
Scrutiny on Human Rights, AFR 64/003/2004, Amnesty International, London, May 2004.

¹²³⁵ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Eritrea," section 5. See also U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, February 29, 2008, para 2b.

¹²³⁶ Amnesty International, *You Have No Right to Ask*, 25. See also Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, *Global Report 2004: Eritrea*. See also Human Rights Watch, *Essential Background: Overview of Human Rights Issues in Eritrea*, Human Rights Watch, Washington, D.C., January 2004; available from <http://hrw.org/english/docs/2004/01/21/eritre6987.htm>.

¹²³⁷ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, December 3, 2007.

¹²³⁸ Government of Eritrea, *The Labour Proclamation of Eritrea*, articles 9(1), 68(1). See also ILO Committee of Experts, *Individual Direct Request, Minimum Age Convention*.

¹²³⁹ Government of Eritrea, *The Labour Proclamation of Eritrea*, articles 68-9. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Eritrea," section 6d.

¹²⁴⁰ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 44 of the Convention, Initial reports of the States parties due in 1996: Addendum, Eritrea*, CRC/C/41/Add.12, United Nations, Geneva, December 23, 2002, para 88; available from <http://tb.ohchr.org/default.aspx?country=er>.

¹²⁴¹ Government of Eritrea, *The Transitional Eritrean Penal Code*, (1991), articles 605-607. See also Hanibal Goitom, *Eritrea: Child Labor*, Law Library of Congress, February 2008, 3. See also U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, February 29, 2008, para 3a.

¹²⁴² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Eritrea," section 6d. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Addendum: Eritrea*, para 422.

¹²⁴³ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, December 3, 2007.

¹²⁴⁴ *Ibid.* See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Eritrea," section 6d.

¹²⁴⁵ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, December 3, 2007.

¹²⁴⁶ *Ibid.*

¹²⁴⁷ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Summary Record of the 866th Meeting (Thirty-third Session) - Consideration of Reports of States Parties (Continued), Initial Report of Eritrea (Continued)*, CRC/C/SR.866, New York, June 2, 2003, para 77. See also U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, December 3, 2007.

¹²⁴⁸ UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 44 of the Convention, Second and third periodic reports of States parties due in 2006: Eritrea*, CRC/C/ERI/3, United Nations, Geneva, October 23, 2007, 87; available from <http://tb.ohchr.org/default.aspx?country=er>.

¹²⁴⁹ U.S. Embassy- Asmara, *reporting*, December 3, 2007.

Ethiopia

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

In Ethiopia, most children work for their families without pay.¹²⁵⁰ The number of working children is higher in the Amhara, Oromiya, Southern Nation, Nationalities and Peoples (SNNPR), and Tigray regions, compared with other regions.¹²⁵¹ In both rural and urban areas, children often begin working at young ages, with many starting work at age 5.¹²⁵² In rural areas, children work primarily in agriculture with their families,¹²⁵³ commercial agriculture, and domestic service.¹²⁵⁴ Children in rural areas, especially boys, engage in activities such as cattle herding, petty trading, plowing, harvesting, and weeding, while other children, mostly girls, collect firewood and water.¹²⁵⁵

In urban areas, many children, including orphans, work in domestic service.¹²⁵⁶ Child domestics work long hours, which may prevent them from attending school regularly. Many feel unable to quit their jobs and fear physical, verbal, and sexual abuse from their employers while performing their work.¹²⁵⁷ Children in urban areas also work in construction, manufacturing,¹²⁵⁸ shoe shining, tailoring, portering, directing customers into taxis, trading, and animal herding. Girls also work in bars and hotels.¹²⁵⁹ The Government estimates that there are between 150,000 and 200,000 street children in the country, while UNICEF places this figure at 600,000. Many of these children live and work on the streets of Addis Ababa, and some work in the informal sector in order to survive.¹²⁶⁰

**Selected Statistics and Indicators
on Child Labor¹²⁶¹**

Working children, 5-14 years (%), 2005:	50.1
Working boys, 5-14 years (%), 2005:	58.1
Working girls, 5-14 years (%), 2005:	41.6
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%), 2005:	
- Agriculture	95.2
- Manufacturing	1.3
- Services	3.4
- Other	0.2
Minimum age for work:	14
Compulsory education age:	Not Compulsory
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	98
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2006:	66
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2005:	29.2 Unavailable
Survival rate to grade 5 (%):	-
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Associated
*Must pay for miscellaneous school expenses	

The commercial sexual exploitation of children is on the rise in Ethiopia, especially in urban areas.¹²⁶² Young girls, some as young as age 11, have reportedly been recruited to work in brothels, where they are sought by customers who believe them to be free of sexually transmitted infections. Girls are also exploited in prostitution at hotels, bars, rural truck stops, and in resort towns.¹²⁶³ Reports indicate that some young girls have been forced into prostitution by their family members, while other girls have been forcibly sexually exploited by their teachers in exchange for favors such as better grades.¹²⁶⁴

Within Ethiopia, children are trafficked from rural areas to urban areas, including from Oromiya and SNNPR to other regions for forced or bonded labor in domestic service. Most children are trafficked for domestic service, commercial sexual exploitation, and for forced labor in activities such as weaving and begging.¹²⁶⁵

In 2007, the Ministry of Labor and Social Affairs (MOLSA) and UNICEF published the National Study on Child Trafficking in Ethiopia, which focused on child trafficking within the country. The study found that children are most often trafficked by family members, friends, or members of their communities, including priests, in some cases.¹²⁶⁶

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years.¹²⁶⁷ The law forbids employers to employ “young workers,” defined as children 14 to 18 years, when the nature of the job or the conditions under which it is carried out might endanger the life or health of a child. Prohibited activities include transporting goods by air, land, or water; working with electric power generation plants; and performing underground work.¹²⁶⁸ Young workers are prohibited from working more than 7 hours per day, or between 10 p.m. and 6 a.m., during weekly rest days, and on public holidays.¹²⁶⁹

The law states that children have the right to be protected against exploitive practices and work conditions and should not engage in employment that could threaten their health, education, or well-being.¹²⁷⁰ The law prohibits all forms of human trafficking for forced labor and sexual exploitation.¹²⁷¹ The trafficking of women and children carries a penalty of 5 to 20 years of imprisonment and a fine.¹²⁷² The law also prohibits the compulsory or forced labor of children. The minimum age for conscription and voluntary recruitment into the military is 18 years.¹²⁷³

According to USDOS, the Government’s efforts to enforce child labor laws have not been effective.¹²⁷⁴

In 2007, the police received reports of nearly 700 cases of child trafficking. Of the 50 cases that were referred for prosecution, 18 went to trial.¹²⁷⁵ One trafficker who had forced 2 children to engage in domestic service was convicted and sentenced to a fine and 13 years in prison. Police also intercepted at least 10 would-be traffickers attempting to sell children to farmers in Oromiya.¹²⁷⁶

Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor

The Government of Ethiopia is currently implementing its National Plan of Action on Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children (2006-2010). The National Plan of Action outlines targets for reducing commercial sexual exploitation and addresses issues related to the prevention, protection, and recovery of children from sexual exploitation.¹²⁷⁷

The Government of Ethiopia continues to participate in the 4-year, Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) project, funded by USDOL at USD 14.5 million and World Vision at 5.8 million. Implemented by World Vision, in partnership with the International Rescue Committee and the Academy for Educational Development, the KURET project aims to withdraw or prevent a total of 30,600 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS-affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services.¹²⁷⁸ In 2007, KURET worked with local districts (“woredas”) to incorporate child labor activities into their workplans.¹²⁷⁹ The Government of Ethiopia also participated in the Community Based Innovations to Reduce Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE) global project, funded by USDOL at USD 8.1 million and USAID at USD 500,000. Implemented by Winrock International and various community-based organizations, the project has withdrawn and prevented a total of 24,194 children from exploitive child labor through the provision of educational opportunities in 23 countries, including Ethiopia.¹²⁸⁰

NGOs, such as the Forum on Street Children-Ethiopia, provided assistance to children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation including shelter; educational and employment services; and family reunification services. They also worked with the Government to develop policy and program objectives.¹²⁸¹

The Government continues to work with the UN and the IOM on the implementation of a campaign to combat child trafficking.¹²⁸² In Addis Ababa police stations, Child Protection Units rescued children who had been trafficked and referred them to the IOM and NGOs for care pending their return home. The Child Protection Units also

collected data on rescued children to facilitate their reunification with their families, and the local police and administrators helped repatriate these children to their home regions.¹²⁸³ Various government officials, including judges, law enforcement officers, and magistrates received counter-trafficking training by IOM in 2007.¹²⁸⁴ The Government participates in a USAID-funded USD 345,000 project implemented by the IOM and Good Samaritan Association to expand return and reintegration activities for trafficking victims and to build government capacity to combat trafficking.¹²⁸⁵ A USAID-funded center in Addis Ababa provides shelter, medical care, counseling, and reintegration assistance to girls victimized by trafficking.¹²⁸⁶

¹²⁵⁰ Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, Understanding Children's Work Rome, July 2006, 9; available from <http://www.ucw-project.org/pdf/publications/Youthethiopia.pdf>.

¹²⁵¹ Tassew Woldehanna et al., *Child Labour, Gender Inequality and Rural/Urban Disparities: How Can Ethiopia's National Development Strategies be Revised to Address Negative Spill-over Impacts on Child Education and Wellbeing?*, Working Paper No. 20, London, 2005, 15-17; available from <http://www.savethechildren.org/uk/younglives/data/publications/pdfs/WP20Labour.pdf> [hard copy on file].

¹²⁵² Ibid. See also Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 6.

¹²⁵³ Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio C Rosati, *Child Labor and Youth Employment: Ethiopia Country Study*, The Understanding Children's Work Project, Rome, July 2006.

¹²⁵⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Ethiopia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2007*, Washington, DC, March 11, 2008, section 6d; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2007>.

¹²⁵⁵ Tassew Woldehanna et al., *Child Labour, Gender Inequality, and Rural/Urban Disparities: Ethiopia*, 15-17, 30. See also Sonia Bhalotra, *Child Labour in Africa*, OECD Social, Employment and Migration Working Papers, Paris: OECD, April 28, 2003, 48-49; available from <http://www.oecd.org/cataoecd/28/21/2955692.pdf>.

See also Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 6-7.

¹²⁵⁶ Abiy Kifle, *Ethiopia- Child Domestic Workers in Addis Ababa: A Rapid Assessment*, Geneva: ILO-IPEC, July 2002, 18-19, 22, 55; available from <http://www.ilo.org/>

iloroot/docstore/ipecc/prod/eng/2002_ra_38_et_domestic_en.pdf. See also Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Child Domestic Work Rampant in Addis Ababa", IRINnews.org, [online], June 16, 2004; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/Report.aspx?ReportId=50255>

¹²⁵⁷ Kifle, *Rapid Assessment of Child Domestic Workers in Addis Ababa*, 18-19, 22. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹²⁵⁸ Lorenzo Guarcello, Scott Lyon, and Furio Camillo Rosati, *The Twin Challenges of Child Labor and Youth Employment in Ethiopia*, 11.

¹²⁵⁹ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹²⁶⁰ *Ibid.*, section 5.

¹²⁶¹ For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For data on ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Executive Summary. For minimum age for admission to work, age to which education is compulsory, and free public education, see Government of Ethiopia, *Labour Proclamation* (January 20, 1993), chapter II., section 89, article 2; available from <http://www.ilo.org/dyn/natlex/docs/WEBTEXT/31977/64870/E93ETH10.htm>. See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Third Periodic Report of States Parties Due in 2003: Ethiopia*, CRC/C/129/Add.8, prepared by Government of Ethiopia, pursuant to Article 44 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child, April 27, 2005, para 183; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/512c282017f34921c12570b2003f5410?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/512c282017f34921c12570b2003f5410?Opendocument). See also UN Committee on the Rights of the Child, *Consideration of Reports Submitted by States Parties under Article 44 of the Convention, Concluding Observations: Ethiopia*, CRC/C/ETH/CO/3, Geneva, November 1, 2006, section 6, item 63; available from [http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/\(Symbol\)/426c8f0ecd895f1c125724300541453?Opendocument](http://www.unhchr.ch/tbs/doc.nsf/(Symbol)/426c8f0ecd895f1c125724300541453?Opendocument). See also UNGEI, *The School Fee Abolition Initiative (SFAI)*, [online] 2006 [cited December 14, 2007]; available from http://www.ungei.org/infobycountry/247_712.html. See also Andrew Heavens, *In Ethiopia, Better Education for a Better Future*, UNICEF, June 15, 2006; available from http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/ethiopia_34570.html?q=printme.

¹²⁶² *Ibid.*, sections 5 and 6d. See also Addis Ababa City Administrative Social and NGO Affairs Office, Save the Children Denmark, and ANPPCAN-Ethiopia Chapter, *Study on the Worst Forms of Child Labour With Special Focus on Child Prostitution- in Addis Ababa*, Addis Ababa, June 2003; available from http://www.redbarnet.dk/Files/Filer/sexuelt_misbrug/ChildProstitutionStudy.doc. See also ECPAT International CSEC Database, *Ethiopia*, accessed

December 17, 2007; available from <http://www.ecpat.net>.

¹²⁶³ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Ethiopia," sections 5 and 6d.

¹²⁶⁴ ECPAT, *Global Monitoring Report on the Status of Action Against Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children: Ethiopia*, Bangkok, 2007, 12, [online]; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/A4A_2005/PDF/AF/Global_Monitoring_Report-ETHIOPIA.pdf.

¹²⁶⁵ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Campaign Launched Against Child Trafficking", IRINnews.org, [previously online], October 20, 2005 [cited July 7, 2006]; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=49655> [hard copy on file]. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Ethiopia," sections 5 and 6d.

¹²⁶⁶ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting*, March 4, 2008 para 7H.

¹²⁶⁷ Government of Ethiopia, *Labour Proclamation*, chapter II., section 89, article 1.

¹²⁶⁸ *Ibid.*, chapter II., section 89, articles 1, 3, and 4.

¹²⁶⁹ *Ibid.*, chapter II., sections 90 and 91.

¹²⁷⁰ Government of Ethiopia, *The Constitution of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia*, article 36; available from <http://www.ethiopianembassy.org/constitution.pdf>.

¹²⁷¹ U.S. Department of State, "Ethiopia (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007*, Washington, DC, June 12, 2007; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2007/>.

¹²⁷² U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Ethiopia," sections 5 and 6c.

¹²⁷³ Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Ethiopia." *In Child Soldiers Global Report 2004*, London, 2004; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/library/global-reports>.

¹²⁷⁴ U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Ethiopia," section 6d.

¹²⁷⁵ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting*, March 4, 2008, para 6c.

¹²⁷⁶ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Ethiopia."

¹²⁷⁷ ECPAT, *Global Monitoring Report on Status of Anti-CSEC Efforts: Ethiopia*, 14-15.

¹²⁷⁸ World Vision, *Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) Initiative*, Project Document, July 18, 2005, i, 2, and 9.

¹²⁷⁹ World Vision, *KURET (Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, Ethiopia Together) Initiative*, Technical Progress Report, September 30, 2007, 10.

¹²⁸⁰ U.S. Department of Labor, *Community Based Innovations to Combat Child Labor through Education I and II (CIRCLE I and II)*, Project Summary, 2008. See also Winrock International, *Project Fact Sheet: Reducing Child Labor through Education (CIRCLE 1)*, [online] [cited

December 17, 2007]; available from <http://www.winrock.org/fact/facts.asp?CC=5411&bu=>¹²⁸¹ ECPAT International, *Annual Report 2004-2005*, Bangkok; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/annual_report/index.asp. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2007: Ethiopia," section 5.

¹²⁸² Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Campaign Against Child Trafficking".

¹²⁸³ U.S. Department of State, "Trafficking in Persons Report- 2007: Ethiopia."

¹²⁸⁴ U.S. Embassy- Addis Ababa, *reporting, March 4, 2008*, para 7H.

¹²⁸⁵ U.S. Department of State, *United States Government*

Funds Obligated in FY2005 for Anti-Trafficking in Persons Projects, [online] [cited December 17, 2007]; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/rpt/78464.htm>.

¹²⁸⁶ Integrated Regional Information Networks, "Ethiopia: Centre for Helping Victims of Trafficking Opens", IRINnews.org, [previously online], June 29, 2004; available from <http://www.irinnews.org/print.asp?ReportID=41909> [hard copy on file]. See also ECPAT International, *The First-ever Centre to Help Victims of Trafficking Opened in the Ethiopian Capital, Addis Ababa, on Tuesday*, Addis Ababa, June 29, 2004; available from http://www.ecpat.net/eng/Ecpat_inter/IRC/tmpNew.s.asp?SCID=1446.

Fiji

<i>Selected Statistics and Indicators on Child Labor</i> ¹²⁸⁷	
Working children, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working boys, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working girls, 5-14 years (%):	-
Working children by sector, 5-14 years (%):	
- Agriculture	-
- Manufacturing	-
- Services	-
- Other	-
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	15
Free public education:	Yes*
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	103
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2005:	94
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%):	-
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2003:	99
ILO-IPEC participating country:	No
*Must pay for miscellaneous school expenses	

Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children work in agriculture in Fiji, including on tobacco and sugar farms.¹²⁸⁸ Children also work in the informal sector, in family businesses, and on the streets, selling snacks, shining shoes and delivering goods.¹²⁸⁹ There is exploitation of children through prostitution, pornography, and sex tourism.¹²⁹⁰ Children are also trafficked within Fiji for the purpose of commercial sexual exploitation.¹²⁹¹ Urban migration, poverty, homelessness, and living away from parents have all increased a child's chance of being sexually exploited.¹²⁹²

Child Labor Laws and Enforcement

The law sets the minimum age for work at 15 years.¹²⁹³ The law states that no child under 12 years shall be employed except in family owned businesses and agricultural undertakings. The law also sets guidelines for the employment of "children" defined as 12 to 14 years, and "young persons," defined as 15 to 17 years. Children may not work more than 6 hours a day, and young persons more than 8 hours a day.¹²⁹⁴ Children may not work in any industrial undertaking, and neither children nor young persons may be employed in dangerous working conditions or at night.¹²⁹⁵