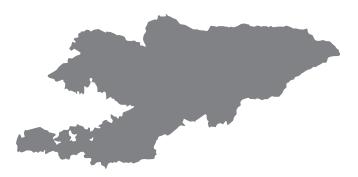
In 2021, the Kyrgyz Republic made minimal advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The President of the Kyrgyz Republic signed a decree to improve children's access to and the quality of primary and secondary education. The Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration and the Ministry of Internal Affairs also continued development of the 2022–2025 National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons, and in December 2021, finalized and sent it to the Cabinet



of Ministers for review and consideration for adoption. However, despite new initiatives to address child labor, the Kyrgyz Republic is assessed as having made only minimal advancement because it continued to implement a law and practice that delays advancement to eliminate child labor. Although the government's moratorium on labor inspections expired on January 1, 2022, the moratorium remained in place throughout 2021. The government amended this moratorium in 2020 to permit labor inspections based on formal complaints: however, the Ministry of Economy was required to approve worksite visits associated with such inspections, and in practice, it announced these visits in advance. The restrictions placed on unannounced inspections may have allowed potential violations of child labor laws and other labor abuses to go undetected in workplaces. The COVID-19 pandemic and a large-scale reorganization of government ministries further restricted the government's ability to address child labor issues. The government did not provide complete information on its labor or criminal law enforcement efforts for inclusion in this report. Children in the Kyrgyz Republic are subjected to the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation. Children also engage in child labor in agriculture. Protections to children granted in the Labor Code, such as the minimum age of employment, are not extended to children engaged in non-contractual employment, and research indicated that labor law enforcement efforts are not targeted to all sectors in which children are vulnerable to child labor, especially agriculture. In addition, the scope of social programs to address child labor is insufficient to fully address the extent of the problem.

I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Children in the Kyrgyz Republic are subjected to the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation. (1-3) Children also engage in child labor in agriculture. (1,3-5) Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in the Kyrgyz Republic. Data on some of these indicators are not available from the sources used in this report.

Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5 to 14	34.0 (Unavailable)
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	94.7
Combining Work and School (%)	7 to 14	38.4
Primary Completion Rate (%)		108.1

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2020, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2022. (6)
Source for all other data: International Labor Organization's analysis of statistics from Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 6 (MICS6), 2018. (7)

Based on a review of available information, Table 2 provides an overview of children's work by sector and activity.

MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT - EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW AND PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT

Table 2. Overview of Children's Work by Sector and Activity

Sector/Industry	Activity
Agriculture	Cultivating or harvesting cotton, walnuts, tobacco,† rice, potatoes, beans, dried fruits, and onions (1,4,5,8-13)
	Herding cattle (I-3)
Industry	Coal mining† (1,4,14)
	Brickmaking (12,14)
	Construction, including lifting and portering construction materials, and cutting metal sheets for roofs (1,4,5,12,15)
Services	Working in bazaars and markets, including portering, shining shoes, and selling items, including food and beverages (8,11,14)
	Washing and repairing cars (1,5,12)
	Working in restaurants and cafes (5,8,12,14)
	Street work, including begging and shoe shining (10,11)
	Domestic work, including child care (4,5,10,16)
Categorical Worst	Commercial sexual exploitation (3,12,17)
Forms of Child Labor‡	Use in illicit activities, including trafficking drugs, as a result of human trafficking (18)

[†] Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.

Child labor, including hazardous child labor, is most prevalent in Naryn and Osh provinces. (4) Children from the Kyrgyz Republic who travel to Kazakhstan to work, either with their parents or unaccompanied, cannot attend school due to a lack of documentation. These children engage in child labor in Kazakhstan in construction, farming, herding, or selling products in markets; some fall victim to forced child labor. (16,19) Within the Kyrgyz Republic, children of labor migrants have been identified engaging in child labor in markets. (20)

The inability to enroll in school makes children from a variety of circumstances vulnerable to child labor. School registration documentation requirements continue to prevent some children from enrolling in schools, particularly children whose parents are labor migrants. (1) According to UNICEF, an estimated 650,000 to 750,000 citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic work abroad, and an additional 1 million are internal migrants. Some children, who have either migrated to the Kyrgyz Republic with their parents or were left behind when their parents migrated to work in other countries or other areas of the Kyrgyz Republic, cannot access their birth certificates or guardianship documents, which are required for school enrollment. (9,21) Children living in rural areas, and those with disabilities also have difficulty accessing education. (1,12) In rare cases, some parents prevent children from attending school for religious reasons. (1,9,22)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR CHILD LABOR

The Kyrgyz Republic has ratified all key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor

	Convention	Ratification
ETITE	ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	✓
	ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
	UN CRC	√
	UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	✓
	UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	✓
	Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	✓

[‡] Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor per se under Article 3(a)–(c) of ILO C. 182.

The government has established laws and regulations related to child labor (Table 4). However, gaps exist in the Kyrgyz Republic's legal framework to adequately protect children from the worst forms of child labor, including the minimum age for work.

Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor

	Meets		
Standard	International Standards	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	No	16	Articles 6 and 18 of the Labor Code (23)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Articles 294 and 446 of the Labor Code; Article 72 of the Code on Administrative Liability; Article 15 of the Code on Children (23-25)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	Yes		Article 294 of the Labor Code; Decree 565 on the List of Works Prohibited for Persons Under Age 18 (23,26)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Articles 10 and 446 of the Labor Code; Article 15.2 of the Code on Children; Article 1 of the Law on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking; Articles 166 and 170 of the Criminal Code (23,24,27,28)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Article I of the Law on Preventing and Combating Human Trafficking; Articles 166 and 167 of the Criminal Code (27,28)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	No		Articles 166–168 of the Criminal Code; Articles 5 and 15 of the Code on Children (24,27)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Articles 19, 180, 181, 282, and 283 of the Criminal Code; Articles 5 and 15 of the Code on Children (24,27)
Minimum Age for Voluntary State Military Recruitment	Yes	18	Article 24.1 of the Law on Military Service (29)
Prohibition of Compulsory Recruitment of Children by (State) Military	Yes		Articles 17.1 and 22.1 of the Law on Military Service; Article 392 of the Criminal Code (27,29)
Prohibition of Military Recruitment by Non-state Armed Groups	Yes		Articles 392 and 395 of the Criminal Code (27)
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	17‡	Article 16 of the Law on Education (30)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 16 of the Law on Education (30)
		1/+	,

[‡] Age calculated based on available information (30)

In December 2021, the President of the Kyrgyz Republic published the decree "On Urgent Measures to Secure the Constitutional Right of Children," which establishes a framework to improve access to primary and secondary education, as well as the quality of that education. The decree requires government bodies to identify and enroll children who are below the minimum age for education but not enrolled in classes, and to draft legislation holding parents and guardians responsible for interfering with a child's access to education. (1,31) The decree also tasks the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration to identify vulnerable children and provide assistance in the form of school uniforms and supplies. (1,31)

The labor law governing the minimum age for work is not in compliance with international standards because it does not apply to informal work. According to Article 6 of the Labor Code, protections to children granted in the Labor Code, such as the minimum age for employment, are not extended to children engaged in non-contractual employment. (23) In addition, as the minimum age for work stated in the Labor Code is lower than the compulsory education age, children may be encouraged to leave school before the completion of compulsory education. (30,32)

Article 18 of the Labor Code prohibits children age 14 from working during school hours, and requires that parents give written permission for children age 14 to work. Children age 15 may work only for employers who have received permission from a worker's organization or a government regulatory body. (23) Articles 91 and 95 of the Labor Code also restrict the number of hours that children under age 16 may engage in light work. Children ages 14 and 15 may not work more than 24 hours per week, and daily shifts may not exceed 5 hours during school breaks or 2.5 hours when school is in session. (23) However, the Kyrgyz Republic does not have a list of activities in which light work may be permitted. (33)

MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT - EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW AND PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT

Although Article 166 of the Criminal Code criminalizes the involvement of children in prostitution, no law clearly criminalizes the users (clients) of prostitution involving children. In addition, prohibitions under Article 167 against offering children for prostitution do not cover children ages 16 and 17. (27,34)

III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor (Table 5). However, the absence of unannounced inspections conducted at the national level in the Kyrgyz Republic may have impeded the enforcement of child labor laws.

Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration	Monitors worksites and refers child laborers to social services. Coordinates with the Inspectorate for Minors' Affairs in the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MOIA), the Prosecutor General's Office, and regional State District Administration authorities to enforce child labor laws. (1,12,14,32) In 2021, the State Inspectorate on Ecological and Technical Safety was dissolved and its labor inspection functions were transferred to the newly expanded Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration. (1)
Ministry of Internal Affairs (MOIA)	Enforces criminal laws related to child labor, including its worst forms. Conducts independent inspections and joint raids with the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration to identify violations, which can be referred to the Prosecutor General's Office for prosecutorial action. (1,12)
Prosecutor General's Office	Implements and enforces state policy and law related to child protection, including guaranteeing children's rights and enforcing laws prohibiting the worst forms of child labor by identifying and prosecuting offenders. (1,2)
National Referral Mechanism	Establishes procedures and policies for (a) identification of victims of human trafficking, (b) referrals for and provision of social services to victims, and (c) protection of victims' personal data. (35,36)
Helpline for Children	Hotline operated by the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration through which children, parents, and legal guardians can report child abuse and exploitation, including the worst forms of child labor, and receive referrals for services. (37,38)

In 2021, the COVID-19 pandemic and an extensive government reorganization severely limited the capacity of several ministries as resources were diverted from many areas to address the ongoing crisis. (1,19)

Labor Law Enforcement

In 2021, lack of authorization to conduct unannounced inspections in the Kyrgyz Republic may have impeded the enforcement of child labor laws (Table 6).

Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2020	2021
Labor Inspectorate Funding	Unknown (39)	Unknown (I)
Number of Labor Inspectors	27 (8)	Unknown (I)
Mechanism to Assess Civil Penalties	Yes (23)	Yes (23)
Initial Training for New Labor Inspectors	Yes (40)	Unknown (I)
Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor	Yes (40)	Unknown (1)
Refresher Courses Provided	No (8)	Unknown (1)
Number of Labor Inspections Conducted	Unknown	Unknown (1)
Number Conducted at Worksite	Unknown	Unknown (1)
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	206‡ (2,8)	103† (I)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	7 (2)	Unknown (1)
Number of Child Labor Penalties Imposed that Were Collected	Unknown	Unknown (1)
Routine Inspections Conducted	Yes (8)	Unknown (1)
Routine Inspections Targeted	Yes (2,8,39)	Unknown (1)
Unannounced Inspections Permitted	No (41,42)	No (41,42)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted	No (39)	Yes (I)
Complaint Mechanism Exists	Yes (39)	Unknown (1)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services	Yes (39)	Unknown (I)

[†] Data are from January I, 2021, to September 30, 2021.

[‡] Data are from January I, 2020, to September 30, 2020.

MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT - EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW AND PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT

The government extended a 2019 moratorium on inspection of business enterprises until January 1, 2022. The moratorium was revised in 2020 to permit labor inspections, but only on the basis of a formal complaint and with 10 days advance notice to the employer. (1,43-46) Although the moratorium expired at the beginning of 2022, during the reporting period, these restrictions on unannounced inspections severely limited the State Inspectorate's ability to detect violations of labor laws, including those related to child labor. (1,8) The government did not provide information regarding a number of labor inspection metrics, including the budget of the labor inspectorate, number of inspectors, and number of inspections conducted in 2021.

Although the inspection moratorium continued to prevent labor inspectors from performing routine and unannounced inspections, the Ministry of Internal Affairs (MOIA) conducted a series of independent, unannounced raids to identify and assist children engaged in child labor, including those subjected to its worst forms. (I) In 2021, the MOIA reported conducting 39 raids between January and September, through which authorities identified 103 child labor violations. Information was unavailable regarding the number of violations that MOIA referred to the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration and whether penalties were imposed in response to child labor violations identified during these raids. (I)

Research was unable to determine the number of inspectors employed by the Kyrgyz Republic in 2021. However, in 2020, the State Inspectorate employed 27 labor inspectors, and it is likely that the number of labor inspectors remains insufficient for the size of the Kyrgyz Republic's workforce, which includes more than 2.5 million workers. (8,39,47) According to the ILO's technical advice of a ratio approaching 1 inspector for every 20,000 workers in transitioning economies, the Kyrgyz Republic would employ about 128 labor inspectors. (48,49) Sources also report that the majority of enforcement activities to detect child labor is concentrated in markets in Bishkek and Osh, with few inspections or raids undertaken to detect child labor in agriculture. (39) The Prosecutor General's Office noted that enforcement agencies rarely undertake efforts to detect child labor in rural areas, in which children are vulnerable to child labor in crop cultivation and cattle herding. (2) Observers have expressed concern that the labor inspection authority lacks sufficient funding to carry out inspections, although the government does not publicly release information on the level of funding for labor inspection activities because it is deemed classified. (14,39)

Research was unable to determine whether inspectors received training on child labor during the reporting period. Although the Code on Children formally provides for a child labor complaint mechanism, reports indicate that a lack of institutional capacity among labor inspectors and social workers may hinder adequate implementation of this mechanism. (12,24)

Criminal Law Enforcement

In 2021, criminal law enforcement agencies in the Kyrgyz Republic took actions to address child labor (Table 7). However, gaps exist within the operations of the criminal enforcement agencies that may hinder adequate criminal law enforcement, including prosecution planning.

Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2020	2021
Initial Training for New Criminal Investigators	Yes (50)	Yes (I)
Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	Yes (37)	Unknown (1)
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (50)	Unknown (1)
Number of Investigations	9‡ (2,39)	3† (I)
Number of Violations Found	9‡ (2,39)	103 (1)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	2 (2)	3 (1)
Number of Convictions	0 (39)	Unknown (1)
Imposed Penalties for Violations Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	N/A	Unknown (I)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (39)	Yes (39)

[†] Data are from January I to September 30, 2021.

[‡] Data are from January I to September 30, 2020.

MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT - EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW AND PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT

The government did not provide comprehensive information on its 2021 criminal law enforcement efforts related to child labor for inclusion in this report. However, between January and September 2021, criminal enforcement agencies reported that they initiated a total of three pretrial investigations into the worst forms of child labor for violations of Criminal Code Article 173 pertaining to forced/slave labor. (I) All three cases were dismissed for lack of evidence. (I) In order to address commercial sex operations, including the sexual exploitation of children, Kyrgyz law enforcement conducted searches of 34 saunas in Bishkek and Osh in June 2021. The government reported that 63 different crimes were discovered during these raids but did not indicate if human trafficking was among the offenses. (19)

Reports suggest that Kyrgyz police officers engage in misconduct, including allegations that police threaten and extort sex trafficking victims, including minors; reports also indicate that police accept bribes from alleged traffickers to drop cases. (18) Judicial officials have also been reported to be an obstacle to prosecution of human trafficking offenses, including those involving children, by prosecuting cases under lesser statutes, accepting bribes, or warning suspects prior to raids. (3)

IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor (Table 8). However, gaps exist that hinder the effective coordination of efforts to address child labor, including a lack of efficacy in accomplishing mandates.

Table 8. Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Children's Affairs Commission	Assesses the needs of children in difficult situations, including child laborers; creates individual development plans; and monitors services delivery. Members include social workers from regional Departments of Child Protection of the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration and law enforcement authorities. (14) Operates according to the Regulations on the Procedure for the Identification of Children and Families in Difficult Situations. (51) Research was unable to determine whether the Commission was active during the reporting period.
Coordination Council for Social Protection and Children's Rights	Develops policies and programs to enhance the provision of social services and guarantee children's rights. Chaired by the Deputy Prime Minister and includes members from both government and civil society. (52) Research was unable to determine whether the Coordination Council was active during the reporting period.
Anti-Trafficking in Persons Task Force	Parliamentary group that coordinates and oversees work to eliminate human trafficking. (53) Research was unable to determine whether the Task Force was active during the reporting period.
Regional Trafficking in Persons Coordination Councils	Coordinate local implementation of the National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons in all seven provincial governments and the city of Osh. (54) Research was unable to determine whether the Regional Coordination Councils were active during the reporting period.

Reports indicate that the Children's Affairs Commission lacks adequate procedures to conduct needs assessments for traumatized children, such as those who have been subjected to commercial sexual exploitation or other worst forms of child labor, hindering its ability to effectively accomplish its mandate. (20,55) Observers have also noted that the inability of social services providers to participate in child labor investigations impedes the ability of the Children's Affairs Commission to fulfill its mandate. (39)

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON CHILD LABOR

The government has established policies related to child labor (Table 9). However, policy gaps exist that hinder efforts to address child labor, including a lack of implementation.

Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor

Policy	Description
Program for the Support of Family and Protection of Children (2018–2028)	Includes action items on addressing child labor, including revising the hazardous work list for children, enhancing social services for vulnerable children and families, and creating an Action Plan on the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor. (56) Research was unable to determine whether the Program was active during the reporting period.

In November 2021, the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration was designated as the new coordinating agency for the government's National Action Plan to Combat Trafficking in Persons. The Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration and the MOIA continued development of the 2022–2025 National Action Plan and in December 2021, finalized and sent it to the Cabinet of Ministers for review and consideration for adoption. (19)

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2021, the government funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor (Table 10). However, gaps exist in these social programs, including the inadequacy of programs to address the full scope of the problem.

Table 10. Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor

Program	Description
Cash Transfer Program†	Government-funded cash transfer program for families living in difficult situations, including families with children engaged in child labor. (39) However, based on available information, the amount of assistance appears to be low, and some families face barriers to accessing these benefits. (59,60) Research was unable to determine whether the Cash Transfer Program was active during the reporting period.
Ministry of Education and Science (MOES) National School Attendance Database†	Unified online database maintained by MOES to monitor school enrollment and attendance. Based on these data, government ministries and local government officials can identify and assist children who may be vulnerable to child labor. (9,39) Research was unable to determine whether the MOES Database was active during the reporting period.
Shelters for Human Trafficking Victims†	Includes two 24-hour shelters funded by the government and operated by NGOs that serve victims of violence of all ages, including child trafficking victims. One center is located in Bishkek and the other is in Osh. (37) MOIA also operates two daytime children's shelters, also located in Bishkek and Osh. (37) Research was unable to determine whether the shelters were operating during the reporting period.

[†] Program is funded by the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic.

Although the Kyrgyz Republic has programs that target child labor, the scope of these programs is insufficient to fully address the extent of the problem, particularly in commercial sexual exploitation and in agriculture, including cultivating cotton.

VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor in the Kyrgyz Republic (Table 11).

Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Ensure that the law's minimum age provisions apply to all children, including those working without an employment contract.	2014 – 2021
	Raise the minimum age for work to the age up to which education is compulsory.	2021
	Criminally prohibit and penalize the use of a child for prostitution and ensure that laws prohibiting offering of children for prostitution cover all children under age 18.	2019 – 2021
	Ensure that the law's light work provisions specify the activities in which children may undertake light work.	2020 – 2021
Enforcement	Ensure that the labor inspectorate conducts routine, targeted, and unannounced labor inspections, and assesses penalties as appropriate.	2018 – 2021
	Publish complete information about the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration's efforts to enforce prohibitions on child labor, including information on the inspectorate's funding, the number of labor inspections conducted, and the number of penalties assessed and collected.	2011 – 2021
	Strengthen the labor inspection system by providing child labor training for new labor inspectors and provide to all labor inspectors refresher courses on child labor that include information about changes to child labor laws.	2014 – 2021
	Ensure that child labor violations identified by criminal enforcement agencies are appropriately referred to the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration.	2020 – 2021

[‡]The government had other social programs that may have included the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor. (61)

MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT - EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW AND PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT

Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor (Cont.)

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Enforcement	Significantly increase the number of labor inspectors to meet the ILO's technical advice and ensure that inspectors have adequate resources to conduct inspections.	2012 – 2021
	Conduct targeted inspections in all sectors in which children are highly vulnerable to child labor, including in rural areas and in agriculture.	2020 – 2021
	Ensure that the Ministry of Labor, Social Development, and Migration and relevant social services providers have the capacity to adequately implement the child labor complaint mechanism.	2019 – 2021
	Publish complete information about criminal law enforcement efforts to enforce prohibitions on child labor, including information on training, number of violations found, convictions for child labor violations, and penalties imposed.	2021
	Ensure that criminal law enforcement agencies investigate, prosecute, and impose penalties for violations related to the worst forms of child labor under the appropriate statutes, including cases of possible law enforcement and judicial complicity in abusing victims and protecting offenders.	2015 – 2021
Coordination	Ensure that the procedures for needs assessment of the Children's Affairs Commission are appropriate for traumatized children, including children who were engaged in the worst forms of child labor.	2019 – 2021
	Strengthen the Children's Affairs Commission by empowering relevant social services providers to assist, as appropriate, with investigations related to child labor.	2020 – 2021
	Ensure that all coordinating bodies are able to carry out their intended mandates.	2020 – 2021
Government Policies	Ensure that activities are undertaken to implement government policies to address child labor and make information about implementation measures publicly available.	2021
Social Programs	Improve understanding of child labor issues in the Kyrgyz Republic by regularly collecting and maintaining data on child labor.	2021
	Ensure that all children have access to free education, including children with disabilities, those lacking residence registration, and those without birth certificates and guardianship documents.	2009 – 2021
	Ensure that social programs, such as the Cash Transfer Program, provide sufficient benefits to reduce vulnerability to child labor and are accessible to families.	2019 – 2021
	Expand existing programs to address the scope of the child labor problem, particularly in commercial sexual exploitation and in agriculture, including cultivating cotton.	2014 – 2021
	Ensure that activities are undertaken to implement key social programs to address child labor and make information about implementation measures publicly available.	2021

REFERENCES

- U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting, January 21, 2022.
- 2 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Information from the Prosecutor General's Office of the Kyrgyz Republic for the U.S. government's report on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. January 14, 2021. Source on file.
- 3 U.S. Department of State. Trafficking in Persons Report- 2021: Kyrgyz Republic. Washington, D.C., June 2021. https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-trafficking-in-persons-report/kyrgyz-republic/
- 4 ILO. Working Children in Kyrgyz Republic: Child Labour Survey 2014–2015. October 25, 2016. Source on file.
- 5 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Contentions regarding the U.S. Department of Labor's 2019 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor Report for the Kyrgyz Republic. October 2020. Source on file.
- 6 UNESCO Institute for Statistics. Gross intake ratio to the last grade of primary education, both sexes (%). Accessed March 3, 2022. For more information, please see "Children's Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report. http://data.uis.unesco.org/
- 7 ILO.Analysis of Child Economic Activity and School Attendance Statistics from National Household or Child Labor Surveys. Original data from Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 6 (MICS6), 2018. Analysis received March 2021. Please see the "Children's Work and Education Statistics: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report.

- 8 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Information from the State Inspectorate on Ecological and Technical Safety under the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the U.S. government's report on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. January 14, 2021. Source on file.
- Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Information from the Ministry of Education and Science of the Kyrgyz Republic for the U.S. government's report on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. January 14, 2021. Source on file.
- Butler, Carolyn. Child Labor Problem Urgent: Kyrgyz Workers. October 3, 2018.
 - $\label{lem:https://www.solidaritycenter.org/child-labor-problem-urgent-kyrgyzstanworkers/$
- II Kabar. Use of child labor declined in Kyrgyzstan Federation of Trade Unions. July 2, 2018. http://kabar.kg/eng/news/use-of-child-labor-declined-in-kyrgyzstan-federation-of-trade-unions/
- 12 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting, January 15, 2020.
- 13 Kudryavtseva, Tatyana. Children in Kyrgyzstan engaged in picking of cotton from age of 4. 24.kg, March 7, 2019. https://24.kg/english/111217__Children_in_Kyrgyzstan_engaged_in_ picking_of_cotton_from_age_of_4/
- 14 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting. January 11, 2019.
- 15 Kaktus Media. In Kyrgyzstan, the highest rate of child labor. November 6, 2017. https://kaktus.media/doc/36583 I_v_kyrgyzstane_samyy_vysokiy_pokazatel_ispolzovaniia_detskogo_tryda.html

- International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH). Invisible and exploited in Kazakhstan: The plight of Kyrgyz migrant workers and members of their families. June 2018. https://www.fidh.org/IMG/pdf/kyrgyz_migrant_workers_in_kazakhstan. pdf
- U.S. Department of State. Trafficking in Persons Report- 2020: Kyrgyz Republic. Washington, D.C., June 2020. https://www.state.gov/reports/2020-trafficking-in-persons-report/kyrgyz-republic/
- U.S. Department of State. Trafficking in Persons Report- 2019: Kyrgyz Republic. Washington, D.C., June 2019. https://www.state.gov/reports/2019-trafficking-in-persons-report-2/kyrgyz-republic/
- 19 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting. February 11, 2022.
- 20 Aigerim Aryzmatova. Kyrgyzstan: How to solve the problem of violence against children of labor migrants? Central Asian Bureau for Analytical Reporting (CABAR), November 19, 2019. https://cabar.asia/ru/kyrgyzstan-kak-reshit-voprosy-nasiliya-v-otnosheniidetej-trudovyh-migrantov/
- 21 UNICEF. Children of migrants—Invisible Children. 2018. https://www.unicef.org/kyrgyzstan/children-migrants
- 22 Munara Borombaeva and Marina Kolesnikova. Kyrgyzstan: Number of children not attending school because of parents' beliefs decreasing. Cabar Asia, April 20, 2020. https://cabar.asia/ru/kyrgyzstan-kolichestvo-detej-ne-poseshhayushhihshkolu-iz-za-ubezhdenij-roditelej-snizhaetsya
- 23 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Labor Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, No. 106, as amended. Enacted: August 4, 2004. http://www.mkk.gov.kg/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&catid=116:-1-5-&id=1084:-i-v&lang=ru
- 24 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. The Kyrgyz Republic's Code on Children, No. 100. Enacted: July 10, 2012. Source on file.
- 25 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Code of Administrative Liability. Enacted: 1998. http://minjust.gov.kg/ru/content/315
- 26 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Decree of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic No. 565 on approval of the list of works prohibited for persons under age 18. Enacted: November 13, 2020. https://online.zakon.kz/document/?doc_id=38225858#pos=3;-70
- 27 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Criminal Code of the Kyrgyz Republic, No. 68, as amended. Enacted: October 1, 1997. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/111527?cl=ru-ru
- 28 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Law No. 55 on Preventing and Combating Trafficking of Human Beings. Enacted: March 17, 2005. http://www.legislationline.org/ru/documents/action/popup/id/14215
- 29 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Law No. 43 on the Universal Conscription of Citizens of the Kyrgyz Republic, Military and Alternative Service. Enacted: February 9, 2009. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/202536?cl=ru-ru
- 30 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Law of the Kyrgyz Republic on Education, No. 92, as amended. Enacted: April 30, 2003. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/1216?cl=ru-ru
- 31 Government of Kyrgyzstan. Подписан Указ «О неотложных мерах по обеспечению конституционного права детей на получение начального, основного общего и среднего общего образования». December 13, 2021. http://www.president.kg/ru/sobytiya/ukazy/21484_podpisan_ukaz_o_neotloghnih_merah_po_obespecheniyu_konstitucionnogo_prava_detey_na_poluchenie_nachalnogo_osnovnogo_obshego_i_srednego_obshego_obrazovaniya
- 32 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek official. E-mail communication to USDOL official. February 9, 2022.

- 33 ILO CEACR. Individual Observation concerning Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138) Kyrgyzstan (ratification: 1992). Published: 2021. https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100
- 34 ILO CEACR. Individual Observation concerning Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182) Kyrgyzstan (ratification: 2004). Published: 2021. https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f/p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100
 - https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100 :P13100 COMMENT ID:4050166
- 35 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting. October 18, 2019.

:P13100 COMMENT ID:4050159

- 36 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Decree No. 493, On the national mechanism for referral of victims of human trafficking in the Kyrgyz Republic. Enacted: September 19, 2019. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/157184?cl=ru-ru
- 37 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting, February 12, 2021.
- 38 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Information from the Ministry of Labor and Social Development of the Kyrgyz Republic for the U.S. government's report on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. January 14, 2021. Source on file.
- 39 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting, January 21, 2021.
- 40 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek official. E-mail communication to USDOL official. May 11, 2021.
- 41 ILO CEACR. Individual Observation concerning Labour Inspection Convention, 1947 (No. 81) Kyrgyzstan (ratification: 2000). Published: 2021.
 - https://www.ilo.org/dyn/normlex/en/f?p=1000:13100:0::NO:13100:P13100_COMMENT_ID:4054066
- 42 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Decree No. 94, On the introduction of amendments to Decree No. 586 of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic "On introduction of a temporary ban (moratorium) on conducting inspections of business entities" from December 17, 2018. Enacted: February 19, 2020. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/157498?cl=ru-ru
- 43 Peoples Dispatch. Trade unions demand restoration of labor rights in Kyrgyzstan. March 9, 2019. https://peoplesdispatch.org/2019/03/09/trade-unions-demandrestoration-of-labor-rights-in-kyrgyzstan/
- 44 IndustriALL Global Union. Workers in Kyrgyzstan left without legal protection. March 7, 2019. http://www.industriall-union.org/workers-in-kyrgyzstan-left-without-legal-protection
- 45 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Decree No. 586, On introduction of a temporary ban (moratorium) on conducting inspections of business entities. Enacted: December 17, 2019. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/12797?cl=ru-ru
- 46 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Term of the moratorium on inspections by government oversight bodies extended until January I, 2022. News release, December 4, 2020. https://www.gov.kg/ru/post/s/mamlekettik-kzml-organdary-tarabynanteksherg-moratoriydin-mnt-2022-zhyldyn-I-yanvaryna-cheyin-uzartyldy
- 47 ILO Labor Force Statistics (LFS) Population and labour force. Accessed January 25, 2022. Labor force data is government-reported data collected by the ILO. Please see "Labor Law Enforcement: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report. https://ilostat.ilo.org/data/
- 48 ILO Committee on Employment and Social Policy. Strategies and practice for labour inspection. November 2006. GB.297/ESP/3. Please see "Labor Law Enforcement: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report. http://www.ilo.org/public/english/standards/relm/gb/docs/gb297/pdf/ esp-3.pdf

MINIMAL ADVANCEMENT - EFFORTS MADE BUT CONTINUED LAW AND PRACTICE THAT DELAYED ADVANCEMENT

- 49 UN.World Economic Situation and Prospects 2017 Statistical Annex. 2017. Please see "Labor Law Enforcement: Sources and Definitions" in the Reference Materials section of this report. https://www.un.org/development/desa/dpad/wp-content/uploads/ sites/45/publication/2017wesp full en.pdf
- 50 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Information from the Ministry of Internal Affairs of the Kyrgyz Republic for the U.S. government's report on the elimination of the worst forms of child labor. January 14, 2021. Source on file.
- 51 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Resolution No. 391 on the Procedure for the Identification of Children and Families in Difficult Living Situations. Enacted: June 22, 2015. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/97689
- 52 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Resolution No. 830 on the Coordination Council for the Social Protection of the Population and Children's Rights. Enacted: December 4, 2015. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/preview/ru-ru/98225/10?mode=tekst
- 53 U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting, February 21, 2020.
- 54 UNODC. UNODC Supports Institutional Development of Trafficking in Persons Coordination Councils in Kyrgyzstan. October 16, 2019. https://www.unodc.org/centralasia/en/news/unodc-supports-institutional-development-of-trafficking-in-persons-coordination-councils-in-kyrgyzstan.html
- 55 Kaktus Media. Something amiss at the Commission on Children's Affairs? December 14, 2019. https://kaktus.media/doc/402662_komissii_po_delam_detey_v_kyrgyzstane:_chto_s_nimi_ne_tak.html

- 56 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic, Ministry of Justice. Decree 479 of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic on the Program to Support of Family and Protection of Children for 2018–2028. August 14, 2017. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/100203?cl=ru-ru
- U.S. Embassy- Bishkek. Reporting. January 18, 2018.
- 58 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Decree No. 743 on the program of the Government of the Kyrgyz Republic for the fight against trafficking in persons in the Kyrgyz Republic during 2017-2020. Enacted: November 15, 2017.
 - http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/preview/ru-ru/11515/10?mode=tekst
- Torogeldi-uulu, Bakyt. In Kyrgyzstan, If You Want Benefits You Might Have to Pay. February 24, 2019. https://www.rferl.org/a/kyrgyzstan-benefits-bribes-children-socialwelfare-kochkorov-minister/29787801.html
- Asel Sooronbayeva. Who in Kyrgyzstan can receive state allowances? Central Asian Bureau for Analytical Reporting (Cabar), April 1, 2019. https://cabar.asia/ru/kto-v-kyrgyzstane-mozhet-poluchit-gosudarstvennye-posobiya/
- 61 Government of the Kyrgyz Republic. Resolution on conditions for payment of personal assistants of children with limited abilities needing permanent care and supervision. Enacted: November 23, 2018. http://cbd.minjust.gov.kg/act/view/ru-ru/12819?cl=ru-ru