



# Labor Inspectorate Training in Liberia: A Sustainable Approach to Combat Child Labor

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.

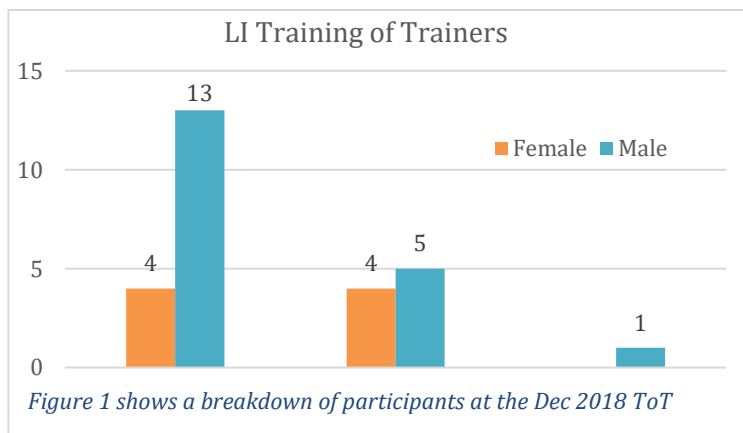
In December 2018 and January 2019, the CLEAR II project collaborated with the Ministry of Labor in Liberia to implement trainings that

prepared labor inspectors and members of the private sector to identify and remediate child labor cases.

## Training to Create a Cadre of Local Trainers

Throughout 2018, CLEAR II worked with the Ministry of Labor to develop a labor inspectorate curriculum on child labor for Liberia. The process involved extensive consultations with the Ministry of Labor and a needs assessment survey for Labor Inspectors. Together, Verité and the ministry finalized the curriculum in October 2018.

In December 2018 Verité conducted a four-day Training of Trainers (ToT) aimed at building the capacity of the Ministry of Labor to train others on how to identify and eliminate child labor. This workshop included 29 participants from the ministry and other relevant stakeholders (see Figure 1). The first half of the ToT introduced participants to the methodology and content of the curriculum. The second half allowed participants to present different sections of the curriculum to each other. This gave the trainees the opportunity to practice teaching the



curriculum and become comfortable with presenting the material.



Figure 2: Enad S. Harris presenting at the labor inspectorate ToT

During this activity, Enad Harris – a Labor Inspector based in Monrovia – stood out due to her confidence in presenting the curriculum and passion for ending child labor. Following the ToT, Enad and Patience Heah, the National Coordinator for the National Commission on Child Labor, were asked to help facilitate CLEAR II training on child labor for the Liberia Chamber of Commerce.

## Engaging Private Sector Support

Building on the momentum from the ToT, in January 2019, Verité conducted a two-day workshop for 20 members of the Liberia Chamber of Commerce. The training focused on identifying and remediating the risk of child labor in supply chains

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During this training, Enad Harris successfully facilitated sessions on the root causes of child labor and the sectors at risk of child labor in



Figure 3: Participants at the CLEAR II training for Chamber of Commerce

Liberia. Patience Heah facilitated sessions on national legal frameworks and policies on child labor, including Liberia's Decent Work Act 2017, the National Action Plan on Child Labor, and the work of the Steering Committee on Child Labor. The training also covered topics related to the UN guiding principles on human rights, developing a good policy on child labor, and ensuring suppliers do not use child labor. Lessons learned from the training will help companies identify legal risks associated with improper labor practices, especially those related to the worst forms of child labor (WFCL).

The participation of Enad and Patience in this training highlights the sustainability of the CLEAR II training. Labor Inspectors are now able to use the labor inspectorate curriculum and have the practical skills necessary to continue this work when the project has ended.

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