

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

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| PROJECT TITLE | Support for the Implementation of the Decent Work Country Program in Uzbekistan |
| REGION/COUNTRY | ASIA/Uzbekistan |
| PROJECT DURATION | December 19, 2014-December 18, 2018 |
| FISCAL YEAR & FUNDING LEVEL | FY 2014: USD \$2,000,000 FY 2015: USD \$4,000,000 |

PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED

In April 2014, the Republic of Uzbekistan signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the International Labor Organization (ILO) for the first Decent Work Country Program (DWCP) in that country. A DWCP is a strategic partnership in which the ILO provides technical advice and support to a government in its efforts to realize core international labor standards through law and practice and to promote decent work. In Uzbekistan, key challenges to be addressed through the DWCP include recruitment practices in the cotton sector that may lead to child labor or forced labor; limited experience among workers' and employers' organizations in advocating for their interests in labor policy; and the need for job opportunities for the growing proportion of young people in the working-age population.

PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The goal of the project is to build the capacity among national and local stakeholders to advocate for a reduction in child labor and forced labor and to promote fundamental principles and rights at work through the framework of the Decent Work Country Program agreement between the Government of Uzbekistan and the ILO.

Specific objectives include:

- Undertake research on the extent and nature of child labor and forced labor in Uzbekistan's agricultural sector, including the cotton-growing industry;
- Provide technical assistance to develop and implement laws and policies to apply international and national labor standards;
- Create an occupational safety and health management system;
- Establish effective labor market information systems and employment services.

SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

The project is designed to reach these objectives through the following activities:

- Conduct research on recruitment practices and working conditions in the agricultural sector and facilitate the development of an appropriate policy response;
- Provide technical support and training to establish and strengthen a regular mechanism for monitoring and enforcement for child labor in sectors where it is known to

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occur;

- Provide technical and legal advice in support of the ratification of various international rights and labor conventions and in the drafting of domestic labor laws;
- Provide training to enhance the ability of workers' and employers' organizations to represent their constituencies in dialogue on labor issues;
- Facilitate a peer review by another ILO member country on Uzbekistan's youth employment programs;
- Assess Uzbekistan's labor market information system and develop recommendations in consultation with the tripartite constituents of government, workers', and employers' representatives;
- Support tripartite review of present national occupational safety and health standards, national wages, and collective bargaining; and
- Train on social protection measures and ILO standards.

GRANTEE

International Labor Organization

CONTACT INFORMATION

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