

2022 EMBRACING CHANGE AND TRANSFORMING LIVES



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FOREWORD



Michiel Reerink
President
ECLT Foundation



Dr. Innocent Mugwagwa
Executive Director
ECLT Foundation

It is with great pleasure that we present the ECLT Foundation's 2022 Annual Report, marking yet another remarkable year in our journey towards the elimination of child labour in agriculture. This report reflects the commitment, dedication, and collaborative efforts of our partners, stakeholders, and communities.

As we turn our attention to the year that was, we cannot overlook the extraordinary challenges and uncertainty brought upon us by the global pandemic. The COVID-19 crisis disrupted lives, economies, and the very fabric of our societies. Yet, it is during such times of adversity that the true strength and resilience of our collective efforts become apparent. The ECLT Foundation responded swiftly, adapting its strategies and operations to ensure the safety and well-being of the communities we serve.

In the face of these unprecedented circumstances, we witnessed the power of unity and collaboration. The unwavering support from our donors, corporate partners, and civil society organizations enabled us to reach out to vulnerable families and children, ensuring their access to education, livelihood opportunities, and social protection. Together, we demonstrated that even in the most challenging times, our commitment to the elimination of child labour remains unyielding.

This year's report showcases our achievements and progress towards our strategic goals. We celebrate the positive impact we have made in the lives of thousands of children and their families, enabling them to break free from the cycle of poverty and gain access to a brighter future. It highlights the transformative projects and interventions that have been implemented in the communities where we work, fostering sustainable change and empowering individuals to realise their full potential.

However, we must also acknowledge that the work ahead of us is far from complete. While we have made significant strides, the global fight against child labour requires continued dedication and concerted efforts. We are acutely aware that we must address the root causes of child labour, including poverty, lack of access to quality education, and limited livelihood opportunities. We remain steadfast in our commitment to collaborate with partners, governments, and local communities to develop comprehensive solutions that address these underlying issues.

Looking ahead, the ECLT Foundation is firmly focused on embracing change and adapting to evolving circumstances. We recognize the need for innovation and the harnessing of emerging technologies to accelerate our impact. We are committed to exploring new approaches, leveraging partnerships, and advocating for policy changes that create an enabling environment for sustainable and lasting change.

In closing, we express our deepest gratitude to all those who have contributed to the ECLT Foundation's work. Your unwavering support, dedication, and shared vision have been instrumental in driving our progress and empowering countless lives. Together, we can make a lasting difference and build a world where every child has the opportunity to grow, learn, and thrive.



ABOUT US

Founded as a not-for-profit Swiss foundation in 2000 to bring together key stakeholders against child labour in areas where tobacco is grown, the ECLT Foundation is based in Geneva, Switzerland. The Foundation is a member of the UN Global Compact and holds special consultative status with UN ECOSOC.

The core objective of the ECLT Foundation is to eliminate all forms of child labour in agriculture through collaborative action involving businesses, states, and farmers. We work towards strengthening child protection systems for governments and businesses while implementing evidence-based solutions in agriculture.

WHAT WE BELIEVE

The ECLT Foundation works towards a world with thriving agricultural communities, where children are free of child labour, can go to school, and develop in a safe environment. Our belief is that fostering capacities and establishing enduring partnerships to implement sustainable solutions is the most effective approach to tackle the underlying causes of child labour, at local, national, and international levels, and to promote positive change.

WHAT WE DO

We strategically invest and provide technical assistance to support and promote:

- The development and implementation of strong laws and policies in line with the SDGs and international human rights frameworks.
- Multi-stakeholder collaboration to maximise coordination and leverage resources to prevent child labour from happening and address it when it does.
- Research to understand the nature and scope of child labour and best practice exchange to build farmer incomes and resilience, keep children in school and equip young people with the skills they need to access decent work.





BEYOND SUPPLY CHAINS

There are over **160 million children** in child labour worldwide today. **7 out of 10** work in agriculture.

This is a major concern in agricultural supply chains. The complex root causes of child labour – such as systemic poverty, lack of education and infrastructure and uneven development, as well as specific drivers like migration and environmental changes – mean that no single actor or single supply chain can address child labour alone.

However, addressing the fundamental causes of child labour can expedite progress towards several SDGs and other national and international sustainability and development frameworks.

OUR ADDED VALUE

By engaging policy makers, businesses across agricultural sectors, cooperatives, unions, development agencies, organisations working on the ground, and communities themselves, ECLT works to create an enabling environment with stronger systems, so that the actions of every stakeholder go further to fight child labour and promote development in farming communities.



1 NO POVERTY



2 ZERO HUNGER



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



HIGHLIGHTS 2022

1 NO POVERTY



970 HOUSEHOLDS

in Tanzania learned skills to increase their income, access credit, and manage their finances

266 MEMBERS OF VSLAS, MFS AND SKILLS TRAINING GROUPS

were trained and successfully engaged in viable business enterprises in Tanzania

53 VSLAS, MFS AND SKILLS TRAINING GROUPS increased access to markets in Tanzania

485,000+ IN USD OF MICROLOANS were disbursed to smallholder farmers and community members in Malawi and Tanzania



2 ZERO HUNGER



55,000+ CHILDREN

have meals provided at school in Malawi, improving concentration and performance

18,900+ FARMERS

were trained on sustainable agriculture practices in Malawi



4 QUALITY
EDUCATION



5 GENDER
EQUALITY



15 COMMUNITY-BASED ACCELERATED LEARNING CENTRES for out-of-school children and adolescents were established in Malawi

26 ACTIVITY CENTRES were established for children so as to reduce their involvement in child labour in agriculture in Indonesia

660 TEACHERS were provided with ongoing guidance to incorporate children rights and gender dialogues in the curriculum in Malawi

16,951 WOMEN were financially empowered through participation in saving and loans groups in Malawi

87% SAVING AND LOAN GROUP MEMBERS are women, promoting financial independence and financial stability in Malawi

690 WOMEN were trained on business skills and registered an increased income in Tanzania



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



6,594 CHILDREN

were removed or kept away from child labour across projects

1,800+ YOUNG PEOPLE

were financially empowered in Malawi, through participation in Youth VSLA groups

15 COMMUNITIES

reached through:

- CLMRS in Mozambique
- Child labour free zones in Indonesia

1 YOUTH EMPLOYMENT office

was established and is actively supporting youth to access decent jobs in Guatemala



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



28,619 ADULTS

learned about child labour, how to prevent it, and remove and help those at risk

1,140 CHILDREN AND PARENTS

are now better informed on the risks of child marriages in Indonesia

117 COMMUNITY ACTION PLANS

were developed or updated to challenge and address harmful social norms perpetuating child labour in Malawi and in Tanzania

57 COMMUNITY-LEVEL CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES were trained in Malawi, Mozambique and Tanzania

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



38 ORGANIZATIONS

worked against child labour in the agricultural sector in Indonesia, as members or observers of PAACLA

43 STAKEHOLDERS

were brought together in a social dialogue process to improve child labour monitoring and reporting in Tanzania



THE 5TH GLOBAL CONFERENCE

ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

The ECLT Foundation welcomed the convening of the 5th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour from 15th to 20th May 2022 in Durban, South Africa. The Conference, the first one held on the African continent, occurred against the backdrop of the first increase in child labour since 2000, which predated the additional challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic and the disruption of supply chains due to the war in Ukraine. These developments threaten to further derail progress made so far, with less than 3 years left for the SDG 8.7 target of 2025.

GLOBALLY, 7 IN 10 CHILDREN IN CHILD LABOUR WORK IN AGRICULTURE. IN AFRICA, THE RATIO IS 8 OUT OF 10.

To reverse this trend, the ECLT Foundation called upon the international community to support the strengthening of the International Partnership for Cooperation on Child Labour in Agriculture (IPCCLA) by forming national coalitions in pilot countries to:

- a. Secure funding flows for action;
- b. Enhance cross-sectoral collaboration and coordination, sharing of good practices and scaling up of efforts;
- c. Leverage resources to address the root causes of child labour across agriculture.

Accordingly, the ECLT Foundation put forward the following input into the V Global Conference Outcome Document/Call to action:

“

To promote the necessary cooperation and coordinated effort to reverse the regression in child labour in agriculture and to re-establish and accelerate progress towards its elimination by convening, within 12 months, a global meeting of the key actors on child labour in agriculture to establish – under the auspices of the IPCCLA – an inclusive, adequately resourced mechanism for that purpose.”

WHY CHILD LABOUR OCCURS IN AGRICULTURE

The recent child labour global estimates by ILO and UNICEF highlight three main reasons for high child labour incidence in agriculture:

- **Functional dependence of family farms on family labour caused by an absence of decent work for adults and inadequate family incomes.**
- **Widespread informality in agriculture and inadequate implementation of public policies and regulation.**
- **Inadequate and fragmented funding of actions against child labour.**

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE TO END CHILD LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE

The ECLT Foundation, having been involved in the fight against child labour in agriculture in Africa and other regions of the world since 2000, reiterates its vision for a world with thriving agricultural communities, where children are free of child labour. The ECLT Foundation calls for action in three key areas:



- The creation of national coalitions linked to the International Partnership for Cooperation on Child Labour in Agriculture. National coalitions could be piloted in selected Pathfinder countries for the purpose of testing agriculture-wide approaches to eliminate child labour – including in subsectors linked to global, regional, domestic and local supply chains, and to address the needs of families engaged in subsistence farming.



- Call to action for multinational and national enterprises, agricultural boards, producer organizations, commodity associations and traders across agriculture to implement the relevant terms of the ILO Tripartite Declaration on Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy and with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and to ensure full integration of decent work, including the eradication of child labour, into their business activities, including by adopting Good Agricultural Practices, regardless of the destination markets for agricultural produce.



- Strengthening small producers' organizations, including mobilizing funding to enable them to reduce dependence on family labour, upgrade in different value chains and negotiate for fair prices.


DOWNLOAD THE ECLT CALL TO ACTION HERE:



PROTECT

BUILDING CAPACITY TO ENHANCE GOVERNMENT SYSTEMS

In 2022, the ECLT Foundation continued to uphold and advance the principles of the Protect, Respect, Remedy framework in its efforts to eradicate child labour in agriculture. The framework, which is based on the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, outlines the responsibilities of governments, businesses, and other stakeholders in ensuring the protection of human rights, including the rights of children.

 In 2022, the ECLT Foundation played a leading role in enhancing the elements that fall under the primary responsibility of States, including the collection of statistical data on child labour, fostering political commitment, promoting cross-sectoral coordination, and improving child labour monitoring and national child protection systems.

The ECLT Foundation joined forces with Malawi's Ministry of Labour in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to provide the Government of Malawi with technical assistance and capacity building towards the setting up of a Child Labour Monitoring System, while enhancing the collection, management, and referral systems at community levels. Both parties have the common interest of creating synergies and having multi-sectoral coordinated efforts in the realisation of decent work and progressive elimination of child labour in agriculture.


Under the Protect pillar, the ECLT Foundation intensified its efforts to prevent child labour by implementing awareness-raising campaigns and capacity-building programs. These initiatives aimed to educate stakeholders about the risks and consequences of child labour and to promote the importance of education as a pathway out of poverty.



RESPECT

ACCELERATING PROGRESS AGAINST THE SDGs

Regarding the Respect pillar, the ECLT Foundation continued to advocate for the integration of child labour due diligence into business practices within the tobacco sector. It supported companies to adopt responsible supply chain management strategies, including rigorous monitoring and verification systems to identify and address child labour risks. By engaging with tobacco companies and industry stakeholders, the ECLT Foundation emphasized the need for robust policies and practices that safeguard children's rights throughout the supply chain.

 Since the launch of the ECLT Members' Pledge of Commitment in 2014, ECLT has carried out self-assessments at members' corporate headquarters to obtain baseline information and track progress.

In Zimbabwe, we tailored our tools to assess member and non-member companies' compliance with the ECLT Members' Pledge of Commitment. The self-assessments highlighted several gaps which will be closed through time-bound improvement plans, and for which progress will be tracked by the TIMB.



In Indonesia, the ECLT Foundation focused efforts in supporting the operationalisation of Partnership for Action Against Child Labour in Agriculture (PAACLA) which is a multistakeholder partnership established in 2018 for joint efforts against child labour in agriculture in Indonesia.

At the end of 2022, PAACLA consisted of a total of 27 members and 11 observers, and 8 more stakeholders were in the process of joining. The nature of members ranges from Government Agencies, such as the Ministry of National Development Planning or the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, to NGOs and private sector companies from different crop-farming agricultural sub-sectors.

ECLT supported PAACLA with the establishment of an online reporting system to allow members to report and track progress towards common agreed indicators.


STRENGTHENING PARTNERSHIPS

In 2022, the ECLT Foundation deepened its partnerships with both existing and new stakeholders from various sectors, aiming to expand the implementation and impact of these tools in previously unexplored areas, thereby reaching a greater number of children, families, and farmers.

Furthermore, the ECLT Foundation intensified its efforts to consolidate over two decades of experience in implementing child labour programs, transforming this pool of knowledge into practical tools specifically catered to the needs of its member companies. These tools were further complemented by tailored services, enabling member companies to effectively apply them within diverse operational environments.

REMEDY

In alignment with the Remedy pillar, the ECLT Foundation prioritized supporting access to remedy for children and families affected by child labour. We worked closely with local partners, governments, and civil society organizations to strengthen child protection systems, enhance legal frameworks, and promote the implementation of remediation measures. By empowering communities and facilitating access to grievance mechanisms, the ECLT Foundation aimed to ensure that children and their families have the means to seek redress and obtain justice when their rights are violated.

 In Mozambique, ECLT Foundation and the Ministry of Labour, Development and Social Security (MITSS) agreed to streamline the scope of their cooperation and include the development and roll out of a pilot Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) in 2022.

In Zimbabwe, ECLT successfully adapted its tools for assessing companies' policies, due diligence processes and remediation practices related to child labour, which lead to the creation of a Agriculture Labour Practices code and a list of hazardous tasks. ECLT also provided technical assistance to the TIMB and the Ministry of Public Service, Labour and Social Welfare to strengthen multistakeholder coordination in the sector.

Throughout 2022, the ECLT Foundation actively engaged with governments, international organizations, and other stakeholders to promote the integration of the Protect, Respect, Remedy framework into policies, programs, and legal frameworks. By advocating for comprehensive and coordinated approaches, the foundation sought to create an enabling environment that effectively addresses the root causes of child labour and ensures the long-term protection of children's rights.

CAPACITY BUILDING



Foundations, multistakeholder initiatives, consultancy firms, and civil society organizations (CSOs) cannot serve as substitutes for the primary duty-bearers. Nevertheless, we can offer training and capacity building programs tailored to the needs of government staff, procurement professionals, sustainability managers, and operational managers, enabling them to acquire the necessary knowledge, tools, and skills to effectively uphold children's rights.



In 2022, the ECLT Foundation played a paramount role in developing specialist training and capacity building initiatives for primary duty-bearers – governments, parents/guardians and businesses directly and indirectly involved in commercial relationships with farmers – to address child labour in agriculture.

We launched a series of webinars addressed to child labour experts, growers associations, business, government, agriculture unions and other local and international stakeholders to share experiences and best practices in child labour related topics.

In August 2022, the ECLT Foundation and the Tobacco Industry & Marketing Board of Zimbabwe (TIMB) hosted the 'Good practices in working with and through third-party suppliers to address child labour in tobacco growing in Zimbabwe' webinar. In this session, more than 60 participants drawn from tobacco companies, unions, farmers associations and civil society shared

best practices in monitoring and incentivising third-party suppliers to prevent and address child labour, focusing on the Zimbabwe context.

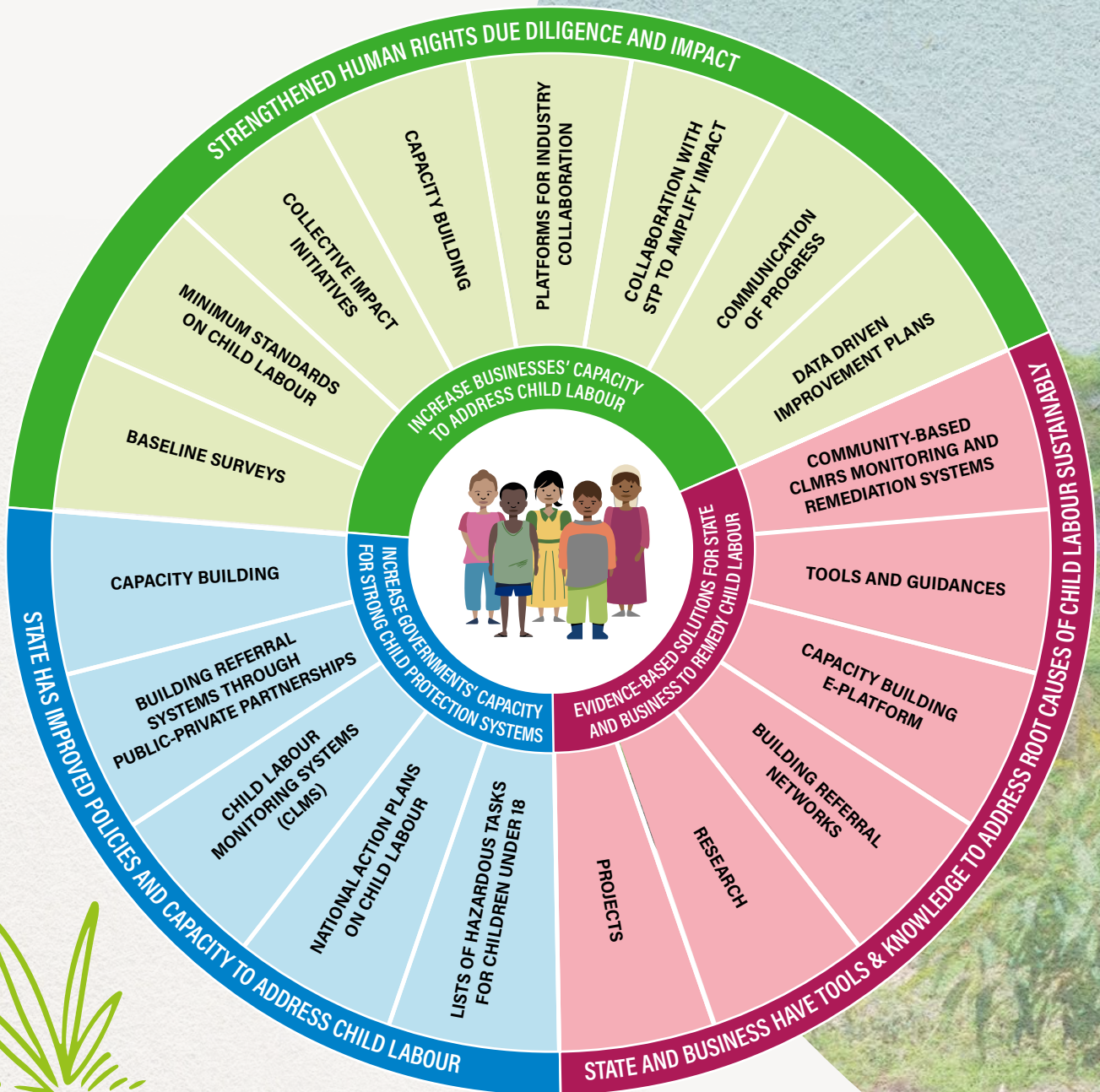
In November, ECLT joined forces with the International Cocoa Initiative (ICI) and the Ministry of Public Service, Labour & Social Welfare (MoPSLSW) of Zimbabwe to host the webinar "Setting up and implementing Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation Systems (CLMRS) in smallholder agriculture". In this session, ICI shared valuable insights on what a CLMRS is, what it needs to do and how to measure its success, as well as their 20-year experience in pioneering the adaptation and use of CLMRS in the cocoa sector. Moreover, the MoPSLSW shared their experience on their National Case Management System for the Welfare and Protection of Children in Zimbabwe.

These webinars are now available on our [YouTube channel](#), as well as on our [e-learning platform](#).

ECLT APPROACH TO PROMOTING UNGPS IN TOBACCO GROWING

In line with the UNGPs, ECLT adopted a 'Protect, Respect and Remedy' strategic approach, with children as the main affected stakeholders at the centre of its work. Under each pillar, ECLT implements several initiatives which will, collectively create and maximize positive impact on children and communities in areas where tobacco is grown.

In 2022, ECLT continued to support the implementation of area-based child labour projects in Indonesia, Malawi, Mozambique, and Tanzania. Together, the projects reach more than 100'000 children, changing their lives for the better and providing valuable evidence of what works to reduce child labour in the different contexts.





INDONESIA

MULTISTAKEHOLDER COLLABORATION TO ELIMINATE CHILD LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE



3

new members of the **Partnership for Action Against Child Labour in Agriculture (PAACLA)**



2,080+

children aged 5-17 years old **prevented from entering hazardous child labour** in agriculture



730

farmers and farm workers **trained** on child labour

A wider PAACLA, including companies from different crop-farming agricultural sub-sectors

New members in PAACLA are an NGO, a tobacco company, and a palm oil company. At the end of 2022, PAACLA consisted of a total of 27 members and 11 observers, and 8 more stakeholders were in the process of joining. The nature of members ranges from Government agencies, such as the Ministry of National Development Planning or the Ministry of Women's Empowerment and Child Protection, to NGOs and private sector companies from different crop-farming agricultural sub-sectors.

To be more responsive to child labour issues at the local level, the PAACLA National Secretariat has facilitated the development of partnerships at the local level in the form of PAACLA Forums in several regions. At the end of 2022, the Jember District PAACLA Forum and the West Nusa Tenggara Province PAACLA Forum were formed. Both regions have now developed action plans to combat child labour.

In 2022, the PAACLA National Secretariat conducted one training on the Design, Management and Evaluation (DME) of the Child Labour Prevention Programme for PAACLA members. 33 PAACLA members and stakeholders attended the training. In the last session, delivered as a public learning session, a total of 85 stakeholders participated. The assessments carried out prior and post-training indicated that 100% of the participants increased their knowledge on child labour prevention.

Baiq's story

"I assist children in learning to read, write, draw... they are enthusiastic about joining the activities and using the Learning by Playing method".

Baiq Ria Yuliana is a 31 years old farmer and mother of two children aged 3 and 10 years old, living in Boyemare village, East Lombok District. She is a cadre of the Child-Friendly Village Task Force and a tutor in the Community Activity Centre of East Boyemare sub-village.

"Together with other cadres and tutors from the activity centre, I also raise awareness in the community on children rights, child labour and the worst forms of child labour. Although many of these terms are new, the community response was quite good, and they welcomed us".

"I hope children in our village can be a better generation without becoming child labourers. Children deserve a proper education and have the right to good growth, health and love from their parents and society. I hope there is no more children marriages due to their family's poor economic situation. Hopefully, the KESEMPATAN Project helped parents understand that fulfilling children's rights is essential".

Besides training, PAACLA also provided capacity building services to its members for the development of workshops or for the production of guidelines for child-friendly agriculture, among others.



MALAWI

FIGHTING CHILD LABOUR THROUGH BETTER EDUCATION AND LIVELIHOODS OPPORTUNITIES



73,382

children enrolled in the **100 project schools** during the year, with 81% of the enrolled children who attended school at least 60% of the time



1,327

VSLA and YSLA groups formed with a membership of 16,951 women and 530 men



5,312

community members were sensitised by the **Community Child Labour Committees** on the danger of child labour

Relying on adapted quality education to ensure sustainable return to school of child labourers

Re-enrolling child labourers into formal education can be challenging. Early exclusion from school reinforces the decision to engage children in hazardous labour, rather than enrolling them in school and encouraging their regular attendance. Providing children with a pathway back into formal education is a critical tool to ensure that they stay in and advance through school and develop critical skills needed for life post-schooling.

The PROCLAIM project provides tailored educational programmes for children identified as child labourers based on age, abilities, and interests. Some children join the formal education system with reinforced support, while others participate in vocational training to develop skills adapted to the local job market. School feeding programmes functioning in most of the schools improve both enrolment and attendance of children. PROCLAIM provides the school feeding committees with seeds, cooking materials, and lands to ensure the durability of the feeding programmes.

Charity's story

"I now believe in myself and dream in colour. This VSLA group of ours is helping me and my friends here have assets to our names and improve our livelihood, a thing most of us women couldn't afford in the past".

Charity, 32 years old comes from Chilooko traditional authority (TA), Ntchisi. She is married with 3 children. Charity has been subjected to different types of abuses from her husband, due to cultural and social norms. Her household lacked food and other basic necessities and her children couldn't go to school. With PROCLAIM, Charity joined a VSLA Group, where members of the group started making huge savings and accessed loans that helped them do small businesses. Charity obtained a loan from the group to buy materials and start her tailoring business. She also bought a pig, chickens and fertilizer for her garden. She is also participating in Farmer Field Business School sessions in her area which she believes will enhance her skills in agricultural activities which will in turn help her realize more yields to support her family and the rest of surplus to be sold and re-invested in her VSLA. Realizing how things have changed, her husband has now stepped up and has started supporting her business venture and encouraging her to continue participating in VSLA group activities.



MOZAMBIQUE

IMPROVING CHILD PROTECTION THROUGH DIGITALIZATION



1

Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System

(CLMRS) developed and rolled out in 7 rural agricultural communities



14

Data Collection Agents from 7 Community Child Protection Committees (CCPCs) **trained on usage of CLMRS tools** for identification of cases of child labour and adequate referral



1,280+

community members reached with awareness raising on **importance of education** and details on school enrolment processes

Identifying working and at-risk children: A first step towards effectively managing child labour

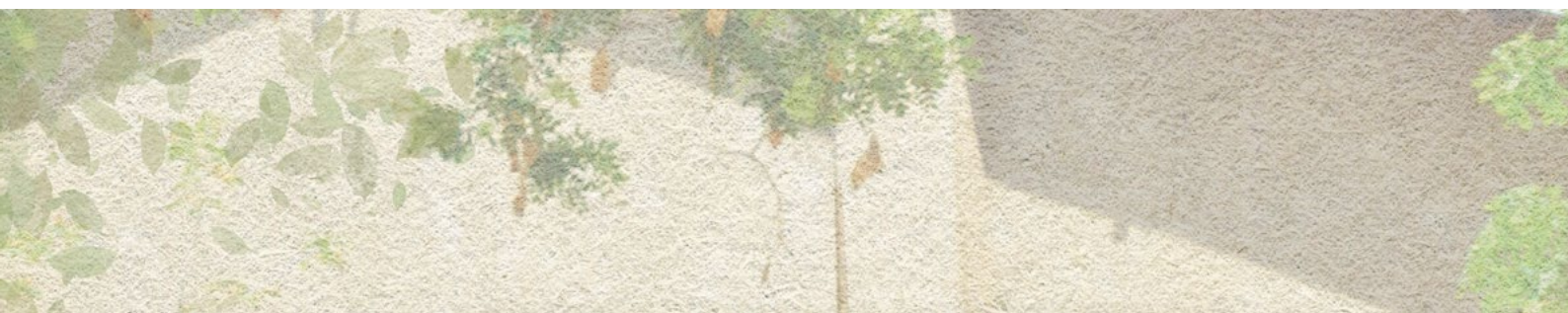
In smallholder agricultural settings, the child labour phenomenon is culturally ingrained. It is often hidden, and workplaces are remote, many and geographically dispersed. As such, child labour in smallholder agriculture is less amenable to formal labour inspection by governments and/or companies. Moreover, identification, withdrawal and effective follow-up of children by agents external to the community is neither cost-effective, practical nor sustainable. In fact, such an approach may push child labour underground as communities may lack trust in the system and/or external agents. That is why in Q4 2022, the ECLT Foundation rolled out and established a community-based child labour monitoring and remediation mechanism in Mozambique – as part of a pilot intervention, that should tentatively last until the end of 2025.

Pedro's story

"With the CLMRS, Community Child Protection Committees (CCPCs) are better equipped to monitor and ensure child protection in their communities".

As Programme Director of Fundação Apoio Amigo (FAA), the backbone organization of the CLMRS Pilot Project in Mozambique, Pedro Lenine has witnessed the evolution of CCPCs. He participated in the formation of certain committees and strengthening of some existing ones, and he is currently supporting the smooth implementation of the CLMRS and the provision of services to children in or at-risk of child labour.

"Granting stakeholders' access to verified child labour data is key to foster multistakeholder collaboration".





TANZANIA

SYSTEMS TO PROTECT CHILDREN



1,396

children ages 5-17
**prevented from all forms
of child labour**



78.5%

of household heads
registered an **increase in
their income**, thanks to
their participation in VSLA,
MFS and business skills
training groups



149

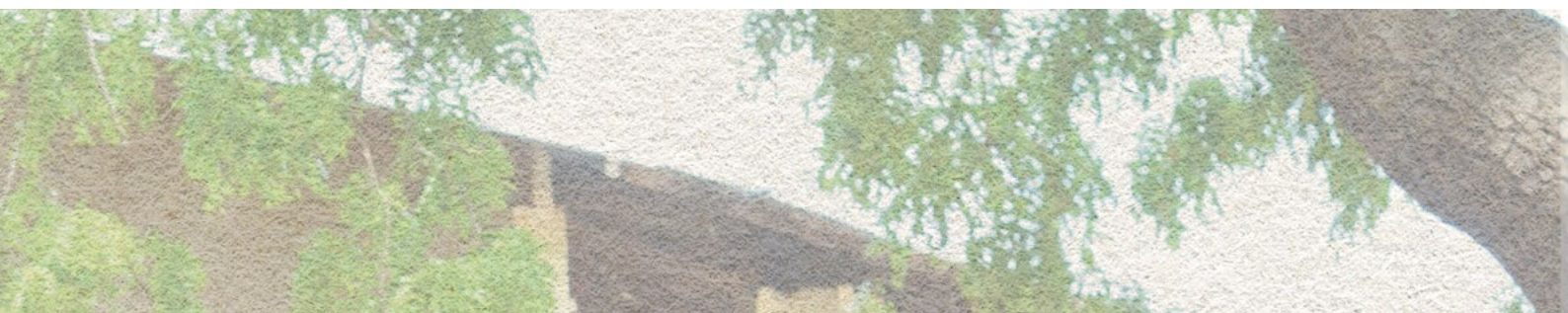
**child labour issues
addressed** by the
government and other
agriculture sector
stakeholders

Focusing on high market value products to improve farmer's incomes

Poverty is one of the main drivers of child labour, thus providing families with income generation alternatives is critical to combat the prevalence of child labour. Consequently, families are facing tough decisions on asset utilisation, including whether to invest in their children's education. To contribute to the elimination of child labour in the Tabora region in Tanzania and build on existing learnings, the PROSPER RESET project focuses on equipping VSLA, Model Farm Schools and Skills Training groups with business management skills, savings/credit skills and planning, and entrepreneurship skills. The targeted groups improve their access to the markets by improving their product value. A value chain analysis exercise was carried out to better understand the areas for improvement within value chain. Through the project, targeted families can access sustainable forms of finance, whether formal through micro finance institutions or informal.

Grace's story

Grace, a 36-year-old mother from Urambo district in the Tabora region, has experienced a significant transformation since joining a VSLA (Village Savings and Loan Association) group in 2016. Previously relying on her husband for financial support, Grace took the opportunity to invest in small businesses through the VSLA. In 2020, she secured a loan to venture into the cattle trade, which proved successful. With her earnings, she was able to construct a house where she now resides with her family. In addition to her cattle business, Grace also engages in buying and selling grains, specifically maize, which further contributes to her income. By participating in the VSLA, she can afford to purchase shares in the group and provide for her four school-going children. Grace's confidence has grown, thanks to the support and empowerment she has gained from the VSLA, enabling her to face the future with less worry and more determination.





ZIMBABWE

CONSULTING CHILDREN TO DEFINE HAZARDOUS TASKS FOR CHILDREN UNDER 18 YEARS IN AGRICULTURAL COMMUNITIES

In 2022, the ECLT Foundation supported the Coalition Against Child Labour in Zimbabwe (CACLAZ) to conduct research on the risks and benefits of work in agriculture. Applying the best practices in child consultation recommended in the 'Time to Talk' research approach, CACLAZ interviewed 64 former child labourers drawn from agricultural communities.

The research obtained the views of working girls and boys, ensuring that the definition of hazardous tasks for children was informed by working children's lived experiences.

Using body mapping, timelines, story writing, Venn maps and focus group discussions, the research found that:

DIFFERENT CHILDREN DERIVE DIFFERENT BENEFITS FROM WORKING

- Money for buying personal items such as clothes and cellphones;
- Money for meeting basic needs, especially in child-headed households;
- For out-of-school children, to gain skills to earn a livelihood;
- Helping out their parents;
- Financial independence.

CHILDREN FACE RISKS FROM WORKING IN AGRICULTURE

- Suffering from headaches, extreme fatigue, and chest pains;
- Lack of playing time;
- Working with adults who hurry them up or scold them;
- Inadequate time to perform schoolwork.




Working children are rarely consulted in defining the harms conferred by work in their lives. This is despite the universal recognition that children are actors and agents in their own development. This research project sought to ensure that children's voices were heard and considered in defining acceptable and unacceptable work for children in agricultural communities in Zimbabwe.

The take-aways from this research are that children must be consulted and that their views must be considered in defining hazardous work. We need to break down the barriers between working children and the policymakers on child labour issues. Nothing for children without children!"

Dr. Innocent Mugwagwa
Executive Director, ECLT Foundation

Based on the outcomes of the consultations with children, the study recommended that the following general conditions should be respected for children above the minimum age of employment to engage in agricultural activities:




A child's work is supervised by an adult



A child's work does not interfere with schooling



Health and safety measures are put in place



Time for performing work is limited

With respect to specific activities which children **cannot perform**, the results of the child consultations suggested that the following activities should not be permitted under any circumstances, because the risk of injury or an accident cannot be sufficiently ameliorated:



Application of pesticides



Handling of green (tobacco) leaf



Application of fertilizers



Working in darkness, at height or in environments with heat and smoke



Work which exposes children to physical, emotional, or sexual abuse

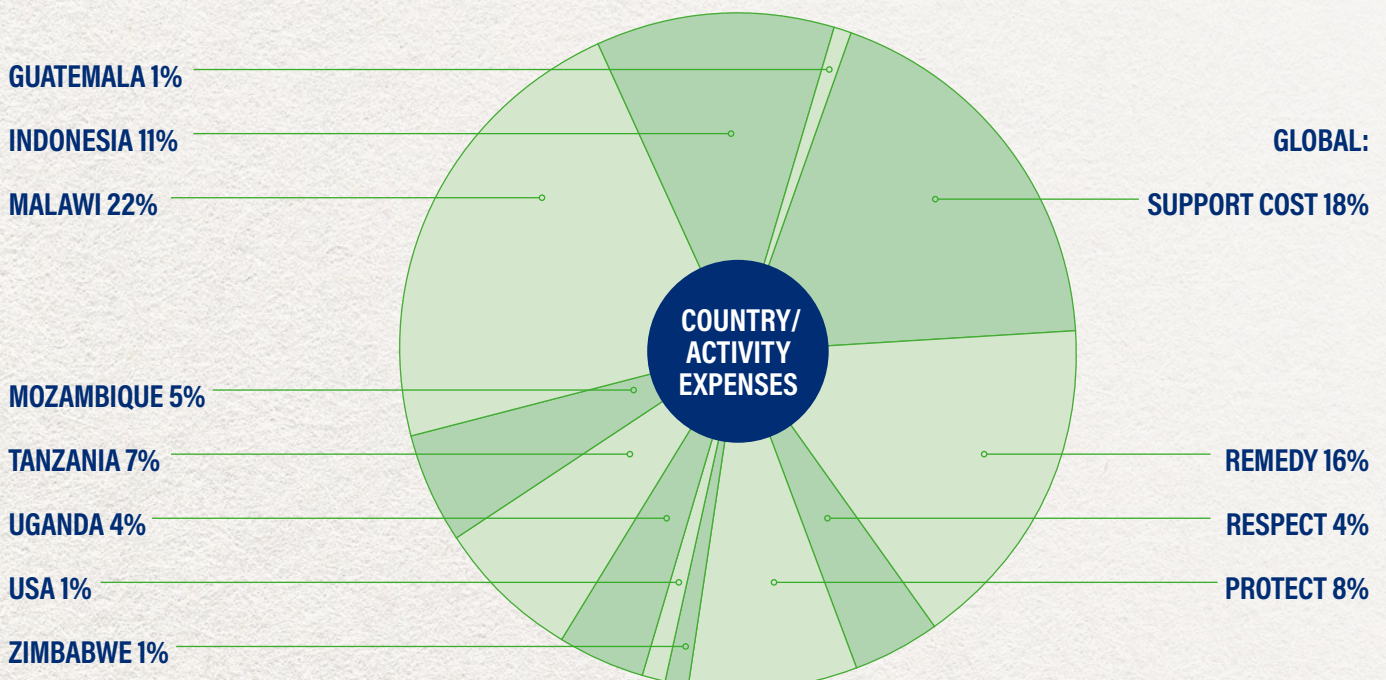
2022 FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS

Balance Sheet (USD)

ASSETS	
Cash and cash equivalents	4,417,100
Current assets	223,000
Non-current assets	65,548
TOTAL	4,705,649
LIABILITIES & CAPITAL	
Short Term	
Payables	85,978
Accrued expenses & contribution received in advance	139,781
SUB TOTAL	225,759
Capital & Reserve Funds	
Foundation Capital	180,690
Accumulated unrestricted fund	4,398,829
Allocated to / (Released from) unrestricted funds	-99,628
SUB TOTAL	4,479,890
TOTAL	4,705,649

Income & Expenditure (USD)

INCOME	
Donor contributions	4,494,752
TOTAL INCOME	4,494,752
EXPENSES	
Programme	
Protect: Policy & Advocacy activities	-578,703
Respect: Pledge activities	-306,472
Remedy: Project & Research activities	-2,832,475
TOTAL PROGRAMME EXPENSES	-3,717,649
Operating expenses	-822,427
TOTAL EXPENSES	-4,540,076
Financial income	7,703
Financial expense	-62,008
NET RESULT FOR THE YEAR	-99,628



ECLT FOUNDATION

ECLT STAFF MEMBERS

Karima Jambulatova

Executive Director (until October)

Innocent Mugwagwa

Senior Programme Manager (until October)
Executive Director (from October)

Cleo Wright

Advocacy & Partnerships Officer

Franck Archinard

Finance Manager

Gosha Stehlé

HR & Administration Manager

Irena Manola

Operations Officer

Nataliya Prongué

Head of Programmes

Nicholas McCoy

Director of Advocacy, Partnership,
& Engagement

Roi Fernández Agudo

Programme Manager

Stéphanie Garde

Programme Manager

Víctor Díaz

Communications Manager

NON-EXECUTIVE ADVISORS

International Labour Organization

Designated technical advisor
Benjamin Smith

EXTERNAL EVALUATORS

RSK Environment

Resolution Economics

Centre for Education, Research and Training (University of Malawi)

Envoy Partnerships

EXTERNAL AUDITORS

RSM Audit Switzerland SA

BOARD MEMBERS

Elaine McKay

ECLT President (until June)
Japan Tobacco International
& Japan Tobacco Inc.

Michiel Reerink

ECLT Vice-President (until June)
ECLT President (from June)
Alliance One International, Inc.

Maria Reymao

ECLT Treasurer
Universal Corporation

Anthony Jackson

Premium Tobacco

Charlie Watson (from June)

Japan Tobacco International
& Japan Tobacco Inc.

Carsten Roll (from March)

Landewyck Tobacco

Linda McMurtry

Hail & Cotton Inc.

Mercedes Vazquez

International Tobacco Growers
Association

Mathew Wilde

Contraf-Nicotex-Tobacco GMBH

Mette Valentin

Scandinavian Tobacco Group

Simon Steyne

Independent Expert

Emmett Harrison (until October)

Song Wang (from October)
Swedish Match

Tony Dunnage

Imperial Brands, PLC

Tracy Oates

British American Tobacco
Holdings

ECLT Foundation

The ECLT Foundation is committed to collaborative solutions for children and their families that combat the root causes of child labour in communities where tobacco is grown.

We advocate for strong policies, share best practices to multiply our impact, and engage rural families so they can benefit from farming while ensuring that their children are healthy, educated, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

A better life for children, farmers, and families

Visit our e-learning platform - www.learn.eclt.org

Visit our website - www.eclt.org