating child labor in sugarcane production. The project will:

- Increase awareness on the WFCL and labor rights, including acceptable conditions of work (minimum wage and hours of work)
- Improve multi-agency coordination to reduce the WFCL in Guairá with a focus on agriculture, particularly in sugarcane, and in urban work.
- Develop and pilot an integrated data sharing system (*registro único*) to eliminate the WFCL and protect children and adolescents in the Department of Guairá.
- Refer vulnerable children to social protection programs.
- Implement educational pilot programs for in-school and after-school enrichment including *Espacios para Crecer* (EpC), 4-H Clubs, and SuperCamps, in each target municipalities.
- Conduct vocational training, especially for adolescent girls or rural females.
- Increase labor law compliance, particularly with reference to child/adolescent labor and minimum wage and hours.
- Improve knowledge and technical capacity of labor law inspectors through an improved inspector training program that includes a classroom and field components, curriculum, and training materials.
- Assist the MTESS with strategic planning, annual operational planning, human resource management, and monitoring and evaluation of labor inspections.

GRANTEE

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Centro de Información y Recursos para el Desarrollo (CIRD)

CONTACT INFORMATION

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