Accelerating Action against Child Labour in Tourism

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1. Global overview of child labour
2. What is child labour, and its worst forms?
3. Tourism and child labour
4. How can we tackle child labour?
Global overview of child labour
Important statistics

- 215 million in child labour
- 115 million of these children in hazardous work
Child labour continues to decline, but more modestly than previously.

3% decline between 2004-2008  
[10% decrease between 2000-2004]

On present trends, the goal of eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016 will **not** be reached.
Main progress

Positive trend among children 5-14

- 10% reduction in child labour
- 31% reduction in hazardous work
Positive Trends in 5-14

Global trends in child labour (age group 5-14, million)

- 190
- 185
- 180
- 175
- 170
- 165
- 160
- 155
- 150
- 145
- 140

Year

2000 2004 2008

Million

- 186.30
- 170.38
- 152.85

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour

www.ilo.org/ipec
Different trends: girls and boys

- Fewer **girls** are now in child labour.
  - declined by 15%.

- Worrying trend for **boys**
  - Increase by 20% among **older boys (15-17)** in hazardous work
Global trends in child labour by sex (age group 5-17, percentage)

Year

Boys

Girls

16.8%
15.2%
14.9%
15.6%
16.0%
17.0%
18.0%
10.0%
11.0%
12.0%
13.0%
14.0%
15.0%
2000
2004
2008

International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
Regional trends

Asia and Pacific – significant reduction down to 96m (14.8 % of children)

Latin America and Caribbean – slight reduction down to 10m (9%)

Sub Saharan Africa – further increase to 58m (28.4%)

No separate figure for Europe or developed countries – lack of surveys
Regional Trends in numbers

Children in employment (aged group 5-14, million)

Child labour, distribution by branch of economic activity (%), 5-17 years old

- Agriculture: 60.0%
- Services: 25.6%
- Industry: 7.0%
- Not defined: 7.5%

✔ One quarter of child labourers are in service sector (more than in industry, such as mining, manufacturing)
What is child labour, 
And its worst forms?
Child labour to be eliminated =

- **Worst Forms** of Child Labour (C182) and

- Work done by a child below the **minimum age** for that kind of work (specified by national law, in line with C138 and CRC article 32(2))
Worst Forms of Child Labour

a) Children in slavery, forced or compulsory labour, child trafficking
   Including debt bondage, forced recruitment for use in armed conflict

b) Children in prostitution and pornography

c) Children in illicit activities

d) Children in hazardous work
C 182: coverage

- All sectors of economic activity without exception (e.g. tourism)
- Girls and boys **under 18 years**
- Special attention for most vulnerable e.g. minority groups, very young and girls
- Worst forms of child labour as priority target for action
## ILO Minimum Age Convention No. 138

**Requires a national policy for the effective abolition of child labour**

(Art. 1)

**Requires a specification of minimum age**

\[ \text{age} \geq \text{end of compulsory education} \]

(Art. 2)

### General

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Activity</th>
<th>Minimum Age</th>
<th>Exceptions for developing countries</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Basic Minimum Age (Art. 2)</td>
<td>15 years</td>
<td>14 years</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Hazardous work (Art. 3)</td>
<td>18 years</td>
<td>NO EXCEPTION</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>(16 years conditionally)</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Light work (Art. 7)</td>
<td>13-15 years</td>
<td>12-14 years</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>


International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
What is child labour to be abolished?

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Age of the child</th>
<th>Work excluded from minimum age legislation</th>
<th>Light work</th>
<th>Non-hazardous, non-light work</th>
<th>Hazardous work and other worst forms of child labour</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>18 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>14/15/16 &lt;minimum age&gt;</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>12/13</td>
<td></td>
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</tbody>
</table>

Shaded area = child labour for abolition
Tourism and child labour
Tourism and child labour

- Commercial sexual exploitation of children – not the only issue
- Hazardous work carried out by young workers – old enough to work but below the age of 18 years
- Children working in informal economy surrounding tourism
Young workers in tourism sector

- Highest proportion of young workers*: 
  - ‘Hotels and restaurants**’ (22.7.%) 
  - ‘Trade’, (16.3.%) 

** Classified as “high risk sector”
Hazards and risks in hotels and restaurants

- Physical safety conditions (knives, hot oils and many hazards e.g. in the kitchen)
- Slips trips and falls
- Physically demanding work (standing for long period, handling heavy things…)
- Noise and temperature
- High workload and stress
- Violence and harassment (verbal, physical, sexual)
- Long hours, overtime, night shift
Measures against hazardous work

- Not let young workers (<18) carry out specified hazardous tasks
- Train and instruct them well
- Improve general OSH conditions at workplace
- Maintain equipments and supply protective gears as necessary
- Do not allow violence or harassment of any kind
How can we tackle child labour?
Break the vicious cycle!

Poverty causes child labour; and child labour causes poverty!!

To break the cycle with alternatives!!

www.ilo.org/ipec International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
IPEC: Philosophy and objectives

Operations

Combating child labour

Knowledge/Advocacy

Programmes and Projects in the field

Awareness at local, national and international level
Accelerating action against child labour

- an increased global effort to tackle child labour and
- enhanced Government commitment
- reach out to children at special risk
Further measures

- international cooperation

- social dialogue and cooperation
  = Partnership with business and trade unions

- advocacy and mobilisation

- decent work for youth/adults
Effective action at many levels

International
- International conventions (C182, C138, CRC)
- UNWTO guidelines and global code of ethics
- wise international lending by World Bank and IMF
- Tourist industry codes of conduct

National
- ratification of the international conventions
- laws and their enforcement
- free compulsory education for all
- information to the tourists
- social protection for poor families

Regional
- NGO / local projects e.g.: self help groups
- Awareness raising, lobbying
- Unionization of workers

Other
- Community monitoring of its children
- Networking, cooperation among NGO’s
- Local studies to understand the local issue and build consensus
Example of collaboration

- **IPEC Brazil** (national and in Bahia State) is part of the strategy on **sustainable tourism and children**, coordinated by the Ministry of Tourism and the Brasilia University.
The Global Action Plan

- Eliminating the worst forms of child labour by 2016!

Roadmap 2010 (The Hague, ILC): Further steps to attain this goal
Thank you for your attention!