

# Child Labor Investigations and Prosecutions Training in Jamaica

Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor II (CLEAR II) is a United States Department of Labor-funded project implemented by Winrock International with partners Lawyers Without Borders and Verité.

CLEAR II identified a gap in knowledge across



*Image 1: Participants at the CLEAR II Training of Trainers*

stakeholders regarding how to conduct child labor investigations and prosecutions. To address this gap and promote better coordination among involved stakeholders, the project developed a manual and training of trainers (ToT) program focused on investigations and prosecutions related to child labor.

## Learning by Doing Approach to Train new Trainers

In 2018, Lawyers Without Borders (LWOB) developed a training manual on child labor investigations and prosecutions. LWOB consulted with Jamaican stakeholders to ensure the content was relevant to the Jamaican context and addressed the realities of child labor cases in Jamaica. The manual was designed to be used by trainers or as a self-teaching manual. In October 2018, the CLEAR II project collaborated with Jamaica's Ministry of Labor and Social Security to implement a three-day ToT on child labor investigations and prosecutions. Participants included labor officers, probation officers, law enforcement officers, and representatives of the Office of the Children's Advocate and the Child Protection

and Family Services Agency.

The training used a learning-by-doing methodology. Each day, participants were asked to present concepts and practice new skills they had learned through the training. On the third day of training, each participant gave a ten-minute presentation to their break-out group on a topic in the manual. This activity prepared the trainees to train others on the content. The training also included a session in which participants – working in small groups – identified the roles and responsibilities of various stakeholders throughout the life of a child labor case and created a coordination plan for involved parties.

## The Path to Institutionalization

CLEAR II's training strategy encouraged partners to incorporate ToT training content into existing institutional trainings. The training was well received by the participants, who were eager to share the material with their own organizations. Since October, the National Police Academy has used videos related to the ToT in existing training and plans to incorporate the material into ongoing training for new recruits. Similarly, the Ministry of Labor and Social Security plans to incorporate the curriculum into its Labor Inspectorate curriculum and has already added it to a preliminary training for inspectors. The Office of the Director of Public Prosecutions plans to use the curriculum as part of its continuing legal education program for prosecutors.

By providing a tested curriculum and building the confidence of ToT participants to use the curriculum to train others, CLEAR II facilitated a sustainable training initiative that will build the capacity of stakeholders to effectively handle and coordinate complex child labor cases.



*Image 2: Role-play sessions helped trainees become comfortable presenting the curriculum to others.*

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