



First Independent Evaluation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab – 2021 - 2023

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List of Acronyms

ACCEL	Accelerating action for the elimination of child labour in supply chains in Africa
AF	Acceleration Factors
AL	8.7 Accelerator Lab
APINDO	Asosiasi Pengusaha Indonesia (Indonesia Employers' Association)
ASEAN	Association of Southeast Asian Nations
BMZ	Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (German: Bundesministerium für wirtschaftliche Zusammenarbeit und Entwicklung)
COTECCO	Combatting Child Labor in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Cobalt Industry
CPO	Country Programme Outcomes
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
DWCP	Decent Work Country Programmes
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organisation
FCWC	Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
FUNDAMENTALS	ILO Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch
GALAB	Global Accelerator Lab
GBNFL	Global Business Network on Forced Labour
HQ	Headquarters
ILO	International Labour Organisation
IPEC+	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour
KPI	Key Performance Indicator
M&E	Monitoring & Evaluation
MoM	Ministry of Manpower
MoT	Ministry of Transport
MRC	Migrant Resource Centre
MPF	Multi-Partner Fund
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
P&B	Programme and Budget
PABEA-COBALT	Support Project for Alternative Welfare of Children and Young People Involved in the Cobalt Supply Chain
OECD/DAC	The Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development's Development Assistance Committee
SBMI	Serikat Buruh Migran Indonesia (Indonesian Migrant Workers union)
SEP	Strategic Entry Points
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
TOC	Theory of Change
UNEG	United Nations Evaluation Group
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
USDOL	United States Department of Labour

Executive Summary

Background

To accelerate progress towards the eradication of forced labour and child labour, the ILO's Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch (FUNDAMENTALS) launched the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Initiative¹. The Initiative was launched in December 2020, with implementation starting in January 2021, and is scheduled to continue until the end of 2030, in line with the target date of the UN agenda.

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab Initiative relies on a two-pronged approach, with a system-level and an intervention-level approach. At the system-level the aim was to improve development cooperation by FUNDAMENTALS, by focusing on three pillars of improvement: “targeting”, “exchanging”, and “accelerating”. At the intervention-level, 8.7 Accelerator Lab sought to implement concrete activities at the national, regional, and global levels. In particular, the Initiative sought to develop policy and legal mechanisms, support constituents in identifying and tackling forced labour, promote regional dialogue, and foster partnerships and knowledge exchange. The intervention targeted two sectors in four countries: the Democratic Republic of Congo (mining sector), Ghana, Indonesia and South Africa (fishing sector).

Besides a Theory of Change, the Initiative relied on six acceleration factors (Afs): *fostering and developing political commitment, addressing root causes, focusing on vulnerable populations, creating and sharing knowledge, sustainable financing, and innovation*, which were supposed to improve effectiveness and increase impact. Similarly, Strategic Entry Points (SEP) were highlighted as opportunities to enhance impact by leveraging context-specific factors such as existing trade agreements and existing migration corridors.

The Initiative was funded by five development partners (Canada, Germany, the Netherlands, Norway and the United States), of which three (Canada, Germany, and Norway) joined the Multi-Partner Funding Mechanism. The goal of the pooled funding mechanism was to optimise the effectiveness and efficiency of the intervention through more flexible funding mechanisms.

Methodology

The design of the evaluation was guided by the ILO Evaluation Policy and aligned with the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards for Evaluation, UNEG Guidelines for Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations, and UNEG Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation.

The evaluation team applied a **mixed methods approach to collect data**. For the system-level, the evaluation focuses more on an “institutional evaluation” approach by predominantly engaging ILO staff across FUNDAMENTALS and other units to determine the internal functioning of the unit in relation to forced and child labour. A more traditional “project evaluation” approach was used for the intervention-level with a heavy focus on engaging stakeholders who could describe the successes and challenges in their respective countries.

Desk research and interviews were commonly applied to both levels, although the questionnaires were tailored to the respondents and the dimension. A total of 15 virtual interviews were carried out at the international level with ILO staff and donors. At the country level, 40 interviews spread across the four countries, were conducted with key stakeholders at the national level, based on a list provided by the ILO.

A **Policy Delphi** was used at the system-level, to identify how FUNDAMENTALS' development cooperation is perceived and what opportunities exist for improvement. **Field visits and case studies** were used at the intervention-level, to collect information on the intervention's effectiveness at the community level. Following the data collection stage, and having received comments on the Draft Evaluation Report, the evaluation team organised a **validation workshop** to discuss findings and lessons learned and to provide opportunities to discuss ideas for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's further implementation.

Findings

Relevance

The evaluation found that the two-pronged approach was mutually reinforcing and managed to address some of the main needs and challenges of the FUNDAMENTALS branch, namely the siloed work of the unit and its limited exchange of knowledge and experiences within the branch.

¹ Also referred to as “the Initiative” in this report.

The application of strategic entry points and acceleration factors were also relevant factors of the Initiative. Stakeholders noted that it is important to establish and support human rights due diligence mechanisms, as well as leverage trade agreements. Moreover, the selected acceleration factors responded to the needs and opportunities identified by national stakeholders. These methods included building upon existing political commitment to improve the situation in the mining and fishing sectors, sharing knowledge among stakeholders, targeting vulnerable populations, and ensuring sustainable financing to maintain results after completion.

Migrant workers were also able to benefit from the reliance on strategic entry points and acceleration factors, as addressing their needs requires not only working with vulnerable populations and addressing root causes but also requires focusing on migration corridors.

Coherence

The Initiative had a well-designed approach, with both levels of intervention reinforcing each other. It was able to causally link its intended short-term and medium-term outcomes. This was possible due to the creation of logical causal links between the ToC's vertical pathways, the four expected outcomes and the holistic expected impact. Similarly, with the elaborate chronological assumption of cause and effect within each pathway, it is expected that if results are achieved across all four pathways, the prevalence and scope of child and forced labour in selected countries and sectors would be reduced. Moreover, the system- and intervention-level approaches aligned with the overall objectives of the Initiative, as both were able to reinforce each other.

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab's approach and design ensured a great degree of adaptability and flexibility. Stakeholders were consulted and engaged in its design at the system and intervention-levels, which helped tailor the interventions to the local context. Furthermore, changes were implemented at the intervention-level based on needs expressed by stakeholders during the Initiative.

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab has shown a degree of coherence with other strategies and frameworks related to child and forced labour in FUNDAMENTALS. The Initiative has also shown a great degree of coherence with the broader objective of the ILO such as the P&Bs, DWCPs of the ILO as well as with other projects implemented by the ILO. The evaluation also found that the Initiative aligns with key national, regional strategies and priorities on forced labour child labour as well as with the strategies and frameworks of other international organisations.

The approach used by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab which works at system and intervention levels while also identifying SEPs and AFs adds a unique value and plays on ILO's comparative advantages. The current Initiative seeks to implement a new way of implementing transformative change by shifting the focus away from single projects to reduce forced and child labour all the while building upon ILO's integrated approach.

Effectiveness

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab Initiative has made improvements in its system-level goals towards enhanced targeting, exchange and evidence-based development cooperation. Although the introduced tools are new, ILO staff consider that they will soon have an impact on development cooperation.

Nevertheless, there are still areas for improvement at the system-level. It is important to continue to use tools and approaches that are effective to spread them across ILO and facilitate widespread change. Although knowledge exchange and communication mechanisms have improved, there is still a need to upscale existing communication mechanisms to ensure a more systematic approach.

At the intervention-level the Initiative has made progress across all four outcomes. At the national level, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has stimulated the cooperation and capacity building of employers' organisations and workers towards reducing forced and child labour. Similarly, progress was made on awareness raising and capacity building of communities about tackling the issue. Across the four countries, there was increased willingness to approve laws and policies against child and forced labour as well as to ensure that they are implemented. Regionally, the Initiative managed to establish cooperation structures with regional organisations and to make progress in creating action plans to reduce child labour. At the global level, the Initiative achieved most of its targets and contributed clearly to global initiatives to reduce child and forced labour. To achieve these goals the most visible AFs were the development of political commitment, addressing root causes, and creating and sharing knowledge. At the same time, the focus on sustainable financing and leveraging innovation was less visible.

At the system-level the key factors to ensuring progress were identified, despite some resistance to change. These factors include staff's open attitude towards responsiveness to context and their capacity to participate in consensus-based decision-making. At the intervention-level the strong engagement of stakeholders, and capacity to leverage existing projects and knowledge were also important. Meanwhile, at both levels, the creation of partnerships which support stakeholder collaboration have also supported the achievement of outcomes.

Efficiency

At the system-level, financial resources were used effectively to identify the most useful activities and outputs to enhance coordination and efficiency of development cooperation. The presence of a Multi-Partner Fund contributed to greater flexibility and enhanced the efficient use of different funding streams compared to previous more siloed work. However, some challenges persist due to continued earmarking of funds by some donors and due to some donors' internal reporting and accounting mechanisms that do not allow participation in a Multi-Partner Fund. Similarly, the evaluation found that human resources were sufficient. According to the evaluation, the ILO provided sufficient administrative, technical support towards ensuring that the Initiative's objectives are met. The communication between ILO HQ and country offices was also in line with both sides' expectations and contributed to the Initiative's smooth implementation.

At the intervention-level, the Initiative has also been able to use its financial resources effectively. Outcome 1 is the only outcome that has surpassed its allocated budget. Outcomes 2, 3 and 4 still have budget available, and their objectives are either in the process of being achieved or have already been exceeded. Human resources at the intervention-level are also sufficient to ensure that targets can be met. However, some staff have noted that at times their workloads become overwhelming due to the variety of tasks required for implementation.

In terms of monitoring results of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, some differences are evident between the system and intervention-levels. The intervention-level comprises an overarching results framework which sets out the Harmonised ToC, AF and SEPs and a harmonised logframe. However, at the system-level there is no separate ToC or M&E framework for the three pillars making it difficult to measure progress.

Sustainability

At the system-level the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's sustainability is supported by the policy and M&E framework produced during the implementation of the Initiative. The reviews and adjustments to these frameworks that are carried out periodically can help ensure that the Initiative remains relevant in changing contexts and supports the identification of direct beneficiaries. ILO staff have also noted that there is growing ownership towards the Initiative, and any potential limits to ownership stem from the relatively short time frame that has passed since the 8.7 Accelerator Lab began. Another aspect that enables sustainability, was the alignment of the initiative with SDG 2030; the Alliance 8.7 further supports the sustainability of the Initiative. Other factors that can help increase the impact of the Multi-Partner Fund and Initiative structure, include knowledge sharing and coordination with other projects. These factors can help scale up efforts and support synergies.

However, some internal and external challenges towards ensuring system-level sustainability were mentioned. Internally, the existing policies and M&Es, while being updated, lack an outlined process on how this should be carried out. Meanwhile, the Multi-Partner Fund system could also make it difficult to attract some donors, as some must adhere to strict internal funding procedures. The Initiative's implementation could also be affected by external factors such as disasters or emerging challenges, which might require the funders to divert some of the available resources to find solutions for those issues.

At the intervention-level there are also signs that the progress achieved by the Initiative can be sustained. This stems from the 8.7 Accelerator Lab leveraging existing strategies at the national and regional levels, and institutionalising the initiatives undertaken by the Initiative. The involvement of a wide range of stakeholders and constituents encouraged their engagement and has led to a strong sense of ownership among the parties involved in the Initiative's implementation. Moreover, continuing the Initiative's activities, such as on-site education and training and the further development of legislation can help achieve greater reductions in forced and child labour.

Nevertheless, there are potential challenges to sustaining the results of the Initiative. At the national level, some stakeholders noted that additional resources are needed to carry out activities particularly in remote and difficult to access areas. Further, changes in political priorities following elections and the lack of well-developed governance mechanisms could make it difficult to ensure sustainability.

Conclusions and recommendations

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab has presented a unique approach to development interventions. By focusing on a system and intervention-level it can create system-level tools that can be tested at intervention-level, providing feedback on actions informing the effectiveness of system-level tools and frameworks.

At the system-level the selected activities have directly addressed the challenges faced by staff working on child and forced labour but have also shown initial results to improve development cooperation. However, these results are at an initial stage and lack a comprehensive logic that could provide guidance and help measure outcomes of the Initiative. The tools and mechanisms created through the Initiative could support the work of FUNDAMENTALS. However, this needs to be scaled up to FUNDAMENTALS' management and wider FUNDAMENTALS staff in HQ and the field, and the issue of funding needs to be addressed.

At the intervention-level the implementation of AFs responded to the most pressing concerns of stakeholders. Similarly, the evaluation of outputs against their targets reveals that important progress has been made. However, as many activities are still underway, it is difficult to assess their full effectiveness. Stakeholders also exhibited a sense of ownership, and results can be sustained due to the Initiative's reliance on existing systems. Nevertheless, more resources are needed to further reduce forced and child labour.

Based on the evaluation findings and conclusions, the evaluation noted the following **lessons learned**:

1. The Theory of Change (ToC) at the system-level seeks to address specific difficulties but does not show how they link with the pillars of targeting, exchanging, and accelerating. A dedicated ToC for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's system-level is necessary to properly monitor and evaluate activities that enhance the functioning of FUNDAMENTALS.
2. In some countries, improvements in employment law achieved by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab do not benefit workers on service contracts. Therefore, the scope of protection under employment law would need to be expanded as well. This creates a disparity in the accessibility of employment benefits and social security for those working on a commission or under service contracts.
3. Stakeholders noted that issues of forced labour in the fishing sector often have a migration dimension. This creates specific challenges for migrant workers, which cannot be addressed at the national level alone. Instead, it requires the involvement of stakeholders from countries of origin, transit and destination.

The Initiative also revealed several emerging **good practices**:

1. Typically, interventions relied on separate projects funded by different donors and used different ToCs and M&E frameworks, making cross-country and project comparisons impracticable. The introduction of a Harmonised ToC and logframe under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab allowed practices between Multi-Partner Fund countries to be compared and exchanged and facilitated interaction between MPF countries and affiliated project countries.
2. Training workers and unions had a mutually reinforcing effect on their capacity to utilize social dialogue. Fishers felt more secure and protected voicing their concerns knowing that they would be represented by their organisation. Meanwhile, unions became respected partners in political dialogue and decision-making as well as acting as a policy body monitoring policy implementation and reporting existing violations and policy gaps.
3. Regional differences between countries regarding migration and legal regulation in targeted sectors mean that tackling forced and child labour requires a holistic approach. The inclusion of a Regional Path Change creates opportunities for national stakeholders to share lessons, create partnerships, develop systems and frameworks, and identify solutions to forced and child labour.

The evaluation provided the following **recommendations**:

1. **Develop a more detailed framework for the system-level activities in terms of how activities are meant to create outputs and contribute to the objectives under each of the three pillars.**

The Accelerator Lab's system-level currently lacks a framework or intervention logic that explicitly outlines what is expected to be achieved through the implemented activities. As a result, the existing monitoring mechanisms lack indicators to measure progress – indicators which should, at the same time, not be overly restrictive. This will require a continuation and potential increase of funding for the system-level.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff	Medium	Medium	Short-term

- 2. Enhance the focus on dissemination, and particularly promotion, of the tools and mechanisms developed at system-level, to ensure that all staff engaged in ILO’s work on child and forced labour know about the tools and understand their value.**

Some staff involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Initiative were not aware of the tools and mechanisms put in place to tackle forced and child labour. Furthermore, it was noted that some colleagues working in the field are unsure of how HQ-level tools would affect their responsibilities and autonomy at the regional and country level.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff	High	Medium	Short-term

- 3. Enhance the (visibility of) alignment of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab with the Alliance 8.7 in terms of the selection of (pathfinder) countries, and demonstration of the position and contribution of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab within the Alliance 8.7.**

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab connects in several ways with the Alliance 8.7, in terms of the use of indicators that require data from the Alliance 8.7, the inclusion of some Alliance Pathfinder countries, and the overall objective of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to support Alliance 8.7 in reducing child and forced labour.

However, some interviewees do not see the connection between the two or believe it should be stronger. Furthermore, existing annual reports show activities of the Alliance 8.7 that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab participated in, but the evaluation did not find information on how the role of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is perceived or how it contributes to the Alliance 8.7.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff and Alliance 8.7 management	High	Medium	Medium-term

- 4. Explore opportunities to refine the indicators in the Harmonised Logframe to provide better insights into the achieved changes at national, regional, and global levels.**

The harmonised logframe is of high quality and incorporates a different range of data sources and indicators. Nevertheless, the indicators for Outcomes 1 (people-centred), 3 (regional), and 4 (global) could be adjusted to provide additional depth to understanding the progress of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab intervention.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff	Medium	Medium	Medium-term

- 5. Continue and strengthen efforts to engage (more) donors in the Multi-Partner Fund, with an aim to renew the fund at the end of the current cycle. In particular, try to further expand the current concept of the Multi-Partner Fund to enhance flexibility of funding even further.**

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab envisages the elimination of child labour by 2025 and forced labour by 2030, but its Multi-Partner Funding ends in 2024. Furthermore, the current round includes some earmarked funding, from a limited number of donors.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff, donors	High	Medium	short-term

6. Explore opportunities for the next evaluation (when impact can be expected) to measure the added value of the Acceleration Factors.

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab Initiative staff are aware of AFs and can explain how they were used in the Initiative. However, the Initiative’s documentation and M&E frameworks do not provide guidance on how to integrate and measure the integration of AFs at country level. Furthermore, some of the implemented activities are yet to produce measurable impact.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff	Medium	Medium	Medium-term

1. Background to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab

1.1. Context of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab

1. Since the 2000s, significant progress has been made in reducing child labour and forced labour, but this progress has stagnated in the last few years.² The COVID-19 pandemic as well as economic crises and conflicts have aggravated the global situation. According to recent estimates, almost 28 million people are in forced labour³ and 160 million children are engaged in child labour.⁴ This situation reflects the lack of an appropriate response to the multiple challenges affecting the world of work, with a growing gap between formal commitments and concrete actions.
2. ILO Convention C029 defines forced labour as “*all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily*”.⁵ Child labour is work that is harmful to the physical and mental development of children and which must be distinguished from the participation of children of a certain age in certain activities. Child labour also often interferes with children’s schooling by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school or obliging them to leave school prematurely.⁶ Thus, over one third of children in child labour are out of school.⁷ Child labour hinders the economic and social development of countries by perpetuating poverty and exclusion by depriving children of education.⁸
3. Among the Sustainable Development Goals adopted in 2015, Target 8.7 calls for measures to eradicate child labour by 2025 and forced labour by 2030. Alliance 8.7 is a global partnership launched by the ILO, which is committed to achieving this target. The goal is to share information, and promising practices, as well as collaborate and demonstrate progress in the fight against forced labour and child labour. This Alliance, although including only a limited number of countries, demonstrates the added value of global cooperation to accelerate progress on the ground.⁹ Some of the main ILO actions to tackle forced labour and child labour include the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour and Forced Labour (IPEC+),¹⁰ the Global Conferences on Child Labour and the Global Business Network on Forced Labour.¹¹
4. Without disregarding the importance of each individual action, the decreased progress towards the achievement of SDG 8.7, partially due to COVID-19, means that larger-scale, collaborative actions are necessary to accelerate progress towards eliminating child labour by 2025 and forced labour by 2030. This requires intensified sharing of experiences and innovations at global level, which influence national-level commitments.¹²
5. Combatting forced labour and child labour requires close coordination at country, bilateral, regional and global levels. Although the fight against forced labour and child labour is primarily the responsibility of national governments, civil society, regional organisations and the global community have an essential role to play in supporting national efforts. A coordinated approach is needed to remedy this issue. This approach should be based on a solid legal framework, social dialogue, and quality education. Measures to reduce poverty and promote decent work throughout society are also necessary.¹³ Creating and sharing knowledge is also fundamental to leverage lessons learned, including addressing root causes and identifying methodologies behind successful interventions.

1.2. Design of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Initiative

6. To accelerate progress towards the eradication of forced labour and child labour, the ILO’s Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch (FUNDAMENTALS) launched the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Initiative, as a strategy to accelerate progress and enhance opportunities for constituents to engage jointly in the fight against child labour.¹⁴ The Initiative was launched in December 2020, with implementation starting in January 2021, and is

² 'World Day Against Child Labour'. International Labour Organization (ILO). <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/child-labour/campaignandadvocacy/wdacl/lang--en/index.htm>.

³ Global Estimates of Modern Slavery : Forced Labour and Forced Marriage - Executive Summary. 2022. International Labour Organization (ILO). https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---ipec/documents/publication/wcms_854795.pdf.

⁴ 'World Day Against Child Labour'. International Labour Organization (ILO). <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/child-labour/campaignandadvocacy/wdacl/lang--en/index.htm>.

⁵ C029 - Forced Labour Convention, 1930 (No. 29).

⁶ 'What Is Child Labour'. International Labour Organization (ILO). <https://www.ilo.org/ipec/facts/lang--en/index.htm> (October 18, 2023).

⁷ 'Child Labour: Global Estimates 2020 - Over One Third of Children in Child Labour Are out of School'. 2021. International Labour Organization (ILO). http://www.ilo.org/ipec/ChildlabourstatisticsSIMPOC/WCMS_817698/lang--en/index.htm (October 18, 2023).

⁸ 'World Day Against Child Labour'. International Labour Organization (ILO). <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/child-labour/campaignandadvocacy/wdacl/lang--en/index.htm>.

⁹ 'Pathfinders | Alliance 8.7'. Alliance 8.7. <https://www.alliance87.org/pathfinders>.

¹⁰ 'International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC)'. International Labour Organization (ILO). <https://www.ilo.org/ipec/lang--en/index.htm>.

¹¹ 'ILO Contributions to Achieve Target 8.7'. International Labour Organization (ILO). <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/sdg-2030/goal-8/target-8-7/lang--en/index.htm>.

¹² BMZ-ILO partnership: Towards the Elimination of Child Labour in Africa.

¹³ 'World Day Against Child Labour'. International Labour Organization (ILO). <https://www.ilo.org/global/topics/child-labour/campaignandadvocacy/wdacl/lang--en/index.htm>.

¹⁴ Pooled Funding for Development Cooperation Programmes - Accelerator Lab 8.7: Intensify Action against Forced Labour and Child Labour through Innovation. 2021. International Labour Organization (ILO).

strategically conceived to last until 2030, in line with the UN Sustainable Development agenda. At the same time, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is meant to support and capitalise on the work of Alliance 8.7, and part of the work of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is meant to contribute to the work of Alliance 8.7 (e.g. helping Alliance partners identify solutions to be scaled up to maximise impact).

7. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab comprises a two-pronged approach, namely a *system-level* approach (improving development cooperation is implemented and managed by FUNDAMENTALS, as well as the management of various affiliated projects) and an *intervention-level* approach (covered by the Multi-Partner Fund of donors) where concrete activities are implemented to reduce child and forced labour, at national, regional, and global levels.
8. The initial phase of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Initiative tested an approach to boost harmonisation, collaboration, and a human-centred approach. The initial phase covered 4 countries: the Democratic Republic of Congo, Ghana, Indonesia, and South Africa, which are all covered by the Multi-Partner Funding Mechanism. In three of these countries (Ghana, Indonesia and South Africa), the focus is on forced labour in the fishing sector, while in the Democratic Republic of Congo, the focus is on child labour in the mining sector.
9. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab involves the development partners – Canada, Germany, Netherlands, Norway, the United States, and the EU. Three funding partners decided to join the Multi-Partner Funding Mechanism in 2020 and 2023, namely Canada, Germany and Norway. The goal of this pooled funding is to foster cooperation and optimise the effectiveness of development cooperation interventions through more flexible funding mechanisms.
10. The Initiative is managed at different levels. Overall, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab as an Initiative has a dedicated team in ILO HQ. Each affiliated project has its own Chief Technical Advisors / Global Project Manager who are either based in HQ or regional offices. The Intervention-Level (under the Multi-Partner Fund) is managed by National Project Coordinators in the four countries, supported by the team in ILO HQ.
11. The donors' funding activities under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab (i.e. both the Multi-Partner Fund donors and the donors of other projects) are engaged in the Advisory Committee of Donors. This committee consists of external stakeholders. Lastly, while not officially part of the daily management of the Initiative, other FUNDAMENTALS staff have been consulted for the design of the Initiative and are collaborating with the 8.7 Accelerator Lab.
12. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab focuses on sectors where the prevalence of forced labour and child labour is high or involves the most vulnerable groups of society.¹⁵ The first interventions focused on the fisheries sector and the mining sector was subsequently added in 2022. Initially, the theory of change (ToC) included three outcomes: one at the global, regional and national levels focusing on legal frameworks and one at the national level focusing on empowered workers and employers.¹⁶ Some changes have been made to the project design, based on consultations with FUNDAMENTALS staff concerning the challenges the branch faced in its development cooperation.
13. The current theory of change, applicable to the Multi-Partner Fund, includes four outcomes, one for the global level, one only for the regional level, and two outcomes for the national level (one focusing on legal and policy frameworks, and one focusing on workers and employers). This adjustment to the ToC had three objectives, namely 1) to harmonise the 8.7 Accelerator Lab with the ToCs of other projects, 2) to incorporate the Acceleration Factors in the ToC and 3) to create a more human-centred approach focusing on workers as agents of change rather than passive recipients of support.
14. Another amendment to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab includes the introduction of system-level activities. The original 8.7 Accelerator Lab project document did not include a reference to a dimension that focuses on addressing the way development cooperation regarding forced and child labour is coordinated. The system-level dimension was introduced as the 8.7 Accelerator Lab was already ongoing and signals its adaptability.¹⁷
15. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab aims to improve the effectiveness of development cooperation interventions supporting the achievement of SDG 8.7 (and the Alliance 8.7). It relies on lessons learned and leverages the extensive ILO expertise in the fight against child labour and forced labour. It aims to replicate promising practices and identify new solutions.

1.2.1. System-level objectives

¹⁵ Ibid.

¹⁶ Ibid.

¹⁷ Pooled Funding for Development Cooperation Programmes - Accelerator Lab 8.7: Intensify Action against Forced Labour and Child Labour through Innovation. 2021. International Labour Organization (ILO); and information provided by ILO staff.

16. At the system-level, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab focuses on three pillars: “targeting”, “exchanging”, and “accelerating”, with the purpose of reviewing and improving the efficiency and effectiveness of how projects are delivered. The Initiative aims to accelerate results to end child labour and forced labour through six pre-defined Acceleration Factors (AF), including innovative solutions. It strives to work in a more coordinated manner, starting with the design of the project and through pooled funding. The goal of the Initiative is also to match the needs and political commitment to prioritize development cooperation.¹⁸
17. The design of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab comprises an elaborate chronological assumption of cause and effect within each pathway. It is expected that **if results are achieved across all four pathways, the prevalence and scope of child and forced labour in selected countries and sectors would be reduced.**¹⁹

- IF, communities are aware of their rights and access to services, AND workers / private sector have a better capacity to fight forced labour and child labour → THEN communities, workers and social partners are empowered and become agents of change [*outcome 1*]
- IF, institutional partners have increased capacity to fight forced and child labour AND legal and policy opportunities are identified → THEN the legal & policy framework and its enforcement mechanisms will be improved to address forced labour & child labour and protect victims [*outcome 2*]
- IF, regional institutional partners have better capacity to fight forced and child labour AND legal and policy opportunities are identified → THEN the legal & policy framework at regional level will be improved [*outcome 3*]
- IF, at global level, evidence is collected AND opportunities for partnership and solutions are scaled up → THEN partnership and knowledge sharing among stakeholders is improved [*outcome 4*]²⁰

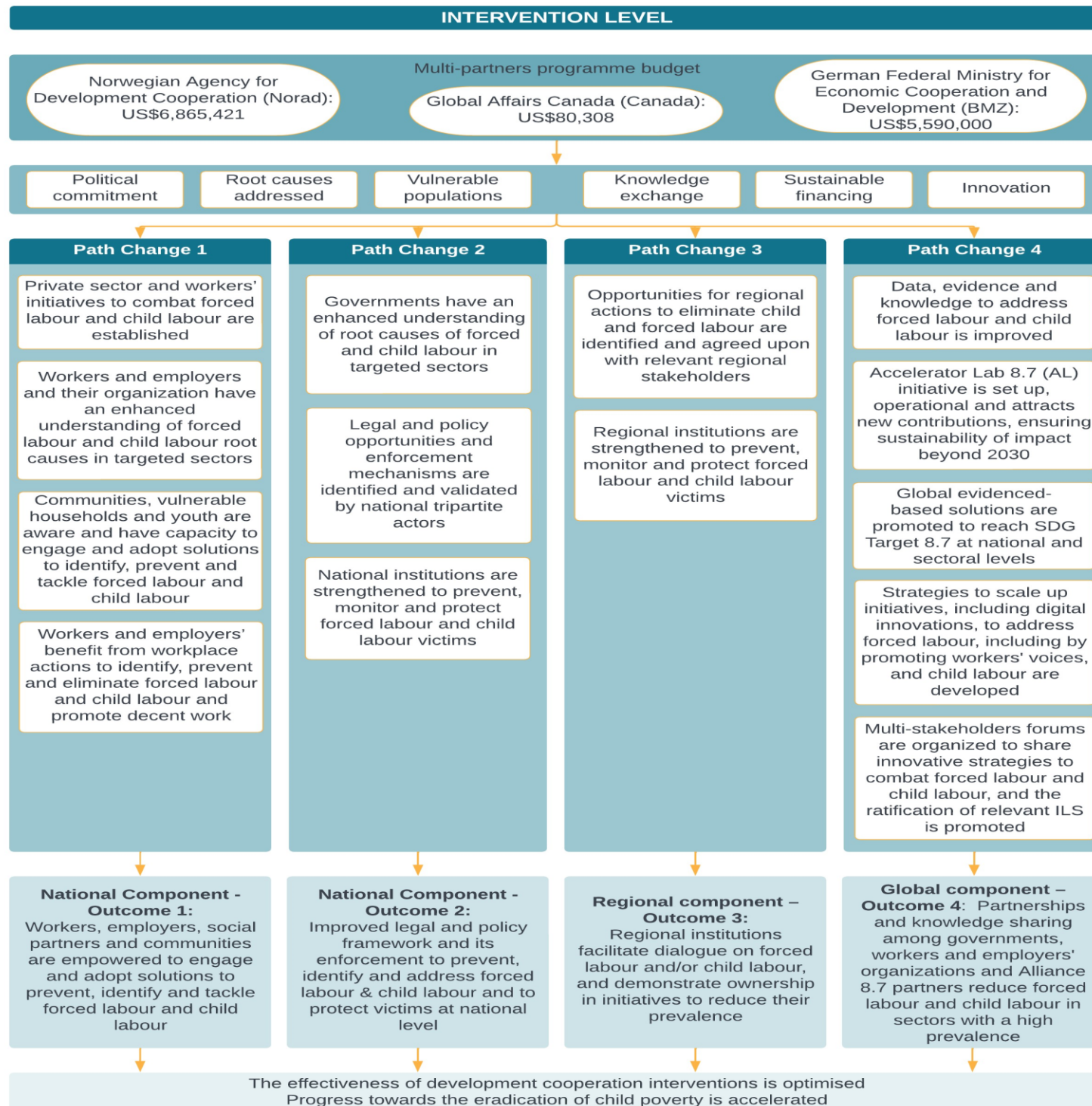
18. *Outcome 1* addresses the community-level and includes activities targeting all stakeholders and beneficiaries in relation to child and forced labour, namely communities themselves, workers and their organisations, and employers and their organisations. The combination of activities can logically result in an increased empowerment of stakeholders to combat child and forced labour.
19. *Outcome 2* focuses on the national / institutional level by providing a legal framework to combat child and forced labour. This outcome also links closely to Outcome 1 as it provides the community-level actors with the legal foundation to combat child and forced labour. The achievement of improved legal and policy frameworks relies on three distinct activities: strengthening government awareness and capacity on the topic, strengthening the actual legal and policy documents, and strengthening responsible national institutions to implement laws and monitor compliance. All three activities are needed to ensure that new legal and policy documents are not merely theoretical results but contribute to the ultimate objective of eradicating forced and child labour.
20. *Outcome 3* aims to enhance the role of regional institutions in addressing forced and child labour. This outcome comprises two main actions, namely identifying opportunities at the regional level to identify and combat child and forced labour and strengthening regional institutions to prevent and monitor child and forced labour and protect (potential) victims. Engaging regional organisations in addressing forced and child labour is particularly important given the high number of migrant workers who are victims of this phenomenon.
21. *Outcome 4* focuses on the global level. Most activities at a global level are aimed at enhancing knowledge, awareness and cooperation between stakeholders to create effective partnerships. Given that the global level plays an important role in creating enabling environments for national-level activities, there is a clear, logical link and expected reinforcement between the national outcomes and the regional and global outcomes.
22. Figure 1 demonstrates the four pathways to change the activities that contribute to achieving the four outcomes, and the ultimate impact expected because of the four outcomes.

¹⁸ 8.7 Accelerator Lab - A New Way to Prioritize and Coordinate Development Cooperation - 1st Strategic Advisory Group. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁹ Actionnable M&E Vision for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab (No. 2), 2022. HOWTO Collections - Proposals. International Labour Organization (ILO).

²⁰ Actionnable M&E Vision for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab (No. 2), 2022. HOWTO Collections - Proposals. International Labour Organization (ILO).

Figure 1. Intervention logic of the intervention-level



Source: Intervention logic for the intervention-level developed by the evaluation team based on the information presented in the available annual report.

Acceleration Factors

23. Across the four pathways, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab identified **six acceleration factors** as the pillars of its programming. The acceleration factors derive from an in-depth assessment of what can positively affect change in policy and practice at scale (i.e. what are the most impactful approaches to maximise the project's effectiveness). At the national level, 8.7 Accelerator Lab interventions aim to include all acceleration factors. At the regional and global levels, the acceleration factors are applied on a case-by-case basis.²¹

The six Acceleration Factors include:

- Foster and develop political commitment
- Address root causes
- Focus on vulnerable populations
- Create and share knowledge
- Sustainable financing
- Innovation

24. The Acceleration Factors derive from an in-depth assessment of what can positively affect change in policy and practice on a scale. ILO staff members identified the six AFs as most effective in creating lasting impact. **Challenges identified by national stakeholders demonstrate the importance of the Initiative's six identified Acceleration Factors.**

25. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab is, in its design, meant to promote flexibility and adaptability. New approaches and potential innovations are constantly tested and piloted, based on which the activities of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab are adjusted, expanded, or dropped. This approach requires flexibility in the funding mechanisms as well.²²

1.2.2. Intervention-level objectives

26. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab focuses on knowledge creation and exchange to better understand and tackle forced labour and child labour, and their root causes in particular. The goal is to also raise awareness of this issue among the various stakeholders at different levels (national, regional, and global). Innovative strategies and initiatives are identified and scaled up to use effective approaches in new contexts. The policy and legislative framework should be strengthened as should the enforcement mechanisms to demonstrate political commitment.

Strategic Entry Points

27. Strategic Entry Points (SEPs) reflect opportunities for ILO to enhance its impact by leveraging parallel measures and approaches that can create a wider impact. The evaluation found that generally, the identified **Strategic Entry Points were relevant for the national stakeholders. Some SEPs were particularly relevant for migrant workers.**

28. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab also highlights the importance of using SEPs. They reflect the opportunities for projects to enhance their impact by leveraging existing measures or contexts. For example, trade agreements can be leveraged to promote compliance by businesses so as not to lose their trade opportunities.²³

Examples of possible Strategic Entry Points include:

- Opportunities to address or prevent *all* forms of forced labour (including debt bondage, state-imposed forced labour and forced sexual exploitation) and child labour (affecting younger children, the worst forms of child labour and family-based work).
- Countries and migration corridors where the ILO can build on current efforts in promoting fair recruitment to prevent decent work abuses, including forced labour.

²¹ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

²² Information provided by ILO staff.

²³ ILO Multi-Partner Fund to Step Up the Fight Against Child Labour and Forced Labour. The pooled funding mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Progress Report 11 December 2020 to 31 December 2021.

- Sectors with challenges in eradicating forced labour and eliminating child labour and where there are opportunities for scaling up sector-based interventions for a national- and/or area-based approach.
- The emerging range of initiatives to establish and support human rights due diligence for businesses.
- Countries and sectors with opportunities for leveraging trade agreements (including trade agreements that reference ILO fundamental principles and rights at work) and, when possible, in collaboration with international financial institutions

2. Purpose, objectives, and scope of the evaluation

2.1. Evaluation background

29. As expressed in ILO's Evaluation Policy, following the UNEG Norms and Standards for Evaluations, *"evaluation is expected to promote accountability and learning. Evaluation aims to understand why – and to what extent – intended and unintended results were achieved. Evaluation can inform planning, programming, budgeting, implementation and reporting and can contribute to evidence-based policymaking and organisational effectiveness."* The ILO specifically foresees the role of evaluations to support mutual accountability, ownership, transparency and quality improvement of ILO's work and culture of work.²⁴

30. The **purpose of the current evaluation** is to take stock of the achievements and challenges of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab so far, for the purpose of accountability (looking backwards, summative) and for the purpose of improving future planning for the Initiative (looking forward, formative). As the Initiative has not ended, the evaluation can provide useful information on the work of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in the upcoming years by describing what worked and should continue, and what did not work and may need to be reconsidered.

2.2. Evaluation scope

31. The evaluation adopts a clustered approach by looking both strategically at the achievements and lessons learned in improving the system-level change by the Initiative at a global level, and operationally at the achievements and lessons learned at the intervention-level. It also comprises the system-level work executed to enhance development cooperation within FUNDAMENTALS itself.

32. The evaluation covers the period between January 2021, when work for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab began and July 2023. The geographical scope of the evaluation comprises global, regional and country level work in Indonesia, South Africa and Ghana (fishing sector) and DRC (mining sector). The evaluation only covers projects under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab funded by the MPF.

2.3. Evaluation clients

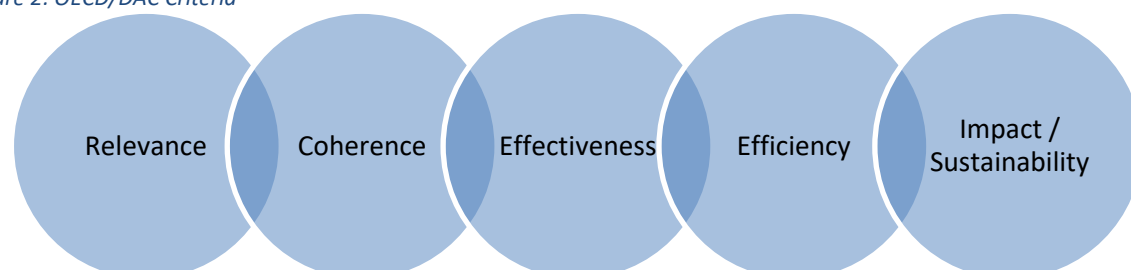
33. The **primary users** of the evaluation are global and national stakeholders, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff, other ILO staff, and donors. At the system-level in particular, the evaluators closely cooperated with the staff and main stakeholders within FUNDAMENTALS to ensure that the conclusions and recommendations would be useful for the Initiative to move forward. Potential **Secondary users** are other organisations or stakeholders working in related thematic areas. Because of the system-level inclusion, insights and recommendations may also be of interest to other actors interested in the unique experiment or funding.

²⁴ ILO Evaluation Policy (2017).

3. Evaluation criteria and questions (including Cross-cutting issues / issues of special interest to the ILO)

34. The OECD/DAC evaluation criteria were used to frame the evaluation, with limited focus on impact as the implementation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is still relatively recent. Additionally, the evaluation covers ILO’s cross-cutting concerns regarding gender equality, inclusion of persons with disabilities, environmental sustainability, social dialogue and promotion of international labour standards.

Figure 2: OECD/DAC Criteria



35. The full matrix with all evaluation questions per criterion, their sources and indicators, is presented in Annex 5. The overarching evaluation questions listed in the ToR included:

Criterion	Questions per the ToR
Relevance	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To what extent is the Initiative level approach aligned with the work of FUNDAMENTALS? 2. Through its two-pronged approach at the System and Intervention-levels, to what extent does the ILO 8.7 Accelerator Lab respond to the institutional needs and context in FUNDAMENTALS development cooperation aimed at eliminating child labour and forced labour? Are these needs also relevant at the global, regional and national levels? 3. Looking at both the System and the intervention-level, to what extent did the 8.7 Accelerator Lab adapt and adjust its design, objectives and approaches, to respond to evolving contexts and changing needs, to improve effectiveness? Were there any key facilitating or hindering factors? Are there any needs that should be better addressed in future phases? 4. To what extent is the intervention design valid and realistic to deliver planned results? 5. To what extent do the acceleration factors and strategic entry points at the intervention-level respond to the needs of stakeholders at global, regional and national levels, and to national contexts? Are some acceleration factors and strategic entry points being prioritized over others, and if so, why? To what extent are the specific vulnerabilities of migrant workers taken into account?
Coherence	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 6. Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s strategic approach coherent with other strategies and frameworks related to child labour and forced labour in FUNDAMENTALS and the ILO more broadly, as well as beyond? 7. Is there evidence of complementarity and coordination with other institutions and projects related to SDG 8.7? 8. To what extent are System-level efforts aligned with the ILO’s Programme and Budget (P&B), with broader ILO policies, and with UN-level policies and SDGs? 9. To what extent does the priority matrix have the potential to prioritize ILO development cooperation as well as the priorities of development partners? 10. To what extent is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Harmonised ToC and strategy aligned with Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) strategies and/or Country Programme Outcomes (CPOs)? 11. Are the acceleration factors and strategic entry points coherent and complementary with global, regional and national policies? Do they build on the ILO’s comparative advantage at all intervention-levels?
Effectiveness	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 12. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab made progress to achieve its objective of promoting a new way of targeting, coordinating, and making more evidenced based development cooperation in FUNDAMENTALS? Which of

	<p>the systems-level results have been achieved or made progress? Have any pillars (better targeting, increased exchanges and promoting acceleration) been particularly successful or unsuccessful?</p> <p>13. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab succeeded in promoting a system-level shift in terms of harmonisation and value for money in development cooperation?</p> <p>14. One of the objectives of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is to create opportunities and test new modalities to increase internal efficiency and effectiveness and decrease the duplication of efforts, in terms of how development cooperation is delivered. What has been learned through this first phase in terms of what works, what doesn't and why?</p> <p>15. How effectively has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted information exchange and dissemination between countries, sectors and levels, and contributed to limiting the silo-approach?</p> <p>16. How and to what extent has the strategy of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab been disseminated throughout the ILO, including at the field level?</p> <p>17. How can the work of the Initiative as a whole be distinguished from the projects that contribute to it?</p> <p>18. How do results at the system-level and intervention-level mutually reinforce each other?</p> <p>19. With regards to effectiveness, what main opportunities and challenges were faced during this first phase?</p> <p>20. To what extent and how have partnerships established at the system and intervention (global, regional and country) levels contributed to the achievement of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's objectives? What were facilitating factors and challenges in attracting new development partners (both in the Initiative and in the Multi-Partner Fund)?</p> <p>21. Does the 8.7 Accelerator lab promote adaptability and innovation, and is it flexible enough to respond to changing contexts?</p> <p>22. "To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab engaged with, worked through, and empowered social partners? How were social dialogue and tripartism promoted and used to make progress towards objectives and encourage stakeholders to become agents of change? Have there been any missed opportunities?</p> <p>23. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted awareness of, and compliance with International Labour Standards (ILS), and built on ILO's comparative advantage in normative work?</p> <p>24. To what extent and how has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab mainstreamed gender equality? 23. To what extent and how has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted other Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, including Occupational Safety and Health?</p> <p>25. To what extent and how have fragility and crisis been integrated in the Initiative?</p> <p>26. To what extent and how has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab incorporated and encouraged disability inclusion?</p> <p>27. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab supported greater understanding and buy-in of the fair transition to an environmentally sustainable economy, and among key partners / collaborators?</p> <p>28. To what extent is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab on track to achieve expected results (outcomes and outputs) at the intervention-level (global, regional and country)?</p> <p>29. To what extent has each country-level intervention contributed to the overall objectives (keeping in mind their different scopes)?</p>
Efficiency	<p>30. Has the structure of the Initiative promoted efficient use of resources within its different funding streams? How?</p> <p>31. Do the underlying funding agreements allow the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to operate in a flexible, innovative manner?</p> <p>32. In general, do the results achieved justify the costs?</p> <p>33. Are management arrangements efficient at the system and implementation levels, with roles and responsibilities clearly defined and known among different actors?</p> <p>34. What should the Advisory Committee of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab focus on in the future, is there a need to include more actors in the Advisory Committee?</p> <p>35. Does the Initiative receive adequate administrative, technical and political support by ILO at the System and intervention (global, regional, country) levels? How has the Initiative collaborated with other ILO technical departments (especially in addressing root causes)?</p> <p>36. To what extent have resources (financial and human) been allocated strategically to achieve expected results at the system and intervention-levels? Were they used efficiently? Was staffing adequate to implement and monitor the Initiative, and did 8.7 Accelerator Lab teams have appropriate M&E, gender and disability expertise?</p>

	<p>37. Is the Initiative’s results framework used for strategic decision-making, implementation and to support responses to contextual changes? Do these link to each other with regards to an overall results framework? Are there SMART indicators linked with outcomes, realistic performance targets, with milestones and baselines?</p> <p>38. Have monitoring and reporting frameworks been established and used to measure and report progress at the strategic / system and intervention / country levels? Have the intervention-level M&E tools (ToC, Logframe, indicators etc) been designed with consideration to user needs and the context, and with causal logic?</p> <p>39. Is there a communication strategy in place to document and disseminate results and knowledge internally and externally? How effectively does the Initiative do this?</p> <p>40. Were synergies created with other initiatives and interventions?</p> <p>41. Which of the six acceleration factors and entry points have received more attention and why? What are challenges and bottlenecks that should be addressed to ensure the other factors and entry points are also considered?</p> <p>42. To what extent did ILO support act as a catalyst for change in project countries? To what extent did the 8.7 Accelerator Lab help leverage additional resources at country / global levels?</p> <p>43. Has the distribution of resources between countries been adequate and were funds and activities delivered in a timely and cost-effective manner? Has the implementation of the sectoral approach in different countries (such as the focus on fishing) led to better efficiency in the use of financial and other resources? Did it lead to identification of additional interventions in new target countries for a Phase 2?</p> <p>44. To what extent are the interventions at global, regional and country levels learning from each other’s experiences? Were synergies created across the country interventions under review, and across sectors? What is the added value of working at different implementation levels?</p>
<p>Sustainability and impact</p>	<p>45. How, and to what extent is sustainability embedded into the strategy of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?</p> <p>46. How can the Initiative further contribute to improve sustainability in FUNDAMENTALS development cooperation? Are there clear signs of ownership by ILO management and staff working on either child labour- or forced labour-related issues?</p> <p>47. What are the most critical factors influencing the success of sustainability strategies? Looking at the way the Initiative has been set up and is operating, what are challenges and opportunities for the next phase?</p> <p>48. Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab leading to other changes, including “scalable” or “replicable” results?</p> <p>49. How, and to what extent is sustainability embedded into the strategy of country-level interventions? What are the key factors that influence the ability of stakeholders to sustain the initial results of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab at the country level?</p> <p>50. Is there evidence of solutions being institutionalised or scaled up after being tested? Is there evidence of ownership by constituents and target stakeholders, or changes in their behaviours and practices?</p> <p>51. To what extent have country interventions been successful in reaching (benefitting) end-beneficiaries (vulnerable workers) as agents of sustainable and long-term change? Have certain groups been left out, and why?</p> <p>52. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted sustainability through domestic resource mobilization? What are the barriers to this?</p>

4. Methodology of the evaluation

36. The evaluation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab was conducted by the PPMI Group. The team was composed of a Team Leader, a Senior Evaluator and four PPMI researchers, as well as two national experts in DRC and South Africa.

4.1. Data collection approaches

37. The evaluation relied on a **mixed-methods approach**. In alignment with the unique nature of the Initiative, and to include its different dimensions and strong internal component (to improve ILO’s development cooperation), the evaluation adopted both a “traditional” project evaluation approach for the intervention-level, as well as an “institutional evaluation” approach for the system-level.

4.1.1. Desk research

38. **Desk research** was implemented in two phases:

- **Initial desk research** was carried out in the inception phase when planning the evaluation to understand the Initiative better and update the methodological approach.
- **Desk research for data collection** was carried out during the structured fieldwork stage. During this phase, the evaluation team focused on questions in the conceptual framework.

4.1.2. Interviews

39. Interviews were conducted in two stages:

- Initial interviews were conducted with ILO staff during the inception phase to understand better the context for the evaluation and ILO’s expectations. The following interviews were carried out during the Inception phase:
 - o Interview with the Initiative team at HQ (3)
 - o Interview with other FUNDAMENTALS staff (1)
 - o Interviews with national 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff (4)
- In-depth interviews for data collection were conducted during the fieldwork phase.

40. Interviews were conducted at the **global level** with ILO’s staff and donors. At the international level, 15 virtual interviews were carried out with:

- 8.7 Accelerator Lab Staff (5)
- ILO FUNDAMENTALS staff (4)
- ILO staff representing other departments (2)
- 8.7 Accelerator Lab Advisory Committee/donors (3 interviews, 4 participants)

41. At the **country level**, the evaluation team conducted interviews with national ILO office staff, and with key stakeholders involved in the implementation of intervention-level initiatives. The following institutions were interviewed at the country-level, based on the stakeholder list provided by ILO and based on preliminary desk research.

Table 1. Interviewees per country

Ghana	Indonesia	South Africa	DRC
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ILO STAFF • Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations • Ghana Maritime Authority • Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCF), • Tripartite Committee • National Union of Sea Ports and Allied Workers (NUSPAW), 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ILO STAFF • Ministry of Manpower • Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries • Employers’ Organisation - APINDO • Trade Union Network for the Fisheries Sector • Indonesian Migrant Workers Union (SBMI) • Diponegoro University 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ILO STAFF • South African Maritime Safety Authority, • The Department of Labour and Employment • Department of Forestries Fisheries and Environment (DFFE) • Department of Home Affairs 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • ILO STAFF • Division de la Prévoyance Sociale • Division des Affaires Sociales • Commissariat Provincial du travail • Congolese Enterprise Federation (FEC) • Congolese artisanal mining agency SAEMAPE

<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Maritime and Dockworkers Union (MDU) • Trades Union Congress Ghana • Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea • Ghana Tuna Association 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Migrant Resource Centre 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Employers – Business Unity South Africa (BUSA) • Congress of South African Trade Unions • Statutory Council • Stella Maris NGO • A21 NGO • Bargaining Council for the Fishing Industry • Fish SA • Food and Allied Workers Union 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Groupe de Travail Lubumbashi • Groupe de Travail Likasi • Groupe de Travail Kolwezi
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Source: Compiled by the authors.

All data collection in South Africa and DRC was conducted by the national team members.

Field visits and case studies

42. Ghana and Indonesia were selected in coordination with the ILO HQ and national offices as field-visit countries. Ghana was selected for its visible achievements at the beneficiary and regional levels. Indonesia was selected because it included migrant workers as beneficiaries, and it was the only non-African country. The evaluation team conducted in-person missions to Indonesia and Ghana to understand the Initiative's impact on eliminating forced and child labour at the community-level. In addition to the stakeholder interviews, the evaluation team visited beneficiaries and their communities in targeted locations to identify how the 8.7 Accelerator Lab activities affected the ultimate beneficiaries.

4.1.3. Policy Delphi

43. During the Inception interviews, it was noted that the system-level activities have a more reflective dimension, as they focus not on countries or regions, but on the functioning of ILO internally. Therefore, it was decided to dedicate a specific methodological tool to the system-level evaluation to capture this “institutional evaluation” dimension.

44. In this evaluation, the purpose of the Policy Delphi was to gather the insights of selected persons with sufficient knowledge of the work of FUNDAMENTALS, firstly looking back at the challenges that ILO and FUNDAMENTALS faced regarding combatting forced and child labour, and secondly looking forward at opportunities for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to support FUNDAMENTALS in making development cooperation more targeted, coordinated, and evidence-based.

45. The people selected to participate in the Policy Delphi included all 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff, other FUNDAMENTALS staff, other ILO branches with links to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, regional and national child and forced labour specialists, and donor representatives.

46. The *first round* of the Policy Delphi included questions on the functioning of FUNDAMENTALS as it related to development cooperation to combat child/forced labour. Following the responses received, the team prepared the *second round* of the Policy Delphi. This round enquired whether the respondents consider the tools and activities proposed and implemented for the system-level as the most useful ones to address challenges to harmonised development cooperation identified in round one. Respondents were additionally asked about what other actions they would expect under the system-level dimension of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab going forward.

4.1.4. Validation workshop

47. At the end of the data collection stage, and after receiving comments on the Draft Evaluation Report, the evaluation team, with assistance from the Evaluation Manager, organised an online workshop for 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff and the main stakeholders (e.g. advisory committee, global partners and constituents) to discuss the findings and lessons learned. This workshop allowed the Initiative team to brainstorm about the future of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, in line with recommendations provided by the evaluation team.

4.2. Analysis and reporting

48. **The evaluation team relied mainly on qualitative** data collected through desk research, stakeholder interviews and Focus Group Discussions (FGDs) with personal stories. The data gathered from these three sources was coded based on a data collection and coding template, based on the evaluation matrix. Two case studies were prepared for Indonesia and Ghana, respectively, to provide a deeper analysis of the FGD results. Further, the names of interviewees and FGD participants were anonymised, and the interview content was summarised. **Quantitative data** was primarily obtained through the Policy Delphi survey, covering the system-level activities, and was analysed using SPSS.
49. **The gathered data was triangulated**, meaning that multiple different data sources were analysed to respond to the same research questions. This contributed to enhancing the validity and reliability of the findings, as multiple sources reduce the influence of possible bias on the findings. Further, this approach addresses potential knowledge gaps.

4.3. Ethical considerations

50. The evaluation's design followed the instructions provided by the United Nations Evaluation Group (UNEG) Norms and Standards for Evaluation, UNEG Guidelines for Integrating Human Rights and Gender Equality in Evaluations, and UNEG Ethical Guidelines for Evaluation, and was guided by the ILO Evaluation Policy.

4.3.1. Ethics of the data collection process

51. The FGD questionnaires for workers (who may have suffered from forced labour) were prepared by PPMI in line with its methodological standards but were subsequently shared with ILO staff in the respective countries to determine whether the questions were sensitive and suitable for their national context, considering the vulnerabilities of the workers.
52. As PPMI is located in the EU, we are committed, but also obliged, to apply strict data protection policies aligned with the General Data Protection Regulation. All respondents were asked for permission to record the interview / FGD and were provided space to also ask the team questions about the purpose of the interviews.

4.3.2. Ethics of the reporting process

53. The evaluation team gave due respect to the voices of the workers and employers (per the objective of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab), during the reporting process, particularly through the case studies.

4.4. Limitations

54. The current evaluation methodology was designed to provide a comprehensive picture of the achievements and challenges of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab so far. However, the evaluation faced certain limitations affecting the results:
- Firstly, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is a unique Initiative, comprising system- and intervention-levels, and without a “permanent” scope and duration. It is an adaptive Initiative aiming to pilot and adjust its work based on results. Therefore, the evaluation also needed to capture this flexibility and recognise that certain activities and dimensions were new at the time of the evaluation. Inception interviews with ILO staff indicated that the system-level activities were still “fresh” and had not been widely disseminated across relevant ILO departments and offices. Therefore, it proved difficult to gather evidence and prepare meaningful recommendations for the system-level, in particular. The evaluation team aimed to mitigate this challenge by adding the Policy Delphi method to explore the challenges faced by FUNDAMENTALS. They also asked questions about the extent to which respondents believe that the chosen activities of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab *would be effective* in addressing those challenges in the future. As a result, the evaluation, therefore, had a strong forward-looking approach to this dimension.
 - Secondly, the team foresaw potential difficulties in collecting data in DRC, given the that elections were forthcoming during the timeline of the evaluation. As a mitigating measure, the team launched data collection early, with the aim to complete interviews ahead of 15 November 2023, when the national staff believed respondents would become unavailable. All interviews were completed on time, and the risk of incomplete interviews was mitigated.
 - Thirdly, it was noted during some of the FGDs that, as only limited activities had taken place with the ultimate beneficiaries at this stage of the Initiative, many FGD respondents could not inform on the effectiveness of the activities or the impact they had on their lives and well-

being. This limitation was mitigated by triangulating the FGD responses with interviews and desk research and by having a more forward-looking view of what impact could be expected based on what the FGD respondents were able to explain.

- d. Lastly, many aspects of the system-level data collection (interviews and the first Policy Delphi round) took place while the FUNDAMENTALS branch was on strategic retreat. This reduced the response rate to the survey and interviews. The team extended the deadlines for both surveys and interviews to ensure all views could still be captured.

55. Given that the system-level evaluation is a type of “institutional evaluation,” it relied significantly on interviews with ILO staff and only to some extent on donor and stakeholder interviews. This should not be perceived as a limitation of the evaluation, but rather as a normal aspect of conducting institutional evaluations.

5. Evaluation Findings

5.1. Relevance

56. According to the OECD/DAC evaluation criteria, “relevance” indicates the extent to which an intervention addresses the needs of beneficiaries and stakeholders, including the needs of ILO.

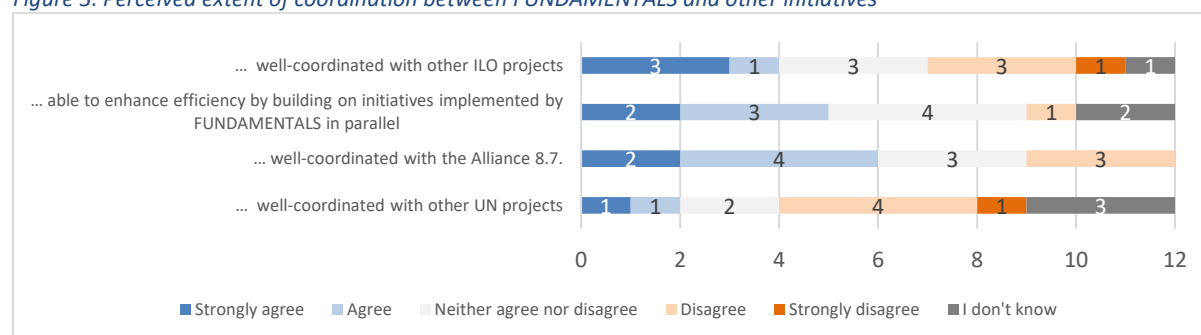
5.1.1. To what extent does the ILO 8.7 Accelerator Lab respond to the institutional needs and context in FUNDAMENTALS?

57. **A review of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s objectives and activities, supported by interviews, demonstrates that the two-pronged approach was mutually reinforcing, and the 8.7 Accelerator Lab addressed some of the main needs and challenges faced by FUNDAMENTALS.**

58. The main benefit of the two-pronged approach lies in the ability of the Initiative to design improvements to ILO development cooperation at the system (HQ) level and immediately test these approaches in the project countries. At the same time, feedback received from country teams and stakeholders influenced FUNDAMENTALS’ approach to development cooperation more broadly. Therefore, the **two levels actively interacted and reinforced each other.**²⁵

59. Interviewees noted that, before the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, FUNDAMENTALS did not have a system for active collaboration within the branch and with other branches.²⁶ Challenges faced by FUNDAMENTALS included the absence of cross-sectoral and cross-project learning and difficulties in avoiding duplication:²⁷ “People were designing projects covering the same topics and countries without really realising they were both doing that”.²⁸ Half or less than half of the Policy Delphi respondents considered the work of FUNDAMENTALS to be well-coordinated, demonstrating the need for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to address coordination and exchange within the branch.

Figure 3. Perceived extent of coordination between FUNDAMENTALS and other initiatives



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). “To what extent do you agree or disagree that the overall work led by FUNDAMENTALS and targeting forced and child labour was...”

60. At the same time, the lack of uniform approaches (ToCs and M&E frameworks) within FUNDAMENTALS prevented the branch from drawing conclusions on the effectiveness and impact of its overall work (as each project was monitored with different indicators and tools). Half or less than half of the Policy Delphi respondents knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS considered the work of FUNDAMENTALS to be harmonised in terms of its approaches to combat child and forced labour, before the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Several system-level activities (uniform vision, harmonised M&E Framework) were designed to enhance the coordination within FUNDAMENTALS. At the same time, the intervention-level ensured that these new approaches could be tested and adjusted.

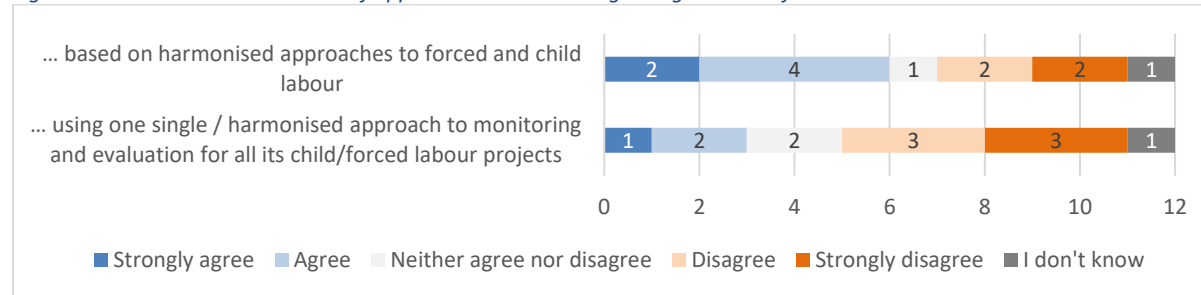
²⁵ Review of Accelerator Lab 8.7 documentation and interviews with ILO AL staff.

²⁶ Interviews with ILO AL staff and other ILO staff.

²⁷ Interviews with ILO AL staff and other ILO staff.

²⁸ Interview with ILO AL staff.

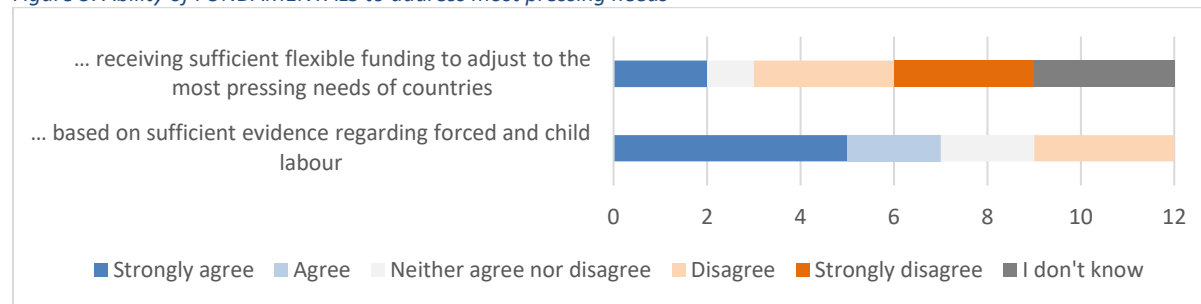
Figure 4. Perceived harmonisation of approaches and M&E regarding child and forced labour



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "To what extent do you agree or disagree that the overall work led by FUNDAMENTALS and targeting forced and child labour was..."

61. Interviewees noted that FUNDAMENTALS projects were mainly donor-driven (i.e. based on donor-preferred countries and, sometimes, sectors and localities). This somewhat hindered FUNDAMENTALS from applying a more targeted and streamlined approach to the country selection. For example, the first meeting of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's Advisory Committee noted that "there is a lack of strategic prioritisation and evidenced-based targeting of interventions."²⁹ A risk of limited coordination between interventions can have consequences for efficiency: well-coordinated projects can benefit from cost-sharing or mutual reinforcement to enhance impact, and better use of evidence can avoid the use of approaches that are less effective.³⁰ More than half of the Policy Delphi respondents knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS considered that its work is based on sufficient evidence, but the majority disagreed or strongly disagreed that the branch receives flexible funding to address the most pressing needs.

Figure 5. Ability of FUNDAMENTALS to address most pressing needs



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "To what extent do you agree or disagree that the overall work led by FUNDAMENTALS and targeting forced and child labour was..."

5.1.2. To what extent do the Strategic Entry Points and Acceleration Factors respond to the needs of stakeholders?

To what extent are the Strategic Entry Points and Acceleration Factors relevant?

Strategic Entry Points

62. In the targeted countries, there is a deficit of decent work, which makes them migrant-sending countries. The problem of the lack of decent work needs to be addressed by turning to the root causes. The Initiative focuses on addressing root causes at the national and sectoral levels by involving local stakeholders. It was planned to focus the entry points on the sectoral level and supply chain actors were supposed to be brought together to contribute to the interventions.³¹

63. Two Strategic Entry Points were particularly highlighted by stakeholders for their relevance, specifically support for businesses to establish initiatives to protect human rights, with a focus on countries and sectors where these actions would benefit from trade agreements. They mentioned that, prior to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, local businesses lacked initiatives, traditions or legal frameworks to align with international human and labour rights standards,

²⁹ 8.7 Accelerator Lab - A New Way to Prioritize and Coordinate Development Cooperation - 1st Strategic Advisory Group. International Labour Organization (ILO).

³⁰ Review of Accelerator Lab 8.7 documentation and interviews with ILO AL staff.

³¹ Accelerator Lab 8.7 Strategy Consultation notes.

including EU standards, to continue the fish and ore trade. Stakeholders in the business sector across national and global levels expressed interest in adopting regulations to address forced labour, including business partners in the EU countries, who wanted to engage with clients that comply with international standards and human rights.³² However, one stakeholder shared that in the tuna industry, such standards were already established before the Initiative.³³

64. Regarding trade agreements, some countries had not ratified the ILO Conventions prior to the Initiative, which could be a preventing factor for trade with other ILO and EU members. For example, in **Ghana** and **Indonesia** the C188 “Work in Fishing” Convention had not been ratified. Many stakeholders were waiting for the convention to be ratified, particularly in **Ghana**, which would enable further actions on fair and ethical recruitment in the fishing sector to protect these workers.³⁴

65. Leveraging migration corridors is considered particularly relevant for migrant workers. As emphasised in this report, the needs of migrant workers can only be addressed if a bilateral or multilateral approach is used, which includes stakeholders of origin, transit, and destination countries. Therefore, focusing on migration corridors to include all stakeholders is key.³⁵

Acceleration Factors

66. Addressing the root causes of child and forced labour in the targeted countries differed in each country based on the national context. The stakeholders shared that the largest problems in these countries on an institutional level were a **lack of harmonised regulations** that address forced and child labour and are aligned with international labour standards. This is linked to the lack of a functioning, non-corrupted labour inspection that would allow regular monitoring and a lack of governmental capacity to coordinate among different authorities and partners. For example, human resources at the South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA) are insufficient. This entity inspects the compliance with ILO C188. Further, there is no harmonisation of regulations for land-based and sea-based sectors in **Indonesia**. However, the **political commitment** to improve the situation in the fishing and mining sectors was there in all 8.7 Accelerator Lab countries.³⁶ Furthermore, the Initiative’s actions, focused on drafting regulations, searching for sustainable financing schemes not only nationally, but also globally and introducing innovation (for example, by adapting tools to the local context)³⁷ aimed to address the main needs at the institutional level.

67. The Initiative’s actions focused on **vulnerable populations** who are exploited in fishing and mining sectors without existing labour contracts, below adequate age for working and without required qualifications. These populations primarily needed interventions related to poverty reduction, increasing education quality and accessibility and accessibility to social safety nets.³⁸ Since migrant workers are generally perceived as more vulnerable than locals due to less available security and protection, additional attention should be paid to this vulnerable group. The AFs highlight the need to target vulnerable populations and address root causes, therefore ensuring that the ILO identifies this group and identifies the specific causes of forced labour for this population.³⁹

5.2. Coherence

5.2.1. To what extent is the intervention design valid to deliver planned results?

³² Multiple interviews with stakeholders from all countries.

³³ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

³⁴ Multiple interviews with stakeholders from Ghana and South Africa.

³⁵ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

³⁶ Multiple interviews with stakeholders from South Africa and Indonesia.

³⁷ Interview with ILO AL Staff.

³⁸ Accelerator Lab 8.7 Strategy Consultation notes.

³⁹ Accelerator Lab 8.7 Strategy Consultation notes.

68. This section focuses mainly on the intervention-level and its dedicated Theory of Change across the four pathways of change (as described in Chapter 1). The section analyses whether there is a logical connection between the activities, expected results, and overall objectives of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, as well as whether these approaches were stakeholder-informed and realistic, considering time and resources.

Do activities and outputs causally link to the intended short-term and medium-term outcomes and to the overall objectives?

69. The Theory of Change (pathways to change) is divided into four pathways of interventions (two national paths, a regional path, and a global path). Each pathway comprises activities and outputs, contributing to the outcome foreseen under the pathway. The four outcomes of the pathways together contribute to the expected impact: *the effectiveness of development cooperation is optimised and progress towards the eradication of child and forced labour is accelerated.*

70. **The assessment of the Theory of Change under the current evaluation determines that there is a logical, causal link between the vertical pathways, as well as between the four expected outcomes and the holistic expected impact. Both the system and intervention-level approaches align with the overall objectives of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, particularly as both levels are mutually reinforcing.**

71. The intervention-level activities are **aligned with the overall objective** of eradicating child and forced labour as they focus on addressing root causes affecting wider society, and therefore aim to remove the foundation based on which child and forced labour exists in a more impactful and sustainable way. If lessons and experiences from the ground level are indeed effectively communicated to the HQ level, these experiences can form evidence for FUNDAMENTALS and subsequently enhance the effectiveness of other development cooperation initiatives.

72. At **system-level**, interviewees identified the implemented activities and achieved results as relevant to address the challenges faced by FUNDAMENTALS in ensuring effective development cooperation.⁴⁰ At the same time, the improvement of the effectiveness and efficiency of development cooperation by FUNDAMENTALS at HQ level will also contribute to the eradication of child and forced labour.⁴¹

Were all relevant stakeholders engaged in the design phase?

73. **Desk research and interviews primarily confirmed that staff and stakeholders were actively consulted and engaged in the design of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, both at system and at intervention-level.** Only a few stakeholders did not feel engaged in the Initiative's design at national / local level.

74. Both the **system- and intervention-levels** of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab were informed by a **consultation process**, conducted by an external consultant. The consultation included FUNDAMENTALS staff at HQ and field levels, as well as other branches, focusing on existing challenges and solutions within the development cooperation processes of FUNDAMENTALS, as well as on possible Acceleration Factors and Strategic Entry Points.⁴²

The Acceleration Factors were identified through a thorough discussion coordinated by an external service provider. This included interviews with field specialists and regional specialists, and project staff of large projects that were being implemented in Africa, Latin America, and Asia. The Acceleration Factors came out of interactions with both colleagues from the field and the specialists that have the high-level overview. It also included a review of ILO's child and forced labour portfolio.⁴³

75. Within the Multi-Partner Fund, **donors** still had a certain influence over a project, for example by indicating their sectoral priorities (fishing and mining) and assigning the indicators that would be funded through their contributions.⁴⁴ Some donors also participated in annual Advisory Committee meetings.

⁴⁰ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

⁴¹ Accelerator Lab 8.7 Strategy: Consultation notes. 2 December 2021.

⁴² Accelerator Lab 8.7 Strategy: Consultation notes. 2 December 2021.

⁴³ Interview with ILO AL staff.

⁴⁴ Validated Harmonized Logframe for 8.7 Accelerator Lab– Multi-Partner Fund.

76. Interviewed stakeholders at national level pointed out that they were consulted and engaged in the design of the activities at **national level**.

*“We were consulted and brought together in a 3-day workshop, where we all had discussions about the project and its objectives. We worked on the roadmap and timetable of activities for this Acceleration Lab 8.7 project”.*⁴⁵

*“At the time of the design, we were engaged because ILO has identified the needs, and shared the conditions within which ILO can help. That’s the communications style of ILO so far with us. It doesn’t mean ILO has a project and everything is rigid. For example, ILO took into consideration what activities we cannot accommodate”.*⁴⁶

*“We have been involved in planning meetings with the ILO, received technical capacity through training as well as networked with the other government departments, NGOs, Unions working in the fisheries industry. We feel that we have been involved in the design of the Initiative and the Initiative’s activities and approaches respond to our current focus areas”.*⁴⁷

*“I was involved from day one. And like I said, I’m the coordinator when it came to actual coordination, especially between our office and the ILO country office, and I helped the pilot project to see the light”.*⁴⁸

77. However, some stakeholders from **DRC** noted that their influence on the choice of sites to cover by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab was initially limited.⁴⁹ Nevertheless, they also confirmed that *“the list of sites that was there was unrealistic, but [...] they didn’t hesitate to change what was planned”*.⁵⁰

Is the intervention design coherent in applying the entry points and acceleration factors?

78. The six Acceleration Factors are expected to be integrated across the pathways, although some Factors are more relevant for specific paths (e.g. *political commitment* to support policy and legal reforms). **The evaluation shows that ILO staff at all levels are aware of the importance of the AF and SEPS, and have guidance on their implementation, but progress on their achievement and coherent application is not separately measured.**

79. The first Annual Report of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab provides a small intervention logic for each **Acceleration Factor**, identifying the overall objective of the factor, and presenting activities at national, regional, and global levels that can contribute to the AF.⁵¹ Interviews with national project teams indicate that all staff were aware of the role and importance of the AFs and some indicated examples of how they were integrated in the activities in their countries (e.g., how the most vulnerable fishing communities were selected, or how root causes such as lack of awareness were addressed⁵²).

80. However, it is not possible to measure in annual reports or activity logs whether the AF were coherently applied in each country, as there are no indicators or clear outputs assigned to the AF activities (besides the confirmation of staff that this was done). Namely, Annual Reports do not report on the achievement of the AF objectives separately (e.g. the 2022 Annual Report notes that *“the Six Acceleration Factors are reviewed transversally throughout the report as relevant”*).⁵³

81. The **Strategic Entry Points** are not presented in documentation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab as mandatory elements to be implemented coherently across the countries as the list is evolving and growing based on experiences. It is expected that ILO staff identify whether a SEP may exist and may be leveraged.⁵⁴ The Annual Reports and interviews do not indicate how this was done.

5.1.5 To what extent were the project design and approach flexible?

⁴⁵ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

⁴⁶ Interview with a stakeholder from Indonesia.

⁴⁷ Interview with a stakeholder from South Africa.

⁴⁸ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

⁴⁹ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

⁵⁰ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

⁵¹ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

⁵² Interviews with ILO AL staff.

⁵³ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

⁵⁴ Interview with ILO AL staff.

82. Both at the system and intervention-levels, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has shown flexibility in adapting to changing circumstances as attested by the multiple changes brought to the project design.

83. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab design was flexible enough to reflect the reality on the ground. In **DRC**, some changes were brought to the initial selection of the mining sites after a field visit.⁵⁵

84. National contexts were considered, which highlights a flexible approach. Stakeholders were strongly involved in the design of activities and policies. In **South Africa**, the ILO provided a framework for the official authorities to develop policies adapted to the national context.⁵⁶ To address a broad audience in local communities, materials were delivered in various local languages.⁵⁷ In **Ghana**, three platforms were created in different languages to discuss the recommendations made by the Tripartite Committee.⁵⁸ The use of AFs requiring flexibility in their application further shows that necessary adjustments to country and stakeholder-specific needs were taken.

85. Lastly, the two-level approach itself has been designed over time. The vision document was developed with a participatory approach by interviewing colleagues from the field.⁵⁹ The strategic entry points and the acceleration factors emerged from consultations and reviews of previous evaluations.⁶⁰ A new strategy is to be launched and will detail more on the acceleration factors.⁶¹

5.2.2. Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab coherent with other strategic work related to child labour and forced labour of the ILO and UN?

Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's strategic approach coherent with other strategies and frameworks related to child labour and forced labour in FUNDAMENTALS?

86. The Initiative successfully leveraged experiences and aligned with FUNDAMENTALS projects outside the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. However, uncertainty remains about the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's position among other frameworks and strategies.

87. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab **builds on lessons learned and leverages the extensive ILO experience** in the fight against child labour and forced labour. The Initiative set out to *“deliver as one ILO with the framework of the Integrated Strategy on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work 2017–2023, IPEC+, the Durban Call to Action, and the ILO’s call for a Global Coalition for Social Justice”*.⁶² Practically, the Initiative set out to achieve synergies by establishing a *“connection between technical specialists outside of the Lab and the Lab”* and fostering knowledge sharing.⁶³

88. The **Integrated Strategy on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work** is at the source of the strategy of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab.⁶⁴ The four pathways from Theory of Change that capture changes at national, regional, and global levels are directly reflected in the integrated strategy.

⁵⁵ Interviews with stakeholders from DRC.

⁵⁶ Interviews with stakeholders from South Africa.

⁵⁷ Interviews with stakeholders from Ghana and DRC.

⁵⁸ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

⁵⁹ Interviews with ILO AL Staff.

⁶⁰ Interview with ILO AL staff, and The 8.7 Accelerator Lab - A Snapshot of the Journey of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. International Labour Organization (ILO).

⁶¹ Interview with ILO AL staff.

⁶² Interviews with multiple ILO AL staff.

⁶³ Interview with ILO AL staff.

⁶⁴ Interview with ILO AL staff.

- Path Change 1 – People-Level National: people, workers, communities, social partners must be aware and empowered enough to be able to claim the respect of their rights and/or become agents of change → *this idea connects with the category of change concerning empowerment and protection.*
- Path Change 2 – Legal and Policy Level National: government and national institutions must be on the frontline to create the legal and operational conditions to be able to eliminate child labour and forced labour in the respective countries → *this priority is reflected in the category of change concerning public policies and governance as well as partnerships and advocacy.*
- Path Change 3 – Regional Advocacy and Partnerships: the tripartite constituents at national level can obtain better results if they work in a regional area where the fight against child labour and forced labour is priority and learnings among countries in the region can happen. → *this priority reflects the category of change addressing partnerships and advocacy as well as public policies and governance.*
- Path Change 4 – Global Research, Knowledge Sharing and Partnership: the regional and national actors can push further their national agenda when, not only regionally, but also globally, they can benefit from an enabling environment where global partnerships, knowledge creation and sharing, innovation and advocacy are promoted. → *this priority reflects the category of change addressing knowledge and data as well as partnerships and advocacy.*

89. The linkages between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and the Strategy indicate the efforts to contribute to existing knowledge through the Initiative, utilising evidence-based insights and learning.

90. However, **a need for coordination between frameworks within FUNDAMENTALS remains.** This need was emphasised by interviewees, who expressed uncertainty about the role and place of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in the context of FUNDAMENTALS.⁶⁵ For instance, one interviewee questioned whether the Initiative would set out to replace IPEC+⁶⁶ while another highlighted the “*issue of multiplication of frameworks*”.⁶⁷ The overall sentiment suggests a need for coordination to ensure coherence, particularly given the perceived ambiguity surrounding the Initiative's relationship with other strategies and frameworks.

Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's strategic approach coherent with the P&B?

91. The priorities and strategies of the ILO are reflected in its biennial Programme & Budget. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab's strategy is aligned with P&B Outcomes and thus contributes to ILO's general overall objectives.

92. Based on the 2022-2023 P&B, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab aligns with Outcome 7: Adequate and effective protection at work for all, in particular Output 7.1.⁶⁸

Output 7.1. Increased capacity of member states to ensure respect for, promote and realise fundamental principles and rights at work. → *The 8.7 Accelerator Lab supported this output through its focus on capacity building of stakeholders on an intervention-level.*

Output 7.1 notes that the ILO will make efforts on a global level to update policy guidance to assist constituents in implementing integrated approaches to realising the fundamental principles and rights at work, drawing on lessons learned and good practices from countries' experiences. → *The 8.7 Accelerator Lab supported this subclause within 7.1 through its focus on policy updates and implementation with a regional focus.*

Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's strategic approach coherent with other projects of the ILO?

⁶⁵ Interview with ILO AL staff.

⁶⁶ Interview with ILO AL staff.

⁶⁷ Interview with ILO AL staff.

⁶⁸ The Director-General's Programme and Budget proposals for 2022–23.

93. **Overall, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is largely coherent with a range of other ILO projects.**

94. FUNDAMENTALS leveraged lessons learned from ILO's ACCEL AFRICA⁶⁹ project to support the finalisation of the Initiative's logframe. Other lessons learned from consulting the ACCEL AFRICA team concerned KPIs, mappings and a dialogue between ACCEL AFRICA and the 8.7 Accelerator Lab.⁷⁰ Specifically, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab modelled ACCEL AFRICA's approach to sustainable financing on how the private sector can support children go back to school in **South Africa**⁷¹

95. The **"Global Business Network on Forced Labour (GBNFL)"** project, that aims to operationally bring business actors closer to ending forced labour,⁷² used the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's country selection matrix to improve the targeting of countries.⁷³ The use of the matrix indicates coherence and synergies between the two projects. Further, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and the Global Business Network on Forced Labour have directly collaborated in some countries.⁷⁴ The Global Business Network on Forced Labour was also a project where interviewees identified synergies. Stakeholders were aware of the coherent strategies and saw a place for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in the other ILO project.⁷⁵

96. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab's strategic approach was **coherent with the project "Combatting Child Labour in the Democratic Republic of the Congo's Cobalt Industry (COTECCO)" through harmonisation and collaboration** of activities.⁷⁶ In **DRC**, national stakeholders see a strong continuation from COTECCO's work to the implementation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab,⁷⁷ notably, the COTECCO tools that are the basis of identification.⁷⁸ This result from DRC underscored the success of coherence on an intervention-level.

"The added value of this Lab is that it will provide vocational training for children, and it will support households in empowering people within their communities, as well as creating markets in the villages within the local communities. These are very important elements that have not yet been touched by the other projects".⁷⁹

Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's strategic approach coherent with strategies and frameworks related to child labour and forced labour of other organisations?

97. **Overall, the existing strategies and frameworks related to child labour and forced labour of other organisations address similar areas or complement the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's work across a set of sectors and thematic concerns. The coherence is present on a global as well as national level, through direct partners and related national projects.**

98. **Interviewees, including ILO staff and donors identified potential collaboration and synergies with Alliance 8.7.** A description of the Initiative indicates, for example, that going forward *"The 8.7 Accelerator Lab will capitalise on the work and network of the Alliance 8.7"* and that *"the AL will take stock of existing Alliance 8.7 partners' solutions and tools to address forced labour and child labour"*.⁸⁰ So far, there are synergies between the two initiatives, but interviewees note the potential for further upscaling. Interviewees noted that current constructs and countries of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab can be scaled up with Alliance 8.7 given the connection between the two initiatives: *"that has the potential to be scaled up within the structure of Alliance*

69 Accelerating action for the elimination of child labour in supply chains in Africa (ACCEL AFRICA).

70 Interview with other ILO staff.

71 Interview with ILO AL staff.

72 BMZ-ILO Partnership: Towards the Elimination of Child Labour in Africa. International Labour Organization (ILO).

73 Interview with ILO AL staff.

74 Interview with other ILO staff.

75 Interview with other ILO staff.

76 The 8.7 Accelerator Lab Joins the COTECCO Project to Reinforce the Impact of the Private Sector Working Groups in Two Key Mining Provinces in the Democratic Republic of Congo'. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

77 Interview with ILO AL staff and interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

78 'The 8.7 Accelerator Lab Joins the COTECCO Project to Reinforce the Impact of the Private Sector Working Groups in Two Key Mining Provinces in the Democratic Republic of Congo'. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

79 Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

80 NORAD-ILO partnership. Accelerator Lab 8.7: Intensify action against forced labour and child labour through innovation.

8.7”.⁸¹ By using the existing knowledge, infrastructures and tools within Alliance 8.7, for example, Pathfinder Countries, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s work could effectively include more countries. Further donors and ILO staff saw the potential leverage between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and Alliance 8.7 when it came to expertise.⁸²

99. However, donors also noted that they were not completely aware of the differences between Alliance 8.7 and the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s task and strategy. Donors further noted that: *“it is unclear exactly how the Lab complements the SDGs and Alliance 8.7, even if it is in the early stages.”*⁸³ The annual reports note some links between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and Alliance 8.7 (e.g. participation in the Alliance 8.7 SDG monitoring group) but do not provide more detail on how the 8.7 Accelerator Lab exactly fed into the Alliance 8.7 activities.⁸⁴

100. A set of **regional or country specific projects operate using strategies in coherence with the Initiative**. In **DRC**, there were several projects working in the same intervention area with child labour in mining: the project Support Project for Alternative Welfare of Children and Young People Involved in the Cobalt Supply Chain (PABEA-COBALT), RCS Global Group and UNICEF’s 2021 project developing a toolkit to prevent and counteract child labour.⁸⁵ In **Indonesia**, the USDOL project Improving Workers’ Rights in Rural Sectors of Indonesia works with processing workers in coastal communities. This project does not address the same set of workers but operates in the same industry. There is also the Ship to Shore Project which works complementarily with the 8.7 Accelerator Lab.⁸⁶

101. Similarly in **South Africa**, other projects also work with child labour, but in other sectors, like the agricultural sector. In **Ghana**, stakeholders have been part of trainings where the focus is on forced labour. One such project was led by the Danish government and taught instructors at the regional maritime university. Stakeholders saw strong synergies between such programmes: *“the Danish programme fit perfectly into the ILO programme to make sure that this forced labour, eradication of forced labour and then other related vices that the ILO want to get eradicated comes to pass”*.⁸⁷

5.2.3. Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab coherent with country / regional level priorities?

To what extent is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s Harmonised ToC and strategy aligned with ILO Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) strategies and/or Country Programme Outcomes (CPOs)?

102. The ILO Decent Work Country Programmes (DWCP) present ILO’s overall strategy in its countries of intervention. **The 8.7 Accelerator Lab is aligned with the DWCPs in the project countries by aiming to promote better working conditions for vulnerable populations through increased social dialogue**. Ghana is developing its DWCP III, and alignment with DWCP. Separate CPOs for Ghana were not identified.

103. Young people, migrant and workers in the informal economy are especially targeted in the DWCP of the countries involved in the Initiative.⁸⁸ The DWCPs focus on improved governmental coordination, collective bargaining, more evidence-based policies and skills development to improve the social security of the vulnerable groups.

104. The DWCPs of **Indonesia** and **DRC** particularly emphasise the fight against forced labour and child labour.⁸⁹ The 8.7 Accelerator Lab can, therefore, be considered to have more direct coherence with these two DWCPs because of this explicit focus.

“This DWCP will support the realisation of effective and inclusive social protection for all, covering vulnerable groups such as women, children, migrant workers, domestic workers, people with disabilities, fishers, and rural workers, as well as the promotion of transition from informal to formal economy. These outcomes respond to SDG Goal 1.3 on social protection system and Goal 8.7 on eradicating forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour”.⁹⁰

⁸¹ Interview with other ILO staff.

⁸² Interview with a donor, and with other ILO staff.

⁸³ Interview with a donor.

⁸⁴ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

⁸⁵ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

⁹⁰ DWCP for Indonesia.

105. In **Indonesia**, the Country Programme Outcomes (CPOs) within the DWCP align well with the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's ToC. In two out of the three country priorities, the CPOs are explicitly aligned. The CPOs are "Effective Social Dialogue that Promotes Sustainable Business and Workers' Welfare" and "Enhancing Protection for Vulnerable Groups of Workers".⁹¹ This focus connects to *empowerment and protection* of workers, as well as *governance and public policy* within the ToC the goal in both strategies include as capacity building of workers and employers through training, socialization and promotional programmes. Further, social protection and service availability for vulnerable groups are outlined. The issue of child labour and the vulnerability of migrant workers are outlined explicitly when addressing vulnerable groups.

106. In the DWCP for **DRC**, outcomes include support for trade unions and access to legal support for vulnerable groups. This is articulated in achievement 1.2, which addresses the need for "institutions to effectively ensure governance and monitoring of policies and programmes" while 2.3 specifies the rights of the most vulnerable through a strengthening of the monitoring capabilities of civil society organisations and institutions' accountability.⁹² These two outcomes align with the governance aspects of the ToC. However, the focus of the DWCP is placed mainly on improving larger governance issues rather than directly addressing forced and child labour. Alignment with the ToC is through the common recognition of the need for empowerment and functioning public policy.

107. The DWCP of **South Africa** does not directly reference efforts to eradicate forced and child labour; nor does it make strong references to the fishing sector.⁹³ The CPOs of South Africa do, however, include "*Strong and representative workers and employers' organisations*" which is in line with the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's focus on consultations with the trade unions. The strategies align on the capacity improvement to extend effective services to workers.

To what extent is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Harmonised ToC and strategy aligned with national strategies and priorities?

108. **The Initiative is found to be aligned with key national strategies and priorities on forced labour and child labour, where present.**

109. National stakeholders point out that the Initiative is in line with governmental strategies supporting decent work and labour norms.⁹⁴ The perceived alignment by national stakeholders supports the national intervention work and is an important indicator of coherence.

"The project is completely aligned with DRC's national and provincial policy, linked in particular to the national sectoral strategy to combat child labour in artisanal mining and on artisanal mining sites. It is unique, unlike many other projects that are not aligned with policy".⁹⁵

110. **Regarding the elimination and prevention of forced labour**, key national strategies for **South Africa** and **Ghana** have been identified. In addition, **South Africa** has ratified the ILO Convention C188 on Work in Fishing, which includes clauses concerning forced labour in the fishing industry.⁹⁶ South Africa also has a national action plan focusing on anti-trafficking.

111. **Indonesia**, on the other hand, has not ratified ILO's C188 Convention, which somewhat limits the national strategy cohesion with the Initiative's strategy. Indonesia lacks an overarching plan or strategy for forced labour but has a set of laws and responsible government authorities. The key law in coherence with the ToC is the 2017 Protection of Indonesian Migrant Workers Law and the National Task Force to Combat Trafficking in Persons. While

87 Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

88 DWCPs for South Africa, DRC and Indonesia.

89 DWCPs for Indonesia and DRC.

90 DWCP for Indonesia.

91 DWCP for Indonesia.

92 DWCP for DRC.

93 DWCP for South Africa.

94 Interviews with stakeholders from DRC, Indonesia, and South Africa.

95 Interview with ILO AL staff.

96 C188 - Work in Fishing Convention, 2007 (No. 188).

C188 has also not been ratified by **Ghana**, there is a National Plan of Action for the Elimination of Human Trafficking (2022-2026), which addresses forced labour and the fishing sector and includes the registration of vessels.

112. In **DRC**, national strategies or programmes on the prevention and elimination of child labour indicate alignment with the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's ToC regarding both scope and priorities. The establishment of a provincial committee on child labour, supported by 8.7 Accelerator Lab, has been a priority for local stakeholders for many years.⁹⁷

To what extent is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Harmonised ToC and strategy aligned with regional strategies and priorities?

113. **The 8.7 Accelerator Lab supports regional strategies and priorities regarding forced labour and child labour.** It is aligned with the key strategies of regional organisations, notably the African Union and ASEAN. Further, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has also directly contributed to the development of action plans by regional organisations.

114. In 2020, the **African Union** launched an action plan for 2030 to eliminate child and forced labour. The action plan is aligned with SDG Target 8.7, which directly links to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's strategy. Priorities include harmonisation of laws, policy development, enacting regional instruments and fostering cooperation, which are also components of the ToC. **ASEAN** set up a cooperation framework for combatting unregulated fishing in 2020.⁹⁸ This network focuses on information sharing and capacity building in the region and underscores the need for cooperation to address unregulated fishing. The scope and priorities are linked to the Acceleration Factors of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab.

115. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab is further harmonised with regional strategies of international organisations such as the joint **UNODC and EU Global Action against Trafficking in Persons** and the **Smuggling of Migrants in Asia and the Middle East**. While the joint project doesn't operate in the same countries as the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's, their thematic priorities are aligned.⁹⁹

116. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab also contributed to the strategic work of certain regional organisations. It contributed to the implementation of the **African Union Plan of Action** for the Promotion of Employment and Poverty Alleviation in Africa. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab also engaged with regional partners such as the **Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC)**, of which Ghana is also a member country. FCWC were consulted, and an additional protocol was developed to address their needs.¹⁰⁰ The collaboration and support demonstrate the strategic alignment with the organisation.

117. **Indonesia is a member of the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC), which** has overlapping strategic goals with the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. The commission addresses the issue of vessel re-flagging to escape controls and under-regulation.

5.2.4. Does the 8.7 Accelerator Lab add unique value and play on ILO's comparative advantages?

118. The initiative's unique value ensures that it is complementary or standalone within the wider contexts of ongoing initiatives and does not create duplications. Interview data points to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab providing a novel approach that **provides unique value added while leveraging its unique tripartite structure, legitimacy, and expertise in forced and child labour.**

119. **The funding mechanism of 8.7 Accelerator Lab seeks to implement a new way of creating transformative change.** Typically, development cooperation funding has been centred on supporting individual projects that would seek to improve labour conditions. Under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, this approach has changed, with financing for activities including a pooled funding component, to ensure that funding is more efficient.¹⁰¹ The added value of this approach contributes to flexibility making it possible to not only deal with the specific conditions of countries where the Project is being

⁹⁷ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

⁹⁸ Pooled Funding for Development Cooperation Programmes - Accelerator Lab 8.7: Intensify Action against Forced Labour and Child Labour through Innovation. 2021. International Labour Organization (ILO).

⁹⁹ Pooled Funding for Development Cooperation Programmes - Accelerator Lab 8.7: Intensify Action against Forced Labour and Child Labour through Innovation. 2021. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁰⁰ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

¹⁰¹ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

implemented but also to adjust to arising needs that initially might not have been envisioned. This also contributes to a more proactive approach as successful practices and innovations could be scaled up and implemented in other contexts.¹⁰²

One example of the Multi-Partner Fund providing added value through flexibility can be found in Ghana:

*“Because we had already set up the MPF, it really facilitated the reorientation of funds to additional countries. (...) For Ghana, since Norway is contributing to the multi donor funding arrangement, it made sense to broaden the scope of work under Ghana, by scaling down other work in other countries”.*¹⁰³

120. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab also plays upon **ILO’s comparative advantages**. The ILO relies on tripartism and social dialogue as a core aspect of its work. This enables it to work together with constituents and social partners at the national level to achieve outcomes under Path Change One, which brings together constituents and partners to address forced and child labour in the targeted sectors.¹⁰⁴ Furthermore, its status and experience on these topics enable it to play a mediating role that the stakeholders respect.¹⁰⁵ Its status as a trusted partner is further reinforced by its capacity to ensure that stakeholders are involved in the Project implementation themselves.¹⁰⁶ The leading role played by the ILO in shaping labour-related conventions and expertise on the topic further supports 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Path Change Two is committed to improving legal and policy frameworks and improving enforcement mechanisms. ILO’s expertise not only plays a role in ensuring that such documents are created, but its respected presence also provides a “positive” pressure for countries to adhere to its norms and regulations.¹⁰⁷

5.3. Effectiveness

5.3.1. How has the Initiative progressed in achieving its outputs?

121. The outputs represent the translation of project objectives into effective actions. The attainment of these outputs serves as a reliable indicator of the Project’s capacity to implement its interventions. **According to the internal documentation, the Initiative achieved nearly all intended outputs across all four Outcomes, even if there were challenges, especially at the national level for DRC activities.**

122. For Outcomes 1 and 2, at the national level, the Initiative has achieved the targets of almost all the outputs and indicators for activities in **Ghana, Indonesia, and South Africa**. In DRC, not all targets were met by the Initiative, but this is mainly a result of the activities starting later than in the other three countries; many activities were set to start in 2023.

123. For Outcome 3, at the regional level, the two outputs, which concerned the identification of opportunities for regional action and the strengthening of regional institutions, were achieved. However, one of the indicators used to assess the overall advancement of Outcome 3, the development of regional action plans, was not fully met.

124. For Outcome 4, among the five outputs, only the output concerning the production of data evidence and knowledge to address forced and child labour was not fully implemented.¹⁰⁸ Only the activities and outputs of 2022 have been analysed. Some activities related to this outcome were postponed to the year 2023, meaning they were still being implemented after July 2023, thus were outside the scope of this evaluation.

¹⁰² Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁰³ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁰⁴ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report – Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁰⁵ Interviews with stakeholders from Ghana and South Africa.

¹⁰⁶ Interview with stakeholders from DRC and South Africa, a donor, and other ILO staff.

¹⁰⁷ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

¹⁰⁸ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

125. In **DRC**, the project experienced delays due to issues with access to some communities and low state capacity, which should be consolidated before running activities. Stakeholders noted that mining sites were complicated to identify as they were “appearing and disappearing spontaneously.” DRC also went through an election period, which made it very difficult to run activities.¹⁰⁹

126. Activities funded by NORAD under the fishing component and the ones funded by BMZ for the mining component are sometimes under separate indicators while activities such as the training of officials for inspection are the same. The indicators do not make a distinction between intervention-level and the system-level activities which makes it difficult to assess the advancement of the system-level activities.

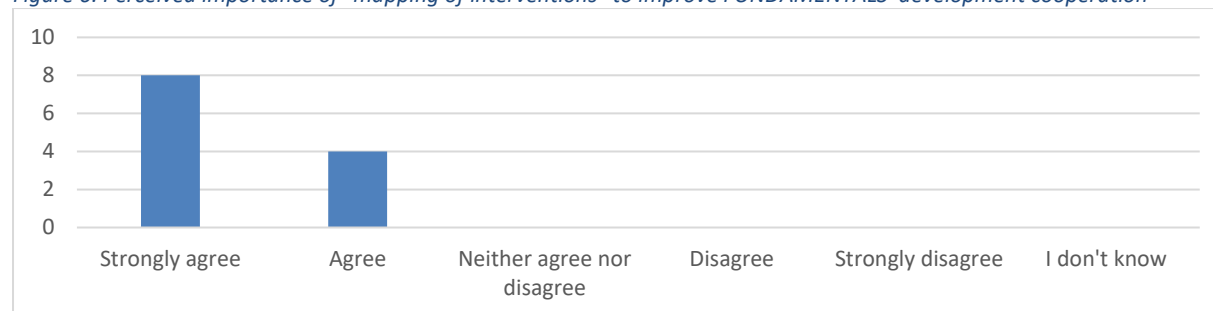
5.3.2. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab created its foreseen outcomes at system-level?

To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab made progress to improve targeted development cooperation in FUNDAMENTALS?

127. Improving targeted development cooperation by FUNDAMENTALS is meant to enhance the responsiveness of projects to the needs of beneficiaries, to enhance the quality of country and intervention selection (e.g. where needs are most pressing, where SEPs can be leveraged, or where potential for impact is highest). **Staff have improved their understanding of the project portfolio in terms of national and thematic coverage, which makes it easier to decide where interventions should be scaled up, or perhaps reduced.**¹¹⁰

128. The goal of the country intervention methodology is to maximise the impact of the ILO’s interventions.¹¹¹ The aim is to identify which countries have specific requests for technical cooperation and where development cooperation is already implemented to find the gaps.¹¹² The Policy Delphi results demonstrate that experts on the work of FUNDAMENTALS believe that this approach will improve the effectiveness of its development cooperation.

Figure 6. Perceived importance of "mapping of interventions" to improve FUNDAMENTALS' development cooperation



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following tools and mechanisms could improve the coordination of forced and child labour development cooperation led by FUNDAMENTALS?: Mapping of interventions related to forced and child labour".

129. This matrix for country targeting is progressively used by the ILO HQ staff. Some examples of the use of the matrix and methodology mentioned by ILO staff include 1) The selection of countries for the future rounds of the Multi-Partner Fund, 2) The Global Business Network on Forced Labour used the matrix to identify countries for their interventions, 3) The GALAB project (under the broader AL umbrella) was encouraged to use the matrix for their interventions.

130. Donors still find it challenging to use the matrix accepted as they have their own priorities. As mentioned above, new funds were received for the GALAB project, and the team was encouraged to look at the matrix. However, a donor imposed some activities without reference to the matrix.¹¹³

¹⁰⁹ Interviews with stakeholders from DRC.

¹¹⁰ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹¹¹ Interview with ILO AL staff and other staff.

¹¹² Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹¹³ Interview with other ILO staff.

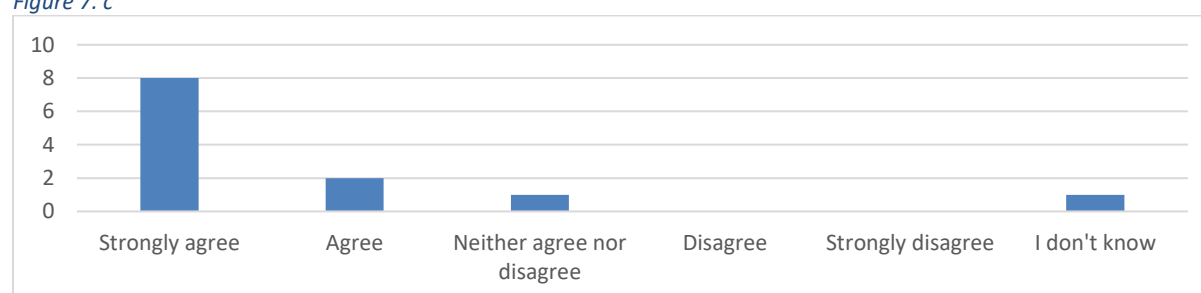
To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab made progress to improve coordination and exchange in FUNDAMENTALS?

131. The tendency to work in silos is often considered an obstacle to the effectiveness of FUNDAMENTALS' work.¹¹⁴ According to documentation on the 8.7 Accelerator Initiative, efforts were made to improve internal coordination and exchange across projects linked to the 8.7 target. **Increased exchange of knowledge and mechanisms to do so can already be perceived but are still in the initial stages of implementation. Important steps have been taken to improve coordination, and some examples of results have been noticed at the time of the evaluation.**¹¹⁵

132. Some initial changes regarding internal communication can be noticed. As a result of the regular meetings organised as part of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, coordination between projects has improved; previously there was a lack of communication between project managers.¹¹⁶ The single steering committee produces a joint report for the projects under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab even if they have different donors.¹¹⁷ This allows a more harmonised dialogue with donors.¹¹⁸

133. Collaboration of specialists working for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and those working outside of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is intensifying, for example, with staff working on the child and forced labour frameworks. The Policy Delphi respondents believed that strengthening coordination between projects would enhance the effectiveness of development cooperation overall, demonstrating also the potential future effectiveness of efforts to strengthen cooperation.

Figure 7. c



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following tools and mechanisms could improve the coordination of forced and child labour development cooperation led by FUNDAMENTALS?: Strengthening coordination between child and forced labour projects to avoid overlap and strengthen complementarity".

134. Interviewees perceived that, at the **HQ level**, an increase in information sharing is already visible, supported by the creation of a community of practice.¹¹⁹ Accelerator staff organise meetings with country teams every two weeks to share updates/learnings from experiences or discuss concrete issues related to M&E or admin. Good practices are collected through email exchanges and a dedicated 8.7 Accelerator Lab MS Teams channel.¹²⁰ On a monthly basis, the team also meets with coordinators of the umbrella projects (e.g. ACCEL II).¹²¹ Policy Delphi respondents were unanimous in their agreement that the exchange of good practices and results would enhance the effectiveness of its development cooperation efforts.

¹¹⁴ Interview with other ILO staff and results from Policy Delphi, including question „To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following tools and mechanisms could improve the coordination of forced and child labour development cooperation led by FUNDAMENTALS?": Figure 7.

¹¹⁵ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report – Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹¹⁶ Interviews with ILO AL and other ILO staff.

¹¹⁷ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

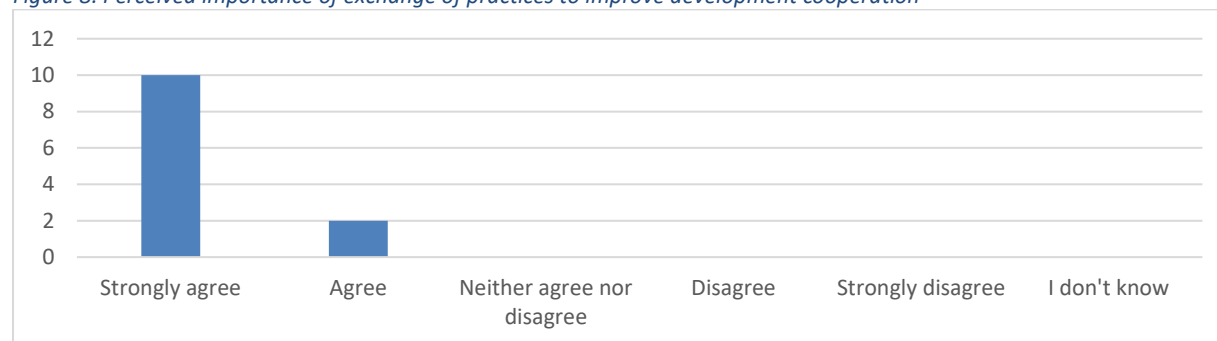
¹¹⁸ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹¹⁹ Interview with other ILO staff.

¹²⁰ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹²¹ Interview with ILO AL staff.

Figure 8. Perceived importance of exchange of practices to improve development cooperation



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). “To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following tools and mechanisms could improve the coordination of forced and child labour development cooperation led by FUNDAMENTALS?: Exchange of good practices and results of projects.”

135. **Information exchange between the countries** is taking place through the meetings facilitated by HQ. Some standalone examples of collaboration or exchange were found between the countries, but a more systematic communication does not yet exist. An interviewee pointed out that knowledge-sharing approaches of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab are still rather new and are, therefore, primarily taking place at the HQ level rather than between countries.¹²²

South Africa works closely with **Indonesia** as lots of Indonesian fishers come to South Africa in Asian vessels (mostly Chinese / Taiwanese). A visit of the South Africa country office to Indonesia took place, to understand how to jointly address issues of human trafficking / forced labour.¹²³

In **Ghana**, one stakeholder noted that they “had the opportunity to interact with countries [in the national political forum in 2022] that are involved in this programme, to also listen to what they are doing, and then also projecting what we are doing”.¹²⁴

136. At this stage, there is no concrete evidence of how the improved coordination has created an impact on the work of FUNDAMENTALS on the ground in the intervention countries. However, it can be expected that the implemented tools will, over time, enhance cooperation and, therefore, enhance the complementarity and efficiency of development cooperation.

To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab made progress to improve evidence-based development cooperation in FUNDAMENTALS?

137. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab aims to strengthen the research activities conducted by the FUNDAMENTALS unit. This objective closely links to the goal of improving “targeted” development cooperation, as the presence of evidence on the prevalence of child and forced labour, as well as on what works, will enable ILO to better select countries with the most pressing needs and where impact can be highest (i.e. “evidence-based targeting”). **The 8.7 Accelerator Lab has been able to draw on the extensive existing research work of FUNDAMENTALS to improve evidence-based cooperation.** However, some interviewees believe that the branch can highlight its evidence base even further, for example, to justify decision-making.

138. Many interviewees underline the quality of the existing research in FUNDAMENTALS, which ILO staff outside the branch and donors consider as a branch with (among) the highest research capacity in the ILO.¹²⁵ Some interviewees noted that ILO possessed excellent data on the prevalence of forced and child labour, but insufficient data on “what works” to address it. The mapping of interventions under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is meant to address this issue, for example, to gather evidence on what has worked through the integration of the Acceleration Factors, as well as by enhancing the exchange of practices.¹²⁶

¹²² Interview with other ILO staff.

¹²³ Interview with ILO AL staff.

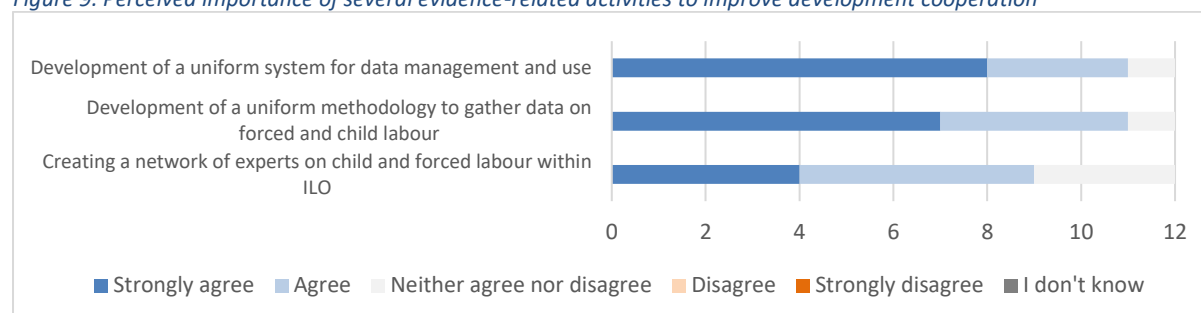
¹²⁴ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

¹²⁵ Interviews with a donor, and with other ILO staff.

¹²⁶ Interview with ILO AL staff.

139. The methodology is still under development and should be periodically reviewed to keep the data up to date.¹²⁷ There were consultations with the regional and national ILO staff to get their experience and their collected knowledge regarding the matrix.¹²⁸ As the matrix is not yet finalised, there are still gaps in the data provided, for example for certain countries such as Ghana.¹²⁹ In this regard, the Policy Delphi identified various ongoing and potential future activities that are deemed highly important to further improve evidence-based development cooperation.

Figure 9. Perceived importance of several evidence-related activities to improve development cooperation



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about

FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). “To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following tools and mechanisms could improve the coordination of forced and child labour development cooperation led by FUNDAMENTALS?: Strengthening coordination between child and forced labour projects to avoid overlap and strengthen complementarity”.

140. At the stage of the evaluation, interviewees did not have concrete evidence of how development cooperation has become more evidence-based (besides the examples listed under targeting), as many efforts to support this process are rather new, or still forthcoming (e.g. a survey on “what works” to combat child and forced labour, to expand the evidence base in this regard). Furthermore, some donors believe that, while FUNDAMENTALS possesses excellent research, the results and evidence are not always used enough (or visibly enough) in project design.

To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab made development cooperation more harmonised?

141. **As the system-level activities are still rather new, interviewees noted some initial improvement towards more harmonised development cooperation. However, the tools and approaches need to be further spread across ILO to facilitate real change.**

142. Desk research and interviews show that the use of one overarching Theory of Change, with an accompanying M&E framework facilitated by a flexible MPF, ensures that one harmonised approach is applied to the project countries and regions and that work done under one project is not duplicated or reinvented.¹³⁰ Even the projects under the umbrella of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, but not the fund, utilise the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s vision as much as possible in order to contribute to its overall approach and objectives.¹³¹ The initial consultation noted that “donors also prefer if the ILO is more integrated [rather than working in silos.]”¹³²

143. Policy Delphi respondents generally believe that the proposed/implemented actions of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in terms of harmonisation would improve its overall development cooperation. There is an expectation among FUNDAMENTALS “experts” that the activities implemented so far will be effective.

¹²⁷ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report – Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹²⁸ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

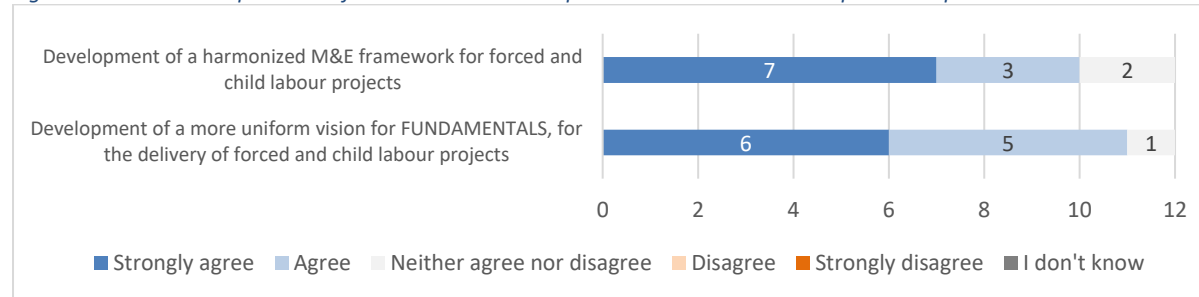
¹²⁹ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹³⁰ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹³¹ Review of the initiative’s documentation and interviews with ILO staff.

¹³² Accelerator Lab 8.7 Strategy: Consultation notes. 2 December 2021.

Figure 10. Perceived importance of selected actions to improve and harmonise development cooperation



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). “To what extent do you agree or disagree that the following tools and mechanisms could improve the coordination of forced and child labour development cooperation led by FUNDAMENTALS?”

144. However, interviewees noted that projects outside the Multi-Partner Fund still cause certain challenges for the harmonised approach. “GALAB and ACCEL later joined the Initiative. These projects picked some elements of the Lab, but they did not use the outcome structure of the Multi-Partner Fund. They have their own outcomes, similar indicators/ outputs and this is not going to be possible to report as one in terms of M&E.”¹³³ This hindered their integration under the AL umbrella.¹³⁴

145. Some interviews also highlighted that some staff are more reluctant to fully support the new tools and approaches of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. To be more specific, some staff were unsure of the impact of the new approaches on the ways of working at a project level. This relates particularly to the fear that projects managed at the national or regional level would go to HQ and see more control from HQ.¹³⁵ “I think one of the challenges is that we maybe need to better explain what the Lab is to the whole branch because some colleagues who are not yet involved in the 8.7 Accelerator lab do not know exactly what it is and how their projects are connected to it”.¹³⁶

To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab increased the value for money of initiatives?

146. A lack of coordination and exchange between projects and teams can result in the inefficient use of funds, as efforts are duplicated, existing approaches are reinvented, and opportunities for cost-sharing or joint efforts are lost. **While quantitative evidence does not (yet) exist, clear examples are found of how the 8.7 Accelerator Lab contributes to enhanced value for money in its interventions and can further contribute to this.**

147. Interviews and other evaluative evidence demonstrate that the more harmonised approach to development cooperation within FUNDAMENTALS may indeed create more value for money. One dimension is to facilitate cost-sharing between projects. “I have seen projects that are aligned already to the Lab, where they found, for instance, cost-sharing of national M&E staff or administrative staff”.¹³⁷ Another dimension is enhancing the impact of projects, by better aligning mutual reinforcement of projects implemented within one country. “If the Lab as a whole, with the donors’ support, intervenes holistically in one country, there is more leverage to create impact than when each project in one country independently tries to make a change.”¹³⁸ An interviewed donor confirmed that this is one of the reasons why they actively search for similar funding frameworks as they perceive them as more impactful.¹³⁹

In Indonesia, three ILO projects are being implemented with a connection to the fishing sector (beyond FUNDAMENTALS). Instead of having three separate steering committees approaching stakeholders and the sector from different angles, one steering committee was implemented for the three projects. This was done to show that the projects complement each other while preventing stakeholders from getting tired of attending various steering committees.¹⁴⁰

¹³³ Interview with other ILO staff.

¹³⁴ Interview with ILO AL and other ILO staff.

¹³⁵ Interview with ILO AL and other ILO staff.

¹³⁶ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹³⁷ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

¹³⁸ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

¹³⁹ Interview with a donor.

¹⁴⁰ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

The project ACCEL Africa is already implemented in **Cote d'Ivoire** with existing partnerships and a good intervention model. Therefore, there is no need to duplicate some efforts. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab can come in to support the work in terms of scaling up the existing efforts by identifying where the 8.7 Accelerator Lab can come in strategically without having to recreate the whole process.¹⁴¹

148. Besides the better coordination between countries, interviewees perceive that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab can also enhance value for money through better country selection. For example, *“the country selection method helps to select places where donors could really have an impact and where ILO can offer them value for money. This includes, for example, identifying countries where there is both a political will and a high prevalence of forced labour or child labour”*.¹⁴²

How and to what extent has the strategy of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab been disseminated throughout the ILO, including at the field level?

149. **The main ILO staff involved at HQ and field level are aware of the intervention-level information of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. However, the system-level interventions and objectives have not been communicated sufficiently at this stage.**

150. Within the **FUNDAMENTALS branch at HQ**, interviews confirm that information about the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has been well-disseminated, and respondents confirm that they are fully aware of the activities at system and intervention levels. Similarly, members of the Advisory Committee of Donors reported satisfaction with the amount and frequency of information shared with them by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab team.¹⁴³

151. At the same time, some tools have been recently developed, and interviewees confirmed that such tools were not yet widely disseminated and used. Some of the interviewed ILO staff outside FUNDAMENTALS at HQ did not seem fully aware of the system-level or had even never heard of it.¹⁴⁴ Interviewed staff also confirmed that *“there is still a need to get some feedback from the field and to make sure that the ILO HQ material is owned by everyone in the field. There are great materials but still in the hands of a relatively small group of colleagues”*.¹⁴⁵

152. The current gaps in dissemination are one of the key factors influencing the success of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in terms of using the tools to ensure more harmonised development cooperation and in terms of ensuring the buy-in of all staff to use the tools and approaches. Therefore, the communication and dissemination dimensions constitute one of the main challenges affecting the effectiveness of the work of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab so far.

5.3.3. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab created its foreseen outcomes at the intervention-level?

What achievements has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab made at the national level?

153. The Initiative has **made several achievements at the country level, namely on people-centred and policy outcomes, although**, the results are more visible **in some countries** than in others.

People-centred outcome

154. **Evidence gathered under Outcome 1 has demonstrated clear progress towards the improvement of working conditions for the target beneficiaries.** As some results are still relatively recent, the depth of the results is not yet fully measurable.

155. The Initiative has greatly **stimulated the cooperation and capacity building of employers' organisations and workers.** Two tripartite committees (dialogue) were established in **Ghana** and **South Africa**. Employers (and manning agents in Indonesia) received training on fair recruitment, wellness and social responsibility on fishing vessels and decent work conditions, i.e. lawful pay deductions and salary transfers in **Ghana** and **Indonesia**.

¹⁴¹ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁴² Interview with other ILO staff.

¹⁴³ Interviews with other ILO staff and donors.

¹⁴⁴ Interviews with other ILO staff.

¹⁴⁵ Interview with other ILO staff.

156. In **DRC** and **South Africa**, the initiative concentrated on **raising the awareness of stakeholders** (including workers, civil society and the private sector) and gathering them together for collaboration. In **Indonesia**, the implementation of procedures regarding fair recruitment for manning agents was achieved by uniting different stakeholders.¹⁴⁶

In **South Africa**, the tripartite committee has stimulated the development of the standard hours of work which all players in the sector must abide by, which was also monitored to ensure compliance.

In **DRC**, there was an assembly of the working groups of the private sector in Kolwezi and Likasi organised to discuss further strategies for working together, also regular meetings involving all stakeholders in mining and child protection are being organised.¹⁴⁷

In **Indonesia**, the training for employers and manning agents paves the way for further actions. Namely, there are plans to have an implementing agreement between employees and employers as plans for social responsibility assessment. Additionally, the National Project Advisory Committee was established, consisting of the manning agent association representatives and the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries, also several workshops were organised that was attended by tripartite partners.¹⁴⁸

157. Generally, the **involvement and awareness of social partners improved** due to the Initiative, especially in **Ghana, Indonesia** and **South Africa**. In **DRC** the initial progress was also made through consultations with the trade union confederation in mining and employers' organisations. In **South Africa**, not many fishing sector trade unions are members of the Congress of South African Trade Union, which results in limited reach of unions working in the fishing sector and involving them in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's actions.¹⁴⁹

158. Moreover, due to participation in trainings on decent work, social security, protection, and social dialogue, **fishers are aware of their rights and ways to protect them** (reaching out to the employer and trade unions), particularly in **Ghana**. In **Indonesia**, community meetings were organised on workers' rights, decent work, and how to enforce rights, which engaged (potential, former and current) migrant workers. However, not all interviewed fishers participated in the training, but they had heard about the Migrant Worker Resources Center (MRC).¹⁵⁰

In **Indonesia**, the involvement of trade unions and NGOs started to create a support mechanism for the fishers. As a result of training for trade unions many of them, particularly in Central Java, started to focus on the fishery sector and workers in the sea. For example, one local NGO now offers a system for fishers to complain about their situation at the village level, which eventually reaches the Migrant Worker Resources Center (MRC) in this way, connecting the complaint system at the village and district levels.¹⁵¹

Interviews and FGDs highlighted that fishers in **Ghana** now have job contracts, and their working conditions have improved (improved quarters for sleeping, better food, drinking water, cabins for personal belongings, improved first aid on the ships, improved health support in case of sickness), medical examination of fishers was introduced, and salaries increased.¹⁵²

159. Lastly, **the Initiative made progress in awareness raising and building capacity among communities, vulnerable populations, and young people** to combat forced and child labour. In **Indonesia**, several actions had already been implemented to raise awareness at the community level, i.e. there was a workshop about fishers' situation for journalism students, which resulted in content published on the environmental justice website. Also, a banner with the 11 indicators of forced labour was placed in district cities and villages and at the MRC office in Pamalang to inform the community, posters were also placed in manning agencies.

Legal / policy enforcement outcome

¹⁴⁶ Interviews with stakeholders from all four countries.

¹⁴⁷ Interviews with stakeholders from DRC.

¹⁴⁸ Interviews with stakeholders from Indonesia, information from programme staff.

¹⁴⁹ Interviews with stakeholders from all four countries, Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁵⁰ Interviews with stakeholders from Ghana and Indonesia, FGD with beneficiaries in Indonesia.

¹⁵¹ Interviews with stakeholders from Indonesia.

¹⁵² Interviews with stakeholders and FGDs in Ghana.

160. **Examples of the Outcome being achieved were found in each of the countries, both through the approval of laws and policies and through more practical measures to implement new laws.**

161. In **Ghana**, a policy team was established to work on the draft policy on work in fishing, based on ILO convention C188 on Work in Fishing, involving different institutions.¹⁵³ In **Indonesia**, the government passed Law No. 22/2022 on the placement and protection of migrant and fishing vessel crew. The law is designed to enhance the recruitment and placement of Indonesian migrant fishers, issue licenses to private employment agencies and set minimum standards for work agreements of fishers.¹⁵⁴ In **South Africa**, the Initiative provided legal inputs to the review of the National Policy Framework for Trafficking Persons.¹⁵⁵

162. In **DRC**, the Provincial Government of Northern Katanga signed two decrees on the establishment of two Committees, the Provincial Committee, and the Secretariat, to combat the worst forms of child labour.¹⁵⁶ However, according to several interviews, this Committee is still not functioning since the notifications required for its further work have not yet been issued. Additionally, they do not have an office or equipment.¹⁵⁷ In **South Africa**, the government introduced amendments to include the working conditions of sea workers. However, most fishers work on a commission basis, so these laws are not currently targeting the supposed population.¹⁵⁸

163. The Initiative produced or is currently producing enforcement mechanisms and systems as well. In **Ghana, South Africa and Indonesia**, pilot joint inspections were conducted in various key ports for national and foreign fishing vessels.¹⁵⁹ However, there are still hundreds of ports that this pilot inspection has not touched.¹⁶⁰ In **South Africa**, the reporting of cases of forced labour has improved through collaboration with the policy and immigration departments.¹⁶¹

The Employers' lab in **Ghana** has already developed and signed a convention on social security, living and working conditions and medical examinations in the fishing sector.¹⁶² The fishers' committee is now responsible for monitoring working conditions and issuing licenses to boats before they go fishing. Fishers must also be registered to obtain a license. An inspection checklist has been developed.¹⁶³

In **Indonesia**, a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) was signed by the Ministry of Manpower and Transmigration, ensuring their collaboration on introducing labour rights policies in the fishing sector. Currently, the two organisations are working together to conduct joint inspections.¹⁶⁴ There is also a joint agreement between these ministries and the Ministry of Transport on the use of maritime resources.¹⁶⁵

What achievements has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab made at the regional level?

164. At the regional level, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab aimed to enhance regional dialogue and cooperation, mainly for the purpose of supporting regional-level initiatives and solutions to reduce forced and child labour. The Initiative **achieved several regional results in establishing cooperation structures with regional organisations and made progress in creating action plans.**

¹⁵³ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

¹⁵⁴ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁵⁵ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁵⁶ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO), interview with stakeholder from DRC.

¹⁵⁷ Interviews with stakeholders from DRC.

¹⁵⁸ Interview with a stakeholder from South Africa.

¹⁵⁹ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report – Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁶⁰ Interview with a stakeholder from Indonesia.

¹⁶¹ Interview with a stakeholder from South Africa .

¹⁶² Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁶³ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report – Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO), interviews with several stakeholders.

¹⁶⁴ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁶⁵ Interview with a stakeholder from Indonesia.

165. In **West Africa**, a Memorandum of Understanding between the ILO and the Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) was signed to integrate decent work into fishing policies across the region. The agreement is accompanied by an action plan, which includes a Protocol on Decent Work and the Elimination of Forced Labour and the promotion of ratification of International Labour Standards (the Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention P29 and the Work in Fishing Convention C188).¹⁶⁶ The agreement has already produced results, as the Ivory Coast ratified C188,¹⁶⁷ but the actual documents of ratification have not been published.¹⁶⁸

166. In the **Pacific and Southeast-Asia region**, the Initiative in cooperation with the Fish Resource Directorate of the Ministry of Marine Affairs and Fisheries of Indonesia with the Western and Central Pacific Fisheries Commission (WCPFC) organised a Workshop on Labour Standards for Crews on Fishing Vessels to reinforce member states' capacity and to further integrate labour rights in the agendas of Regional Fishery Bodies.¹⁶⁹ A Memorandum of Understanding was signed between ILO Jakarta and the Global Business School Network (GBSN), which was followed by collaboration with the Diponegoro University.¹⁷⁰

167. In the **Southern Africa** region, the Initiative, together with the South African Development Community (SADC), developed a policy paper and joint action plan to promote and implement decent work actions across its member states, focusing on direct actions at ports and preventing vessels from avoiding inspection. An interviewee confirmed the ongoing work in dealing with the exploitation of Mozambican workers in fishing vessels as well as collaboration with the SADC Fisheries Monitoring Control and Surveillance Coordination Centre (MCSCC),¹⁷¹ which represents the practical implementation of developed policy documents. In addition, the partnership with Rhodes University Journalism School and the University of Cape Town Business School led to information sessions on forced labour issues in the fishing sector, which were attended by students from across the African subcontinent. The possibility of introducing a syllabus on forced labour in fishing is currently being discussed at the Business school.¹⁷²

168. In addition, the International Commission for the Conservation of Atlantic Tuna (ICCAT) formally requested official collaboration with ILO, namely, a briefing note on potential joint research and further capacity building activities.¹⁷³

What has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab achieved at the global level?

169. At the global level, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab aimed to create partnerships and enhance the exchange of good practices, evidence, and ideas. It also aimed to stimulate country commitments under the Alliance 8.7 and ratifications of relevant ILO conventions. **The Initiative achieved most of its targets and clearly contributed to global initiatives to reduce child and forced labour.**

170. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab contributed to the 5th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour, which resulted in the adoption of the Durban Call to Action in 2022. In the same year, three countries, Australia, Bangladesh, and Malaysia, ratified the 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (P29), while Fiji and Mexico progressed in ratification of International Labour Standards. Furthermore, 42 companies participated in the Child Labour Platform Annual Meeting in 2022, where they were encouraged to share the good practices in integrating decent work for adults and youth in their strategies, in tackling child labour in their supply chains and in engaging with employers' and workers' organisations.¹⁷⁴ Finally, the stakeholders of the Initiative countries participated in the business and human rights meeting in Geneva.¹⁷⁵

¹⁶⁶ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁶⁷ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁶⁸ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

¹⁶⁹ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report – Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁷⁰ Information from the staff.

¹⁷¹ Interview with a stakeholder from South Africa.

¹⁷² Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁷³ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁷⁴ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁷⁵ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

171. The Initiative engaged in global research on child labour and forced labour to secure new methodologies and data for national tripartite actors' advocacy and policy efforts. Through the participation in the Alliance 8.7 SDG Monitoring Group, 12 Pathfinder Countries committed to concrete steps or adopted a roadmap to increase the impact of national laws and policies addressing forced labour and child labour, while new countries (Argentina, Malaysia, Central African Republic) joined the Alliance as Pathfinder Countries.¹⁷⁶

172. The Initiative is piloting actions at the national level that have the potential to be applied on a global scale. It is also developing tools and research with a global scope tailored to the needs of individual countries and sectors. Examples of such actions are the joint-labour inspection model for identifying forced labour on board fishing vessels, the implementation of the Innovation Challenge winners' solutions and the collaboration with business and journalism schools on the inclusion of decent work in the fishing industry, issue of child labour in mining and fair recruitment in their curricula.¹⁷⁷

173. Regarding the latter, a Memorandum of Understanding was signed with the Global Business School Network to develop teaching materials to mainstream labour rights in business education, with the first teaching material on fishing.¹⁷⁸ However, one stakeholder pointed out that the collaboration between the network of universities and the Initiative countries regarding the interventions on the practical level is rather limited.¹⁷⁹

5.3.4. What factors have influenced the achievements of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab so far?

174. The following two sections address the existing factors, both positive and negative, that influenced the achievements of the system and intervention-levels of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. While the Initiative is ongoing and further factors may emerge, this is an indication of what influenced the existing achievements and foreseen outcomes.

What factors influenced system-level achievements?

175. A key factor supporting the achievements was the **awareness and professionalism within the Initiative that enabled decisive and consensus-based decision-making**. The Initiative leveraged existing insights from the department and continuous consultation with the staff, resulting in a consensus on the next steps and current needs. 8.7 Accelerator Lab team meetings with project managers and the steering committee, which convenes annually, **support communication** at a system-level.¹⁸⁰ Frequent communication between those inside and outside the 8.7 Accelerator Lab allows for an open flow of information to guide the system-level work.¹⁸¹

176. **The openness to change was a factor influencing success at the system-level.** Staff commented positively on the possibility of innovation and demonstrated flexibility regarding their own approach to their work. People outside the Initiative also observed this openness.¹⁸² Figure 11 demonstrates that Policy Delphi respondents generally believe that the branch has a culture supportive of innovation.

¹⁷⁶ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁷⁷ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁷⁸ Interview with other ILO staff.

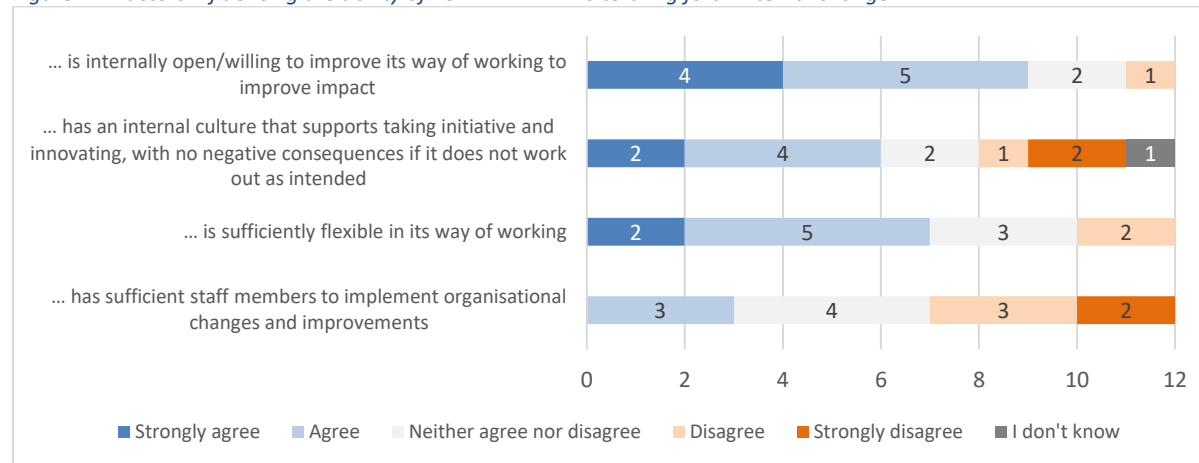
¹⁷⁹ Interview with a stakeholder from Indonesia.

¹⁸⁰ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁸¹ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁸² Interviews with other ILO staff.

Figure 11. Factors influencing the ability of FUNDAMENTALS to bring forth internal change



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "To what extent do you agree or disagree that FUNDAMENTALS..."

177. **However, some resistance within FUNDAMENTALS limited the achievements of the Initiative.** The new Initiative included the possibility of revising and changing FUNDAMENTALS' way of working, which caused some tension internally. It was necessary to gradually introduce tools and explanations during the rollout to ensure ownership. The FUNDAMENTALS' retreat was an occasion where the dynamic between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and FUNDAMENTALS overall was addressed.¹⁸³

What factors influenced Intervention-level achievements?

178. **Strong determination and engagement by stakeholders** supported the success of the intervention. National stakeholders were committed to the overall efforts, and they were in line with the Initiative.

179. **Partnerships have supported collaboration between stakeholders.** Stakeholders noted the value and strength of the project through increased collaboration and exchange. Unions, for example, have strengthened their positions and ability to operate because of the partnership with the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and national authorities.¹⁸⁴ The interviewees also note that they see ILO and the project as particularly adept at establishing these cross-level partnerships.

South Africa: "They are the right organisation for this work. They are able to influence government, trade unions, civil society, and the international community to address forced labour in the fishing sector. They are well placed to coordinate this process. They have influence over vessel owners and other countries to protect workers' rights".¹⁸⁵

Indonesia: "ILO in this project has done partnerships and collaborations with many ministries with associations, the migrant protection, workers, government agency that is a massive way to campaign this forced labour".¹⁸⁶

180. **Partnerships between system and intervention-levels have increased levels of knowledge sharing.** For example, a national workshop in **South Africa**, leveraged ILO expertise to help national stakeholders identify red flags for forced labour in a fishing vessel.¹⁸⁷ Another benefit of knowledge sharing is the ability to account for long supply chains and cross-industries through the system-level's contribution, which builds on regional work.¹⁸⁸

¹⁸³ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁸⁴ Interviews with stakeholders from South Africa and Ghana.

¹⁸⁵ Interview with a stakeholder from South Africa.

¹⁸⁶ Interview with a stakeholder from Indonesia.

¹⁸⁷ Interview with ILO AL staff.

¹⁸⁸ Interview with ILO AL staff.

181. **The strategic leveraging of existing projects and knowledge** was a positive factor on an intervention-level. In the case of **DRC**, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab used existing tools and data to build and shape the Initiative, namely the child labour monitoring system.¹⁸⁹ The factor ensured the effective use of resources and strategic results, even in the early stages of the Initiative.

182. **However, a project with overlapping scopes led by another institution was a complication** on an intervention-level in **DRC**, as collaboration proved challenging. Staff within the Support Project for Alternative Welfare of Children and Young People Involved in the Cobalt Supply Chain (PABEA-COBALT) felt restricted in terms of where they could work in the field, and negotiations took place.¹⁹⁰ The 8.7 Accelerator Lab team and PABEA “*held a meeting to discuss dividing up the sites and finding other sites to replace those covered by PABEA*”.¹⁹¹

To what extent did the 8.7 Accelerator Lab support progress towards ILO’s cross-cutting issues?

To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted and used social dialogue and tripartism?

183. The Initiative **has promoted social dialogue and tripartism in all Initiative countries**. However, there are differences among countries, as some have progressed further.

184. In **Ghana, Indonesia and South Africa**, the Tripartite Committees (Dialogue in South Africa) have been established and function as a place for negotiations between different stakeholders, the workers, the employers and the state. These committee enable stakeholders to share knowledge about each other’s positions and actions, and to divide the work involved in new interventions. Tripartite Committees have not yet been established in **DRC**. However, the work of gathering stakeholders together and enabling their collaboration has begun and is ongoing.¹⁹²

185. The employers and trade unions were heavily involved in the Initiative, and this allowed them to participate in the processes of eliminating forced and child labour, especially in **Ghana, Indonesia and South Africa**.¹⁹³ In **Ghana**, there was an increase in the social acceptance of collective bargaining and strikes among stakeholders. The Initiative supports the actions of civil society and increases the visibility of social problems through media.¹⁹⁴

To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab mainstreamed gender equality, promoted the rights of people with disabilities, understanding and buy-in of environmental sustainability in the context of the just transition to an environmentally sustainable economy?

186. The evaluation found **some evidence of efforts to mainstream gender equality through achieving output targets that included a gender dimension. However, there were limited indications of gender mainstreaming as part of the reporting or in the Initiative’s design** (e.g. no specific assessment of women’s needs, or description of gender-sensitive approaches). Stakeholders note **some improvements in the policy dimension** in South Africa and Ghana, although the support here is limited. No concrete actions were found on the promotion of the rights of people with disabilities and environmental sustainability specifically.

187. Output targets that included gender as an aggregated indicator are present in the Initiative’s logframe; output 1.3 on the national level and 2.3 on a global level.¹⁹⁵ Targets for 2022 were achieved according to the 2022 Annual Progress Report. The specific achieved targets that include a gender dimension are 1.3.2 Number of people trained / supported, 1.3.4 Number of victims targeted for support by workers’ organisations and relevant CSOs, and 2.3.1. Number of people trained / supported in each country. These three targets are indicated to be fully achieved or exceed the target as of 2022.¹⁹⁶ Overall, there was only one aggregated indicator in the logframe that addressed gender and no gender sensitivity in the reporting or throughout the implementation.

¹⁸⁹ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁹⁰ Interviews with stakeholders from DRC.

¹⁹¹ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

¹⁹² Interviews with stakeholders from all four countries.

¹⁹³ Interviews with stakeholders from DRC, Indonesia, and South-Africa.

¹⁹⁴ Interview with ILO staff, Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report – Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

¹⁹⁵ 8.7 Accelerator Lab Logframe.

¹⁹⁶ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

188. Some interviewees noted progress regarding mainstreamed gender equality in their respective countries. In **South Africa**, interviewees point to the introduction of maternity and paternity leave, although this does not target most fishers, who are usually working on a commission basis.¹⁹⁷ The links to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab are implicit and cannot, therefore, be directly attributed to the Initiative.

189. In **Ghana**, collaboration between trade unions and the Ministry of Gender has cemented as trade unions are now part of the discussions that concern trade and gender issues.¹⁹⁸ This comes through a strengthening of dialogue and trade unions. For Indonesia and DRC, stakeholders did not comment on similar advancements pertaining to gender questions.

To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted and built on International Labour Standards and normative work?

190. The Initiative **emphasised the importance of ratifying international conventions related to forced labour. The actions were based on the standards of International Labour Standards.**

191. The International Labour Standards were promoted by direct actions at the legal and policy level, concentrated on the ratification and implementation of the ILO Work in Fishing Convention C188, the 2014 Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (P29) and the ILO Maritime Labour Convention (MLC, 2006). ILS was also promoted through training, i.e. on the indicators of forced labour, defined in the C188 Convention and realisation of the monitoring tools, such as joint inspection, which were also based on the principles of these Conventions. Interviewees shared that they were following the provisions of C188 while developing the tool for the inspection and during the inspections, although it has still not been ratified in **Ghana**.¹⁹⁹

5.4. Efficiency

5.4.1. To what extent were system-level resources used efficiently?

To what extent have resources (financial, human, and time) been allocated strategically and realistically to achieve expected results at the System-level?

192. **Overall, the evaluation found that the Initiative's management made good use of available resources and allocated them flexibly and strategically. The objectives of the system and intervention-levels are realistic, considering the long-term timeline of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. However, whether the long-term objectives are realistic considering its resources depends on the ability to secure additional funding for the forthcoming years.**

193. The system-level includes two different time dimensions, namely the 2021-2023 testing phase with the MPF and long-term vision for 2030.

194. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab team has used the MPF and its flexibility to expand the scope from the intervention-level to also include the system-level. Interviews with ILO show that the system-level funding was used to identify activities and outputs that could be useful to enhance the coordination and efficiency of development cooperation.²⁰⁰ Therefore, funding could be allocated to activities that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab management deemed useful.

195. Several interviewees noted that resources were limited for system-level activities, which meant that these activities had to be covered informally through the Multi-Partner Fund. This resulted in a lack of resources to conduct additional activities at the system-level.²⁰¹

¹⁹⁷ Interviews with stakeholders from South Africa and Ghana.

¹⁹⁸ Interviews with stakeholders from South Africa and Ghana.

¹⁹⁹ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

²⁰⁰ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

²⁰¹ Lack of system-level indicators with allocated funding, comments by ILO AL staff.

196. Further, given that the multi-partner pool will last until the end of 2023, and the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s objectives continue until 2030, the allocated time is considered sufficient. However, whether it remains sufficient depends on the ability of ILO to secure further funding.

Does the structure of the Initiative facilitate the efficient use of different funding streams at both levels?

197. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab is funded through various streams of donor funds, both within the Multi-Partner Fund and within the 8.7 Accelerator Lab umbrella. **Overall, the structure of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab enhanced the efficient use of different funding streams as compared to previous, more siloed work. However, some challenges remain.**

198. As pointed out by some interviewees, the MPF is not a true “pool” of funding, as within the one account of the fund, the financial streams of NORAD and BMZ are still allocated to specific sectors and indicators (i.e. still some extent of earmarked funding, but with more flexibility).²⁰² Interviews with ILO staff (both in FUNDAMENTALS and outside the branch) confirmed that the set-up of the pool gives ILO more flexibility to address the most pressing needs and reallocate funds if necessary, which contributes to efficiency.²⁰³

199. At the same time, separate financial management and reporting take place for the affiliated projects under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab umbrella, as their donors cannot procedurally be part of a Multi-Partner Fund. To some extent, this setup is perceived as a challenge to the Initiative’s efficiency, as it requires separate reporting and accounting, and their results cannot be integrated into the overall 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s M&E system due to different outcome indicators used by the affiliated projects.²⁰⁴

200. However, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s team has still managed to negotiate and collaborate actively with these projects to ensure that those streams of funding still contribute to the objectives of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and that some of its goals (e.g. better coordination) are also realised in relation to the separately funded projects. Therefore, despite the limitations of the multiple donor streams, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s structure can still enhance the overall efficiency and value for money.

Is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab well-managed, and does it receive adequate administrative, technical, and political support by ILO at the System and Intervention-levels?

201. The Initiative benefits from communication platforms to discuss with key stakeholders. These include donor meetings and monthly meetings of different projects involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. A yearly meeting is organised for the Advisory Board.²⁰⁵

202. **During the Initiative the administrative, technical, and political support by the ILO staff was sufficient to ensure that Initiative objectives were met. Interviewed ILO staff tended to be satisfied with the communication between country offices and with ILO HQ.**

203. Interviews conducted with FUNDAMENTALS staff and donors note that they are satisfied with how the Initiative is managed. Furthermore, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff perceive that FUNDAMENTALS management is supportive of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and supports the changes that it proposes for the branch's functioning. **Interviewees noted no issues or complaints regarding the management of the Initiative within HQ.**

204. However, suggestions were made by donors to enhance the frequency of the Advisory Board meetings, and not all donors have, so far, participated in them. It was noted that, as the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is still in an “elementary stage”, the purpose of the Advisory Board and its meetings still needs to be a bit more detailed. Furthermore, while donors were satisfied with the responsiveness of ILO, and the ability to receive information and get access to project countries, they noted that information itself has been rather limited.

²⁰² Interviews with ILO AL staff.

²⁰³ Interviews with ILO AL and other ILO staff.

²⁰⁴ Interviews with ILO AL staff, review of Lab documentation.

²⁰⁵ Project documentation and interviews with donors.

205. **Multiple interviewed staff members working on the Initiative in the project countries, noted that the communication was very good and that management arrangements worked well.** There were regular bi-weekly online meetings with the teams to share experiences and challenges in which the Project Manager participated.²⁰⁶ Furthermore, weekly meetings took place between national teams and ad hoc matters were communicated through digital tools, facilitating the management of the Project and ensuring its adaptability.²⁰⁷

206. Interviewed stakeholders within the Initiative noted that they were satisfied with the management arrangements and the information provided by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab country teams.

*“The ILO has managed the process very well and is able to bring all social partners together. What we are trying to achieve under the project is being communicated effectively, and we have no complaints”.*²⁰⁸

*“The communication whenever you have a problem, for instance, was flowing well and I was always informed about everything”.*²⁰⁹

207. However, many **stakeholders still requested more information about how the project will be implemented.** For example, one stakeholder noted (and this was echoed in other interviews) that *“what we need at the moment is a more real-time information-sharing platform for all stakeholders under this project.”*²¹⁰

208. **During data collection, it was also noted that the technical and political support from other ILO branches contributed to the Initiative’s Implementation.** To support monitoring, the ILO Evaluation Office (EVAL) worked with country teams to ensure that they could understand and monitor the expected outcomes to the expected standard.²¹¹ Further, to ensure successful implementation, other branches, such as the Skills and Employability Branch (SKILLS), supported the Initiative.²¹²

5.4.2. To what extent were intervention-level resources used efficiently?

To what extent have resources (financial and human) been allocated strategically to achieve expected results at the intervention-level?

Financial resources

209. The initial budget approved by the Initiative’s donors from 2021 until 2023 was USD 12 193 329. Out of this sum, USD 5 016 530 was used by the end of December 2023 for the implementation of activities. **Thus, at the end of 2023, 59% of the budget was spent on achieving related outcomes.** While the latest published reporting data is from December 2022, draft numbers for 2023 were shared with the evaluation team. These draft numbers shows that the budget allocated has the potential to achieve the Initiative’s targets.²¹³

*Table 2. Current and projected expenditures based on approved donor budget for 2021-2023 and expenditures and encumbrances at the end of 2023 in USD.*²¹⁴

TASK/GOAL ²¹⁵	TOTAL Approved by donor by the end of 2023(A)	Total committed & spent by December 2023 (B)	DIFFERENCE between approved by donor and total committed & spent (A-B) ²¹⁶	% Spent by end of December 2023
Inception stage	22 365	31 065	8 700	139%
Outcome 1	1 006 500	606 931	399 569	60%

²⁰⁶ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²⁰⁷ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

²⁰⁸ Interview with a stakeholder from South-Africa.

²⁰⁹ Interview with a stakeholder from Indonesia.

²¹⁰ Interview with a stakeholder from South Africa, supported by interviews with stakeholders in DRC.

²¹¹ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²¹² Interview with ILO AL staff.

²¹³ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

²¹⁴ The following table is compiled based on the Budget Comparison Documentation and a document on generated encumbrances by the end of December 2023 provided by the ILO.

²¹⁵ The following column presents the general expenditure per Outcome and the overall costs of Project management mechanisms.

²¹⁶ The following calculations represent the difference between the donor approved budget and the encumbrances experienced by December 2023. numbers in red represent by how much the budget was overspent for the designated budget line, while the numbers in black show the savings on activities made.

Outcome 2	2 224 269	851 053	1 373 216	38%
Outcome 3	189 000	8 052	180 948	4%
Outcome 4	1 815 850	913 770	902 080	50%
Management and Oversight	5 532 571	4 161 480	1 371 091	75%
Programme support costs and contingency provisions	1 402 774	604 448	798 326	43%
Total	12 193 329	7 176 799	5 016 530	59%

210. The latest reporting data from December 2022 shows that across all Outcomes with established targets, a sizeable amount has been achieved or exceeded with the available funds.

211. Under **Outcome 1**, the sufficiency of available funding to match the Outcome’s indicators will only become fully clear once the reporting for 2023 is completed, because only one of the five indicators has data presented. Nevertheless, preliminary data from **Ghana** shows that with the available funds, some positive trends can be observed as “workers reporting to have increased power” reached 80% in comparison to the expected target of 70%.²¹⁷

212. Under **Outcomes 2, 3 and 4**, The Initiative made progress towards achieving, or had already achieved and exceeded, its targets for the established indicators. Under **Outcome 2**, the Initiative had fully achieved or surpassed the target for one indicator, and progress towards the targets of two indicators was initiated. Similarly, under **Outcome 3**, the Initiative surpassed the target for one indicator, and was making progress towards achievement of the target of the other indicator. Under **Outcome 4**, the Initiative surpassed the targets of four indicators, and one is in progress.²¹⁸ The available funding was, therefore, sufficient for making progress towards the stated targets.

Human resources

213. **The Initiative was able to successfully make progress towards or fully achieve its targets thanks to the sufficient availability of staff.** However, national staff noted that additional human resources would prevent team members from being overburdened when implementing activities.

214. Initially, the Initiative encountered challenges in achieving its activities for 2021. This can be attributed to the hiring of HQ and national level staff after June 2021, when the Global Programme Manager’s position was filled. Moreover, the recruitment for **South Africa** was completed in March 2022, and recruitments for DRC were completed in June 2022.²¹⁹ While delays in recruitment contributed to some delays in activity implementation in 2021, by 2022 ILO had either initiated, set in progress, or fully achieved most of the targets for the indicators under Path Changes 1 and 2.²²⁰

215. While the capacity to implement activities indicates that sufficient staff was available, additions to country teams could have contributed to reducing staff overwork. In **Ghana** and **Indonesia**, staffing improvements could have helped to balance the workload. It was noted that country teams needed to juggle many activities, which led to staff feeling “overwhelmed.”²²¹

5.4.3. What factors supported efficiency?

Do the underlying funding agreements allow the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to operate in a flexible, innovative manner?

216. **The ability to adapt and innovate is embedded in the structure of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. At the same time, there is an awareness of the limits to innovation and an existing dialogue on the role of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and FUNDAMENTALS when it comes to innovation.**

²¹⁷ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO).

²¹⁸ Ibid. Pp. 28-39.

²¹⁹ Ibid.

²²⁰ Ibid.

²²¹ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

217. The adaptability and ability to innovate the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is linked to the **MPF**, which is meant to address difficulties related to the lack of flexible funding.²²² Interviewed ILO staff noted that the pool allowed more flexibility in reallocating funds compared to traditional projects.²²³ **Joint activities between other ILO departments** were also possible due to the flexible structure. For example, MIGRANT's cooperation with FUNDAMENTALS in developing teaching materials for business schools was made possible because of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's flexibility.²²⁴

218. **Innovation is present through a continuous updating of the methodology.** An example of this work was the innovation challenge where the Initiative sought partnerships outside ILO to find best practices.²²⁵ Stakeholders responded positively to the exchanges with other organisations and partners in promoting adaptability: *"It has opened some doors to really have these types of discussions more, [added] more granularly on different challenges."*²²⁶ Overall, there are several indications that the Initiative's structure encouraged procedural flexibility and a reflection of processes through a continuously updated methodology.

219. However, there is also evidence of **reflection within ILO concerning what can be understood as, or called, innovation.** Interviewees see the potential of inflating what innovation is.²²⁷ This shows an awareness of the current limits to cutting-edge innovation within the organisation. A Concept Note on the three pillars of the system-level (targeting, exchanging, accelerating) indicated that deliverables of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab should be implemented with a view to "innovative solutions."²²⁸ However, the concept note did not define the meaning of "innovation" or when an action or approach can be considered "innovative"²²⁹.

220. **The need for some donors to earmark, or lightly earmark, their resources has persisted.** EC and USDOL were not able to participate without earmarking their donations which constrained the initial idea and limited the flexibility of the Initiative's funding agreements.²³⁰ These donors are, therefore, not part of the pooled fund in the same way that Germany and Norway are. This is noted as a challenge by the staff within the 8.7 Accelerator Lab.²³¹

5.4.4. Are the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's results properly monitored?

Is the Initiative guided by an overall results framework, bringing together all dimensions of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?

221. **The evaluation found a detailed results framework for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's intervention level, encompassing all its elements (its ToC as well as the Acceleration Factors as horizontal aspects). At the system level, the results framework is far less detailed.**

222. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab's **intervention-level activities** are guided by an overarching results framework. They are applicable not only to the MPF but will ideally and eventually guide all initiatives of FUNDAMENTALS addressing forced and child labour. The framework comprises a Harmonised Theory of Change (the pathways), the Acceleration Factors, the Strategic Entry Points, and a "harmonised" logframe) comprising indicators (output and outcome level) and targets.

223. The Harmonised ToC also includes a reference to the three main 8.7 Accelerator Lab pillars at **system-level**, namely Targeting, Exchanging, and Accelerating. However, there is no separate ToC or M&E framework specifically for these pillars, explaining what activities are implemented, what results are expected from these activities, and how together they create impact on FUNDAMENTALS' work. As such, there are no indicators or targets

222 60% of Policy Delphi respondents noted that ILO does not receive sufficient flexible funding to address the most pressing needs of countries or to promote innovation.

223 Interview with ILO AL staff.

224 Interview with other ILO staff.

225 Interview with ILO AL staff.

226 Interview with ILO AL staff.

227 Interviews with ILO AL and other ILO staff.

228 ILO Concept Note 2022 (updated in 2023). Targeting, Exchanging, Accelerating: Understanding what works and how to replicate it.

229 Design Thinking Workshop (EXTERNAL draft). 6-8 December, ITCILO Turin.

230 Interviews with ILO AL staff.

231 Interview with ILO AL staff.

to measure progress. Documentation of the Initiative does not clearly explain the concepts of “targeting, exchanging and accelerating” and often refers to other key objectives, such as making development cooperation more “evidence-based.”

Is the Initiative’s results framework used for strategic decision-making and project implementation?

224. **Interviews with ILO staff showed that the use of the MPF has already increased flexibility in reallocating resources during implementation. This flexibility enables the discontinuation of less effective activities while directing resources towards pressing needs.**

225. ILO staff indicated various examples of how activities or budget allocation per country were adjusted based on the needs identified on the ground.

*“The Multi-Partner Fund offers flexibility even if donors want to focus on specific sectors. There is flexibility at the activity level as long as they are based on an evidence-based needs assessment and aligned with the outcomes in the ToC”.*²³²

*“The budget for **DRC** had been reduced because implementation started a bit late, and **Ghana** did not have sufficient funding, so this country (and also Indonesia) benefited from an increased budget”.*²³³

*“I think one good example could be the reorientation of funding earlier this year, to both **Ghana** and Cote d’Ivoire. This was possible, because we already had a multi-donor funding arrangement in place. We could take a look at how we were doing in terms of implementation across the portfolio and see whether there was some space for reorienting funding. So, I think because the fact that we have already the multi-donor set-up, really facilitated to reorient some of the funds to additional countries”.*²³⁴

Have monitoring and reporting frameworks been established and used to measure and report progress at the strategic / system-level?

226. **Given the lack of a ToC and clear logic of achievements at system-level, there is no M&E framework with indicators and targets that measure progress towards the objectives of this level. As a result, reporting on this dimension is quite limited.**

227. The M&E framework comprises indicators and targets for the outcomes and outputs expected from, or linked to, the Harmonised Logframe. There are no indicators for the Acceleration Factors or Strategic Entry Points.

228. References to achievements regarding the system-level are included in the 2022 Annual Report (published March 2023) and the 2023 Integrated Report. In both reports, sections on the system-level list the implemented activities and how they have created initial results, for example, to enhance cooperation.

229. However, there is an insufficient description of how those individual activities and achievements contribute to outcomes or results at system-level. For example, the last Annual Report of 2022 does not use the structure of the three pillars but reflects on “overall achievements” which includes outputs created by the team, “monitoring and evaluation”, and “communication”. Therefore, it is unclear how activities contribute to the pillars and what is meant to be achieved because of the activities under each pillar.

230. A Concept Note developed in 2022 and updated in 2023, provided short descriptions of the objectives under each pillar, although still lacking more concrete logic on how these objectives should be achieved.²³⁵ This concept note also formed the basis for the innovation workshop in December 2023, where ILO staff aimed to better define “innovation” within the context of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, which may help future reporting on this specific topic.

Have monitoring and reporting frameworks been established and used to measure and report progress at the intervention-level?

231. Progress at intervention-level is primarily reported through the integrated annual reports (i.e. covering all activities and countries under the Multi-Partner Fund), which are based on the Theory of Change and harmonised logframe with its indicators and targets. **The annual reports are an effective**

²³² Interview with ILO AL staff.

²³³ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²³⁴ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²³⁵ Concept Note 2022 (updated in 2023). Targeting, Exchanging, Accelerating: Understanding what works and how to replicate it.

tool for reporting progress at the intervention-level. The reports present achievements and challenges, with accompanying numbers and qualitative examples.

232. The latest annual report (2022) provides a detailed description of the intervention-level progress through two distinct sections. First, it uses the structure of the Theory of Change (i.e. the four pathways) to describe in a qualitative manner, with various examples, the changes that have occurred in each pathway. The descriptions are detailed, and the data sources for the presented information are also included (e.g. interviews with fishers). Secondly, the annual report provides a table with all indicators of the logframe, reflecting on the targets, status (2022) and a brief results summary. It also compares the target and status in 2022 with the target and status of 2021 to demonstrate the progress compared to previous year. Interviews with donors reflect the overall satisfaction with the reports and the information provided in them.²³⁶

233. The structure of the 2022 annual report differs somewhat from the 2021 annual report. The 2022 report provides a more detailed, qualitative narrative of achievements against the four outcomes. The table reflecting on the indicators, targets, and achievements in the 2022 report is also more insightful and easier to read as a whole, compared to the tables in the 2021 report. However, as the 2022 report focuses largely on the achievements of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and does not include a reflection on risks and their mitigation, budget implications, strategy adjustments, and other aspects linked to project implementation.²³⁷

Are there SMART indicators linked with outcomes, realistic performance targets, with milestones and baselines?

234. **Overall, the M&E framework for the intervention-level benefits from a detailed monitoring system relying on multiple indicators per outcome or output and basing its information on a multitude of sources. However, some areas for improvement were found.**

235. The **first Outcome** is measured through five indicators, each indicator related to a different stakeholder group. The indicators measure change among the stakeholders (e.g. production of new mechanisms, improved knowledge, improved skills) through a targeted survey. Therefore, the achievement of the indicator is measured only through stakeholder perspectives, with the absence of other data sources to triangulate or support the indicator. For example, the indicator “*% of private sector actors that develop new or improved mechanisms/ practices (per sector and country)*” could also be measured with the number of new mechanisms or practices reported to ILO.

236. The outputs under **Outcome 1** are covered by several indicators mainly focusing on factual data (number of participants, number of action plans). Since each output is covered by multiple indicators with different sources, information on the achievement of the output can be well-triangulated.

237. The achievement of the **Second Outcome** is measured through three indicators that rely on perspectives (survey) and data (law and policy text, child labour monitoring system database). The indicators’ text is unambiguous. Combined, the outcome comprises a suitable set of indicators. Outputs under Outcome 2 resemble those under Outcome 1, in that they are diverse and provide a solid evidence base for conclusions on the achievement of each output.

238. The **Third Outcome** is measured by two indicators, one on developed regional action plans, roadmaps, and similar documents, and one indicator on new innovative initiatives to address child labour. There are two possible concerns regarding these indicators. On the one hand, the indicators measure improved actions at the regional level (which could suggest increased capacity), they do not fully measure “ownership” or “dialogue”. An indicator of organised meetings and exchanges is missing, which would measure the existence of dialogue, but this is included at the output level. Similarly, a survey or perceptive data source could add more information on perceived ownership.

239. Secondly, as already mentioned in section 5.3.3., the concept of “innovation” within the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is not operationalised or defined. Therefore, it is unclear what qualifies as “innovative initiatives”. At the same time, it is unclear how the presence of innovative practices contributes to enhancing ownership and facilitating dialogue.

²³⁶ Interviews with donors.

²³⁷ Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report - Accelerating Progress to Eliminate Child Labour and Forced Labour : The Pooled Funding Mechanism of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. 2023. International Labour Organization (ILO) and 2021 annual reports.

240. Under the Third Outcome, two outputs exist, each with one indicator. The indicators are suitable for measuring the achievement of outputs. However, these indicators (and outputs) do not give guidance on how “innovation” in the Outcome should be understood, and, in this regard, the outputs lack content that would operationalise elements of “innovation” (besides conducting research).
241. **Outcome 4** covers the global level. This outcome is already formulated almost at impact level, since the ability of a wide range of global stakeholders to reduce forced and child labour is a longer-term process. An increase in partnerships and knowledge sharing is more realistic at outcome-level (i.e. medium-term result based on the achievement of outputs). For example, under the first ACCEL Africa project, the “reduction of child labour” was considered an expected impact.
242. Six indicators were developed to measure the achievement of Outcome 4, focusing on, among others, country commitments, number of pilots, ratification of conventions, etc. However, several of the indicators rely on data from the Alliance 8.7 records, and records of other initiatives of ILO and cover achievements that can be made through a multitude of efforts. For example, an increase in country commitments in the Alliance 8.7 records may be achieved by another Initiative linked to Alliance 8.7 and not because of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, thus potentially leading to challenges related to attribution and accountability.
243. The relationship between the ratification of ILO conventions and the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is also unclear since many conventions do not necessarily cover the work of the Initiative, and ratification of conventions can be achieved by other projects or complementary efforts, as well. The relevant conventions and link to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab are explained in output 4.4., but not in the outcome. Therefore, it would not be possible to properly monitor the outcome without using and knowing in detail all data against the Output.
244. At the output level, indicators are detailed and factual, and in several cases, multiple indicators cover the output using diverse data sources.

5.5. Sustainability

5.5.1. To what extent are the system-level results sustainable?

Does the 8.7 Accelerator Lab include specific approaches that ensure sustainability of system-level results?

245. **The 8.7 Accelerator Lab includes approaches which focus on continually revising the work to ensure sustainability at a system-level. However, the specifics of how to achieve or proceed (e.g. a dedicated sustainability strategy) are somewhat limited.**
246. The design of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab does not include a dedicated sustainability strategy. However, desk research and interviews suggest that the system-level outputs mainly comprise policy and M&E documents, which in themselves are sustainable since they are saved on FUNDAMENTALS’ databases and accessible for its staff (though their further impact depends on the use of these materials by the branch).
247. Looking ahead, **the alignment of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab with broader visions and agendas** was mentioned to strengthen integration and ensure ownership. SDG 2030 and the Alliance 8.7²³⁸ were mentioned by interviewees as an agenda to align with, ensuring the 8.7 Accelerator Lab remains relevant in the upcoming years. While this does not guarantee sustainability, this alignment with the SDG ensures that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab can continue to be an important tool for ILO to contribute to the achievement of SDG Target 8.7, and that staff have a continued justification (namely achieving this target) to use the tools of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab.

²³⁸ Interview with ILO AL staff.

248. One limitation is the **limited level of detail regarding the processes for ensuring sustainability**. The plan for revising tools and M&E frameworks lacks outlined processes for achieving this goal. The sustainability of the outputs depends mainly on their use, and the periodic revisions of the vision and M&E framework rely on the willingness and capacity of ILO staff to continue engaging staff and stakeholders in this process.

What factors may influence the sustainability of the Initiative (positive and negative)?

Enablers

249. **The flexibility afforded through the Multi-Partner Fund and the Initiative's structure** strengthens the potential reach and depth of impact of the ILO. The fund enables flexibility of projects and allows for an optimisation that would support the sustainability of the Initiative.²³⁹ However, the fund is in its early stages, and it is not possible to precisely assess its reliability and longevity.

250. **Knowledge sharing at a higher level supports the sustainability of the Initiative since it enables scaling up efforts and a positive spillover effect, as well as supporting synergies with the ILO. To ensure knowledge sharing continues, interviewees advocated for the need for training and awareness-raising** of tools among ILO staff.²⁴⁰ This supports the sustainability of the Initiative by providing more effective use of resources at a system-level.²⁴¹

251. Interviewees agreed that **ILO staff members have a growing, if limited, sense of ownership of the Initiative**, due to the Initiative being in its early stages. Alignment with a broader vision will support ownership building within ILO and, thus, the sustainability of the Initiative.

252. **Integrating and coordinating between other projects and insights from other reports and work by the ILO**. One interviewee saw potential in using ILO estimates, trends, and calculations of forced and child labour to underscore the evidence-based work.²⁴²

Barriers

253. **According to interviewees, It is difficult for donors with strict funding procedures to fund MPF, which limits the number of possible partners.**²⁴³ So far, the multi-donor fund has resulted in donors having a varying degree of input and commitment to the Initiative, which raised the question of the viability of the MPF for some interviewees.²⁴⁴

254. Another aspect of donors that may influence the sustainability of the Initiative at a system-level is the **interest of donors regarding interventions in specific sectors or projects**. Different stipulations and criteria for different donors create a complex system of interventions and earmarking, and global crises may divert the resources of donors to new, emerging and (perceived) more pressing challenges.²⁴⁵ Interviewees saw **challenges in ensuring the system-level work will take place**, given the needs on an intervention-level.²⁴⁶

5.5.2. To what extent are the intervention-level results sustainable?

To what extent did national and regional-level interventions include sustainability measures?

255. **The Initiative set out to include and empower a range of stakeholders and tripartite constituents, which would encourage ownership and thus support sustainability on an intervention-level. The approach to ownership included leveraging existing strategies and institutionalising the Initiative's interventions.**

²³⁹ The 8.7 Accelerator Lab - A Snapshot of the Journey of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. International Labour Organization (ILO).

²⁴⁰ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²⁴¹ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²⁴² Interview with other ILO staff.

²⁴³ Interviews with ILO AL staff and a donor.

²⁴⁴ Interviews with ILO AL staff and a donor.

²⁴⁵ Interview with other ILO staff.

²⁴⁶ Interviews with ILO AL staff.

256. Key stakeholders in the countries confirmed that they have **ownership** to ensure sustainability after the completion of the Initiative. A wide range of stakeholders alongside the tripartite constituents were included in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Their participation focused on building engagement and ownership at an intervention-level using existing networks.²⁴⁷

257. The ownership among stakeholders was not only a result of the Initiative or ILO's involvement, rather, the Initiative was a way to accelerate and support the existing ownership among the national stakeholders.²⁴⁸ Thus, the Initiative is leveraging already existing efforts to empower stakeholders and improve legal and policy frameworks which support the sustainability of the Initiative.

258. The goal of **institutionalising** the Initiative's interventions and seeking the support of governments will further support the sustainability at an intervention-level: *Practical tools and mechanisms will be established to strengthen evidence-based policymaking that will encourage understanding of positive policy impacts.*²⁴⁹ Building on existing strategies at regional and national levels aimed at building ownership and accountability.²⁵⁰ In **Ghana**, for instance, there was a focus on capacity building intervention based on a needs assessment, ensuring policies in place could further the intervention.²⁵¹

259. Some evidence was found that stakeholders have continued resources available within relevant ministries and authorities, which would support the sustainability of benefits. The government of Indonesia has their own budgets to support future action.²⁵²

"If ILO stopped its support, we would continue the programme with what we have in relations with budget sources or other resources... I believe, our activities can run internally".²⁵³

"Even after the departure of ILO, they will sustain this approach of working together".²⁵⁴

260. At the same time, **stakeholders have voiced concerns about the limits of those resources and the need for maintained efforts to support the initial success.** Interviewees in **Ghana, South Africa** and **DRC** point to financial resources as the key limiting factor to long-term sustainability.²⁵⁵ *"We have the capacity thanks to the reinforcements we have received, and we are in a position to continue working, but what limits us is our financial resources".²⁵⁶*

261. The stakeholders have, to some degree, access to resources that would enable their work. Limited financial resources are the main limitation to the Initiative's sustainability, but there is a sense of optimism among stakeholders about carrying the progress forward. This success stems in part from the leveraging of existing resources, work, and investment on the ground.

What factors may influence the sustainability of the Initiative at the country level (positive and negative)?

Enablers

262. **The development of legislation because of intervention has the potential to support the sustainability of the Initiative.** Legislation and policy changes that leverage expertise from the Initiative will add longevity as direct intervention dissipates. Interviewees agree that the Initiative has sped up the process of policy changes.

²⁴⁷ BMZ-ILO Partnership: Towards the Elimination of Child Labour in Africa. International Labour Organization (ILO).

²⁴⁸ Interviews with stakeholders from DRC, and Ghana, and a donor.

²⁴⁹ BMZ-ILO Partnership: Towards the Elimination of Child Labour in Africa. International Labour Organization (ILO).

²⁵⁰ BMZ-ILO Partnership: Towards the Elimination of Child Labour in Africa. International Labour Organization (ILO).

²⁵¹ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²⁵² Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

²⁵³ Interview with a stakeholder from Indonesia.

²⁵⁴ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

²⁵⁵ Interviews with a donor and with stakeholders from DRC and South Africa.

²⁵⁶ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

263. **Relying on and utilising evidence-based tactics** will support the sustainability of the Initiative at a country level by supporting and validating results in the field.²⁵⁷ Results from the country level are further able to inform system-level efforts and therefore support the efforts to scale up the results.

264. Many interviewees see **education and training on site** as the key to maintaining the Initiative's benefits.²⁵⁸ Empowering educators to identify and resolve issues with families on site, such as the case of mining in **DRC** or on vessels, as in the case of fishing. Stakeholders in **Ghana** requested *"more training to do needs assessments. We need to see what the communities understand. We need to see how to build the capacity of the fishers."*²⁵⁹

Barriers

265. **Coordination between authorities at both regional and national levels** is a potential future limitation of the sustainability of the Initiative. Interviewees note that while there is interest and buy-in, the complexity when it comes to regional coordination could hinder effective sustainability of the Initiative. An interviewee in **South Africa** noted that a strengthening of national legislations could mean that vessels move to other regions rather than ceasing activities.²⁶⁰ This highlights the need for coordination on a regional level to ensure sustainability.

266. Maintaining **sufficient presence on sites and in the field at intervention-level** could be a limitation to sustainability of benefits. Ensuring sustainability requires local presence at scale and in remote areas, which requires sufficient resources. The level of investment and resources, both in terms of financial and human to ensure oversight, technical expertise, and presence will be one of the key determinants of the Initiative's sustainability.²⁶¹ In **DRC**, it was noted that there was limited field presence and stakeholders urged for more focus to cover the entire region of Katanga.²⁶²

267. **Involvement and cooperation with local governments** is another possible barrier to the sustainability of the Initiative. Stakeholders mentioned **Ghana** and **South Africa** as countries where buy-in from government is somewhat unsure. In the case of Ghana, it is the upcoming elections which could impact cooperation in the future²⁶³ and in South Africa government agency mandates are hampering potential impact and sustainability.²⁶⁴

²⁵⁷ Interview with other ILO staff.

²⁵⁸ Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

²⁵⁹ Interview with a stakeholder from Ghana.

²⁶⁰ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²⁶¹ Interview with other ILO staff.

²⁶² Interview with a stakeholder from DRC.

²⁶³ Interview with ILO AL staff.

²⁶⁴ Interview with a stakeholder from South Africa.

6. Conclusions

System-level

268. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab is a unique initiative of the ILO that aims to reduce child and forced labour in its four target countries, and simultaneously improve the functioning of the FUNDAMENTALS branch. The Initiative will create more targeted, coordinated, evidence-based development cooperation. The two-pronged approach of system-and intervention-level actions ensured that tools at system-level could be tested in the project countries, while feedback from the field could inform the effectiveness of tools and frameworks at system-level.
269. There is a consensus among interviewees and Policy Delphi respondents that the selected activities of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, at system-level directly address the challenges faced by project managers and staff working on child and forced labour. They also agree that these activities have shown some initial results in improving development cooperation, for example by creating tools to assist country selection and to assist exchanges of good practices. The evaluation found various examples of how the funding structure enabled adaptations within the intervention-level, which allowed for possible savings and made the projects more efficient.
270. At the same time, the system-level activities are still in their early stages and lack a more comprehensive logic (e.g. a Theory of Change) which would provide direction for these activities as well as measurable expected outcomes and instructions on how key concepts such as innovation are defined. Therefore, at this stage, the evaluation was not able to fully measure system-level progress but could only provide examples of how development cooperation of FUNDAMENTALS is improving.
271. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab faces both opportunities and challenges for its longer-term sustainability. The interest of interviewed staff, as well as the consensus regarding challenges, demonstrate a clear potential for continued use of the new mechanisms and tools proposed by the Initiative. The use of these tools can be integrated into the overall work and practice of FUNDAMENTALS and would not require (much) additional funding to sustain. Promotion of these tools across all ILO staff working on forced and child labour is an important prerequisite for sustainability.
272. However, there is a discrepancy between the timeline for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab as a whole (with final results towards reduced child and forced labour expected in 2030) and the availability of agreed funding, particularly in the MPF. Assessments under each evaluation criterion have demonstrated the importance of this funding structure to achieve the system-and intervention-level results, but the current round of the fund ends in 2024. Therefore, the continuation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in its adaptive and flexible format depends on the ability of ILO to secure the next rounds of funding in the multi-partner format.

Intervention-level

273. The interventions in the four countries under the Multi-Partner Fund benefited from the testing of new approaches, such as the Acceleration Factors and Strategic Entry Points. The interventions also benefited from the flexibility to adjust activities and reallocate funding to those areas where needs were most pressing. The fund's flexibility allowed national stakeholders to play a strong role in shaping the activities and pointing out their needs and priorities (within the overarching Theory of Change).
274. As many activities at intervention-level were either still underway, or only recently implemented, the evaluation could not assess in detail how the Acceleration Factors or Strategic Entry Points made a difference in terms of enhancing impact. However, a review of the AFs against the needs expressed by stakeholders demonstrates that they are indeed relevant in different contexts, address the most pressing concerns, and therefore have a high potential to enhance the impact of FUNDAMENTALS' work. The absence of specific indicators linked to the AF and SEPs also hindered this assessment.
275. The assessment of achievements regarding the four dimensions (path changes) of the Theory of Change demonstrates that, within the evaluation period, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has made important progress against its targets. Interviews with stakeholders and focus group discussions with beneficiaries are positive about the outcomes achieved at national and regional level. While ILO also achieved its targets at global level, no interviews

with global stakeholders were conducted to better understand how these achievements were perceived externally. In addition, the alignment with Alliance 8.7 was not always clear enough or strong enough for interviewees.

276. The involvement of stakeholders in the design of the interventions also contributed to their sense of ownership of the results. Several stakeholders indicated that they are ready to sustain the results, and in many cases, the results can be sustained because they strengthened or leveraged existing mechanisms that would not require additional funds to stay active (because they existed before the Initiative). However, many stakeholders still noted that more efforts, and therefore more resources, are needed to further reduce forced and child labour.

7. Recommendations

Based on the findings and conclusions presented in the report, the evaluation team developed the following recommendations, which address the 8.7 Accelerator Lab holistically (system and intervention levels).

- 1. Develop a more detailed framework for the system-level activities in terms of how activities are meant to create outputs and contribute to the objectives under each of the three pillars.**

The evaluation has gathered input from reports and interviews on the achievements at the system-level. However, it was difficult to discern a framework or logic enabling a measurement of what was expected to be achieved at this time and through which activities. Therefore, the evaluation shows examples of what was done, without a careful assessment of progress at the system-level. The development of a highly detailed Theory of Change may limit the flexibility of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. However, a general overview of the pillars and their objectives may support the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to keep track of achievements and better identify where additional work is needed at the system-level. Part of the reason this was absent, was limited specified funding for the system-level. This will require a continuation and potential increase of funding for the system-level to ensure that the Initiative can maintain system-level staff for the purpose of implementing, promoting, and monitoring the activities that would be foreseen once a ToC is in place. This need places higher expectations on the MFP, which has its own dedicated recommendation (See recommendation number 5).

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff	Medium	Medium	Short-term

- 2. Enhance the focus on dissemination, and particularly promotion, of the tools and mechanisms developed at system-level, to ensure that all staff engaged in ILO’s work on child and forced labour know about the tools and understand their value.**

The evaluation found that some ILO staff involved in work on forced and child labour were not aware of the tools and mechanisms put in place by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Furthermore, it was noted that not all staff working in this field are fully on board yet, as it is unclear to them how the HQ-level tools would affect their responsibilities and autonomy at the regional and country levels.

In this regard, dissemination and promotion could include:

- Consultations with staff involved in forced and child labour to explore their experiences using the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s tools or their reasons for not (yet) using the tools.
- More frequent updates for staff working on combatting forced and child labour, on the work of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and examples of how the tools are improving development cooperation.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:

ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff	High	Medium	Short-term
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3. Enhance the (visibility of) alignment of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab with the Alliance 8.7 in terms of the selection of (pathfinder) countries, and of the position and contribution of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab with other initiatives such as IPEC+ and Child Labour Platform.

The 8.7 Accelerator Lab connects in several ways with the Alliance 8.7, in terms of the use of indicators that require data from the Alliance 8.7, the inclusion of some Alliance Pathfinder countries, and the overall objective of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to support Alliance 8.7 in reducing child and forced labour. However, some interviewees were uncertain about the actual linkage between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and the Alliance 8.7, as well as between the initiative and other networks and platforms that focus on child and forced labour. Furthermore, existing annual reports show activities of the Alliance 8.7 that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab participated in, but the evaluation did not find information on how the role of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is perceived or how it contributes to the Alliance 8.7.

Some actions that could be taken include:

- a) Developing a more concrete framework (or map of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s ecosystem) showing the contribution and role of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab within the Alliance 8.7 and how it cooperates with other initiatives supporting the Alliance 8.7.
- b) Include more details on the outcomes of cooperation with Alliance 8.7, beyond the explanation that activities and meetings took place. Explain how the activities of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab played a role in the broader achievements of Alliance 8.7.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff and Alliance 8.7 management	High	Medium	Medium-term

4. Explore opportunities to refine the indicators in the Harmonised Logframe to provide better insights into the achieved changes at national, regional, and global levels.

The evaluation has demonstrated that the overall harmonised logframe is of high quality and relies on a broad range of data sources and indicators. While a comprehensive revision of the M&E framework is not necessary, the evaluation has indicated indicators that would benefit from adjustments.

In particular, the evaluation recommends the following adjustments:

- a) Outcome 1 indicators can be complemented with documentation on initiatives, to triangulate results of the surveys.
- b) Outcome 3 indicators would benefit from a definition of the concept “innovation” and an additional indicator measuring the perception of ownership (e.g. through a survey).
- c) Outcome 4 text could be revised to reflect only on the strengthened partnerships and not on the reduction of child and forced labour (which is impact). The indicators of the outcome, if read without the outputs, can be made more specific to reflect on the role of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in creating the outcome.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff	Medium	Medium	Medium-term

5. Continue and strengthen efforts to engage (more) donors in the Multi-Partner Fund, with an aim to renew the fund at the end of the current cycle. Particularly, try to expand the current concept of the Multi-Partner Fund to enhance funding flexibility even further.

While the 8.7 Accelerator Lab envisages the elimination of child labour by 2025 and forced labour by 2030 (aligned with the SDGs), the current round of Multi-Partner Funding ends in 2024. While other projects affiliated with the 8.7 Accelerator Lab continue to receive funding for the upcoming year, the evaluation has concluded that the multi-partner structure has provided clear added value in terms of flexibility to address the most pressing needs and has the potential for enhanced efficiency. Therefore, for 2024, it is essential that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff, with support from the branch, find opportunities to renew and expand the Multi-Partner Fund for the upcoming years.

This could include the following actions:

- a) Discuss with existing donors the opportunity to renew the Multi-Partner Fund.
- b) Develop promotion materials highlighting the benefit of the MPF structure, ideally with reflections from donors themselves on how it benefits them.
- c) Engage with regular FUNDAMENTALS donors to explore their interests, concerns and needs.
- d) Engage with donors outside MPF on their willingness to fund projects using the overarching ToC and harmonised logframe, the system-level and fund affiliated projects like ACCEL II.
- e) Engage with FUNDAMENTALS management to develop a joint funding strategy focusing less on “one-off projects” and more on funding mechanisms covering multiple interventions.

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff, donors	High	Medium	short-term

6. Explore opportunities for the next evaluation (when impact can be expected) to measure the added value of the Acceleration Factors (AF)

At this stage, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff at the country level are aware of the AFs and can inform that they used them. Still, the Initiative’s documentation and M&E frameworks do not guide how to integrate and measure the integration of the AFs in the activities at country-level. Therefore, the evaluation could not assess to what extent the AFs enhanced the impact of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, compared to other projects.

Examples of actions to take for the next evaluation can include:

- a) Expanding reporting requirements for national staff, both qualitative and quantitative (against targets) for the use and expected results of using the Acceleration Factors.
- b) More detailed reporting against the AFs in the annual reports.
- c) Preparing instructions for national staff on the implementation of the AFs that are less used (e.g. sustainable financing and innovation, once innovation is more clearly defined).

Addressed to:	Priority:	Resource:	Timing:
ILO FUNDAMENTALS, 8.7 Accelerator Lab staff	Medium	Medium	Medium-term

Annex 1. Case studies

1. Two case studies were conducted in the context of this evaluation. These aimed to assess the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s progress towards eliminating forced labour in the fishing sector of two countries at the community level, focusing on Indonesia and Ghana. Findings were based on evidence collected through in-person missions in these countries and desk research, looking in particular at the experiences of stakeholders and beneficiaries in each country.
2. Indonesia was selected as one of the case study countries because it includes migrant Indonesian workers as beneficiaries and is the only non-African country included in the Initiative. Ghana was selected due to its visible achievements at the beneficiary and regional levels. Both countries were chosen in close coordination with ILO HQ and the national offices in the two countries.

Case study 1: Indonesia’s fishing sector

Context of Indonesia’s fishing sector

3. The Indonesian fishing sector is essential to Indonesia’s economy. While it only generates 2.41%²⁶⁵ of the country’s GDP, it contributes to over 50% of the animal proteins produced and is the second largest fish producer globally.²⁶⁶ The fishing sector provides employment opportunities to over 12 million people, with 2.5 million fishers working in the small-scale fisheries sector.²⁶⁷ However, those working in the fishing sector encounter various problems. One specific problem stems from illegal, unreported, and unregulated (IUU) fishing which can affect those working in Indonesia’s fishing sector and lead to various human rights abuses.
4. According to desk research, among the most common IUU violations and forms of non-compliance are using foreign seamen and captains, fishing outside of allocated waters, and avoiding the use of ship tracking systems. The sector also had instances of trafficking in persons and forced labour. Those who experienced forced labour note various violations which include the non-payment of salaries, violating OSH, making fishers work excessive hours and failing to provide good social security and living conditions.²⁶⁸
5. One group of workers particularly likely to experience these difficulties is Indonesian migrant workers who work on foreign-flagged vessels. This is due to the nature of their employment as, in some cases, they experience deceptive recruitment, among other difficulties. Their situation is made more precarious by their isolation due to working in remote areas as well as the difficulty in responding to actors who work across multiple areas of jurisdiction.²⁶⁹
6. The Indonesian government has taken multiple steps to address the issue. In 2014, the Minister of Marine Affairs and Fisheries implemented a ban on vessels operating in Indonesia which were produced in foreign countries. One reason for this moratorium was that these types of vessels often failed to comply with Indonesian legislation. Alongside this measure, laws banning transshipment and prohibiting the use of certain types of fishing equipment were also implemented.²⁷⁰ Another breakthrough came in June 2022 when the law on “Placement and Protection of Migrant Shipping Vessels Crew and Fishing Vessels Crew” introduced the harmonisation permits issues to manning agencies under the MoM and improved alignment with ILO Convention 188.²⁷¹

Field Work Overview and Stakeholder Engagement

7. The field work in Indonesia started on the 20th of November and lasted until the 25th of November. This period was used for national stakeholder interviews in Indonesia’s capital, Jakarta, and the Central Javan capital of Semarang. The evaluation team also travelled to the district of Pemalang

²⁶⁵ Calculated based on data from 2019, by the evaluation team.

²⁶⁶ <https://www.worldbank.org/en/news/feature/2021/06/07/conserving-oceans-in-the-eastern-seas-of-an-indonesian-archipelago>.

²⁶⁷ <https://www.nature.org/en-us/about-us/where-we-work/asia-pacific/indonesia/stories-in-indonesia/indonesia-fisheries/#:~:text=The%20of%20fisheries%20industry%20employs,about%2012%20million%20Indonesians>.

²⁶⁸ IOM. (2016). Report on Human Trafficking, Forced Labour and Fisheries Crime in the Indonesian Fishing Industry.

²⁶⁹ <https://freedomfund.org/programs/hotspot-projects/indonesia-hotspot/>

²⁷⁰ Ibid.

²⁷¹ https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/IndonesiaImpactReport2022_web.pdf

located 130 km. west of Semarang to conduct FGDs with fishing communities. Visits were organised to the seaside city of Pemalang and three surrounding villages. Many of the fishers living there had experience working abroad on foreign-flagged vessels.

8. Over two days the evaluation team conducted four focus group discussions. These discussions involved a total of 21 participants across all four discussions. Among them, 13 participants were former migrant fishers, four were wives of fishers, two were village chiefs knowledgeable about fishers in the sector, and two were female land-based workers who had previously worked in the domestic sector abroad. To facilitate interaction with participants, the evaluation team received guidance from representatives of the local migrant fishers' union (SBMI). However, the FGDs were conducted independently with the assistance of a trusted translator.

Experiences of fishers in Pemalang district

9. **The FGDs echo the issues noted in Indonesia's fishing sector and show that they continue to persist, as most fishers experienced elements of forced labour.** This included working excessive hours with as little as two hours of rest during a 24-hour cycle, the need to work while sick with restricted access to health facilities, along with instances of physical abuse. The payment of wages was subject to deductions that the fishers did not know about or, if fishers were sent home, they risked their earnings being withheld.²⁷² Similar experiences were also noted by women whose husbands were working on foreign based vessels.²⁷³
10. **The FGDs and interviews with tripartite stakeholders revealed that there were multiple compounding factors which led to fishers being exposed to these conditions.** A key driving factor was the socioeconomic conditions. Fishers generally enter the fishing sector due to "low" entry barriers. Unlike many land-based jobs, an elementary school diploma is the only prerequisite to becoming a fisher. Meanwhile, the decision to migrate is frequently influenced by the potential for higher earnings on foreign-flagged vessels. These two factors, along with the difficulty of unionising due to few communication tools and being away from land facilitate the unscrupulous behaviour of manning agencies. They take advantage of potential fishers by providing contracts right before departure leaving little time for the seafarer to read through it prior to signing or not explaining to them the conditions stated in the contract.
11. Once at sea, the fishers also noted that abuses would go unreported as they feared losing their jobs, did not have legal working status, or lacked information on where complaints should be submitted. Combined with inefficient reporting mechanisms at the village level and the regulation gap between the MoT's and MoM's mandate,²⁷⁴ the well-being of fishers was further jeopardised.²⁷⁵

Existing interventions at the national level

12. During the interviews with 8.7 Accelerator Lab Staff and national stakeholders, it was noted that multiple interventions by the ILO, as well as other international organisations, exist. These include Ship to Shore Rights, Improving Workers' Rights in Rural Sectors, and Freedom Fund. All these projects align, to some extent, with the goals of the ILO 8.7 Accelerator Lab.
13. Ship to Shore Rights is a regional Project implemented by the ILO, IOM and UNDP with a focus on Southeast Asian countries, including Indonesia. This Project aims to strengthen existing legal and policy mechanisms to enable safe migration in the region's fishing sector, ensuring that labour rights and protections are adhered to at all stages of the migration chain and that migrant worker families are empowered to exercise their rights.²⁷⁶ Similarly, the Freedom Fund's Project seeks to ensure similar aims of empowering seafood workers and providing better responses of government and private sector actors to cases of abuse and access to rights.²⁷⁷ Finally, Improving Workers' Rights in Rural Sectors of the Indo-Pacific runs in the Philippines and

²⁷² FGD 1, FGD 2, FGD 3 and FGD 4.

²⁷³ FGD 3.

²⁷⁴ Interviews noted that MoM dealing with working conditions and MoT working with fishing vessels creates confusion on who is responsible for the wellbeing of fishers.

²⁷⁵ Interviews with tripartite constituents in Indonesia and FGDs.

²⁷⁶ <https://www.shiptoshorerights.org/>

²⁷⁷ <https://freedomfund.org/programs/hotspot-projects/indonesia-hotspot/>

Indonesia. It includes a unique focus on women and, in Indonesia's case seeks to improve compliance with labour laws and OSH for women working in the fish processing industries and palm sectors.²⁷⁸

14. Data gathered showed that there is a considerable degree of cooperation between Ship to Shore and the Initiative. It was observed that the two projects seek to avoid overlap and complement each other's efforts. For example, both Ship to Shore and 8.7 Accelerator Lab use ILO tools but conduct labour inspections in different areas. To enhance synergies, it was noted that the two national project coordinators frequently cooperate and participate in each other's activities, providing technical inputs as necessary.²⁷⁹ However, the extent of collaboration with other projects, such as the one led by the Freedom Fund, remains unclear.
15. Indonesia has a Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) for 2020-2025, serving as a strategic framework for national-level interventions. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab demonstrates alignment with the DWCP, indicating its contribution to supporting ILO's objectives in Indonesia. The DWCP focuses on improving compliance strategies and strengthening migration governance mechanisms, including in the fishing sector, which aligns with the aims of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Furthermore, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab intervention directly supports multiple country priorities noted in the DWCP. For example, Country Priority 1 seeks to promote effective social dialogue to foster business and workers' welfare, closely aligning with the Initiative's first Outcome, to empower workers, employers, social partners, and communities to adopt solutions to prevent, identify and tackle forced and child labour with activities which include work with constituents and building their capacities to engage in social dialogue. Similarly, Country Priority 3, which seeks to enhance protection for vulnerable groups, highlights fishers and migrant workers as one of the specific vulnerable groups to be included in the Priority's focus. This aligns with Outcome 1 and Outcomes 2 and 3, which seek to improve compliance, monitoring, and enforcement mechanisms. While Outcome 3 has a specific regional dimension, its alignment with Country Priority 3 can be justified by regional monitoring mechanisms and other actions impacting the national level.²⁸⁰

8.7 Accelerator Lab management

16. In Indonesia, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab country team was fully established in 2021. Throughout the implementation of the Intervention, communication was effective both between the country team and project management, as well as with the other countries of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. The project countries held weekly coordination meetings, with the project manager in attendance. Various communication protocols were used to ensure a smooth flow of information, enabling swift request approvals and budgeting processes. Additionally, the country team had to submit narrative reports and submit quarterly reports to ensure adequate project oversight.
17. The Initiative facilitated exchanges of information and lessons learned among project countries. One example of information exchange was the replication of labour inspection practices on vessels in Indonesia, which was then applied in Ghana and South Africa. These exchanges provided opportunities to reflect on experiences and learnings from colleagues about potential actions at the national level.
18. To support the implementation of the Initiative at the national level, the project worked with multiple stakeholders, including trade unions (e.g. SBMI, Trade Union Network for the Fisheries Sector), an employer organisation (e.g. Apindo), educational institutions and NGOs (e.g. University of Diponegro and AP2H) and government ministries (e.g. MoM and MOFA) among others. All these stakeholders contributed to implementing the Initiative by helping design necessary legal frameworks to combat forced labour, spreading knowledge about the topic and empowering workers. In this case study, the organisation that played the largest role in working with direct beneficiaries was SBMI which works particularly with migrant fishers.

Intervention of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab at the district level

19. **To help address these issues at the district level, ILO's 8.7 Accelerator Lab, in line with the Acceleration Factors related to addressing root causes and focusing on vulnerable populations, collaborated with SBMI.** A trade union working with migrant workers, including fishers. With support from SBMI,

²⁷⁸ https://www.ilo.org/jakarta/whatwedo/projects/WCMS_827155/lang--en/index.htm

²⁷⁹ ILO staff.

²⁸⁰ https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilojakarta/documents/publication/wcms_757815.pdf

the district-based Migrant Resource Centre (MRC) was founded in March 2023. As the MRC was operational for less than a year, most of its activities have focused on laying the groundwork to ensure that communities have increased awareness of forced labour all the while helping create systems which would help crackdown on the practice of forced labour.

Main acceleration factors present at the district level:

- **Fostering and developing political commitment:** the project has involved tripartite actors, in particular the SBMI trade union to support the empowerment of Initiative beneficiaries.
- **Addressing root causes:** steps were taken to act against the dangers faced by migrant fishers notably by working towards the improvement of case handling mechanisms and dissemination of information about forced labour.
- **Focus on vulnerable populations:** the main activities at district level focused on policy improvements and addressing the needs that migrant fishers might have.

20. In pursuit of their goals the MRC works at the district level and conducts a range of activities:

1. **Information campaigns** – the MRC engages fishers and their communities through posters, films, and workshops to make them more aware and able to recognise instances of forced labour.
2. **Case handling** – currently case handling mechanisms were located at the village and district level. However, this contributed to slowdowns in reporting due to potential bureaucratic hurdles and financial costs. To address these barriers the MRC will function at the district level to improve responses to cases and work directly with the MoM district office. Should this not work, an MRC will be established and will focus on promoting regulations and worker placements in six pilot villages.
3. **Tripartism** – the MRC has undertaken advocacy efforts to engage trade unions, employers’ organisations, and government officials to establish a joint tripartite committee. Training was also provided to trade unions on building their association capacities.²⁸¹

Impact of the intervention on fishers

21. **During the FGD some early signs of impact were observed regarding the MRC’s.** At least seven participants, five ex-fishers and the two land-based workers, recalled being directly involved in the workshops organised by SBMI. They all noted that this experience was valuable as now they knew who to contact, how to recognise forced labour, knew regulations in the sector and the rights they were entitled to. According to multiple participants this allowed them to provide counselling to their community members as well as abroad.

*“After SBMI came we kind of know what the indicators of the forced labour are (referring to ILO indicators in the SBMI office). We started to remind our brothers and sisters who to contact”.*²⁸²

*“I participated in the discussions. It helped. I also have relatives who worked in Ireland and Poland, and she contacted me about some meanings”.*²⁸³

*“We discussed rights, organisations, and regulations. We didn’t have mechanisms to gather the crews but now we do. The problems were also discussed”.*²⁸⁴

22. However, one participant, who was a respected and comparatively well-educated member of the community, noted that they were not fully satisfied with the level of financial training that they received. They noted that while the training was interesting and involved people from various backgrounds, the information presented was “usual” and he would have “made that module based on my experience”. When asked whether the training should be

²⁸¹ Interview with tripartite constituent in Indonesia.

²⁸² FGD 1.

²⁸³ FGD 4.

²⁸⁴ FGD 2.

revised or if it could be expanded in its current state, it was pointed out that while expansion should be considered, deeper interaction with the community is needed, such as in the form of FGDs to implement alterations. Therefore, it was suggested that involving participants in the design of the trainings could contribute to a more holistic impact and foster community engagement in the project.²⁸⁵

23. Another factor which potentially limits the impact of the MRC and the Initiative in general is that **only about a quarter of the participants had heard about the MRCs activities**. Those who did, heard about the MRC by participating in ILO workshops or from other sources e.g. a newspaper. Meanwhile, other participants only knew about SBMI or the ILO, but not the MRC. When asked about their awareness of the Initiative, no one knew about the existence of such an initiative, despite the presence of some promotional material (e.g. prior to entering the cultural centre prior to the second FDG or in SBMI HQ). However, the lack of knowledge could be explained by the fact that district-level activities with beneficiaries only started relatively recently as workshops had only started a couple weeks prior to the arrival of the evaluation team.
24. During the FGDs many participants voiced concerns that while there have been some improvements in labour conditions in recent years, **there is a need to expand the range of stakeholders involved (e.g. include foreign ministries, foreign manning agencies) and prevent the continuation of ongoing abuses, particularly among manning agencies**.

*“There is a regulation²⁸⁶ in the manning agency. In first ten months you don’t get your full salary as part of it is kept as a guarantee. Only after you finish the contract do you get the full money. If you don’t finish the contract, then you don’t get that money”.*²⁸⁷

*“The manning agencies are Chinese. The contract you are given is for 2 years and the skipper doesn’t allow them to go home and then they are forced to stay for another year”.*²⁸⁸

*“The manning agencies don’t want to be detected by the SBMI. The manning agency here already talked with the one overseas. SBMI is seen as an oversight mechanism, so some manning agencies try to avoid it”.*²⁸⁹

25. Further, as many activities at intervention-level were underway, or only recently implemented at the time of the evaluation, the evaluation team was **unable to assess in detail how the Accelerating Factors or Strategic Entry Points affected impact**. However, a review of the AFs against the needs expressed by stakeholders demonstrates that they were relevant in different contexts, address the most pressing concerns, and therefore have a high potential to enhance the impact of FUNDAMENTALS’ work. The absence of specific indicators linked to the AF and SEPs also hindered this assessment.

Conclusion

26. The evaluation findings at the intervention-level along with interviews and FGDs revealed that the implementation of the MRC and the reliance on acceleration factors, was relevant and has contributed to early signs of impact and supports the first path of the Intervention. This was possible due to targeting the most vulnerable communities and addressing root causes at the district level. Furthermore, the activities show that there is a notable degree of alignment between the needs of the community and the activities that are being implemented and will continue to be implemented under the MRC.
27. Evidence revealed that there are some barriers to impact. In particular, the trainings which have a direct and spillover effect are being implemented on a relatively small scale given the lack of knowledge about the MRC among some of the community members. To ensure a better alignment with the

²⁸⁵ FGD 3.

²⁸⁶ The term regulation here given the context refers to an existing practice rather than a form of policy.

²⁸⁷ FGD 3.

²⁸⁸ FGD 2.

²⁸⁹ FGD 1.

various educational and socioeconomic backgrounds in the community, some fine tuning might still be needed. Finally, as shown in the main findings of the report and supported by FGD participants and interviewees, it was noted that a wider range of stakeholders (e.g. Indonesian embassies based abroad) need to be involved to ensure that the issue of forced labour is addressed in a more holistic manner.

Case study 2: Ghana's fishing sector

Context of Ghana's fishing sector

29. The fishing industry in Ghana, similar to Indonesia, is an important player in the country's economic life, especially for coastal communities. Based on various estimates, it generates about 3%-4.5% of the country's GDP.²⁹⁰ It is also an important source of employment for the Ghanaian population as it employs nearly 800 000 people. The fishing sector is divided into four main sub-sectors: the artisanal sector, semi-industrial sector, industrial sector, and tuna sector, with the artisanal sector contributing to the largest share of fish production and employing the largest share of fishers.²⁹¹
30. Ghana's fishing sector has several problems. The costs related to the production of fish are rising, making it difficult for fishers to make a living. While the tuna fishing sub-sector has shown some resilience to rising costs, its capacity to ensure the sustainability of incomes is hampered by the migration of tuna fish stock and difficulties in keeping up with the costs of compliance.²⁹² Another issue affecting Ghana's fishing sector are the difficulties encountered in combatting IUU. This has led to the EU Commission issuing multiple yellow cards: one in 2013 and another in 2021, which put the country at risk of having its fish production banned for export to the EU.²⁹³ In addition to economic concerns of IUU which could affect the country's economic well-being and fishers' livelihoods, IUU also exacerbate issues related to the damage of ecosystems and the depletion of fishing stocks.
31. Another issue encountered in the sector is the working conditions of fishers. They often do not have access to clean drinking water or nutritious food. At the same time, there is evidence of fishers having to frequently work long hours, and without access to adequate living conditions, being forced to sleep on the deck of boats with little cover from the elements.²⁹⁴

Field Work Overview and Stakeholder Engagement

28. The fieldwork in Ghana started on the 27th of November and lasted until the 2nd of December. During this period the evaluation team conducted interviews with national stakeholders in Accra and Elmina. The evaluation team also took this as an opportunity to conduct FGDs with fishing communities affected by ILO's work under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Therefore, **one FGD was held in the town of Apam, 90 km. west of Accra, while the other FGD took place in Tema, a city 30 km. east of Ghana's capital.**
29. During the two FGDs **the evaluation team interviewed 12 participants across two discussions.** The discussion in Apam included two fishers, one of whom was a chief artisanal fisher. The discussion in Tema was attended by 10 fishers who worked in the industrial fishing sector. The implementation of the FGDs was supported by the ILO and a local interpreter who helped facilitate the discussion between the evaluation team and the local community.

Experience of fishers in targeted communities

32. **Based on interviews with national stakeholders, it became clear that fishers, particularly in the industrial fishing sector, were highly vulnerable and subject to various forms of abuse.** Prior to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, many fishers were employed without a contract and would sometimes join fishing vessels in an ad hoc manner, as some heard about employment opportunities on a fishing boat through word of mouth.²⁹⁵ Once on board, the fishers were reported to work in poor conditions, including lack of rest facilities, poor access to food and water as well as a lack of adherence to safety standards.²⁹⁶ Addressing these issues was considered difficult: inspectors faced challenges due to a lack of access to port facilities and inadequate resources, hindering their ability to carry out inspections.²⁹⁷ Finally, socioeconomic factors contributed to the conditions of forced labour, as the number

290 <https://fcwc-fish.org/about-us/member-states/ghana> and <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/gha1788g2.pdf>

291 https://www.mofad.gov.gh/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/GHANA-NPOA-IUU_FINAL_04.05.21.pdf

292 <https://faolex.fao.org/docs/pdf/gha1788g2.pdf>

293 <https://globalfishingwatch.org/impacts/stories/analysis-helps-ghanaian-navy-crack-down-on-illegal-fishing/>

294 https://ejfoundation.org/resources/downloads/On-the-precipice_crime-and-corruption-in-Ghanas-Chinese-owned-trawler-fleet.pdf

295 Interview with Tripartite Stakeholder in Ghana.

296 Interviews with multiple stakeholders in Ghana and FGD with industrial fishers.

297 Interview with government stakeholder in Ghana and ILO staff.

of fishers outnumber the available jobs in the sector, enabling recruiters for fishing boats to take advantage of fishers looking for employment and denying them their rights.²⁹⁸

Existing interventions at national level

33. There is a small number of ongoing initiatives that target the fishing sector in Ghana. A key project under implementation is the Global Accelerator Lab (GALAB) which began in December 2021 and is scheduled to run until September 2025. GALAB targets the artisanal fishing sector in Lake Volta and is implemented under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. GALAB seeks to empower trade unions, and the Inland Fisherman & Canoe Owners Council to address forced and child labour in the informal economy. It also seeks to expand social services and welfare, livelihood, and education opportunities through the work with different constituents and stakeholders.²⁹⁹
34. At the time of writing the case study, the third DWCP for Ghana was undergoing stakeholder consultations and validation. It is expected that the DWCP, will feature three priority areas: promotion of rights at work and ILS, expansion of social coverage and protection, and increased availability of sustainable and decent work.³⁰⁰ Currently, the exact actions to be implemented under the DWCP, are not specified. However, based on available evidence, it is likely that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab will align with ILO's strategic work in Ghana. In particular, through its focus on improving compliance and adherence to rights at work. Moreover, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab can potentially support the DWCP in promoting social coverage and expansion of protections to workers, given that the Initiative has already made notable steps towards improving the working and living standards of fishers on board fishing vessels.
35. While there is insufficient evidence to assess the extent to which the fishing sector will be targeted specifically, there is great potential for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's outputs and outcomes to be aligned with Ghana's DWCP across all three priority areas.

8.7 Accelerator Lab management

36. Recruitment of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab country team was completed in 2021. It was noted that the communication with ILO HQ was highly effective and facilitated by informal communication which would then be followed up on and formalised. Exchanges of experiences and lessons learned also took place with other p countries, it was reiterated that lessons were learned from Indonesia's fishing sector in terms of inspections, but also on applying ILO convention mandates. Additionally, given Ghana's perceived advantages in tripartism, it was possible to share experiences on facilitating work with social partners. Furthermore, Ghana was able to benefit from exchanges with South Africa in terms of ensuring improvements in the technical implementation of the Initiative.

Intervention of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in targeted communities

38. **The 8.7 Accelerator Lab's work supported multiple outputs under Outcome 1 and relied on acceleration factors, in particular addressing root causes and focusing on vulnerable populations.** During the Initiative's implementation, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab focused on capacity building and bringing together tripartite constituents. This was done through instituting trade union networks and an employer's lab. Through these mechanisms it was expected that workers' and employers' organisations would be empowered to articulate a common position on forced labour issues, represent the needs of their members in a more coherent manner and encourage social dialogue between employers and workers' organisations.³⁰¹ Trade unions noted some progress in this regard, stating that fishers became more open to articulating the problems they experienced.³⁰²

Main acceleration factors present at the district level:

²⁹⁸ Interview with Tripartite Stakeholder in Ghana.

²⁹⁹ Note provided by ILO staff.

³⁰⁰ https://www.ilo.org/africa/countries-covered/ghana/WCMS_889795/lang--en/index.htm

³⁰¹ ILO. 2023. Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report.

³⁰² Interview with tripartite constituents.

- **Fostering and developing political commitment:** the project has involved tripartite actors, ranging from governments, employers, and trade unions to address the difficulties faced by fishers.
- **Addressing root causes:** steps were taken to act against the dangers faced by migrant fishers notably by working towards improving working conditions and introducing work contracts.
- **Focus on vulnerable populations:** the main activities at district level focused on policy improvements and addressing the needs that migrant fishers might have.

39. The most notable output of the Initiative's implementation was the foundation of the Tripartite Committee on Working Conditions in the Fishing sector. This committee brings together government authorities that deal with inspection and sailor welfare, the employer's representatives, and workers' representatives. Its role is to facilitate social dialogue and ensure that existing practices and standards are in line with laws and regulations.³⁰³

Impact of the intervention on fishers

40. **The 8.7 Accelerator Lab has had a visible impact on the working conditions of fishers in Ghana, as confirmed by workers' representatives. Many stakeholders noted improvements in the fishers' work environments.** For example, it was noted that health and safety standards have been improved with the introduction of PPE, and the requirement to have medication and cabins for those employed on the fishing vessels. Similarly, remuneration has increased, and contracts are issued to fishers which contributes to their financial safety and fosters employers' accountability.³⁰⁴

41. Fishers working in the industrial sector voiced similar observations during the FGDs. The quality of food and water on board the ships has improved, there is better adherence to safety regulations and there has been considerable improvement in the standards of resting facilities

"Last year we started to see some real changes that were made. So far, we have some benefits. I have a place to sleep I do have good water to drink, we have good food, the mattress, pillow, blankets are provided. (...) Lastly, people get injured but so far no one get into accidents no one get injured".³⁰⁵

42. **Fishers have also echoed the statements of national stakeholders about improvements in contracting.** They noted that one of the largest changes, during the Initiative's implementation was

the introduction of contracts for the fishers, and some saw an increase in their incomes.

"Our salary has been increased. Not enough, but it has been increased. (...) The most important thing is that last year was the first time we solicited signed contracts, and that's why we are very happy about that".³⁰⁶

43. **FGDs with fishers also pointed to the benefits of capacity building in which they were included at the industrial and artisanal levels.** Many industrial fishers and the chief of artisanal fishers noted that there were opportunities to take part in training organised by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. During these sessions, they were able to learn about their rights, and what actions can be taken in response to potential violations. These capacity building sessions, particularly for the industrial fishers, served as forums to further reflect on the status of fishers and voice their concerns to the union. Thus, the value of these workshops had the potential for further impact as participants were not only able to absorb knowledge but also to use their new-found knowledge to reflect and gain confidence when talking to community leaders about issues in the sector, sustaining the initial impact.

"It was very well taught and beneficial to them. Some of them now know how to protect themselves because of these trainings".³⁰⁷

³⁰³ ILO. 2023. Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report pg. 11-13 and Interview with Tripartite stakeholders.

³⁰⁴ Interview with Tripartite Constituents in Ghana ILO. 2023. And Multi-Partner Fund 2022 Progress Report and Interview with Tripartite stakeholders p. 11.

³⁰⁵ FGD with Industrial Fishers in Ghana.

³⁰⁶ FGD with Industrial Fishers in Ghana.

³⁰⁷ FGD with Artisanal Fishers.

“Absolutely, during our discussions, we formed groups, each focusing on specific categories and questions relevant to our experiences as fishers. Collaboratively, we summarised our concerns and insights, presenting a comprehensive overview to the union. Last week’s meeting at Elisa Hotel served as a platform to discuss everything in detail”.³⁰⁸

“Personally, I don’t fear, as I have someone supporting me. I’ve been taught by the International Labour Organization (ILO) on how to effectively communicate with leaders. This training has given me the confidence to stand my ground and seek help when needed”.³⁰⁹

44. Despite the progress made to improve the working conditions of fishers, certain barriers that undermine impact remain. One key issue faced is that some employers avoid hiring fishers who belong to trade unions. During an interview with a trade union representative, it was revealed that employers deduct union membership fees directly from the workers’ pay. Consequently, if an employer identifies that an employee is a union member, they might choose not to hire the worker.³¹⁰ This concern was further emphasised by certain industrial fishers who pointed out that improvements in the fishing sector and the growing importance of the trade unions contributed to job loss. However, participants did not highlight which employers employ tactics to undermine trade unions or whether they are registered in Ghana or abroad.

“Due to the efforts of the union, some people have unfortunately lost their jobs. In response, some have chosen to leave the country, while others are currently unemployed”.³¹¹

“There’s a prevalent fear among some that speaking up directly to the employer could lead to job loss. This fear acts as a significant barrier, hindering people from utilising the full potential of their rights and the support provided by the union”.³¹²

45. Fishers also noted that some of the changes implemented still need further development. For example, while contracts are now issued to fishers, they do not always have time to read and understand what is presented to them.³¹³ Furthermore, some fishers continue to work without contracts, with some of them suggesting that this could be due to political considerations of local leaders who do not want to see their power weaken *vis a vis* trade unions or *“sometimes hesitate to speak up because challenging them (employers) can be intimidating”*.³¹⁴

46. Industrial and artisanal fishers voiced that they would like to see further additions to the Initiative’s implementation. Participants in both FGDs noted that they would like to see improvements in social security, for example, giving workers compensation in case of injury or death or providing them with insurance. Artisanal fishers also voiced their need for additional safety training such as teaching fishers how to swim and use life jackets as well as training on how to adjust to climate change. Industrial fishers also said that a key priority for them was to see the implementation of the recruitment centre³¹⁵ as they believe this would contribute to the strengthening of the unions.³¹⁶

Conclusion

47. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s work in Ghana had a noticeable impact on the working conditions of fishers. FGDs with fishers tended to confirm the findings from interviews with national stakeholders and reveal that the Initiative greatly aligned with their needs. This points to the relevance of the selected acceleration factors, in particular fostering and developing political commitment, addressing root causes, and focusing on vulnerable populations. The

³⁰⁸ Ibid.

³⁰⁹ Ibid.

³¹⁰ Interview with Tripartite Stakeholder in Ghana.

³¹¹ FGD with Industrial Fishers in Ghana.

³¹² Ibid.

³¹³ Ibid.

³¹⁴ FGD with Industrial Fishers in Ghana.

³¹⁵ Based on the needs expressed by the fishers, this would be a centralised mechanism or institution, where workers would be hired based on their skills and receive wages commensurate with their abilities.

³¹⁶ FGD with Industrial Fishers and Artisanal Fishers in Ghana.

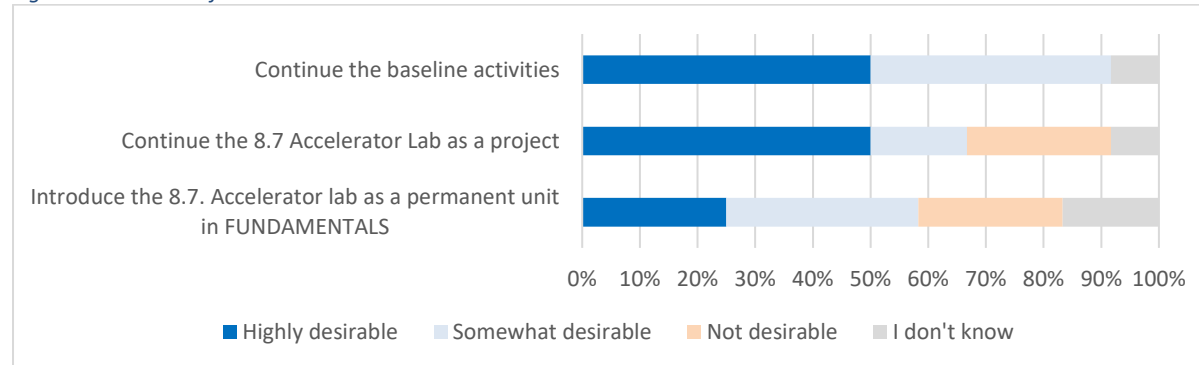
efforts to build capacities and establish links between ILO's tripartite constituents, as well as training organised for workers, have already led to noticeable improvements for fishers in terms of better working conditions, legal protection, and representation.

48. However, several factors could still undermine the potential impact of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Despite advancements in representation, unions continue to need support to ensure that their members are protected from unscrupulous employment practices. Similarly, tripartism still needs to be reinforced to overcome the potential distrust that exists between employers and unions. Finally, the existing needs of those working in the fishing sector underscore the importance of implementing acceleration factors to consolidate existing progress and achieve impact.

Annex 2. Results of the second Policy Delphi

The second round of the Policy Delphi requested insights from FUNDAMENTALS staff linked to the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, and multi-partner fund donors, regarding their preferred options for the future of the initiative. The survey received 13 responses.

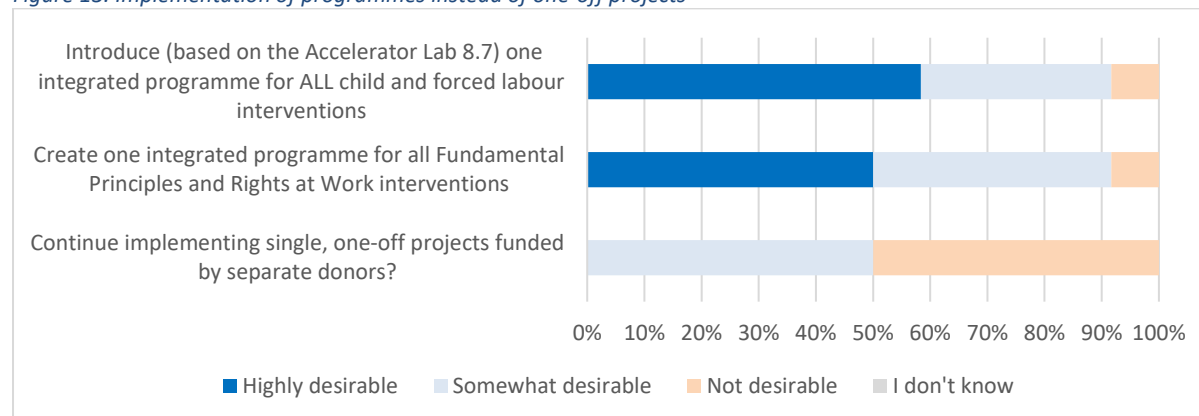
Figure 12. Position of "8.7 Accelerator Lab" in the FUNDAMENTALS branch



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "In your opinion, how desirable is it to..."

Overall, the respondents see more value for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab as a project, rather than a permanent unit. Respondents agree that the baseline activities implemented so far (Continued exchange of good practices; Harmonised Theory of Change and Logframe; Keep the existing system-level tools and mechanisms; Project-based monitoring and reporting) should be continued.

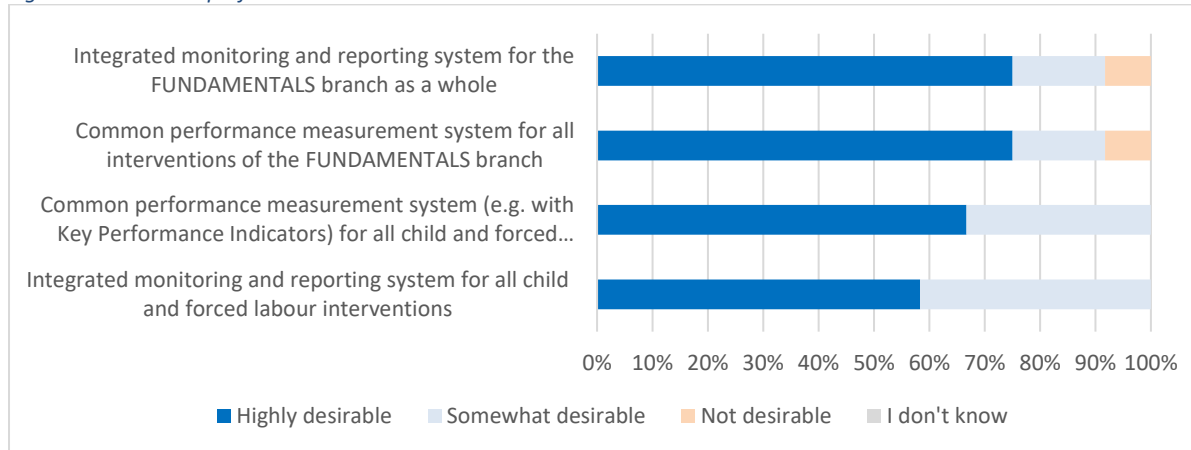
Figure 13. Implementation of programmes instead of one-off projects



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "In your opinion, how desirable is it to..."

PD respondents note that introducing an integrated programme for the entire child and forced labour portfolio or even for the FUNDAMENTALS branch be valuable. The continuation of one-off projects is considered a less desirable option.

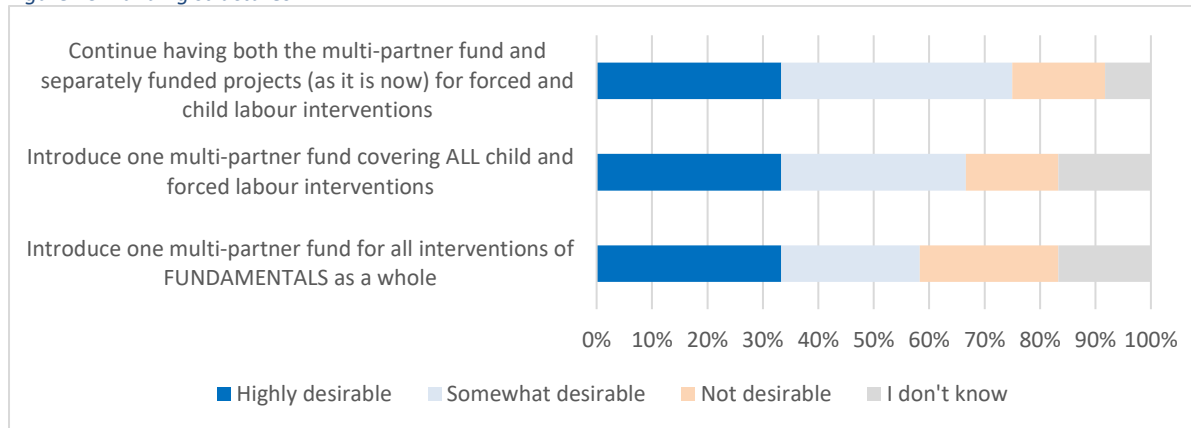
Figure 14. M&E and performance measurement



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "In your opinion, how desirable is it to introduce..."

Most PD respondents consider that having an integrated M&E and performance measurement system for the FUNDAMENTALS branch as a whole, or for its child and forced labour portfolio, is highly or somewhat desirable.

Figure 15. Funding structures



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "In your opinion, how desirable is it to introduce..."

Less agreement (compared to the previous questions) is found regarding the expansion of the Multi-Partner Fund to all child and forced labour initiatives or too the branch as a whole.

After the discussion of individual suggestions demonstrated in the questions above, the PD survey presented four options to the respondents:

OPTION 1: Continue in the current state, but without the Multi-Partner Fund and system-level activities.

This option would entail the discontinuation of the Multi-Partner Fund at the end of the current round and the return to separate projects which ideally, as much as possible, use the harmonised Theory of Change and Logframe, but do not use uniform/integrated reports for all donors (as under the current Multi-Partner Fund).

The FUNDAMENTALS branch would continue to promote exchange of good practices between countries and sectors, but without a dedicated system-level team as it has under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. The tools and mechanisms developed under the system-level in the past years will remain in place but will not be expanded further as the "system-level" of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab is discontinued and further efforts to create uniformity in the branch are discontinued.

OPTION 2: Continue with the current state through renewal of the Multi-Partner Fund and system-level activities.

The second option would mean that the current situation is renewed for another cycle, which includes the renewal of the Multi-Partner Fund (possibly with additional donors) and the continuation of efforts on the system-level. A dedicated team remains in place to explore opportunities to enhance the targeting, exchanging and accelerating of development cooperation, for example by introducing additional tools and mechanisms for the branch.

At the field level, the current state (i.e. several countries are supported through the Multi-Partner Fund, using the harmonised ToC and logframe) continues either in the current countries or in additional countries. However, projects funded by donors outside the Multi-Partner Fund continue to exist as well, under the 8.7 Accelerator Lab umbrella, and efforts continue to be made to link them as closely as possible to the rest of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, in terms of ToC and logframes.

OPTION 3: Expand the current state to create further integration of the forced and child labour activities of FUNDAMENTALS and ILO.

The third option includes an increased investment in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, by introducing more donors to the Multi-Partner Fund for the purpose of expanding the scope of country-level support as well as the scope of system-level work. This would require a stronger buy-in and support from ILO as a whole to present the Multi-Partner Fund and its benefits to donors.

Within FUNDAMENTALS, all staff working on child and forced labour topics will become part of (or more closely linked to) the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and their work is directly feeding into the overall objectives of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Namely, the 8.7 Accelerator Lab would not be just a “project” but its own entity or unit within FUNDAMENTALS, uniting all forced and child labour staff.

At the same time, the system-level team invests more resources into the promotion of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab as the core partner of the Alliance 8.7 And into taking leadership in global child and forced labour platforms, networks, and working groups.

OPTION 4: Full integration of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in FUNDAMENTALS

The last option proposed the idea that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab structure will apply to the whole branch, thereby expanding to Fundamental Rights at Work more broadly and aligning with the Integrated Strategy on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work.

The Multi-Partner Fund would be expanded to cover all projects and initiatives under FUNDAMENTALS, guided by the harmonised logframe and ToC that is now elaborated to include the entire scope of the work of the branch.

FUNDAMENTALS as branch takes leadership or coordinating roles in all initiatives on fundamental rights at work at global level.

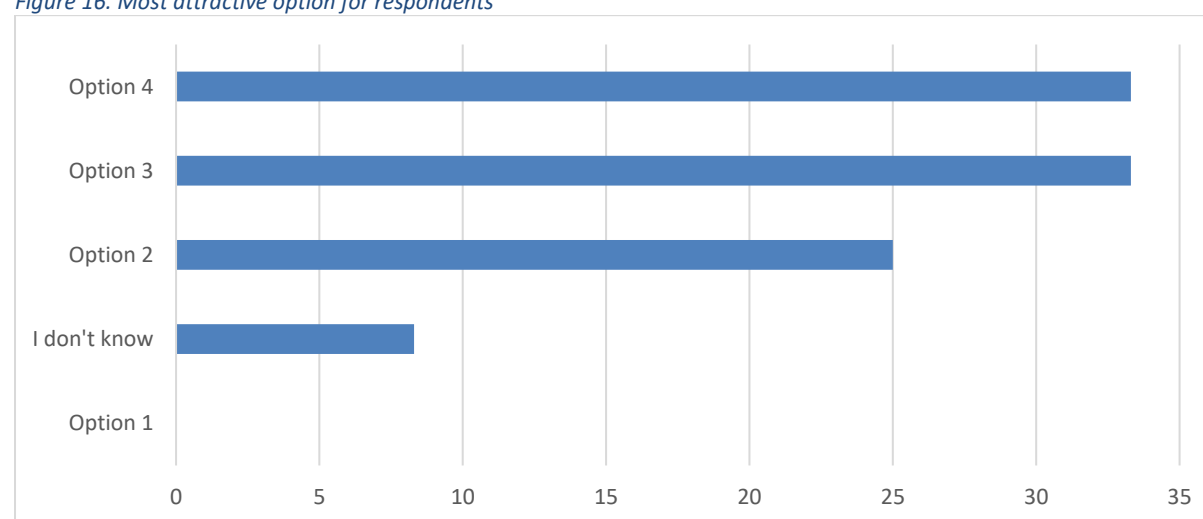
Summary of Options

		Option 1	Option 2	Option 3	Option 4
System-level	Existence of a system-level intervention	<i>Continue without a system-level</i>	<i>Continue with current system-level</i>	<i>Expand system-level to cover all child labour interventions</i>	<i>Fully integrate system-level into FUNDAMENTALS</i>
	Use of the system-level tools and mechanism	<i>Use the results but discontinue 8.7 Accelerator Lab</i>	<i>Continue the 8.7 Accelerator Lab</i>	<i>Expand and institutionalise the 8.7 Accelerator Lab</i>	<i>Integrated FUNDAMENTALS beyond 8.7 Accelerator Lab</i>
Baseline activities	Exchange of good practices	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Harmonised Theory of Change and Logframe	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Keep the existing system-level tools and mechanisms	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Project-based monitoring and reporting	Yes	Yes	Yes	Yes
	8.7 Accelerator Lab as a project (as it is now)	No	Yes	No	No

8.7 Accelerator lab status	Accelerator lab as a permanent unit in FUNDAMENTALS	No	No	Yes	Yes
Strategic and programmatic framework	Single one-off projects	Yes	Yes	No	No
	Integrated programme for child and forced labour	No	No	Yes	Yes
	Integrated programme for Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work	No	No	No	Yes
Monitoring and reporting	Common performance measurement system	No	No	Yes	Yes
	Integrated monitoring and reporting	No	No	Yes	Yes
Funding arrangements	Multi-donor fund along with other funding	No	Yes	Yes	Yes
	Single multi-donor fund for all child labour interventions	No	No	Yes	Yes
	Single multi-donor fund for all FUNDAMENTALS	No	No	No	Yes

The respondents were asked which option was most attractive in their view.

Figure 16. Most attractive option for respondents



Source: Policy Delphi with participants knowledgeable about FUNDAMENTALS (n=12). "Overall, which option seems most desirable to you?"

The results show that, although the details differ, there is a distinct interest to continue with the work of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. In fact, the majority of respondents believe that the initiative should expand to cover either the whole child and forced labour portfolio, or even the FUNDAMENTALS branch.

Annex 3. Evaluation questions matrix

Evaluation criteria and questions

OECD/DAC Criteria	Evaluation questions
RELEVANCE: Is the ILO 8.7 Accelerator Lab doing the right things? The extent to which the intervention objectives and design respond to stakeholder, beneficiaries, global, regional country, and partner/institution needs, policies, and priorities, and continue to do so if circumstances change.	
System-level	1. To what extent is the Initiative level approach aligned with the work of FUNDAMENTALS?
System and Intervention-level	2. Through its two-pronged approach at the System and Intervention-levels, to what extent does the ILO 8.7 Accelerator Lab respond to the institutional needs and context in FUNDAMENTALS development cooperation aimed at eliminating child labour and forced labour? Are these needs also relevant at the global, regional and national levels? 3. Looking at both the System and the intervention-level, to what extent did the 8.7 Accelerator Lab adapt and adjust its design, objectives and approaches, to respond to evolving contexts and changing needs, to improve effectiveness? Were there any key facilitating or hindering factors? Are there any needs that should be better addressed in future phases?
Intervention-level:	4. To what extent is the is the intervention design valid and realistic to deliver planned results? Do activities and outputs causally link to the intended short-term and medium-term outcomes? Were all relevant stakeholders engaged in the design phase? Does the TOC reflect the six acceleration factors and entry points? Are the approaches taken appropriate to achieve immediate objectives, given the intervention logic, time and resources available? 5. To what extent do the acceleration factors and strategic entry points at the intervention-level respond to the needs of stakeholders at global, regional and national levels, and to national contexts? Are some acceleration factors and strategic entry points being prioritised over others, and if so, why? To what extent are the specific vulnerabilities of migrant workers taken into account?

OECD/DAC Criteria	Evaluation questions
COHERENCE: How well does the 8.7 Accelerator Lab fit? The compatibility of the intervention with other interventions in a country, sector or institution.	
System-level	<p>6. Is the Accelerator Lab’s strategic approach coherent with other strategies and frameworks related to child labour and forced labour in FUNDAMENTALS and the ILO more broadly, as well as beyond?</p> <p>7. Is there evidence of complementarity and coordination with other institutions and projects related to SDG 8.7?</p> <p>8. To what extent are System-level efforts aligned with the ILO’s Programme and Budget (P&B), with broader ILO policies, and with UN-level policies and SDGs?</p> <p>To what extent does the priority matrix have the potential to prioritise ILO development cooperation as well as the priorities of development partners?</p>
Intervention-level	<p>9. To what extent is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab Harmonised ToC and strategy aligned with Decent Work Country Programme (DWCP) strategies and/or Country Programme Outcomes (CPOs)?</p> <p>Are the acceleration factors and strategic entry points coherent and complementary with global, regional and national policies? Do they build on the ILO’s comparative advantage at all intervention-levels?</p>

DAC Criteria	Evaluation questions
EFFECTIVENESS Is the Accelerator Lab achieving its objectives and results? The extent to which the intervention achieved, or is expected to achieve, its objectives and its results, including any differential results across groups.	
System-level	<p>10. To what extent has the Accelerator Lab made progress to achieve its objective of promoting a new way of targeting, coordinating, and making more evidenced based development cooperation in FUNDAMENTALS? Which of the systems-level results have been achieved or made progress? Have any pillars (better targeting, increased exchanges and promoting acceleration) been particularly successful or unsuccessful?</p> <p>11. To what extent has the Accelerator Lab succeeded in promoting a system-level shift in terms of harmonisation and value for money in development cooperation?</p> <p>12. One of the objectives of the Accelerator Lab is to create opportunities and test new modalities to increase internal efficiency and effectiveness and decrease the duplication of efforts, in terms of how development cooperation is delivered. What has been learned through this first phase in terms of what works, what doesn’t and why?</p> <p>13. How effectively has the Accelerator Lab promoted information exchange and dissemination between countries, sectors and levels, and contributed to limiting the silo-approach?</p>

	<p>14. How and to what extent has the strategy of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab been disseminated throughout the ILO, including at the field level?</p>
<p>System and Intervention-levels</p>	<p>15. How can the work of the Initiative as a whole be distinguished from the projects that contribute to it?</p> <p>16. How do results at the System-level and intervention-level mutually reinforce each other?</p> <p>17. With regards to effectiveness, what main opportunities and challenges were faced during this first phase?</p> <p>18. To what extent and how have partnerships established at the System and Intervention (global, regional and country) levels contributed to the achievement of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab’s objectives? What were facilitating factors and challenges in attracting new development partners (both in the initiative and in the Multi-Partner Fund)?</p> <p>19. Does the 8.7 Accelerator lab promote adaptability and innovation, and is it flexible enough to respond to changing contexts?</p>
<p>Intervention-levels</p>	<p>ILO cross-cutting policy issues and priorities</p> <p>20. "To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab engaged with, worked through, and empowered social partners? How were social dialogue and tripartism promoted and used to make progress towards objectives and encourage stakeholders to become agents of change? Have there been any missed opportunities?</p> <p>21. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted awareness of, and compliance with International Labour Standards (ILS), and built on ILO’s comparative advantage in normative work?</p> <p>22. To what extent and how has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab mainstreamed gender equality?</p> <p>23. To what extent and how has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted other Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, including Occupational Safety and Health?</p> <p>24. To what extent and how have fragility and crisis been integrated in the Initiative?</p> <p>25. To what extent and how has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab incorporated and encouraged disability inclusion?</p> <p>26. To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab supported greater understanding and buy-in of the fair transition to an environmentally sustainable economy, and among key partners/collaborators?</p>

Intervention-level	<p>27. To what extent is the 8.7 Accelerator Lab on track to achieve expected results (outcomes and outputs) at the intervention-level (global, regional and country)</p> <p>Which components (acceleration factors and strategic entry points) were particularly successful or unsuccessful in supporting progress?</p> <p>To what extent have the six Acceleration Factors been streamlined at all intervention-levels to accelerate progress towards the 8.7 SDG Target?</p> <p>28. To what extent has each country-level intervention contributed to the overall objectives (keeping in mind their different scopes)?</p>
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OECD/DAC Criteria	Evaluation questions
EFFICIENCY: How well are resources being used?	
The extent to which the intervention delivers, or is likely to deliver, results in an economic and timely way.	
System-level	<p>29. Has the structure of the Initiative promoted efficient use of resources within its different funding streams? How?</p> <p>30. Do the underlying funding agreements allow the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to operate in a flexible, innovative manner?</p>
System and Intervention-levels	<p>31. In general, do the results achieved justify the costs?</p> <p>32. Are management arrangements efficient at the System and implementation levels, with roles and responsibilities clearly defined and known among different actors?</p> <p>33. What should the Advisory Committee of the Accelerator Lab focus on in the future, is there a need to include more actors in the Advisory Committee?</p> <p>34. Does the Initiative receive adequate administrative, technical and political support by ILO at the System and intervention (global, regional, country) levels? How has the Initiative collaborated with other ILO technical departments (especially in addressing root causes)?</p> <p>35. To what extent have resources (financial and human) been allocated strategically to achieve expected results at the System and intervention-levels? Were they used efficiently? Was staffing adequate to implement and monitor the programme, and did programme teams have appropriate M&E, gender and disability expertise?</p> <p>36. Is the Initiative's results framework used for strategic decision-making, implementation and to support responses to contextual changes? Do these link to each other with regards to an overall results framework? Are there SMART indicators linked with outcomes, realistic performance targets, with milestones and baselines?</p> <p>37. Have monitoring and reporting frameworks been established and used to measure and report progress at the strategic/System and intervention/country levels? Have the intervention-level M&E tools (ToC, Logframe, indicators etc) been designed while considering user needs and the context and with causal logic?</p> <p>38. Is there a communication strategy in place to document and disseminate results and knowledge internally and externally? How effectively does the Initiative do this?</p> <p>39. Were synergies created with other initiatives and interventions?</p>

Intervention-level	<p>40. Which of the six acceleration factors and entry points have received more attention and why? What are challenges and bottlenecks that should be addressed to ensure the other factors and entry points are also considered?</p> <p>41. To what extent did ILO support act as a catalyst for change in project countries? To what extent did the Accelerator Lab help leverage additional resources at country/global levels?</p> <p>42. Has the distribution of resources between countries been adequate and were funds and activities delivered in a timely and cost-effective manner? Has the implementation of the sectoral approach in different countries (such as the focus on fishing) led to better efficiency in the use of financial and other resources? Did it lead to identification of additional interventions in new target countries for a Phase 2?</p> <p>43. To what extent are the interventions at global, regional and country levels learning from each other's experiences? Were synergies created across the country interventions under review, and across sectors? What is the added value of working at different implementation levels?</p>
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OECD/DAC Criteria	Evaluation questions
<p>SUSTAINABILITY & IMPACT: Will the benefits last? What difference does the Accelerator Lab make? The extent to which the net benefits of the intervention continue or are likely to continue The extent to which the intervention has generated or is expected to generate significant positive or negative, intended or unintended, higher-level effects.</p>	
System-level	<p>44. How, and to what extent is sustainability embedded into the strategy of the Accelerator Lab?</p> <p>45. How can the Initiative further contribute to improve sustainability in FUNDAMENTALS development cooperation? Are there clear signs of ownership by ILO management and staff working on either child labour or forced labour-related issues?</p> <p>46. What are the most critical factors influencing the success of sustainability strategies? Looking at the way the Initiative has been set up and is operating, what are challenges and opportunities for the next phase?</p> <p>47. Is the Accelerator Lab leading to other changes, including “scalable” or “replicable” results?</p>
Intervention-level	<p>48. How, and to what extent is sustainability embedded into the strategy of country-level interventions? What are the key factors that influence the ability of stakeholders to sustain the initial results of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab at the country level?</p> <p>49. Is there evidence of solutions being institutionalized or scaled up after being tested? Is there evidence of ownership by constituents and target stakeholders, or changes in their behaviours and practices?</p> <p>50. To what extent have country interventions been successful in reaching (benefitting) end- beneficiaries (vulnerable workers) as agents of sustainable and long-term change? Have certain groups been left out, and why?</p> <p>51. To what extent has the Accelerator Lab promoted sustainability through domestic resource mobilization? What are the barriers to this?</p>

Annex 4. Questionnaires

The below questionnaires are the generalised versions for each category of respondents as identified in section 3.2. However, based on the provided list of respondents, each respondent received a tailored questionnaire, to fit their organisation and country.

Questionnaires for FUNDAMENTALS and ILO HQ

1. Introduction		
Could you briefly introduce yourself, your organisation and how you were involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Since when were you involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?		
RELEVANCE	RESPONDENTS	
1	What do you see as the main challenges and needs of FUNDAMENTALS in relation to development cooperation for forced labour and child labour? Do you think the two-pronged approach (system and intervention-level) was most suitable to address these challenges? Considering global, regional and national work of FUNDAMENTALS?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
2	The Strategic entry points recommend projects to benefit from opportunities that may enhance the effectiveness of the project, for instance by targeting migration corridors, supply chains, and leveraging human rights in businesses and trade agreements. Do you think these strategic entry points are most relevant to support your work to tackle forced labour and child labour at HQ level? Similarly, do you consider the Acceleration Factors as useful for your work at HQ level? Especially considering migrant workers.	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
3	Did the Lab remain flexible during its implementation adjusting to changing circumstances at system-level?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
COHERENCE	RESPONDENTS	
1	Were you consulted in the design of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?	ILO HQ
2	How did the Initiative contribute to the ILO's mandates and strategies regarding forced labour and child labour? Especially in terms of its coherence with the FPRW strategy, the P&B and the IPEC+ Flagship Programme?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
3	How did the Initiative align with other ILO projects targeting forced labour and child labour at national level? Do you notice complementarity or overlaps?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
4	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab adds unique value to the ILO's work to eliminate forced labour and child labour especially at the regional and global levels? Does the Lab use ILO's comparative advantages in this regard?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
EFFECTIVENESS	RESPONDENTS	
1	Were all the system-level activities planned delivered? If not all, which weren't and what caused issues with the implementation?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
2	To what extent has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab already improved development cooperation in FUNDAMENTALS for instance through better targeted, coordinated, and evidence-based cooperation?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ

3	Have you already seen examples of development cooperation being more harmonised as a result of the Lab?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
4	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has increased the value for money of initiatives?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
5	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab 's structure supports innovation and adaptability of projects? If so, can you give examples?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
6	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted knowledge exchange and dissemination between countries, sectors, and levels? And partnerships? Can you give examples?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
7	Looking at the Intervention-Level, what are the achievements of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab at the global and regional levels especially regarding regional and global collaboration to tackle forced labour and child labour? What were the main factors which contributed to the achievements of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab so far?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
8	Have you seen examples or trends of mutual reinforcement between the system and the intervention-levels?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
9	What do you think were the main challenges that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab faced?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
10	Are you aware of the tools developed by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab (for instance: mapping of interventions regarding forced/ child labour, country intervention methodology...)? Did you use them in your work? If not, do you plan to use them?	ILO HQ
11	Do you think that the Lab has supported progress towards ILO's cross-cutting issues (social dialogue and tripartism, gender equality, rights of people with disabilities, environmental sustainability, International Labour Standards...)?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
EFFICIENCY		RESPONDENTS
1	Do you feel that the available resources (financial, human and time) were sufficient at system-level?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
2	Do you think that the distribution of resources between countries has been adequate?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
3	Do you think the funding agreements allow the Lab to operate in a flexible, innovative and efficient manner? Do you see an efficient use of different funding streams at both levels?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
4	Were any savings made based on any of the activities? Were any activities more costly than expected? Do you think the two-pronged approach allows you to be more efficient?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
5	Do you think the Lab is well-managed? Are sufficient and suitable management tools and arrangements in place?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
6	Were you already able to use the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to leverage additional resources for development cooperation under the Lab's umbrella?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
7	Does the 8.7 Accelerator Lab have one overarching results framework? And an accompanying M&E framework? How do you use it in your work, e.g. in decision-making?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
8	Were the M&E mechanisms able to sufficiently track the progress of the Initiative's implementation? Did these mechanisms allow to ensure that sufficient changes were implemented and that lessons were learned during the Initiative's implementation?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS

SUSTAINABILITY		RESPONDENTS
1	Does the 8.7 Accelerator Lab include specific strategies and approaches that ensure sustainability of system-level and intervention-level results?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS
2	Do you feel ownership of the Lab and a commitment to continue its work? Why (not)?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
3	Do you think sufficient partnerships were formed for actors to collaborate on these topics in the future?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS, ILO HQ
4	Do stakeholders demonstrate ownership of the Initiative and capacity to sustain the results?	ILO FUNDAMENTALS

Questionnaires for global stakeholders: Advisory board / donors, Alliance 8.7 partners

Introduction		
Could you briefly introduce yourself, your organisation and how you were involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Since when were you involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?		
RELEVANCE		RESPONDENTS
1	What do you think were the main gaps or challenges in FUNDAMENTALS's development cooperation and project portfolio regarding child labour and forced labour issues?	Advisory board/ donors, Alliance 8.7 partners
2	The 8.7 Accelerator Lab includes three levels (national, regional and global). At a national level, it focuses on empowering communities and strengthening the political and legal frameworks. At the regional and global levels, 8.7 Accelerator Lab focuses on fostering regional dialogue, global partnerships and knowledge sharing. Do you believe these dimensions were the most suitable to address forced/ child labour?	Advisory board/ donors, Alliance 8.7 partners
3	What were your specific needs and interests in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Would you say that Initiative activities considered your priorities?	Advisory board/ donors
4	Did the Initiative remain flexible during its implementation adjusting to changing circumstances?	Advisory board/ donors
COHERENCE		RESPONDENTS
1	How do you see the strategic entry points and acceleration factors fitting into the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and FUNDAMENTALS?	Advisory board/ donors
2	Were you consulted in the design and implementation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?	Alliance 8.7 partners
3	How does the Initiative align with other ILO projects targeting forced labour and child labour (IPEC+ Flagship Programme...)? Does it complement or overlap?	Advisory board/ donors
5	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab adds unique value among other initiatives to eliminate forced labour and child labour?	Advisory board/ donors, Alliance 8.7 partners
EFFECTIVENESS		RESPONDENTS
1	Has the 8.7 Accelerator Lab improved development cooperation in FUNDAMENTALS for instance through better targeted and evidence-based cooperation?	Advisory board/ donors
2	Do you think that the Responsive Funding and Programmatic Mechanism has improved the coordination of development cooperation?	Advisory board/ donors
3	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has increased the value for money of initiatives?	Advisory board/ donors

4	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab promoted knowledge exchange and dissemination between countries, sectors, and levels?	Advisory board/ donors, Alliance 8.7 partners
5	What are the achievements of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab to tackle forced labour and child labour? What were the main factors which contributed to the achievements of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab so far?	Advisory board/ donors
6	What do you think were the main challenges that the Initiative faced?	Advisory board/ donors
7	Were you aware of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? If yes, what are the main achievements and challenges of the Initiative for you?	Alliance 8.7 partners

EFFICIENCY	RESPONDENTS
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1	Do you feel like that the use of available resources (financial, human and time) was well managed? Could anything have been improved?	Advisory board/ donors
2	Do you think that the distribution of resources between countries has been adequate?	Advisory board/ donors
3	Do you think the funding agreements allow the Lab to operate in a flexible, innovative and efficient manner?	Advisory board/ donors
4	Do you think that funds and activities were delivered in a cost-effective manner?	Advisory board/ donors
5	Were the M&E mechanisms able to sufficiently track the progress of the Initiative's implementation? Did these mechanisms allow to ensure that sufficient changes were implemented and that lessons were learned during the Initiative's implementation?	Advisory board/ donors

Sustainability	RESPONDENTS
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1	Does the 8.7 Accelerator Lab include specific strategies and approaches that ensure sustainability of system-level and intervention-level results?	Advisory board/ donors
2	Do you think sufficient partnerships were formed for actors to collaborate on these topics in the future?	Advisory board/ donors
3	Do stakeholders demonstrate ownership of the Initiative and capacity to sustain the results?	Advisory board/ donors

Questionnaires for Regional organisations

Introduction
Could you briefly introduce yourself, your organisation and how you were involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Since when were you involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?

RELEVANCE	RESPONDENTS
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1	What do you see as the main challenges to address forced / child labour in the region?	Regional organisations
2	Do you think there is a need to improve regional cooperation in order to tackle forced/ child labour ?	Regional organisations
3	What were your specific needs and interests in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Would you say that Initiative activities considered your priorities?	Regional organisations

COHERENCE	RESPONDENTS
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1	Have you been involved in any other projects or initiatives targeting child labour or forced labour? If yes, did you notice any overlaps between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and the other Initiative , or did the initiatives complement each other?	Regional organisations
2	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has unique added value in helping to eliminate forced labour or child labour in the regional context, compared to other initiatives?	Regional organisations
3	Were you consulted in the design and implementation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?	Regional organisations
4	How did the Initiative align with regional strategies and priorities regarding forced labour or child labour?	Regional organisations

EFFECTIVENESS	RESPONDENTS
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1	Do you think that regional commitment to the fight against forced labour and child labour has increased? If yes, in which ways?	Regional organisations
2	Have you identified opportunities for regional action in order to tackle child labour and forced labour ? If yes, could you give some examples?	Regional organisations
3	Do you think that regional institutions have been strengthened to address forced labour and child labour?	Regional organisations
4	Have you seen an exchange of knowledge on child/forced labour issues between your organisation's member countries?	Regional organisations
5	According to you, what were the main factors which contributed to these achievements regarding regional cooperation?	Regional organisations
6	What do you think were the main challenges that the Initiative faced regarding regional cooperation?	Regional organisations

EFFICIENCY	RESPONDENTS
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1	Do you think the Initiative was managed effectively? Did you have sufficient communication with ILO, and did you receive sufficient information?	Regional organisations
2	Are you aware of other actions and interventions led by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in other regions? Did you share experiences and lessons learned from these interventions regarding for instance effective approaches or good practices to tackle forced/ child labour?	Regional organisations

Sustainability	RESPONDENTS
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1	To what extent do you think your organisation can continue working towards the eradication of forced/ child labour in the region? Do you think you have sufficient capacity and resources to do so?	Regional organisations
2	What do you see as the main challenges that may hinder the Initiative from having long-term impact?	Regional organisations
3	Are there any factors that you think will help you, but also all other stakeholders from sustaining the results of 8.7 Accelerator Lab after the Initiative closure? Are there any factors that could prevent you or other stakeholders from sustaining the results?	Regional organisations

Questionnaires for ILO country offices and tripartite partners (Ministry, Employers, Trade Union).

2. Introduction
Could you briefly introduce yourself, your organisation and how you were involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Since when were you involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?

RELEVANCE		RESPONDENTS
1	What do you see as the main challenges to address forced / child labour in the mining/ fishing sector in your country?	All
2	At the national level, 8.7 Accelerator Lab focuses on empowering communities and social partners as well as improving legal and policy frameworks. Do you think these dimensions were the most suitable to address forced labour or child labour in your country?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
3	The Strategic Entry Points of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab are elements that are considered most useful to enhance and leverage the results of interventions. They focus on, for instance: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> d) Opportunities to address or prevent all forms of forced labour e) Countries and migration corridors where the ILO can build on current efforts f) opportunities for scaling up sector-based interventions for a national- and/or area based approach g) initiatives to establish and support human rights due diligence for businesses h) Countries and sectors with opportunities for leveraging trade agreements Do you think any of these strategic entry points were used to tackle forced labour or child labour in your country?	ILO country offices
4	Did your needs, or the country context, change during the Initiative implementation, and did the Initiative activities change accordingly?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
COHERENCE		RESPONDENTS
1	Have you been involved in any other projects or initiatives targeting child labour or forced labour in your country? If yes, did you notice any overlaps between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and the other Initiative , or did the initiatives complement each other?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
2	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has unique added value in helping to eliminate forced labour or child labour in your country, compared to other initiatives?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
3	Were you consulted in the design and implementation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
4	How did the Initiative align with national strategies and priorities regarding forced labour or child labour in your country?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
EFFECTIVENESS		RESPONDENTS
1	Do you think that workers and communities in the fishing/ mining sector in your country have increased their capabilities to tackle forced / child labour issues?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
2	Do you think that your organisation has increased its capabilities to tackle forced labour or child labour issues?	Tripartite partners
3	Have you seen any changes in the legal and political framework concerning forced/ child labour in your country? If yes, what changes have you seen?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
4	Have you noticed any new or improved mechanisms to identify, and address forced and child labour? What is your experience with these mechanisms so far?	Tripartite partners
5	Other expected results of the Initiative included Intervention Plans developed by social partners, workers, and employers, and relevant CSOs, Action Road Maps for the decrease of forced and child labour, expanded access to workers' organisations, and increased engagement of the private sector in policy dialogue. Have you benefited from, or taken part in any of these activities? How did these results affect your work?	Tripartite partners

6	Are you aware of the acceleration factors designed by the Acceleration lab (fostering political commitment, addressing root causes, focusing on vulnerable population, exchanging knowledge, supporting sustainable financing, leveraging innovation) ? Did any of these factors contribute to these achievements? Were any of them more important than others?	ILO country offices
7	Are you aware of some of the tools developed by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab (for instance : mapping of interventions regarding forced/ child labour, country intervention methodology...) ? Did you use them in your work?	ILO country offices
8	The Initiative also aimed to create and strengthen partnerships. Have you noticed an increase in your organisation's collaboration with other actors in the fight against forced labour/child labour? If so, how does this increased collaboration help you?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
9	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab works in an innovative and adaptable way? Do you think this has contributed to its achievements and, if so, can you give examples of successful innovations?	ILO country offices
10	What do you think were the main challenges that the Initiative faced?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
11	Do you think that the Initiative has supported progress towards ILO's cross-cutting issues (social dialogue and tripartism, gender equality, rights of people with disabilities, environmental sustainability, International Labour Standards...)?	ILO country offices
EFFICIENCY		RESPONDENTS
1	How do you see the management of the Initiative by ILO? Do you think the Initiative was managed effectively? Did you have sufficient communication with ILO, and did you receive sufficient information?	Tripartite partners
2	Did you have sufficient communication with the Initiative team at ILO HQ, and did you receive sufficient information and guidance from them?	ILO country offices
3	Do you think the budget and the staff were sufficient to achieve the Initiative 's objectives in your country?	ILO country offices
4	Were any savings made based on any of the activities? Were any activities more costly than expected?	ILO country offices
5	Did the Initiative experience any delays in your country? If yes, what were the causes of the delays?	ILO country offices
6	Are you aware of other actions and interventions led by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in other countries or regions? Did you share experiences and lessons learned from these interventions regarding for instance effective approaches or good practices to tackle forced/ child labour?	ILO country offices
7	Have you used monitoring and reporting tools to measure the advancement of the Initiative in your country? If yes, how was it used to adjust the activities, objectives, directions in response to contextual changes?	ILO country offices
Sustainability		RESPONDENTS
1	Does the 8.7 Accelerator Lab includes specific strategies and approaches that ensure sustainability of the Initiative in your country?	ILO country offices
2	To what extent do you think your organisation can continue working towards the eradication of forced/ child labour in your community? Do you think you have sufficient capacity and resources to do so?	Tripartite partners
3	What do you see as the main challenges that may hinder the Initiative from having long-term impact?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners

4	Are there any factors that you think will help you, but also all other stakeholders from sustaining the results of 8.7 Accelerator Lab after the Initiative closure?	ILO country offices, Tripartite partners
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Questionnaires for community-based organisations and NGOs working directly with beneficiaries

Introduction

Could you briefly introduce yourself, your organisation and how you were involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Since when were you involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?

RELEVANCE		RESPONDENTS
1	What do you see as the main challenges to address forced / child labour in the mining/ fishing sector in your country?	All
2	The 8.7 Accelerator Lab focuses on empowering communities and social partners as well as improving legal and policy frameworks. Do you think these dimensions were the most suitable to address forced labour or child labour in your country?	All
3	What were your specific needs and interests in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Did the Initiative activities consider your priorities?	All
4	Did your needs change during the Initiative implementation, and did the Initiative activities adjust accordingly?	All

COHERENCE		RESPONDENTS
1	Have you been involved in any other projects or initiatives targeting child labour or forced labour in your country? If yes, did you notice any overlaps between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and the other initiatives, or did the initiatives complement each other?	All
2	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has unique added value in helping to eliminate forced labour or child labour in your country, compared to other initiatives?	All
3	Were you consulted in the design and implementation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?	All

EFFECTIVENESS		RESPONDENTS
1	Do you think that communities in the fishing/ mining sector in your country have increased their capabilities to tackle forced / child labour issues?	All
3	Do you think that your organisation has increased its capabilities to tackle forced labour or child labour issues?	All
3	Have you seen any changes in the legal and political framework concerning forced/ child labour in your country? If yes, what changes have you seen? Have these changes already affected worker communities, and your organisation?	All
4	According to you, what were the main factors which contributed to these achievements?	All
5	The Initiative also aimed to create and strengthen partnerships. Have you noticed an increase in your organisation's collaboration with other actors in the fight against forced labour/child labour? If so, how does this increased collaboration help you?	All

Sustainability		RESPONDENTS
1	To what extent do you think your organisation can continue working towards the eradication of forced/ child labour in your community? Do you think you have sufficient capacity and resources to do so?	All
2	What do you see as the main challenges that may hinder the Initiative from having long-term impact?	All

3	Are there any factors that you think will help you, but also all other stakeholders from sustaining the results of 8.7 Accelerator Lab after the Initiative closure?	All
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Employer Labs and other employer groups (non-tripartite)

Introduction		
Could you briefly introduce yourself, your organisation and how you were involved in the 8.7 Accelerator La? Since when were you involved in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?		

RELEVANCE		RESPONDENTS
1	What do you see as the main challenges to address forced / child labour in the mining/ fishing sector in your country?	All
2	The 8.7 Accelerator Lab focuses on empowering communities and social partners as well as improving legal and policy frameworks. Do you think these dimensions were the most suitable to address forced labour or child labour in your country?	All
3	What were your specific needs and interests in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab? Did the Initiative activities consider your priorities?	All
4	Did your needs change during the Initiative implementation, and did the Initiative activities adjust accordingly?	All

COHERENCE		RESPONDENTS
1	Have you been involved in any other projects or initiatives targeting child labour or forced labour in your country? If yes, did you notice any overlaps between the 8.7 Accelerator Lab and the other initiatives, or did the initiatives complement each other?	All
2	Do you think that the 8.7 Accelerator Lab has unique added value in helping to eliminate forced labour or child labour in your country, compared to other initiatives?	All
3	Were you consulted in the design and implementation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab?	All

EFFECTIVENESS		RESPONDENTS
1	Have you noticed any new or improved mechanisms to identify, and address forced and child labour? What is your experience with these mechanisms so far?	All
2	Do you think that your organisation has increased its awareness and capabilities to tackle forced labour or child labour issues? For example through fair recruitment processes?	All
3	Have you seen any changes in the legal and political framework concerning forced/ child labour in your country? If yes, what changes have you seen? Have these changes already affected your organisation?	All
4	According to you, what were the main factors which contributed to these achievements?	All
5	The Initiative also aimed to create and strengthen partnerships. Have you noticed an increase in your organisation's collaboration with other actors in the fight against forced labour/child labour? If so, how does this increased collaboration help you?	All

Sustainability		RESPONDENTS
1	To what extent do you think your organisation can continue working towards the eradication of forced/ child labour in your community? Do you think you have sufficient capacity and resources to do so?	All
2	What do you see as the main challenges that may hinder the Initiative from having long-term impact?	All
3	Are there any factors that you think will help you, but also all other stakeholders from sustaining the results of 8.7 Accelerator Lab after the Initiative closure?	All

Annex 5. Case study questionnaires

The following materials were used by the evaluation team for the field missions to Ghana and Indonesia.

Questions for employers

These employers should be ground-level, i.e. not the employer CEO, but rather the manager who interacts with workers on a daily basis and who is influenced by new laws, mechanisms, etc.

- i) Are you aware of the Accelerator Initiative that was implemented in your country? Did you participate in any of its activities, or do you know what the Initiative has done with regards to forced labour and child labour?
- j) Do you think forced and child labour are a problem in your country and in your community? What do you think are the causes of this issue?
- k) Before the Initiative started, do you think you had sufficient knowledge about this topic and about the causes of forced and child labour?
- l) Has the Initiative helped you to increase your knowledge and awareness? How? *If capacity trainings:* Did you find the trainings useful and related to your needs?
- m) How have you used your new knowledge and capacity so far at work? What results did you see?
- n) Do you feel more confident and capable of recognising cases of forced or child labour? And do you know what to do in such cases?
- o) Are you collaborating with other captains or managers in this regard? Can you tell me more about that?
- p) Have you noticed any changes for the country overall? For example, are there any new laws on child and forced labour that you are aware of? How are they affecting your work?
- q) The Initiative also aimed to support workers unions and the knowledge of workers regarding their rights. Have you noticed any changes in the behaviour of your employees? Do you see benefits of their unionisation?
- r) Do you think that, in the longer term, forced and child labour may be eradicated in your country? What do you see as the main barriers to achieving these results?
- s) Is there anything, from your view as employer, that the Initiative could have done better?

Questions for workers

We would like to conduct FGDs with workers (in Indonesia, these should also include migrant workers) to understand how the Initiative activities are affecting their day-to-day lives and job experience.

- Are you aware of the Accelerator Initiative that was implemented in your country? Did you participate in any of its activities, or do you know what the Initiative has done with regards to forced labour and child labour?

- Do you think forced and child labour are a problem in your country and in your community? What do you think are the causes of this issue?
- Before the Initiative started, do you think you had sufficient knowledge about this topic and about the causes of forced and child labour?
- Before the Initiative started, were you aware of your rights as an employee? Do you think you were able, at that time, to defend your rights and the rights of other workers?
- *In Indonesia:* Have you visited the Migrant Resource Centre? What kind of support did you receive? How did this support help you?
- How has the Accelerator Initiative and its activities changed your experience at work? Can you describe which activities helped you the most?
 - o In terms of knowing your rights as an employee
 - o In terms of collaborating with other employees, e.g. in an organisation
 - o In terms of identifying cases of forced and child labour
 - o In terms of finding solutions to prevent and address forced and child labour
- Have you noticed a change in behaviour of your employer? Is your employer more respectful of your rights since the Initiative started?
- Has the Initiative also affected your life more broadly, in terms of your overall health, well-being and financial stability? Can you tell me about that?
- Do you think that, in the longer term, forced and child labour may be eradicated in your country? What do you see as the main barriers to achieving these results?
- Is there anything, from your view as employer, that the Initiative could have done better?

Annex 6. List of persons and organisations interviewed

Inception interviews

Jodelen Mitra, Alison Potter, Alix Nasri	ILO 8.7 Accelerator Lab Project team
Nour Muhamad	ILO Indonesia
Kwame Mensah	ILO Ghana
Sophie de Coninck	ILO Head of operations in FUNDAMENTALS
Resh Mehta	ILO South Africa
Armel Nganzi	ILO DRC

National level data collection interviews

Ghana

Ghana Tuna Association
Ghana Maritime Authority
Ghana National Canoe Fishermen Council (GNCF)
Maritime and Dockworkers' Union (MDU)
Ministry of Employment
National Union of Seamen, Ports and Allied Workers (NUSPAW)
Trade Union Congress Ghana
Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC)
Focus group discussion with artisanal fishers
Focus group discussion with industrial fishers

Indonesia

Indonesian Employers Association (APINDO)
Indonesian Migrant Workers Union (SBMI)
Ministry of Manpower
Ministry of Marine affairs
Trade Union Network
Migrant Resource Center
University of Diponegro
Focus group discussion with former fishers and village chief
Focus group discussion with former fishers, a wife and village chief
Focus group discussion with former fishers and wives
Focus group discussion with former fishers and female land-based workers

South Africa

Business Unity South Africa (BUSA)
South African Maritime Safety Authority (SAMSA)
Statutory Council & Compass Fishing (Employer)
Congress of South African Trade Unions
Department of Home affairs

Stella Maris

Department of Forestries Fisheries and Environment (DFFE)

DRC

Provincial Labor and Social Security Commission

Head of office at the Social Affairs Division

President of the Lulumbashi private sector working group

Former President of the Likasi private sector working group

Chair of the Kolwezi Private Sector Working Group

Chairman of the Chamber of Mines

Head of Division in charge of women and children at SAEMAPE HK

Haut-Katanga Social Welfare Division

Regional level data collection interviews

Jodelen Mitra	Multi Partner Fund coordinator
Alix Nisra	Accelerator Lab strategic coordination / Forced labour Specialist
Lucia di Rosa	Monitoring and evaluation Officer Multi Partner Fund
Alison Potter	Junior technical officer
Torstein Taksdal Skjeseth	Norwegian Agency for Development Cooperation (NORAD)
Liliana Roswells	Technical Officer
Laurence Dubois	GALAB project manager
Uwe Wolff	German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
Maria Gallotti	MIGRANT branch
Ben Smith	Child labour specialist FUNDAMENTALS
Henrik Moller	Bureau for Employers' Activities (ACT/EMP)
Sarah Sunderlin and Tina Faulkner	United States Department of Labor (USDOL)

Annex 7. List of documents/ publications reviewed and cited

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Annex 8. Lessons Learned

First Independent Evaluation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab – 2021 - 2023

Project DC/SYMBOL: GLO/20/41/MUL

Name of Evaluator: PPMI Group

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

The following lesson learned has been identified during the course of the evaluation. Further text explaining the lesson may be included in the full evaluation report.

LESSON LEARNED ELEMENT	A dedicated Theory of Change (ToC) for the 8.7 Accelerator Lab's system-level is necessary to properly monitor and evaluate activities that enhance the functioning of FUNDAMENTALS.
Brief description of lessons learned (link to specific action or task)	Assessing or tracking system-level achievements is challenging without a more detailed understanding of the chronology of activities, outputs, outcomes, and impact. Although the activities at this level address specific difficulties, they do not adequately demonstrate how they are linked with the pillars of targeting, exchanging, and accelerating. Specifically, there are no outcomes grouping the activities and describing what the system-level aims to achieve.
Context and any related preconditions	The system-level was introduced in the 8.7 Accelerator Lab in 2022. The introduction added a dimension of improving the internal functioning of the FUNDAMENTALS branch concerning child and forced labour.
Targeted users / Beneficiaries	ILO Fundamentals staff
Challenges /negative lessons - Causal factors	The evaluation could not identify causal links between activities and expected outcomes because the system-level does not comprise a Theory of Change linking activities to outputs and expected outcomes (and interactions between outcomes).
Success / Positive Issues - Causal factors	
ILO Administrative Issues (staff, resources, design, implementation)	Staff resources to further develop the system-level approach by elaborating its ToC.

First Independent Evaluation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab – 2021 - 2023

Project DC/SYMBOL: GLO/20/41/MUL

Name of Evaluator: PPMI Group

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

The following lesson learned has been identified during the course of the evaluation. Further text explaining the lesson may be included in the full evaluation report.

LESSON LEARNED ELEMENT	In some countries, improvements in employment law achieved by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab do not benefit workers on service contracts. Therefore, the scope of protection under employment law would need to be expanded as well.
Brief description of lessons learned (link to specific action or task)	Improvements in employment benefits and social security provisions often exclude workers who do not engage in formal employment contracts, highlighting a disparity in the accessibility of such improvements based on contract types. Improvements in working conditions introduced by the 8.7 Accelerator Lab, such as maternity and paternity leave for fishers in South Africa, did not directly benefit individuals working on a commission or under service contracts.
Context and any related preconditions	Employment benefits and social security functions are often limited to persons working on an employment contract. Persons working on civil contracts (e.g. commission and service contracts) do not benefit from provisions under employment law.
Targeted users / Beneficiaries	Workers in the fishing sector
Challenges /negative lessons - Causal factors	While the 8.7 Accelerator Lab made important progress in improving employment benefits, not all targeted workers benefited.
Success / Positive Issues - Causal factors	Greater awareness and demand among stakeholders to cover all the workers, including those under a service contract.
ILO Administrative Issues (staff, resources, design, implementation)	To be considered in the design of new projects/activities.

First Independent Evaluation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab – 2021 - 2023

Project DC/SYMBOL: GLO/20/41/MUL

Name of Evaluator: PPMI Group

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

The following lesson learned has been identified during the course of the evaluation. Further text explaining the lesson may be included in the full evaluation report.

LESSON LEARNED ELEMENT	Specific challenges faced by migrant workers cannot be addressed at the national level alone but require the involvement of stakeholders from countries of origin, transit, and destination
Brief description of lessons learned (link to specific action or task)	The evaluation found that working at the national level with national stakeholders could not provide a full solution to the challenges faced by migrant workers, which affected the effectiveness of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. Stakeholders noted the importance of collaboration with stakeholders in countries of origin, transit, and destination, as well as the involvement of the Ministries of Foreign Affairs.
Context and any related preconditions	Stakeholders and beneficiaries indicated that issues of forced labour in the fishing sector often have a migration dimension: going abroad to work, getting hired by a foreign manning agency, working on foreign flagged vessels etc. Therefore, the wellbeing of migrant workers depends on the actions of stakeholders in the country of origin, transit, and destination. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab focused on the wellbeing of migrant workers in the countries involved in the Initiative through strengthened policy and legislative framework and enforcement mechanisms to demonstrate political commitment. These measures did not involve stakeholders from the countries part of migration corridors but not part of the Initiative.
Targeted users / Beneficiaries	Migrant workers
Challenges /negative lessons - Causal factors	While the needs of migrant workers in terms of their connection to Indonesia, South Africa, and Ghana were addressed, and important steps were taken at the regional level to enhance decent work region-wide, the lack of involvement of stakeholders beyond the project countries led to a less effective approach to the rights of migrant workers.
Success / Positive Issues - Causal factors	The involvement and strengthening of regional organisations have proven to be of great importance, particularly in addressing the needs of migrant workers by facilitating equal rights for all workers.
ILO Administrative Issues (staff, resources, design, implementation)	To be considered in the design of new projects/activities.

Annex 9. Emerging Good Practices

First Independent Evaluation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab – 2021 - 2023

Project DC/SYMBOL: GLO/20/41/MUL

Name of Evaluator: PPMI Group

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

The following emerging good practice has been identified during the course of the evaluation. Further text can be found in the full evaluation report.

GOOD PRACTICE ELEMENT	A Harmonised ToC for a specific thematic area (e.g. forced and child labour) provides opportunities for assessing progress created by multiple projects using the same ToC
Brief summary of the good practice (link to project goal or specific deliverable, background, purpose, etc.)	Introducing a Harmonised Theory of Change and logframe allowed the comparison and exchange of practices between countries under the multi-partner fund and facilitated interaction between the multi-partner fund countries and the affiliated projects (GALAB, EU Coffee, ACCEL II). It demonstrates how multiple countries fare together against the overall objectives of FUNDAMENTALS regarding forced and child labour, even if they do not fall under the same project.
Relevant conditions and Context: limitations or advice in terms of applicability and replicability	The traditional implementation of separate projects, funded by separate donors, led each project to have different ToCs and M&E frameworks. As a result, conclusions on the portfolio of FUNDAMENTALS, or comparisons between countries and projects, in the field of forced and child labour could not be made. A Harmonised ToC for a specific thematic area would instead be a step to ensure comparability between countries or interventions under an overarching framework.
Establish a clear cause-effect relationship	The introduction of a harmonised ToC and M&E framework that applies to a wider range of projects allows FUNDAMENTALS to see how different countries and projects fare against the overarching framework of FUNDAMENTALS.
Indicate measurable impact and targeted beneficiaries	FUNDAMENTALS staff
Potential for replication and by whom	Some respondents perceive that the ToC and M&E framework should encompass all of FUNDAMENTALS. In any case, the use of harmonised approaches to a certain priority of ILO can be beneficial in other branches as well.

Upward links to higher ILO Goals (DWCPs, Country Programme Outcomes or ILO’s Strategic Programme Framework)	
Other documents or relevant comments	

First Independent Evaluation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab – 2021 - 2023

Project DC/SYMBOL: GLO/20/41/MUL

Name of Evaluator: PPMI Group

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

The following emerging good practice has been identified during the course of the evaluation. Further text can be found in the full evaluation report.

GOOD PRACTICE ELEMENT	The provision of training on workers’ rights linked with the strengthening of trade union capacity, enhanced the image of collective bargaining for workers and tripartite partners
Brief summary of the good practice (link to project goal or specific deliverable, background, purpose, etc.)	<p>Training fishers on their rights and introducing them to trade unions as the existing “protection mechanisms” proved to be effective in Ghana. Collective bargaining became a tolerated practice, and fishers reported feeling more secure and protected because they felt they had an organisation that would stand for them.</p> <p>This practice also works as empowerment for the trade union itself, which is another achievement of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab. The tripartite committees that are established in Ghana and South Africa show great independence. They act not only as partner in political dialogue and decision-making, but also as policy executive bodies that support and participate in monitoring policy implementation and reporting on violations or gaps in the implementation of new laws and policies.</p>
Relevant conditions and Context: limitations or advice in terms of applicability and replicability	<p>Before these trainings, many fishers expressed that they were afraid to complain or were unaware of their rights. As the capacities of trade unions strengthened, this fear was further addressed as fishers saw there was an organisation that could stand up for them and their rights. Awareness raising is therefore needed both among trade unions and workers or beneficiaries.</p>
Establish a clear cause-effect relationship	<p>The evaluation found that the provision of workers’ rights training linked with the strengthening of trade union capacity enhanced the image of collective bargaining in the eyes of the workers and the tripartite partners.</p>

Indicate measurable impact and targeted beneficiaries	Workers improved their knowledge about their rights and where to go in case of violations.
Potential for replication and by whom	In all work of ILO, social dialogue and promotion of normative work/international labour standards are key crosscutting concerns to be addressed. Therefore, in most projects, the combination of training for workers, training for trade unions, and facilitation of social dialogue can be replicated, combined with creating the normative environment for strong trade union engagement and legal protection for workers through the ILS.
Upward links to higher ILO Goals (DWCPs, Country Programme Outcomes or ILO's Strategic Programme Framework)	Contribute to promoting social dialogue and ILS as a crosscutting priority for the ILO.
Other documents or relevant comments	

First Independent Evaluation of the 8.7 Accelerator Lab – 2021 - 2023

Project DC/SYMBOL: GLO/20/41/MUL

Name of Evaluator: PPMI Group

Date: [Click here to enter a date.](#)

The following emerging good practice has been identified during the course of the evaluation. Further text can be found in the full evaluation report.

GOOD PRACTICE ELEMENT	Regional activities can address migration corridors and enhance decent work across the region as a whole
Brief summary of the good practice (link to project goal or specific deliverable, background, purpose, etc.)	<p>Including a Regional Path Change provides opportunities to address the needs of migrant workers. The 8.7 Accelerator Lab's ToC envisages that the regional path change will allow national stakeholders to share lessons learned, create partnerships, develop systems and frameworks, and identify solutions to forced and child labour.</p> <p>The goal of the Path Change was to have tripartite constituents work in a regional area where the fight against child labour and forced labour is a priority, and learnings can occur among countries in the region. For example, in West Africa, the Memorandum of Understanding between the ILO and Fisheries Committee for the West Central Gulf of Guinea (FCWC) was signed to integrate decent work into fishing policies across the region, which means that all countries in the region would adhere to the same standards, both for national and for migrant workers.</p>

Relevant conditions and Context: limitations or advice in terms of applicability and replicability	The evaluation found a few barriers to effectiveness due to the lack of involvement of stakeholders from countries of origin or destination, which limited the holistic approach to migrant workers' well-being. To achieve applicability, ensuring a representation of stakeholders from countries of origin and destination should be a priority.
Establish a clear cause-effect relationship	At the same time, regional organisations' engagement can enhance the presence of bilateral or multilateral agreements on labour migration, facilitate dialogue with social partners, and set standards for decent work and equal rights across the region.
Indicate measurable impact and targeted beneficiaries	There is a great potential that, through the adoption of regional solutions to combat forced and child labour, migrant workers will receive equal (or at least better) treatment and respect for their rights.
Potential for replication and by whom	ILO already works effectively at a regional level in the field of labour migration, for example, in the IGAD region and SADC. The experiences and achievements with sector-level regional dialogue can be shared within existing regional organisations and dialogues.
Upward links to higher ILO Goals (DWCPs, Country Programme Outcomes or ILO's Strategic Programme Framework)	
Other documents or relevant comments	