

# ECLT Foundation 2015 Annual Report

*A Year of Critical Gains*



# 2015: A Year of Critical Gains

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## About Us

The Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing Foundation is a global leader in preventing child labour in tobacco agriculture and protecting and improving the lives of children in tobacco-growing areas. The ECLT Foundation strengthens communities, improves policies, and advances research so that tobacco-growing communities can benefit from agriculture while ensuring that their children are healthy, educated, and safe. Since 2000, the foundation has funded 26 projects reaching over 500,000 families in tobacco-growing communities.



## Message from the President:

Over the course of 2015, I have seen the ECLT Foundation make concrete advancements and set a course to continually increase our reach. The foundation has built off of the more than a decade of experience serving as a unique platform for collaboration to tackle the complex roots of child labour in the tobacco-growing supply chain.

Tangible results from years of work have been made in 2015, with the conclusion of two of the ECLT Foundation's largest projects to date in Malawi and Tanzania. The CLEAR and PROSPER projects met and exceeded many of their targets, impacting more than 140,000 children and families in tobacco-growing communities and providing a strong base showing the value of the ECLT Foundation's work. The scoping missions carried out in Indonesia have confirmed that this will be the country where the ECLT Foundation will pilot a new country programme approach more directly involving the efforts of the tobacco sector to support foundation along with public and private stakeholders.

Joint efforts, with member companies, international organisations, national and local governments and our implementing partners, have marked 2015 as a year of great strides and bold commitments.

As partnerships continue to be at the heart of the ECLT Foundation's multi-stakeholder approach, 2015 saw the signing of a public-private partnership agreement between the foundation and the International Labour Organization's (ILO) Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work branch, to develop a global guidance on hazardous child labour in tobacco growing. In this joint effort, the ECLT Foundation and the ILO have set out on a 30-month journey, involving experts in academia as well as the tobacco and other sectors, to produce a research-based guidance on preventing hazardous child labour in tobacco growing. The global guidance will serve as a tool for governments, companies and farmers around the world.

It is these joint efforts, with member companies, international organisations, national and local governments and our implementing partners, which have marked 2015 as a year of great strides and bold commitments. I would like

to recognise and applaud the work of all of these stakeholders. 2015 has been a year of deepened coordination, which I know will set the tone for productive collaboration in the years to come.

2015 was challenging for the sector as a whole, and more so for tobacco farmers who suffered unprecedented losses and difficult circumstances. This can make the task of the foundation more difficult and slow down progress, particularly because child labour has a direct link with poverty, but the experience and dedication of the foundation's director and staff helped to steer the work of the ECLT Foundation through these rough times.

Concluding my reflection, I am so pleased to note the continued, enthusiastic support of the ECLT Foundation seen throughout the tobacco industry in 2015, which marked the first year of the historic Members' Pledge of Commitment and Minimum Standards. This has given member companies a way to reinforce individual efforts as they align policies and practices. It is inspiring to see such efforts as we work jointly for the progressive end of child labour in the tobacco-growing supply chain.



**Antonio Abrunhosa**  
President  
Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing Foundation  
Chief Executive  
International Tobacco Growers' Association



## Message from the Executive Director

In 2015, the ECLT Foundation completed a methodical process of organisational transformation that spanned three years and resulted in clear gains in six Leverage Areas including programme effectiveness, advocacy and policy influence, communications, organisational reputation, competence and efficiency, sustained and broader support of the tobacco sector, and multi-stakeholder engagement.

This process was aimed at building capacity in the ECLT Foundation to tackle the key issues at the core of the child labour problem, and to achieve critical stepping stones that would position us to impact this problem through concerted strategies and partnerships. Thus, the 3-year plan led the foundation to unparalleled initiatives including among others three key achievements: 1) the Minimum Standards and Pledge of Commitment consistent with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, which was signed by the ECLT Foundation Members in 2014; 2) the tripartite social dialogue processes aimed at guiding national-level child labour policy and implementation, which were supported by the ECLT Foundation and the ILO and convened by the governments of three countries where we operate programs; and 3) the start of a 30-month evidence-focused project, in partnership with the ILO, to address global questions on hazards, which could impact the health and safety of children of legal working age, in tobacco growing.

During this period, our comprehensive area-based projects covering large districts of five countries were enhanced by the inclusion of further evaluation approaches that helped us gauge progress and advocate for the resources and the road ahead. These projects carry critical importance as a testament to the foundation's permanent commitment to improving the lives of children in tobacco-growing communities through our own footprint.

Three Key Intervention Projects, another part of the 3-year plan, provided opportunities for diversification, innovation in advancing youth employment objectives and offered valuable evidence and good practices to governments and stakeholders who can take them to scale and use the conclusions on policy and guidance. The key intervention projects also included the first project in a Latin America country of the ECLT Foundation's history.

The 3-year plan allowed the ECLT Foundation to disseminate good practices and gain a global voice aimed at



maintaining the urgency, relevance and importance of the problem of child labour through our purposeful advocacy. Gaining Special Consultative Status with the Economic and Social Council of the United Nations (ECOSOC) was a culminating point of the ECLT Foundation's Advocacy Leverage Area.

Our advocacy gains have positioned the ECLT Foundation in a prime place exactly when the world was inaugurating a new Sustainable Development Agenda with 17 goals, one of which includes an aim on eliminating child labour. The ECLT Foundation helped advance this agenda and later, it has disseminated the SDGs in global fora. We have also tailored our programmes to support the world development agenda. In addition to the ECOSOC status, the ECLT Foundation was accepted as a participant of the UN Global Compact in 2015, joining some 10,000 world leaders who are working together on business and human rights efforts.

Over the past four years, I have witnessed growth in the depth and breadth of the ECLT Foundation's work, and our gains have been steady and strategic. I am confident that with the talent and commitment of the ECLT Foundation team and our implementing partners, the guidance of our board members and advisors, and the next Strategic Plan 2016-2022, the ECLT Foundation will expand its ability to make a difference in the lives of children in tobacco-growing communities even further. I am privileged to serve in the role of executive director of such a dynamic and far-reaching organisation.



**Sonia Velázquez**  
Executive Director  
Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing Foundation



# 2015 IN NUMBERS *A Year of Critical Gains*

**Pilot Risk Assessment training** to combat hazardous child labour adopted by National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi with membership of **30,000** farmers



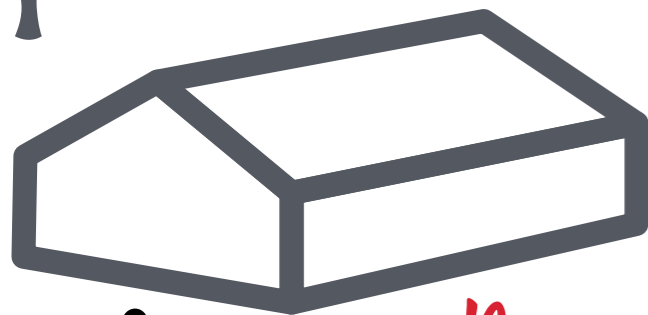
**57,979** people reached through training & awareness raising

**7,196** children directly benefited from improvements to schools, toilets and access to water

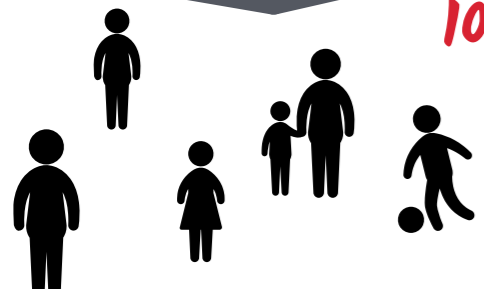


**13** wells built or renovated to ensure communities have access to water

**8,700+** children receiving education support from afterschool programmes, uniforms and scholastic materials.



**10** classrooms and toilets built or renovated to provide safe and sanitary conditions at 7 schools



**1,380** teens who are in or graduated from vocational skills training



**8 projects in 7 countries:** Mozambique, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Guatemala, Kyrgyzstan and Zambia

**400+** key stakeholders brought together to renew commitments on National Action Plans on child labour



**34** national and district-level meetings with stakeholders to discuss child labour issues and support project implementation



**6,545** households that have received training to start and manage sustainable income-generating activities

**24,433** parents who are saving money and receiving microcredit through Village Savings and Loans Associations or microloan groups





## Sharing effective and sustainable practices

Sharing practices that are shown to be effective and cost-efficient in reducing child labour in tobacco-growing communities is fundamental to the ECLT Foundation’s vision of multiplying impact. Based on the last five years of research and programme implementation in five countries, the ECLT Foundation launched a Good Practices Manual, illustrating our experience running programmes in tobacco-growing communities.

The practical guide contains 10 good practices on the identification and elimination of child labour in agriculture. They have been chosen and shared to facilitate replication. During the research and selection stage, the ECLT Foundation used a specific definition of what is a good practice, to ensure that the manual would be a valuable source of information on how to combat child labour in agriculture. This was based on the definition from the UN Food and Agriculture Organization: ‘a good practice is one that has been proven to work well and produce concrete results so it can be recommended as a model. It is a successful experience, which has been tested and validated, in the broad sense, which has been repeated and deserves to be shared so that a greater number of people can adopt it’. All of the practices selected include engagement of many stakeholders in line with the ECLT Foundation’s inclusive approach and have shown themselves to be effective and sustainable for long-term impact in a cost-effective way.

Specific case studies from five ECLT Foundation project countries, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania

and Uganda, are used to give clear and complete descriptions of each practice. The wealth of information that the ECLT Foundation has collected from years of work puts the foundation in a unique place to serve as an expert resource for others looking to tackle problems related to child labour in agriculture. With the publication of the Good Practices Manual Volume 1, the ECLT Foundation has taken a concrete step forward to maximise project impact, reaching beyond our programmes to strengthen the efforts of others as well.

### Themes in the Good Practices Manual:

- THEME 1: Identifying vulnerable children and families in tobacco-growing areas
- THEME 2: Influencing attitude change
- THEME 3: Improving access to quality education
- THEME 4: Improving household livelihoods

# Coming together to align policies and practices regarding child labour

## ECLT Foundation Members’ Pledge of Commitment and Minimum Requirements to eliminate child labour

2015 marked the first anniversary of the ECLT Foundation Members’ signing of a shared Pledge of Commitment and Minimum Requirements on combatting child labour, a commitment to uphold robust policy and minimum requirements on tackling child labour, and implementation consistent with the United Nations (UN) Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. As the ECLT Foundation Members make up a significant part of the tobacco supply chain, this is an important advancement in a major sector. The pledge provides the basis for alignment of the tobacco sector’s policies and practices regarding child labour.

During this first year of implementation, the foundation and its member organisations began assessment of how to further align child labour policies and practices with the UN Guiding Principles and the “Protect, Respect and Remedy” framework. As the Pledge builds on the existing individual efforts of member organisations, it is important to have a clear understanding of the situation faced by the member companies. During the period under review, the ECLT Foundation developed resources and guidance to support member companies in assessing their policy commitments and due diligence. These resources included a self-assessment tool for members to examine their performance to date as well as identify priority areas for further action. The tool was validated by the International Labour Organization (ILO) in its role as advisor to the board.

The ECLT Foundation also held consultations with the International Tobacco Growers Association, a member of

the ECLT Foundation. Farmers in tobacco-growing communities may face disadvantages such as lean margins. The collective Pledge is well positioned to uncover such problems through the due diligence processes. The contracts between tobacco companies and farmers are an important mechanism through which child labour expectations and the economic implications can be aligned in a manner consistent with the Pledge.

Throughout 2015 and beyond, the Members’ Pledge of Commitment and Minimum Requirements continues to be an important building block for all ECLT Foundation Members working for the progressive elimination of child labour in tobacco-growing supply chains and for the ECLT Foundation Secretariat to leverage the support by all stakeholders and galvanise their efforts.

Throughout 2015 and beyond, the Members’ Pledge of Commitment and Minimum Requirements continues to be an important building block for all ECLT Foundation Members.



# ILO-ECLT Public Private Partnership;

## Global guidance on hazardous child labour in tobacco growing

In 2015, the International Labour Organization and the ECLT Foundation signed an agreement to develop global guidance on hazardous child labour and occupational safety and health in tobacco growing. Through this public private partnership with the ILO-ECLT, the global project is designed to provide specific, research-based guidance on various aspects of occupational safety and health in tobacco growing. Additionally, the partnership supports social dialogue in three of the countries where the ECLT Foundation operates projects: Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania, and Uganda.

The ILO-ECLT project promotes tripartite action at both the global and national levels, involving governments, employers and workers, to ensure that children do not perform hazardous work and to encourage decent employment opportunities for young people between the minimum working age and the age of 18.

The project examines the nature of hazardous child labour in the global tobacco supply chain and provides authoritative guidance based on:

- Existing and new research
- Scientific evidence
- Advice from experts, including from the tobacco sector and academia
- Validation through tripartite consultations at the global and national levels

The agreement further builds upon the collaborative efforts of ILO and the ECLT Foundation in Malawi to provide policy support to tripartite constituents to implement

the agriculture component of the National Action Plan to combat child labour, and the declarations of the Malawi National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture, held in 2012. It also builds upon the recent Tanzania National Sustainability Conference Pathways to Sustainability: Together We Can Eradicate Child Labour in Agriculture, held in May 2015, and the Uganda multi-stakeholder process to hold the Hoima District Conference to Eliminate Child Labour, which will culminate in 2016.

According to ILO, there are an estimated 168 million children worldwide in situations of child labour, with almost 60% of child labour worldwide found in the agricultural sector. These figures include over 45 million children between the ages of 15-17, who are of the legal working age but engaged in work not suitable for their age, making hazardous work a global concern.

Although the responsibility of eradicating child labour in agriculture, including tobacco growing, lies with national governments, the sustainable eradication of child labour in tobacco growing also requires the commitment and action of the sectoral economic actors. These include enterprises at all levels and employers', workers' and small producers' organisations, including cooperatives. This ILO-ECLT project provides a critical forum for multi-stakeholder discussions on hazardous child labour in tobacco growing and serves as a platform to bring key partners and global actors together on this important issue, including: The International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC); the International Union of Food, Agriculture, Hotel Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco, and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF); the International Organisation of Employers (IOE); the ILO's Bureau for Workers' Activities (ACTRAV) and the Bureau for Employers' Activities (ACT/EMP); the International Tobacco Growers Association (ITGA), together with multi-national tobacco companies and government representatives from tobacco-growing countries.

This ILO-ECLT project provides a critical forum for multi-stakeholder discussions on hazardous child labour in tobacco growing and in agriculture.



ECLT Foundation staff at the United Nations Headquarters in Geneva, Switzerland



## Opening new doors through global advocacy

2015 was a year of global advocacy gains. The ECLT Foundation was granted the Special Consultative status with the United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC), providing avenues for advocacy engagement within many United Nations mechanisms and forums. Also, the foundation was accepted into the UN Global Compact, joining private and public sector advocates on business and human rights.

These gains further legitimise our role and fortify our capacity to impact the problem of child labour through global advocacy and, more specifically, through the United Nations global arena. Joining the UN Global Compact opens further doors to support the efforts of ECLT Foundation Member companies. Within the compact, the ECLT Foundation has committed to the Ten Principles on corporate sustainability and responsible business conduct applicable to all members of the network.

During 2015, the ECLT Foundation also focused on the advancement of the world's new Sustainable Development Agenda 2030 as we participated in the "future we want" platform. For the development of the SDGs, the ECLT Foundation organised consultations with our implementing partners on the ground to collect views on roles and coordination with the private sector against child labour in agriculture. This new global agenda is the first to include a specific goal and target addressing child labour and decent employment for youth, under goal 8.7.

Staff joined delegates from 193 countries and international organisations that gathered in September in New York to unveil the 17 new commitments signed by all. The ECLT Foundation seized opportunities to disseminate the SDG gains and the ECLT Foundation's efforts in international forums such as a panel at the Global Child Forum in Stockholm. Given the new central place of child labour and decent youth employment within this agenda, it is clear that these new advances provide the perfect mix to build a strong and durable global advocacy platform to progressively eliminate child labour in the years ahead.

Keeping child labour-related issues high on ECLT Foundation stakeholders' agendas is part of the foundation's

strategy to optimise efforts in order to have an effect beyond the reach of our country programmes' footprint. The ability to work directly with UN platforms lets the ECLT Foundation better ensure that information on child labour in agriculture is considered in the development of international programmes and policies.

The ECLT Foundation was granted UN ECOSOC special consultative status in 2015, making a major step forward in the foundation's ability to participate in international forums to advocate for child labour-related issues to be high on UN agendas. This coveted status gives the ECLT Foundation several privileges within the UN System including:

- Attendance and active participation in meetings of the Economic and Social Council
- Convening side events in conjunction with various UN events and mechanisms in Geneva and New York
- Granting of permanent UN Badges to ECLT Foundation staff, which allows them to attend sessions of various UN bodies

# The ECLT Foundation's capacity and single focus: A better life for children in tobacco-growing communities

2015 was an exemplary year for the ECLT Foundation as a leader in combatting child labour in tobacco-growing communities. The area-based and key intervention projects conducted by the foundation not only allow us to reach out directly to children and families, but also provide a solid base and roadmap to work for stronger national and district-level policy on child labour. In just one year, the ECLT Foundation raised awareness amongst 58,000 parents, children and leaders in tobacco-growing communities about the dangers of child labour and ways to prevent it.

## A rich resource for data and insight on child labour in tobacco growing

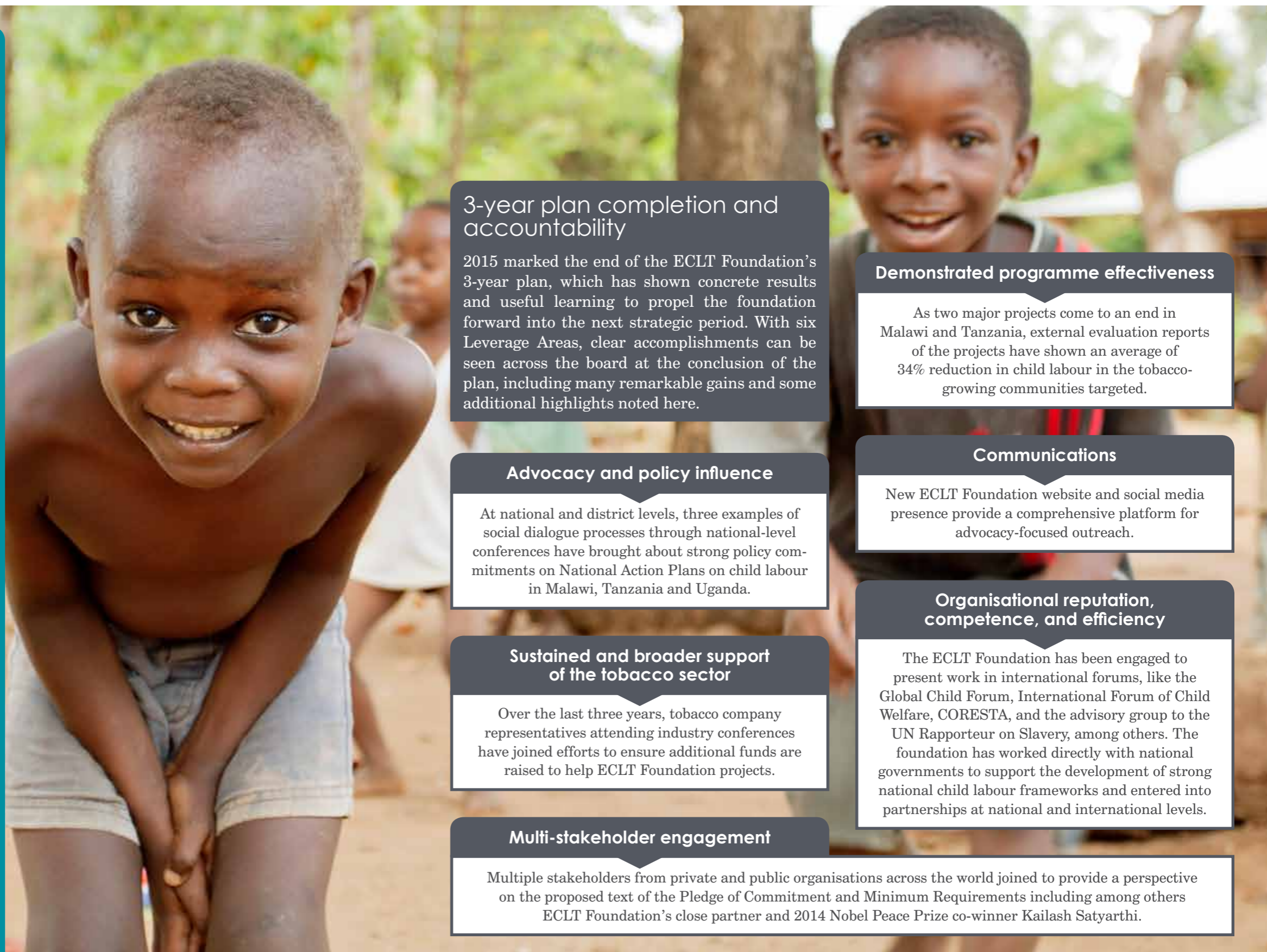
Through our programmatic work, the foundation regularly gathers data from our project areas in seven countries. This information gives the ECLT Foundation unique insight into the realities faced by children living in tobacco-growing communities, as well as specific knowledge on what practices are the most efficient and effective in tackling the root causes of child labour in agriculture, such as poverty and lack of education and infrastructure.

In 2015, the ECLT Foundation conducted research and assessments through our quarterly monitoring and evaluation reporting in all countries, mid-term assessments of the progress of projects in Mozambique and Uganda and contracted external evaluations of projects whose phases came to an end in Malawi and Tanzania. This information gathering is crucial for the foundation to know if we are on track to meet our project goals or examine necessary changes. Through the course of the year, monitoring, assessments and evaluation overwhelmingly demonstrated that most of the project targets would be met or exceeded on time in our projects.

In addition to this regular information gathering and assessment, the ECLT Foundation published our first Good Practices Manual (see pg 6). By sharing the knowledge the ECLT Foundation has gained in 2015 and through more than a decade of programmatic work, we promote transparency in our work and strengthen our potential for collaborative impact.

## Sustainability through integration: the enhanced project model

Since 2014, the foundation has enhanced its already strong project model to have greater integration with stakeholders, especially the tobacco sector on the ground. Through this approach there is a greater leveraging of stakeholders' efforts to ensure the sustainability of project benefits.



### 3-year plan completion and accountability

2015 marked the end of the ECLT Foundation's 3-year plan, which has shown concrete results and useful learning to propel the foundation forward into the next strategic period. With six Leverage Areas, clear accomplishments can be seen across the board at the conclusion of the plan, including many remarkable gains and some additional highlights noted here.

### Advocacy and policy influence

At national and district levels, three examples of social dialogue processes through national-level conferences have brought about strong policy commitments on National Action Plans on child labour in Malawi, Tanzania and Uganda.

### Sustained and broader support of the tobacco sector

Over the last three years, tobacco company representatives attending industry conferences have joined efforts to ensure additional funds are raised to help ECLT Foundation projects.

### Multi-stakeholder engagement

Multiple stakeholders from private and public organisations across the world joined to provide a perspective on the proposed text of the Pledge of Commitment and Minimum Requirements including among others ECLT Foundation's close partner and 2014 Nobel Peace Prize co-winner Kailash Satyarthi.

### Demonstrated programme effectiveness

As two major projects come to an end in Malawi and Tanzania, external evaluation reports of the projects have shown an average of 34% reduction in child labour in the tobacco-growing communities targeted.

### Communications

New ECLT Foundation website and social media presence provide a comprehensive platform for advocacy-focused outreach.

### Organisational reputation, competence, and efficiency

The ECLT Foundation has been engaged to present work in international forums, like the Global Child Forum, International Forum of Child Welfare, CORESTA, and the advisory group to the UN Rapporteur on Slavery, among others. The foundation has worked directly with national governments to support the development of strong national child labour frameworks and entered into partnerships at national and international levels.

Participants at the Malawi Child Labour Roundtable 2015



## Social Dialogue: Key platforms to promote effective change in the fight against child labour

Building strong commitments in the fight against child labour from various stakeholders is a main force of sustainable change sought by the ECLT Foundation. A way to encourage engagement and commitments from key tripartite actors including governments, workers, and employers — as well as companies and civil society — is through the support of social dialogue as a means to bring these stakeholders together for elaborating solutions necessary for effective change.

Throughout 2015, the ECLT Foundation, in collaboration with the ILO, and under the guidance and convening

authority of national governments, utilised Social Dialogue as a mechanism to influence child labour policies, share good practices, and secure tripartite commitments on issues impacting child labour in the countries of Malawi, Tanzania, and Uganda.

Key Outcome(s): Each event held as part of a social dialogue process resulted in multi-stakeholder commitment(s) to action and/or and Outcome Document delineating agreements by sector.

**Building  
strong commitments  
in the fight against  
child labour  
from various stakeholders  
is a main force of  
sustainable change sought by  
the ECLT Foundation.**



The Minister of Labour and Employment, Honourable Gaudencia Kabaka, MP opened the Tanzania national child labour conference, attended by over 120 participants

	Tanzania	Malawi		Uganda
Social Dialogue Event	May 2015 “Pathways to Sustainability: Together We Can Eradicate Child Labour in Agriculture”	November 2014 National Symposium on Decent Youth Employment	December 2015 National Child Labour Roundtable*	*Follow up to the 2012 Malawi National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture  January 2016 “Quality Education & Skills Development: A Sustainable Way of Eliminating Child Labour in Agriculture”
Convener	Ministry of Labour & Employment Support by: ECLT, PROSPER Project / Winrock International & ILO	Ministry of Labour & Manpower Development	Support by: ECLT, CLEAR Project / Save the Children & ILO  Ministry of Labour & Manpower Development	Ministry of Gender, Labour, & Social Protection Support by: ECLT, REALISE Project/ UWESO & ILO
Total Attendees	120	100	80	350
Key Partners & Stakeholders Represented	Government Unions Employers Ag/Tobacco Sector Civil Society Families	Government District Govt. Unions Employers Ag/Tobacco Sector Civil Society	Government District Govt. Unions Employers Ag/Tobacco Sector Civil Society Children’s Conference	Government Hoima District Government Unions Employers Ag/Tobacco Sector Civil Society Families
Child Labour Themes	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Child Protection</li> <li>• Decent Youth Employment</li> <li>• District Coordination</li> </ul>	CLEAR Project Evaluation Decent Youth Employment Disseminate Evidence & Good Practices		Child Protection Decent Youth Employment Hoima <i>District Action Plan</i> to Eliminate Child Labour
Multi-Stakeholder Commitments to Action - National and/or District Levels	✓		Child Labour in Agriculture	✓
Commitment to review Child Labour National Action Plan and/or re-engage National Steering Committee	✓ <i>National Inter Sectorial Coordination Committee on Child Labour (NISCC) to advance commitments</i>	✓ <i>Under the National Steering Committee</i>		✓ <i>Under the National Steering Committee</i>





## PROSPER project in TANZANIA

After four-and-a-half years of implementation, the Promoting Sustainable Practices to Eradicate Child Labour in Tobacco or PROSPER project in Tanzania came to an end, having exceeded targets by reaching more than 20,000 people in three tobacco-growing districts, 25% more than originally targeted. With almost 8,000 children withdrawn or prevented from entering child labour, it follows that school enrolment has also increased significantly over the course of the project, in some cases more than 20%. After-school programmes have also played a key role, with almost 3,000 children, keeping children out of the fields and giving them an option to play sports, or learn arts or environmental protection.

Laying the foundation for integration with companies, as part of the Enhanced Project Model, the PROSPER project sought to integrate more closely with the tobacco companies based in Tabora and Morogoro. Although since the project start, representatives of tobacco companies were members of the project's national, regional and district advisory committees, there was little integration of approaches and activities. In 2015 this has changed and the tobacco companies have actively participated in the project design, and community selection and an understanding of common ground was established during the development of Tanzania's Continuation Phase for 2016-2017.

**PROSPER at a glance:** the final project report has shown that PROSPER met the majority of the targets set up when the project began in 2012.

**5,438** children have been withdrawn from child labour and **2,493** were prevented and protected from entering child labour through education and vocational services.

**35%** more than originally targeted.

**1,611** youth were trained through Model Farm Schools in agricultural production, small livestock keeping, child labour, business skills, HIV/AIDS, environment, and gender issues.

**78%** of youth graduated from model farm schools are now employed or self-employed in low-risk work.

**5,162** youth ages 15 to 17 years old were reached by health and hygiene awareness campaigns.

**223%** more than originally targeted.

**20,000** participants educated on the hazards of child labour, including government officials, church leaders, teachers, parents, children, and tobacco companies.

**25%** more than originally targeted.

## Getting communities involved

The PROSPER project's yearly awareness-raising campaign activities are a fundamental part of decreasing child labour in Sikonge, Urambo and Kaliua districts, particularly at the administrative level. To do this, the PROSPER project enlists the help of beneficiaries: children and their families. They bring the work to their communities through drama, interschool competitions and gatherings to familiarise nearby communities with information about child labour and the work being done.

When minds are changed within the community, then actions soon follow. Local and regional leaders see the benefit of outreach to communities. "We can no longer accept child labour in the district. Children have to go to school; we government leaders and other stakeholders must join PROSPER's efforts to fight against child labour," said Honourable Robert Kamoga, Sikonge District Council chairman.



## CLEAR project in MALAWI

More than 13,000 children in or at risk of child labour directly benefited from the Child Labour Elimination Actions for Real Change or CLEAR project in five districts across Malawi over the past four-and-a-half years, 25% more than originally targeted. One of the ECLT Foundation's largest projects in our history, the CLEAR project exceeded target goals, as the first phase came to an end in 2015. Malawi has long been a strategic country for intervention by the ECLT Foundation because of the number of tobacco-growing communities and the nature of the market.

A major success of the CLEAR project has been the Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs), which were created to help households better withstand economic shocks by gaining access to loans and savings in the absence of access to institutional financial services, as well as by encouraging viable income beyond tobacco growing. The approach was so well received by communities that it even spilled over to non-project areas and the initial target of 500 VSLAs was exceeded and reached 863 groups.

In their final external evaluation report, IMPAQ International called CLEAR, "a very successful initiative to combat child labour in tobacco-growing regions across Malawi. Its holistic approach allowed for attacking the problem from different fronts, as well as their overall interaction."

**CLEAR at a glance:** the final project report has shown that CLEAR met and exceeded almost every one of the targets set up when the project began in 2012.

**13,897** children withdrawn, prevented or protected from child labour entered counselling & education.

**50%** more than originally targeted.

**456** teens learned farm business management in vocational training.

**120%** more than originally targeted.

**14,639** community members saved and grew their money together in VSLAs.

**45%** more than originally targeted.

Over **84,298** parents and children learned about child labour and how to prevent it.

**300%** more than originally targeted.



## No more going hungry at school

It is difficult to learn on an empty stomach, yet many children in CLEAR project areas were not able to bring a lunch to school. To combat this hunger, school gardens were planted at 58 schools, growing wheat and maize that was turned into porridge for students.

Through the gardens, 6,379 children were fed at their schools. This not only helped the children concentrate on their classes but also encouraged them to keep up with regular school attendance. School gardens are a cost-effective and sustainable improvement for CLEAR communities.



## UGANDA

The Realising Livelihoods Improvement through Savings and Education or REALISE project in western Uganda reached its halfway point in 2015. The ECLT Foundation's mid-term assessment has shown it is on track to meet the established goals: providing children and families from over 18,000 households in tobacco-growing communities with reliable access to basic services, quality education and sustainable ways to generate income and meet their diverse needs.

Better water, sanitation, and infrastructure – like classroom floors, toilets, and wells – have been used by over 5,800 children, already exceeding the project goal more than a year in advance. Parents, teachers and students have been trained about the hazards of child labour and how to support children withdrawn from it. Over 80% of the training goals has already been reached.

In 2015: **6,770** caregivers and children involved in tobacco growing were trained on physical and emotional dangers of hazardous child labour. **1,448** children received school uniforms. **2** school gardens provided lunch for more than **800** children. **39%** rise in school enrolment was seen after schools began to provide food for students. **4,989** households learned sustainable income generation activities such as poultry and animal rearing.



Siama with her fellow graduates of vocational training in Uganda. 219 teens graduated in 2015

### SUCCESS STORY:

*“This training was a golden opportunity. I am able to support my daughter, who entered in primary school this year. I could buy her a uniform and scholastic materials,”*

said Siama, a graduate from a tailoring course, provided by the REALISE project. She is now self-employed and saving the money she has earned as a member of a Village Savings and Loans group. Siama is one of more than 200 teens who completed job training in 2015. Teenagers take advantage of opportunities to learn practical job skills, like tailoring, mechanics and carpentry, giving them a sustainable way to earn a living. For many, like Siama, the skills learned allow them to make a change in their lives because of growing financial stability.



## MOZAMBIQUE

Increased enrolment in schools targeted by the Realising Effective Actions for Children Together (REACT) project bodes well for efforts to eliminate child labour in tobacco growing in Mozambique, according to the 2015 mid-term assessment conducted by the ECLT Foundation. The REACT project is implemented in 12 communities in Angonia and Macanga districts, which are major tobacco-growing areas in Mozambique.

Village Savings and Loans (VSL) groups have made a big difference so far, both in building parents' capacity to save and grow their incomes and in protecting children from entering child labour. So far in the REACT project, 472 community members have joined 20 VSL groups, which are supported by five promoters to improve the functionality and ensure long-term sustainability. The groups have indirectly protected more than 1,000 children.

In 2015: **698** children are benefitting from improved infrastructures in schools. **1,080** children are attending homework support clubs. **1,098** people were educated about child labour through awareness-raising events like theatre group performances. **107** fuel-efficient and labour-saving cooking stoves were built.



## KYRGYZSTAN

The Implementing Practices to Address Child Labour in Tobacco or IMPACT project has made a significant contribution to the elimination of child labour in tobacco-growing areas of Nookat, Aravan, Alabuka, and Kandamjay districts in Kyrgyzstan. Sustainability and adaptability are the key focuses of 2015, as the major actors in the tobacco sector are transitioning out of the country. The ECLT Foundation's efforts are coming to a close, but focus is being put on ensuring that beneficial practices from the IMPACT project are taken up in a sustainable way by the communities themselves. A sustainability and exit phase of 24 months was designed for implementation starting January 2016. In addition to the usual project activities, the new phase will focus on supporting former tobacco households to transition to non-tobacco income and to emphasise farmer cooperation to prevent and eliminate child labour in agriculture.

In 2015: **98%** of targeted children are regularly attending school. **1,078** children benefitted from school improvements like better classrooms, toilets and access to water. **988** community members took part in microcredit groups, indirectly reaching more than **400** children. **2,555** people were reached through sensitisations meetings, trainings and events.

# Key Intervention Projects:

## Promoting safe & decent youth employment and informing national policy making for sustained impact

### Decent Youth Employment Policy Initiative in Malawi

In 2015, the ECLT Foundation, under the guidance of Occupational Safety & Health (OSH) Consultant Peter Hurst, concluded the first Key Intervention Project or KIP, directly building the capacity of 135 farmers and linking with the National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi (NASFAM), and the Tobacco Association of Malawi (TAMA), which have a reach of more than 30,000 farmers. This KIP focused on two areas, which delegates from the 2012 Malawi National Conference on Child Labour identified as integral to the elimination of the hazardous forms of child labour:

- Promotion of decent youth employment for those above the minimum legal age (14-18 years old)
- Promotion and enforcement of good occupational safety and health laws

A Decent Youth Employment Initiative was carried out from 2013-2015 to examine and create conditions for decent youth employment for young people age 14-18 years who work in agriculture.

Empowering local farmers with the skills to assess risk and come up with simple, cost-effective solutions can improve working conditions for everyone on farms, including young workers. With this in mind, the KIP took on two parts:

- Train farmers across crops in safety and health risk assessment techniques and potential solutions.
- Provide information and technical assistance to help farmers put into place the safety and health improvements they identified in their own assessments.

To elevate the outcomes of this two-year pilot KIP to national decision makers and national tripartite bodies, the findings and recommendations were shared and discussed during the 2015 National Roundtable on Child Labour in Malawi, as well as in the 2014 preparatory National Symposium on Decent Youth Employment.

### Illustration of Impact

- 135 farmers empowered through training on risk assessment methodology during the pilot initiative
- 170 boys (74%) and girls (26%) between ages 14 and 17 identified on 135 farms across three districts, who are of legal working age, able to benefit and gain decent youth employment from the health and safety improvements
- Awareness raised among local farmers on what the law defines as Hazardous Child Labour and how to identify those hazards on a farm



- Farmers put in place control measures to reduce highest risks identified on these farms

### Types of Risk Identified – Risks Contributing to Hazardous Child Labour

Data collected from 135 farms showed that some of the highest risks identified for all workers included:

- Application of dangerous chemicals (pesticides)
- Poor sanitation (improper disposal of sewage/wastewater)
- Deep, uncovered water wells
- Tobacco improperly stored in houses where people live
- Unguarded machines (e.g. belts, fans, fast-moving parts)/unprotected tools
- Heavy workloads (young workers carrying weights beyond recommended safety limitations)

### Policy Impact

The ECLT Foundation has built on the commitments made during the 2012 National Conference, 2014 National Symposium, and 2015 Child Labour Roundtable, and worked with policy makers throughout 2015 to broaden strategies on Hazardous Child Labour and youth employment within the Child Labour National Action Plan in Malawi and reflect key recommendations within the Malawi Child Labour Policy, both of which are being advanced in 2016.

The ECLT Foundation has continued **two Decent Youth Employment KIPs** in Zambia and Guatemala. Through these KIPs the foundation aims to support strong national regulatory frameworks on child labour and support advocacy-related efforts to help children above the legal working age stay out of hazardous work and in decent employment.



### ZAMBIA

28% percent of children below the age of 14 are working in Zambia, with approximately 92% working in agriculture. Without a national Compulsory Education Age, children above the age of 15 are legal to work as long as they are not engaged in hazardous activities.

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Similar in design to the Malawi KIP, the aims in Zambia are to generate needed information from agricultural communities on the types of risks identified on farms; and to work with many stakeholders to raise awareness amongst farmers on these risks. In partnership with a trained expert in occupational safety and health (OSH) and risk assessments, in 2015, the ECLT Foundation advanced the following efforts:

- Trained approximately 80 farmers in safety and health risk assessment techniques
- Conducted a baseline research study on the circumstance and conditions of hazardous child labour in tobacco-growing areas of Zambia
- Gained evidence and data on the types of hazards that are creating conditions for hazardous child labour across crops

Initial findings and recommendations from the baseline reports helped Zambian farmers to put into place the safety and health improvements they identified in their assessments as a critical step in addressing issues and risks contributing to hazardous child labour on their farms. Throughout 2015, a multi-stakeholder Advisory Committee, including representatives from the local tobacco companies and farmers association, further supported the dissemination of these findings to tobacco farmers throughout the region.



### GUATEMALA

Child labour is prevalent in the Guatemalan agriculture sector. Children mostly work for their families, sometimes in hazardous conditions, and are at high risk of dropping out of compulsory education. Poverty, lack of awareness, low parent literacy, and poor social services and transport infrastructures are all contributing to this national problem.

In partnership with Defensa de Ninos Internacional, the KIP entered Phase III of implementation in 2015 to develop a pilot youth employment and vocational training curricula for rural skills development to facilitate access to decent employment opportunities in agriculture for rural youth in tobacco-growing communities in the La Máquina District.

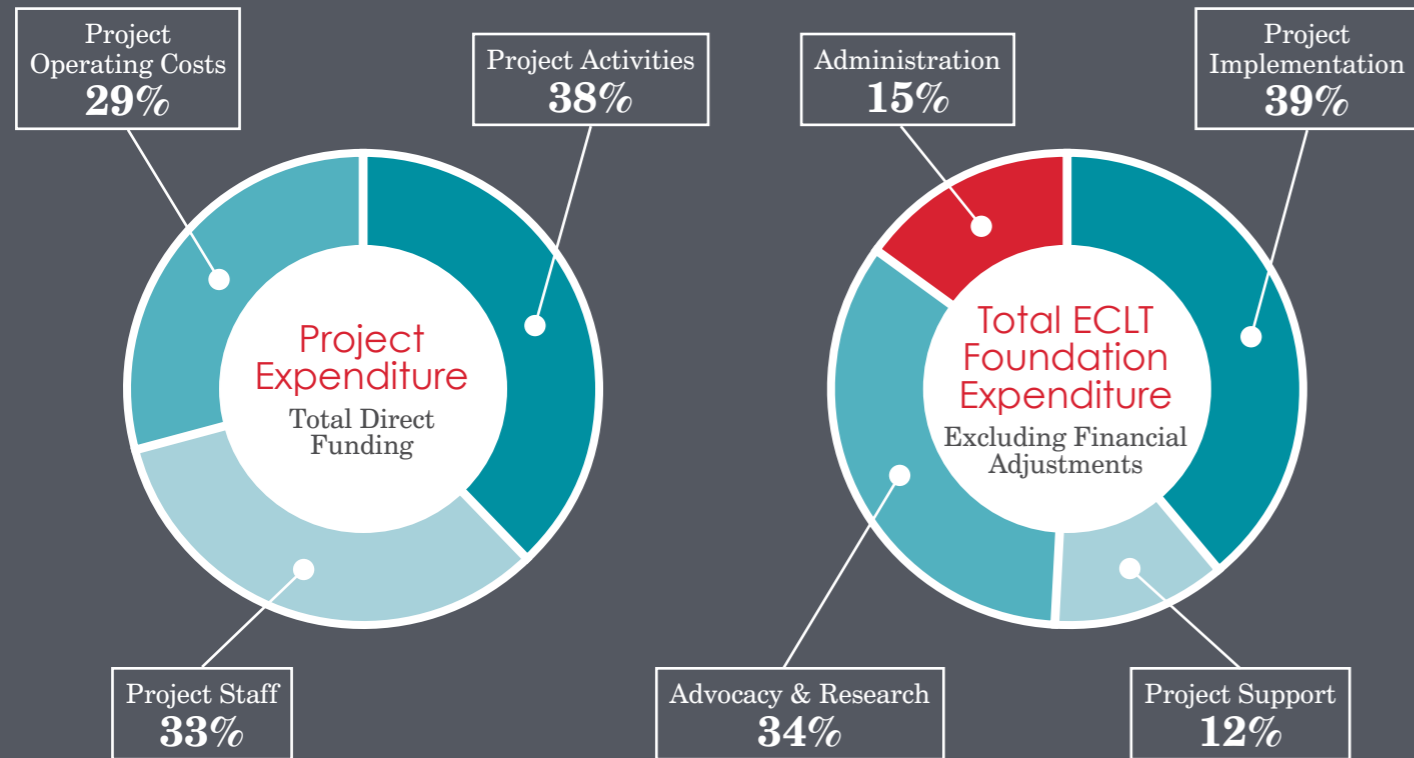
Poverty, lack of awareness, low parent literacy, and poor social services and transport infrastructures are all contributing to this national problem.

### 2015 Advances During Phase III

- 128 children attended after-school programs in two primary schools and 14 teachers were trained on child labour and acquired methodologies adapted to the most vulnerable children.
- 24 employees from two tobacco companies worked directly with farmers trained on child labour issues.
- An Advisory Committee was formed amongst broad stakeholders including children, community leaders, teachers, parents and representatives from the two local tobacco companies.
- District Department of Education committed to vocational training program in La Máquina.

# Financial Accounts 2015

The management financial information presented below is derived from the financial statutory accounts audited by Berney & Associés SA

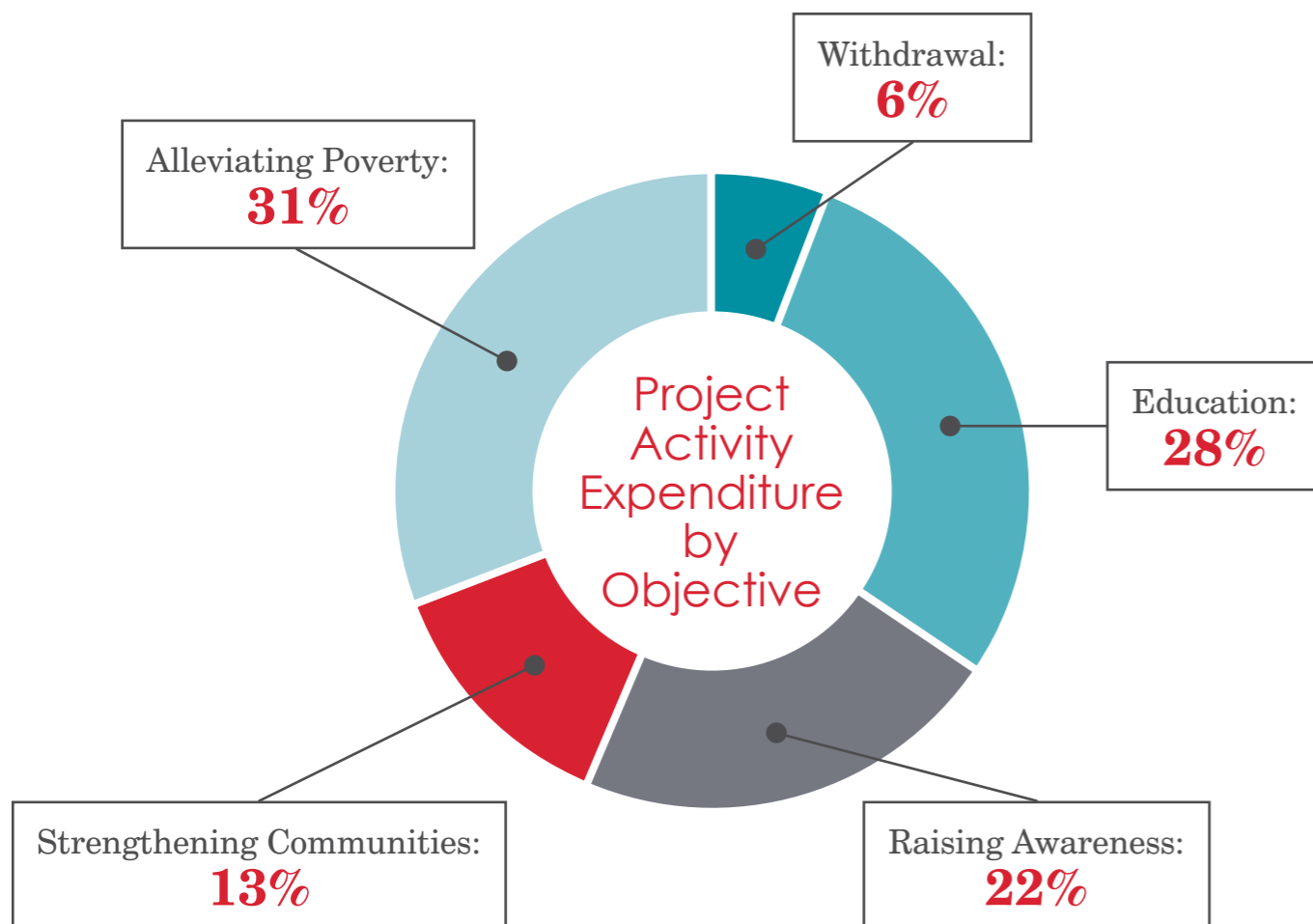


## 2015 BALANCE SHEET

ASSETS		The currency used is US Dollars (USD)	
Treasury	3,943,236		
Debtors	27,361		
Fixed Assets	28,942		
			<b>3,999,539</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; CAPITAL</b>			
<b>SHORT TERM</b>			
Payables	110,620		
Members (advance for 2016)	3,080,639		
Accrued projects	-		
Accrued expenses	180,967		
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>3,372,225</b>
<b>CAPITAL &amp; RESERVE FUNDS</b>			
Foundation Capital	53,144		
Membership Fees	127,546		
Brought Forward as at 1.1.2015	436,035		
Result of exercise	10,589		
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>627,314</b>
			<b>3,999,539</b>

## 2015 INCOME AND EXPENDITURE

<b>INCOME</b>			
Members' and supporters' contributions	6,488,249		
Bank interest and other receipts	2,102		
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>6,490,351</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>			
Programme:	Project Implementation	2,461,500	
	Project Support	763,414	
	Advocacy & Research	2,151,157	
Administration		981,586	
Financial Adjustments		122,105	
<b>SUB TOTAL</b>			<b>6,479,762</b>
<b>SURPLUS FOR THE PERIOD</b>			<b>10,589</b>



# A new vision for the future:

## Strategic Plan 2016 - 2022

In 2015, the ECLT Foundation proposed a new mission and vision and a strategic plan with four overarching programmes to be implemented over seven years in three phases.

The new Strategic Plan 2016-2022 provides a concrete roadmap to guide the organisation's work aiming for a significant reduction in child labour in tobacco growing. The efforts to build our new strategy run parallel to the development and guidance to the strategic initiatives of the Pledge and the Hazardous Child Labour partnership with ILO as well as the new Country Plan approach. This fruitful planning process spanned 2014-2015 and benefitted from the work of the Strategy Committee of the Board in close collaboration with Board Advisors ILO and Save the Children Switzerland.

The new strategic plan is based on the collective commitment and realisation that all stakeholders have a key role to play in the elimination of child labour.

Among them, the stakeholders of the tobacco supply chain will play an important role in partnering with the ECLT Foundation's implementing partners and the public and private stakeholders already invested in the elimination of child labour in agriculture.

The ECLT Foundation's Strategic Plan proposes four cross-cutting programmes, ACT, ACCOMPANY, INFLUENCE and BUILD KNOWLEDGE, each of which will move the foundation toward the goal of significantly reducing child labour.

Across the strategic programmes, the ECLT Foundation has prioritised four types of projects to channel its support: Area-Based Projects, Awareness Projects, Key Intervention Projects, and Economic Development Projects.

As we move into the exciting new phases of the foundation's work we are grateful for the support of all our stakeholders and partners in the elimination of child labour in tobacco growing!

**MISSION:** The ECLT Foundation works for the progressive elimination of all forms of child labour in tobacco-growing communities, in cooperation with its members and the global community, and in alignment with local public and private stakeholders concerned with the realisation of children's rights.

**VISION:** The ECLT Foundation's Vision for 2022 is of a world where the rights of children to be free from child labour are known and respected throughout the tobacco-growing supply chain.



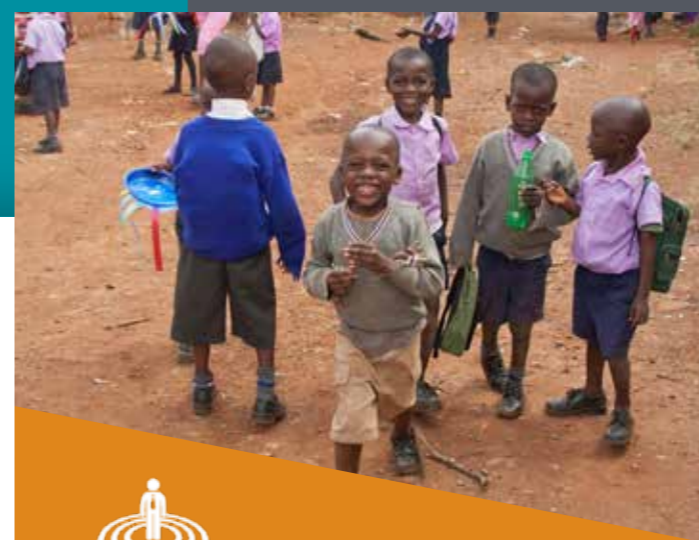
### ACT

**Piloting approaches, methodologies,** investment, and processes so tobacco-growing communities can prosper and the **rights and protection of children** can be reinforced.



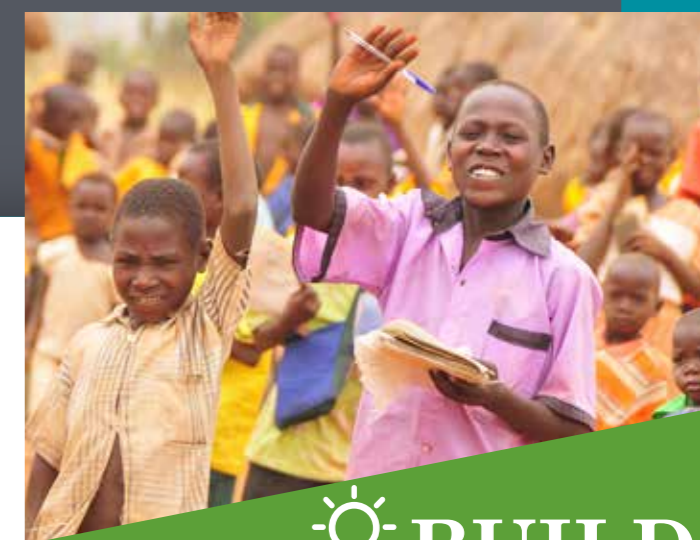
### ACCOMPANY

Through the realisation of the **Pledge of Commitment** by ECLT Foundation Board Members, child labour will be tackled and **good business practices generated** with the **support of the foundation** and other stakeholders.



### INFLUENCE

**Engage** others to **influence change** in policy and practice to **cause sustainable change** in countries significantly at risk of child labour in tobacco growing.



### BUILD KNOWLEDGE

**Compile and disseminate knowledge** of 'what works' in significantly reducing child labour and hazardous child labour in agriculture; generate **discussion** and **research**.



## ECLT Foundation Board

International Tobacco Growers' Association  
Alliance One International  
Altria Tobacco Companies  
British American Tobacco  
Contraf-Nicotex-Tobacco GmbH  
Hail & Cotton International Group  
Imperial Tobacco  
Japan Tobacco Inc.  
Philip Morris International  
Premium Tobacco Holdings Limited  
Scandinavian Tobacco Group  
Sunel Ticaret Turk A.S.  
Swedish Match A.B.  
Universal Leaf Tobacco Company

### Board Advisors

International Labour Organization  
Save the Children Switzerland

### Additional 2015 Contributors

Global Tobacco Networking Forum  
Women in Tobacco



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Nicholas C. McCoy  
*Senior Policy & Advocacy Officer*

Karima Jambulatova  
*Programme Manager*

Stéphanie Garde  
*Project Coordinator*

Laura Collier  
*Communications & Advocacy  
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Gosha Stehle  
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# Making a better life for children in tobacco-growing communities



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