



A901376

The Labour dimension of trafficking in children

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International
Programme
on the Elimination
of Child Labour
(IPEC)



International Training Centre



Justification

All human beings should be able to live a life in freedom and - if they are above the minimum working age - have decent jobs with decent pay. Children should be in school to prepare for meaningful work of their choice. Today, however, at least 2.45 million persons across the globe are subject to exploitation as a result of trafficking¹ and these include 1.2 million children under the age of 18².

Human trafficking is a crime, a form of modern day slavery, and a violation of human rights that reduces victims to 'commodities' to be bought, sold, transported and resold for exploitative purposes. The impact on children is particularly severe as it stunts their development and results in longer term suffering. Trafficked children are vulnerable to severe physical and psychological abuse and further exploitation. Long working hours, heavy loads, exposure to dangerous tools and toxic substances, fear and intimidation, violent punishment and sexual abuse combine to impair their health and make them prone to depression. Their separation from their family and community and possible isolation in another region or country where they do not have legal status or speak the language, makes them vulnerable to further exploitation by unscrupulous employers. Any attempt to refuse demands made upon them, disobey, protest or escape, may result in them being punished, arrested, detained, deported or even killed.

Child victims of trafficking are drawn into sexual exploitation, domestic service, street begging or other forms of child labour on plantations, on construction sites, in mines, in sweatshops or in other informal or entertainment work. In some areas of the world, children are also trafficked for use in armed conflicts.

Girls are affected disproportionately, in particular those trafficked for commercial sexual exploitation; boys are believed to be trafficked in particular for work on plantations.

In addition to the suffering of each individual child and family, the costs of child trafficking to society are enormous (e.g. health care expenditure, missed growth potential) and, apart from being a serious human rights violation, this would argue for commitment by governments, social partners and civil society to address the issue.

International Labour Standards framework and ILO mandate

Guided by ILO's Forced Labour Convention (No. 29), Minimum Age Convention (No. 138) and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No. 182) and in the broader framework of the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and the 'Palermo Protocol', ILO works towards the effective elimination of trafficking in children - with a particular focus on the 'labour' exploitation dimension. ILO considers child trafficking a crime involving the organized movement and/or transaction of children by someone for purposes of labour exploitation.

By adopting ILO's Global Action Plan against the worst forms of child labour on 7 November 2006 all member States (180 at that moment) have committed themselves to design and

put in place appropriate time-bound measures by the end of 2008, and eliminate the worst forms of child labour, including trafficking, by 2016.

Understanding the issue

A thorough understanding of the root causes and vulnerabilities of children are at the basis of developing effective responses to child trafficking. Poverty is usually at the root, but that alone cannot explain why certain poor families fall victim to trafficking and others not. It is often a range of risk factors that, if combined, make children vulnerable to trafficking - and these differ from place to place.

Child trafficking may take place in the child's home community, at transit points and at final destinations. The movement may be voluntary or coerced and the relocation may be across borders or within a country. Exploitation may occur at the beginning, middle or end of the trafficking process (or indeed at several points). Those who contribute to it (with the intent to exploit) - recruiters, intermediaries, document providers, transporters, corrupt officials, service providers and employers - are traffickers.

Response dimensions

Crucial questions that need careful consideration when planning action are 'Where to intervene?' (i.e. in source, transit or destination areas); 'at what level?' (i.e. policy/legal or outreach level); 'who to focus on?' (i.e. traffickers, children at-risk, or victims of trafficking); 'what to do?' (i.e. protection, prevention, victim assistance) 'how to do it?' (i.e. matters of process) and 'who to work with?'

Solid data and transparency with regards to research findings, a supportive legal framework, and government commitment to address child trafficking are important conditions for effective action, and where these are not yet in place preparatory work needs to be undertaken.



Learning objectives

The course aims to train participants in:

- better understanding the labour exploitation dimension of trafficking and particular needs of children;
- effective responses to trafficking with a particular focus on the labour dimension and the special needs of children, both at an 'upstream' policy/legal level and practical outreach level;
- process matters including partnership building, participation of children, monitoring, impact assessment and documentation of learning.

At the end of the course participants will be able to identify gaps in current responses and remedial action.

1 ILO, A global alliance against forced labour, ILC, 93rd Session, 2005, Report I (B), page. 14.

2 ILO, A future without child labour, ILC 90th Session, 2002, Report I (B), page. 18.



Participants' profile

This course is designed to attract a broad audience with an interest in wanting to deepen and broaden their existing knowledge on trafficking in human beings, particularly children.

Target participants include professionals who have a role to play in combating trafficking in human beings in developing, transition and industrialized countries - such as government officials working in anti-trafficking coordination units, ministries of labour, justice, interior, social affairs, and education; members of employers' and workers' organizations that focus on promoting core labour standards; and NGO activists engaged in the fight against trafficking in human beings.

To participate meaningfully and contribute to discussions from an informed position, participants should have relevant professional experience and background.

Participants with direct experience of working with trafficking victims are particularly welcome.



Structure and content of the training

This one-week course takes a broad view in looking at the labour dimensions of trafficking in human beings, in particular children. Among others, the course will touch upon:

Understanding trafficking:

- International legal framework on trafficking in persons, with a particular focus on child trafficking;
- The concept of trafficking vis-à-vis migration and smuggling;
- Understanding root causes, risk factors and vulnerability - including gender discrimination;
- Who are traffickers and where and how do they operate.

Action at policy and outreach level:

- Cross-border agreements among countries and at a regional level - labour dimensions;
- National Action Plans - labour dimensions;
- Legislation and law enforcement in source, transit and destination - including punishment of those who exploited children in the process of trafficking - i.e. recruiters, intermediaries, document providers, transporters, corrupt officials, service providers and employers;
- Licensing and monitoring recruitment/contract labour;
- Addressing demand by traffickers, employers and/or clients, monitoring work place risks and mobilizing employers and (migrant) workers;
- Prevention through education, (life) skills training, youth employment, safe migration and decent work (for children of minimum working age);
- Assistance to child victims - including socio-economic reintegration.

Matters of process:

- Research and using knowledge to affect change;
- Advocacy, mobilization and building partnerships - including with communities, media, workers' (e.g. in transport sector, judiciary) and employers organizations;
- Participation of children;
- Monitoring and impact assessment;
- Documentation of learning & sharing.



Methodology

These topics will be covered through a variety of techniques and media. The training will include a series of presentations by a range of resource persons with a background in labour issues, case studies, a review of documented good practices, plenary discussion, group work, and participatory assignments. To the extent possible the course will draw on the experience of participants to the training course. An evaluation of course methodology and content will complete the training course.

Resource persons will include key staff of ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child labour (IPEC), Special Action Programme to Combat Forced Labour (SAP-FL), International Migration Branch (MIGRANT), International Training Centre (ITC), and possibly selected staff of other international organizations.

Course language

English, Spanish (with simultaneous interpretation)

Costs

The total cost of participation in the course is **2,300 €** and includes tuition fees and subsistence costs.

Tuition fees cover:

- tuition;
- books and training materials;
- course preparation, implementation and evaluation.

Subsistence costs cover:

- full board and lodging at the Turin Centre's Campus;
- laundry;
- local study visit (if any);
- minor medical care and emergency medical insurance;
- socio-cultural activities.

The price indicated **does not include** travel costs between participants' home and the course venue. The cost of passports, visas to enter Italy, airport taxes, internal travel in

the participant's home country and unauthorized stopovers is not reimbursed.

Payment should be made in advance by bank transfer to:

Account No. 560001
Bank: Intesa-Sanpaolo SPA
IBAN: IT36 B030 6901 1911 0000 0560 001
SWIFT: BCITITMM701
Address: Viale Maestri del Lavoro 10, 10127 Turin - Italy

Note: On the bank transfer form, kindly state your name and the course code (A901376).

Applications

Applications to participate should be sent, by e-mail (normesturin@itcilo.org) or by fax (+39 011 693 6906), to the Manager of the Standards and Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Programme.

They should be supported by a *curriculum vitae* and a nomination letter from the sponsoring/funding institution, if relevant.

In line with the ILO's mandate to promote social justice and universally recognized human and labour rights, the Turin Centre encourages applications from women.

Fellowships

Fellowships are available to qualifying candidates.

The employers' organizations and workers' organizations that may be granted a fellowship for this activity will be selected by the Secretaries of the Employers' Group and of the Workers' Group of the Governing Body of the International Labour Office.

For further information, please contact:

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Standards and Fundamental Principles and Rights
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