

UN GLOBAL COMPACT COMMUNICATION ON ENGAGEMENT



MOBILISING FOR SUSTAINABLE CHANGE 2015-16



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FULFILLING THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT AGENDA TOGETHER

Addressing the root causes and overcoming the complex problem of child labour in tobacco-agriculture has been the primary concern of the ECLT Foundation for the past 15-years. Tobacco is the most labour-intensive crop, and millions of families earn their livelihood from it across the world. We recognise that sustainable change requires collaboration and commitment from all sectors – private, public and civil. This is why the ECLT Foundation continues its dedication to the UN Global Compact (UNGC) network. The strength of the Foundation comes from bringing together stakeholders – especially the tobacco sector’s largest group, the growers – as demonstrated throughout 2015-16 in our own efforts and our support of the UNGC.

The private sector – including tobacco growers, leaf suppliers and manufacturers – is a key partner for driving sustainable development, and the ECLT Foundation plays a unique role in bringing the tobacco sector together. Through the Pledge of Commitment, the ECLT Foundation supports companies to align and optimise their actions as they take meaningful steps forward to address supply chain issues at all levels of tobacco sourcing.

The Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), in alignment with the UNGC and along with other international guidelines and systems, provide an important framework for guiding these efforts and advancing towards the sustainable eradication of child labour in tobacco growing.



“
The SDGs will only be successful if the public and private sectors strengthen their work together.
”

Antonio Abrunhosa
President of the ECLT
Foundation



THE GLOBAL GOALS
For Sustainable Development

WORKING TOWARDS THRIVING TOBACCO-GROWING COMMUNITIES

CHILD LABOUR IN AGRICULTURE: WHY DOES IT HAPPEN?

According to the International Labour Organization (ILO), although there has been a substantial decrease in the global number of child labourers over the past decade, there are still 168 million children engaged in child labour, and 60 per cent of all child labourers are found in various agriculture sectors, including farming, fishing, forestry and livestock.

As an important agricultural sub-sector, tobacco growing continues to be an inherent part of the history, culture and livelihood of many societies, employing approximately 40 million workers worldwide. While global estimates on the number of children working in tobacco farming are lacking, the intersect between poverty, social instability, low levels of education and awareness, a deficit of decent work opportunities and poor social programmes in many countries where tobacco is grown creates an inevitable and pervasive reality of child labour within tobacco agriculture.



With concrete results to show and best practices to share, the ECLT Foundation is an important contributor to the UN Global Compact.



ELIMINATING CHILD LABOUR IN TOBACCO-GROWING COMMUNITIES

The sustainable eradication of child labour in tobacco growing requires commitment and action from all actors within the supply chain: enterprises (at all levels), employers, workers and small producer organisations, including cooperatives. Founded in 2000, the ECLT Foundation (ECLT) involves stakeholders across multiple sectors to have a greater impact in the progressive elimination of child labour within tobacco growing.

With 29 projects implemented in 9 countries to date, ECLT has developed a global expertise, built a foundation of good practices and has refined models addressing the issue of child labour in tobacco growing. ECLT's experience is helping to support companies in realising international standards consistent with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. It has become a unique platform for promoting sustainable and responsible business practices in the tobacco sector.

IMPACT OF ECLT'S WORK IN 2015-16

27,000 CHILDREN

were removed from and kept out of child labour ¹

Each day, we removed

7 CHILDREN

from child labour

7,300 CHILDREN

were sent to school and benefited from vocational training ²

All our data comes from our online impact measurement system "M&E Online," and is based on performance indicators collected and entered by M&E in-country project officers on a periodic or annual basis, as needed. The data concerns Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania and Uganda.

45,000 COMMUNITY MEMBERS

were reached through targeted awareness-raising activities ³

500+ NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

within 4 tobacco-growing countries were brought together to renew commitments on national action plans to eliminate child labour ⁴



15,000 FAMILIES

were trained to develop microcredits and businesses by creating Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA) ⁵

1. This data adds two indicators of M&E Online: "withdrawn children" (5-17 y.o.) and "prevented children" (5-17 y.o.). Children considered "prevented" have benefited from a project intervention including: educational support (such as scholastic materials), extracurricular activities (after-school programmes, summer camps), income-generating activities (parents are members of Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLA), Income Generating Activities (IGAs), conditional loans to mothers and microloans) or psychosocial support. Children are considered "withdrawn" and are counted as such after a 3-month enrolment in school or vocational training.
2. This data adds two indicators of M&E Online: "withdrawn children" and "vocational training" (12-17 y.o.).
3. This number reflects the amount of people reached through sensitisation meetings, trainings and events.
4. This figure counts the participants of social dialogues supported by ECLT.
5. This number reflects the amount of people who participated in IGAs, VSLAs or microcredit activities.



STOP!
Child Labour
in Tobacco



UDF
654T

INTEGRATING INTERNATIONAL STANDARDS AND PRINCIPLES

Since its creation in 2000, the Foundation has aligned with international standards and principles to eliminate child labour and promote business and human rights. Working in accordance with these guidelines helps us set goals and lends legitimacy to our coordinated efforts in the field. They constitute a framework that guides our work with both our Board member companies and our global and national partners:

- **THE ILO MINIMUM AGE CONVENTION,** 1973 (No. 138);
- **THE ILO WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR CONVENTION,** 1999 (No. 182);
- **THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS;**
- **THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT'S TEN PRINCIPLES** particularly principle 4 on forced labour and principle 5 on child labour; and
- **THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGs).**

“Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.”

SDG 8.7

As a member of the UN Global Compact and a United Nations Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC)-recognised organisation, the ECLT Foundation is committed to supporting and promoting these standards and to contributing to the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Our work primarily supports the fulfilment of SDG 8.7, yet our systemic approach has had an impact on many other goals.



ADOPTING A STRATEGIC APPROACH



ACT FOR CHILDREN



The ECLT Foundation implements projects in target countries to progressively eliminate child labour in tobacco-growing communities. In its activities, ECLT builds **collaboration** by involving all relevant stakeholders – including the public and private sectors, international organisations and NGOs – to strengthen capacities and leverage efforts to support sustainable change. A robust Monitoring & Evaluation system is regularly used on all projects.



ACCOMPANY COMPANIES



The ECLT Foundation supports the realisation of the **Pledge of Commitment**, signed by all ECLT Foundation Board members, to eliminate child labour throughout the tobacco-growing supply chain. It serves as a coherent framework for confirming commitments and aligning policies and practices against child labour within a major portion of the global tobacco-growing supply chain.





ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS TO INFORM

INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL DIALOGUES ON CHILD LABOUR

As a **convenor**, ECLT builds bridges and opens doors with partners who may not otherwise come together. On an international level, ECLT mobilises key stakeholders to develop sound policies on child labour. It develops partnerships to nurture inspiring guidance, and advocates for a world free of child labour. On national and local levels, ECLT raises awareness about the issue and supports the design and implementation of national and local action plans.



BUILD KNOWLEDGE AND SHARE GOOD PRACTICES

With its established experience, the ECLT Foundation provides **context** on the situation of child labour in tobacco agriculture, compiles and shares good practices to demonstrate what can be successful in addressing the root causes and proposes replicable models for use by other actors in other regions and sectors. In this way, ECLT has become the principal resource centre for developing sound policies and actions combating child labour in tobacco growing.





ACT FOR CHILDREN



ON-THE-GROUND IMPLEMENTATION

In 2015-16, the ECLT Foundation managed projects in 8 countries (Guatemala, Indonesia, Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Mozambique, Tanzania, Uganda, and Zambia). All ECLT projects are aligned with and designed to support SDG 8.7 and UNGC Principle 5. In each of our projects, we follow 5 strategic and interconnected objectives to promote sustainable change:

- **WE REMOVE CHILDREN FROM CHILD LABOUR** and prevent children from falling into child labour
- **WE PROVIDE EDUCATION AND BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES** by supporting children's enrolment in school and apprenticeships, building facilities and improving children's access to basic health services, water and sanitation
- **WE RAISE AWARENESS** about the problems of child labour and promote children's rights
- **WE STRENGTHEN COMMUNITY CAPACITY AND GOVERNANCE** to remain free of child labour
- **WE ALLEVIATE POVERTY BY STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOODS,** encouraging community savings and supporting food security



“ Last year, we enrolled 80 students into secondary school, providing them with support and access to complementary technical and educational training so they can increase their chances of employment or create their own enterprise. ”

Virginia Murillo
Executive President of
Defensa de Niñas y Niños
- Internacional Costa Rica,
ECLT Foundation's partner
in La Maquina, Guatemala.



A weekly Village Savings and Loan Association (VSLA) meeting for local communities in Uganda.



Members of Defensa de los Niños Internacional Costa Rica and the ECLT Foundation work together to design concrete employment and training activities for young people in Guatemala.



Samara, a beneficiary of Kyrgyzstan's vocational programme.



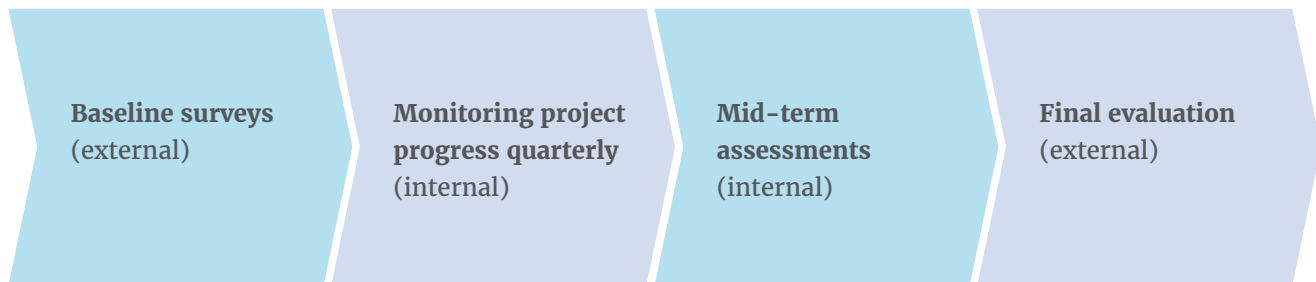
INVOLVING ALL RELEVANT STAKEHOLDERS

In our projects, we adopt an inclusive and multi-stakeholder approach for a greater impact: we bring together representatives from the government, employers, workers and farmers, along with community leaders, to help create structural and lasting change. In communities, for example, child protection committees are set up and composed of volunteers who identify at-risk children to prevent them from entering into or returning to child labour.

MONITORING RESULTS AND MEASURING IMPACT

Accountability and transparency are key to reporting our results. The ECLT Foundation has designed its own Monitoring & Evaluation system online (M&E Online). M&E Online enables our partners to submit regular reports on project performance throughout the duration of a project. In 2016, a project of country mini sites – to be launched in 2017 – has been developed to more directly communicate impact using key indicators and highlighting success stories and good practices. In December 2015, ECLT also commissioned independent impact evaluation studies for its projects in Malawi and Tanzania that were coming to an end.

Performance indicators are collected and stored in the M&E Online database from the beginning to the end of each project.





ACCOMPANY COMPANIES



SETTING MEANINGFUL STANDARDS

The ECLT Foundation is a unique platform bringing together a large portion of the global tobacco sector in the fight against child labour. On December 10, 2014, 13 member companies signed the ECLT Members' Pledge of Commitment, a sector-wide agreement to uphold robust policy on child labour, conduct due diligence and provide for remediation consistent with the UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights.

The pledge provides a coherent framework to confirm commitments, align actions, and generate supply chain efficiencies. In 2015, all signatories went through an online self-assessment questionnaire to evaluate existing gaps and establish a dashboard with a baseline and action plans.



Where child labour is suspected, or identified, consultation meetings are held with the farmers and/or farmers' co-operatives to reinforce our company policy of zero tolerance. Progress is monitored by field agronomy personnel.

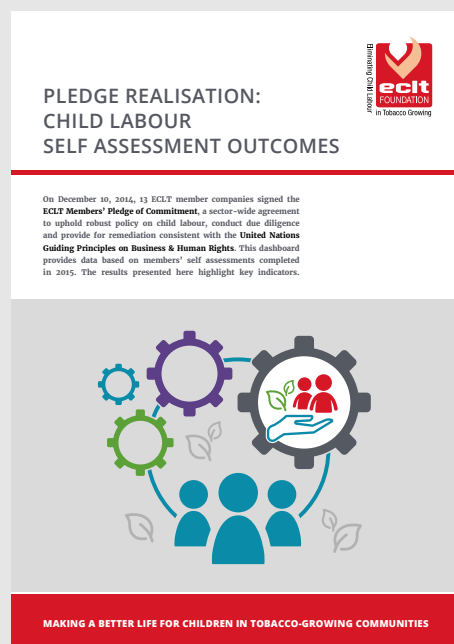


ECLT Member

IMPLEMENTING THE PLEDGE OF COMMITMENT FROM SELF-ASSESSMENT OUTCOMES

From 2015-16, ECLT developed a tool for assessing the status of ECLT Foundation members' Pledge of Commitment signatories on child labour policy, due diligence and remediation. 13 member companies completed the self-assessment questionnaire based on UNGPs, ILO standards and industry practice.

The results were publicly communicated on the ECLT website in the form of a dashboard. Furthermore, the members started the process of developing action plans to strengthen their actions on child labour based on the results of the self-assessments.



Opening Remarks:
H.E. Ambassador
Robert Dufter Salama
Permanent Mission of the Republic of Malawi to the UN



Nicholas McCoy

Sonia Velazquez



ENGAGE STAKEHOLDERS TO INFORM INTERNATIONAL AND NATIONAL DIALOGUES ON CHILD LABOUR

DEVELOPING KEY PARTNERSHIPS AT THE GLOBAL LEVEL

The ECLT Foundation contributes to international policy debates on child labour to ensure it continues to be a priority on international and national agendas by participating in global events (such as World Day Against Child Labour and the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights), networks (UN Global Compact, including the Swiss UNGC network and Alliance 8.7) and platforms (Child Labour Platform). It develops partnerships with key stakeholders and decision-makers, including within the UN system, to nurture inspiring guidance and have a greater impact by leveraging efforts and maximising synergies. ECLT develops advocacy-based communications to stay current on important debates, promote positive practices and make them more accessible to an international audience.



(Left) ECLT convenes a side event of the 5th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights (Nov. 2016, Geneva) with the support of the Permanent Missions of Canada and the Republic of Malawi to the UN, entitled “Securing Multi-Stakeholder Commitments Towards Eliminating Child Labour.”

Tracking progress on the implementation of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, 4th UN Forum on Business and Human Rights (Nov. 2015, Geneva).



DEVELOPING GLOBAL GUIDANCE AND SUPPORTING SOCIAL DIALOGUES WITH THE ILO

In 2015, the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the ECLT Foundation signed a partnership agreement to develop global guidance on hazardous child labour in tobacco growing, and to support stronger social dialogue in three of the countries where ECLT operates projects: Malawi, the United Republic of Tanzania and Uganda.

The global guidance will examine the nature and conditions of hazardous child labour in tobacco growing. It will promote tripartite action to ensure that children do not perform this work, and will support decent youth employment opportunities. New research will also be developed. The project will also enhance government and social partner capacities to develop and implement policies and action plans to combat child labour in agriculture.

The global guidance and the results of efforts supporting social dialogue on combating child labour in agriculture in the three target countries will feed into the 4th Global Child Labour Conference in Argentina in 2017.

From 2015-16, the ECLT Foundation contributed to the international debate in many fora, notably:

- **THE 4TH AND 5TH UN FORUMS ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS (NOV 2015 AND 2016).** In 2016, ECLT hosted a side event, “Securing Multi-Stakeholder Commitments Towards Eliminating Child Labour,” and shared concrete examples of effective multi-stakeholder approaches in the fight against child labour in agriculture.
- **THE LAUNCH OF ALLIANCE 8.7 (SEPT. 2016),** which takes an inclusive approach involving governments, UN agencies, international and regional organisations, worker and employer organisations, the private sector, civil society, academia, the media and more to eradicate child labour.
- **THE UNGC LEADERS SUMMIT (JUNE 2016),** highlighting the role of partnerships with and among businesses at the centre of attaining the SDGs.
- **THE 26TH AFRICAN UNION ASSEMBLY (FEB. 2016),** which focused on human rights, education and gender equality under Agenda 2063.
- **THE SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT SUMMIT (SEPT. 2015),** which adopted the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.



ENGAGING STAKEHOLDERS AT THE COUNTRY LEVEL

ECLT works with relevant stakeholders in support of national action plans for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour and strengthens the capacity of local leaders, child labour committee members, and other authorities to implement them. It conducts awareness-raising activities within rural communities and amongst farmers, to take concrete measures to address child labour.



Too many children in Uganda are still trapped in such totally unacceptable forms of child labour. With the adoption of the Hoima District Action Plan, we promise to continue our activities against child labour.



Julian Nyachwo
Federation of Uganda Employers, May 2016

Adopting the Hoima District Action Plan Against Child Labour in Uganda, with representatives from the government, workers, employers and communities (May 2016).

Raising awareness about child labour in communities.





BUILD KNOWLEDGE AND SHARE GOOD PRACTICES

DEMONSTRATE WHAT CAN BE SUCCESSFUL

To maximise impact, the ECLT Foundation compiles and shares good practices to “show what works,” building on its years of experience in various countries, and supports other actors by offering intervention models replicable in other areas. Due to the wide dissemination of its policy briefs, reports and good practice guides, ECLT has become the principal source for research on and successful approaches to addressing child labour in tobacco growing. ECLT shares this broad knowledge base and promotes good, sustainable practices for

combating child labour in the tobacco sector and in other agricultural sectors.

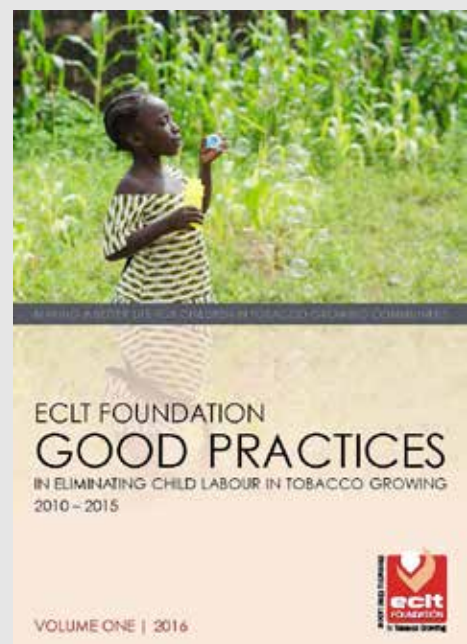
From 2015-16, for example, ECLT commissioned a meta-analysis of child labour baseline studies conducted in Malawi, Tanzania, Kyrgyzstan and Uganda spanning from 2010-15. The objective of the meta-analysis was to synthesise the results of four baseline studies, discern and document patterns across a variety of tobacco-growing communities, generate new knowledge and inform programmatic responses by ECLT, member companies and other stakeholders.

THE ECLT FOUNDATION GOOD PRACTICE GUIDE

Published in 2016, the **Good Practice Guide** compiles 10 types of interventions that have been proven to work well in reducing child labour over the last five years.

What kind of activities can effectively tackle the root causes of child labour and provide support to households in a sustainable way? What makes a practice effective and sustainable? Will a practice that has been efficient in a specific community also be effective in another region?

The manual addresses these questions and can serve as a tool for government institutions, children’s rights and other civil society and international organizations, as well as private sector entities looking to address child labour in their supply chains.



BOARD, TEAM AND CREDITS

BOARD MEMBERS

International Tobacco Growers' Association

Alliance One International

Altria Tobacco Companies

British American Tobacco

Contraf-Nicotex-Tobacco GmbH

Hail & Cotton International Group

Imperial Brands

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

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International Labour Organization

Save the Children Switzerland

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WITH OUR PARTNERS, WE ARE COMMITTED TO PROGRESSIVELY ELIMINATING CHILD LABOUR IN TOBACCO GROWING COMMUNITIES TO MAKE CHILDREN'S LIVES BETTER

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