



Evaluation Summary



International
Labour
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Project of support for the preparatory phase of the Uganda national action plan for the elimination of child labour - Final evaluation

Quick Facts

Countries:	<i>Uganda</i>
Final Evaluation:	<i>11/2012</i>
Evaluation Mode:	<i>Independent</i>
Administrative Office:	<i>ILO/IPEC</i>
Technical Office:	<i>ILO/IPEC</i>
Evaluation Manager:	<i>ILO/IPEC-DED</i>
Evaluation Consultant(s):	<i>Joy Stephens and Grace William Maiso</i>
Project Code:	<i>UGA/08/50/USA</i>
Donor(s) & Budget:	<i>USDOL (US\$ 4,791,000)</i>
Keywords:	<i>Child Labour</i>

Background & Context

Summary of the project purpose, logic and structure

The Support of the National Action Plan (SNAP) for the Preparatory Phase of the Uganda NAP for the Elimination of Child Labour (ECL) is funded by the United States Department of Labour, and implemented by ILO/IPEC through a range of partners, both governmental and non-governmental. Its Immediate Objectives (IO) are:

- Social and economic policies and legal/regulatory frameworks to combat the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) will be reinforced;

- People and institutions at all levels will be supported to mobilize against child labour (CL) through heightened awareness and increased knowledge;
- A multi-disciplinary and integrated area-based approach (IABA) model of intervention laying the foundation for Child Labour-Free Zones (CLFZ) will be created and available for replication.

Its pivotal methodological approach was to integrate a wide variety of intervention components at national and local levels into a single cohesive model – the IABA. At central level the main focus was to support the formulation and adoption of the NAP while at district level the IABA model was piloted in three districts: Mbale, Rakai, and Wakiso.

This has been a standard evaluation of the project outputs and activities against the stated objectives in accordance with ILO standard practices and criteria. Field visits were made to the partners and beneficiary communities in the three districts during September–October 2012, culminating in a series of stakeholder evaluation workshops, including one for children.

Purpose, scope and clients of the evaluation

The purpose of the final evaluation as stated in the Terms of Reference is to:

- Determine if the project has achieved its stated objectives, and how or why it has/has not;
- Identify all relevant unintended changes at outcome and impact levels;

- Determine the implementation effectiveness and efficiency of the project;
- Establish the relevance of the project implementation strategy and outcomes and the level of sustainability attained;
- Provide recommendations regarding relevant stakeholders, building on the achievements of the project;
- Identify lessons learned and potential good practices and models of intervention that should be pursued for scaling up and replicability, valid for Uganda, the Africa region and beyond;
- Assess and identify lessons from the cross-cutting strategy of involvement of children in design, implementation and evaluation of project interventions.

Methodology of evaluation

The evaluation used qualitative methods for the most part. These included:

- Document review;
- Interviews with all key stakeholders, partners, and beneficiaries, including children;
- Focus group discussions with key groups and beneficiaries;
- Transection walks and observations in communities and work sites such as quarries, markets, alcohol-brewing workshops, coffee-processing plants, cultivation areas;
- Validation of preliminary findings and additional data through evaluation workshops (one each in Mbale and Rakai District, one national level, and one children's national workshop);
- A rapid appraisal of awareness levels in selected locations in Rakai and Mbale districts.

Main Findings & Conclusions

This has been an extremely worthwhile project, despite a few shortcomings. Many extremely useful lessons have been learned and good practices developed which are ready for replication. SNAP has shown what can be achieved when all the players act

together in a collaborative and coordinated manner. Broadly speaking, SNAP has met all three of its IOs:

It has reinforced the policy and legal frameworks to combat WFCL. The foundation work has been done: NAP is in place and key legislation and this provides a sustainable backbone for future action. The challenge ahead is to see this framework rolled out in every district, and CL mainstreamed into the plans of all the relevant government actors and partners.

It has heightened awareness and knowledge of the ways to combat CL at all levels. Awareness raising and sensitization has been a strong component of SNAP, and they have indeed reached all levels of society from parliamentarians to orphaned children. The tools which they have used have proved very effective towards the second half of the objective which is 'supported to mobilize against child labour'. One important lesson learned by the project is that awareness-raising interventions must be integrated into an overall plan and partners must be ready to immediately harness the awareness raised into mobilization to take action.

The IABA has proved to be a good model, laying the foundation for CL-free zones. The IABA has proved the value of a concentrated integrated approach. However, it could benefit from refinement if it is to be a model for replication throughout the country as the objective states. The three factors which stand out most clearly are the CL awareness and monitoring achievements by the various volunteer groups such as the Community Child Labour Committees (CCLC), the success of the school-based activities, and the resounding success of the Village Savings and Loans Association (VSLA) to impact on a number of causal factors of CL. The interventions at community level have contributed to increasing school enrolment, attendance and retention. Through fostering a savings culture they have helped to improve incomes and capital and reduced vulnerability to stress periods. In some communities which have traditionally seen CL as 'normal' awareness and mobilization has reached a level where one can say these communities are virtually CLFZs.

The qualifier to this success is the scale – and whether it will prove to be sustainable. The geographical coverage has been small – portions of three districts. Nevertheless, SNAP has provided a vital testing ground and demonstrated that concentration and integration is the key. The positive effects noted above should be sustainable – either through the intrinsic nature of the interventions

i.e. awareness/knowledge does not usually disappear, or through the combined interactions set up by the IABA approach.

Recommendations

Main recommendations and follow up

The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD)/Child Labour Unit/Orphans and other Vulnerable Children (CLU/OVC):

1. Ensure that NAP is rolled out; develop an implementation plan; mobilize resources within, and lobby the Ministry of Finance (MoF) and donor community; intensify efforts to bring other ministries/departments on board.
2. Deploy more District Labour Officers (DLO) or build capacity of Community District Officers (CDO) to fill this role; develop routine training programme/curriculum with CL module; replicate G.P. of Ordinances. Use Mbale District as a model.
3. Task one officer in CLU to work further on CLMS in consultation with DLOs in three districts.
4. Mobilize/sensitize other relevant government stakeholders to ensure replication of the essential elements of the IABA model.
5. With the Ministry of Education (MoE), address the education/skills needs of post-primary children.
6. Insert CL into adult literacy programmes/curricula and expand their reach.
7. Continue to support national awareness campaigns and the World Day Against Child Labour (WDACL).

The Ministry of Education and Sports (MoES):

8. Continue mainstreaming of NAP; expand school feeding, child-friendly schools, and Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts and the Media (SCREAM) coverage; end the practice of corporal punishment; improve access to secondary education; develop a component in the schools curricula to address CL issues.

9. Develop a mentorship programme between schools to support the above.

10. Ensure that children's participation remains in the forefront of NAP.

The Ministry of Local Government (MoLG):

11. Ensure Child Ordinances used to reinforce monitoring and other efforts; support sub-county by-laws; step up the joint monitoring teamwork; increase CL budget line to facilitate greater monitoring.

12. Facilitate the linkage between key districts to address migration and trafficking of CL.

13. Use Mbale District as a model and facilitate learning visits.

Social partners:

14. Address low wages/bargaining power in the informal sector; build workers' associations capacity to eliminate CL in their sector and locality.

15. Develop a programme/plan and mobilize individual employers or corporate sponsors in a given locality to support a range of interventions, such as sponsorship for secondary education or vocational training (including apprenticeships) of individuals withdrawn or children at risk, support for school feeding schemes for OVCs.

NGO sector:

16. Expand VSLA coverage. Ensure all vocational training (VT) beneficiaries, and families of children at risk have access to a VSLA; engage in joint advocacy on CL issues in operating areas.

All stakeholders:

17. Engage in greater advocacy to support NAP. Cultivate 'champions' among politicians.
18. Support public awareness-raising campaigns and media coverage.
19. Nurture corporate social responsibility to eliminate CL.
20. Groups to target in future advocacy: parliamentarians and politicians at all levels; faith leaders, employers, informal workers' associations.

ILO/IPEC:

21. Provide support towards WDACL and awareness-raising campaigns for districts serious about addressing CL.

22. Provide further support to developing and piloting functional CLMS relevant to the needs of key partners.

23. Support the development of a CL module and routine training programme for joint team inspections at district level.

24. Assist the government to develop further the IABA as a model for replication, which does not depend upon external funds.

General:

25. Share the lessons learned and good practices of SNAP to other countries and projects.