Initiatives towards the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labor in the Philippines

Director IV, Bureau of Workers with Special Concerns
Department of Labor and Employment
Outline

1. Child Labor Situation in the Philippines
2. Child Labor in the SDGs and PDP
3. Philippine Program Against Child Labor and the National Child Labor Committee
4. Initiatives to Address Child Labor
2011 Survey on Children

Population of children 5 to 17 years old
26.617 M

Working children
12.4 % (3.312 M)

Children not working
87.6 % (23.305 M)

Child labor
63.3 % (2.097 M)

Hazardous child labor
97.7 % (2.049 M)

Other child labor
2.3 % (0.049 M)

Work in hazardous environment
88.7 % (1.817 M)

Long hours of work and night time work
11.3 % (0.232 M)

Not child labor
36.7 % (1.214 M)

Children not working
87.6 % (23.305 M)
2011 Survey on Children: Child labor by region

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<tr>
<th>Top Regions</th>
<th>%</th>
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<td>Region III</td>
<td>10.5</td>
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<td>Region V</td>
<td>10.4</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region X</td>
<td>8.5</td>
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<tr>
<td>Region IV-A</td>
<td>8.3</td>
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<td>Region VI</td>
<td>8.2</td>
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2011 Survey on Children: Child labor by industry group

- **Agriculture**: 58%
- **Services**: 35%
- **Industry**: 7%
Child Labor in the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)

• **SDG Goal 8:** Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all

• **Target No.7:** 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

• **Philippine contribution to SDG Target 8.7:**
  Remove one (1) million children from child labor by 2025
Child Labor Target in the Philippine Development Plan 2017-2022

• Chapter 11: Reducing Vulnerability of Individuals and Families

30% reduction in the number of children engaged in child labor by 2022
<table>
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<th>Objective</th>
<th>Description</th>
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<td>National child labor monitoring and evaluation system established and maintained</td>
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National Child Labor Committee

Institutional Building/Partnerships Sub-Committee
- Institutionalized National Child Labor Committee (NCLC) towards better coordination of its members and partners at all levels
- Stronger financial support for programs supporting withdrawal of child laborers from hazardous work
- Chair: CWC
- Vice-Chair: DILG-LGA

Enforcement Sub-Committee
- Improved and inclusive enforcement of anti-child labor laws at the national and local levels
- Chair: DOJ
- Vice-Chair: DOLE-BWC

Social Service Delivery Sub-Committee
- Expanded access of child laborers and their families to social protection, health, education and decent work
- Chair: DSWD-CPSB
- Vice-Chair: ERDA

Knowledge Management and Advocacy Sub-Committee
- Improved generation, dissemination and use of knowledge on child labor among stakeholders, policymakers and program implementers
- Chair: FFW
- Vice-Chair: PIA

Monitoring and Evaluation Sub-Committee
- National Child Labor Monitoring and Evaluation System established and maintained
- Chair: DOLE-PS
- Vice-Chair: NEDA
Proposed Executive Order Creating the National Council Against Child Labor

Seeks to:

• enhance the coordination among member-agencies and social partners
• clarify responsibility and accountability
• improve the generation, sharing, and analysis of data
• intensify the implementation and monitoring of the anti-child labor program
• ensure commitment to allocate budget
• generate political support
Child Labor Data Collection

DOLE has requested the Philippine Statistics Authority to include child labor data collection in the Labor Force Survey to ensure updated statistics useful to policymakers and program implementers.

Likewise, under the proposed Philippine Statistical Development Program for 2018-2023, child labor statistics in the System of Designated Statistics has been included.
Profiling of Child Laborers

The DOLE is currently conducting a nationwide profiling of child laborers by tapping its Government Internship Program beneficiaries as enumerators.
Sagip Batang Manggagawa (Rescue the Child Laborers)

• An inter-agency quick action mechanism which aims to respond to cases of child laborers in extremely abject conditions

• Employs an inter-agency quick action team for detecting, monitoring and rescuing child laborers in hazardous and exploitative working conditions

• Composed of the DOLE, DSWD and law enforcement agencies as core members
Livelihood Assistance to Parents of Child Laborers

• A strategic response to prevent and eliminate child labor
• Can be in the form of Negokart, starter kits, or materials needed to start a livelihood undertaking
• Beneficiaries of livelihood programs of the DOLE should not allow their children to be engaged in child labor
Project Angel Tree

Aims to provide an array of social services that range from food, clothing, or school supplies made available by sponsors or benefactors or “angels” to child laborers and their families.
Transitioning Child Laborers to Decent Youth Employment through Skills Training

The DOLE partners with the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority and Industrial Tripartite Councils for the provision of skills training to former child laborers and decent employment after completion of training and competency assessment.
Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program Module on Child Labor in the Family Development Session
SHIELD Against Child Labor Project

• **Strategic Helpdesks for Information, Education, Livelihood and other Developmental Interventions**

• Pilot project of the DSWD in three areas:
  • Region IV-A - Catanauan, Quezon (deep-sea fishing)
  • Region V - Labo, Jose Panganiban and Paracale in Camarines Norte (small-scale mining)
  • Region VIII - Kananga and Ormoc City, Leyte (sugarcane farming)

• Objective is to strengthen efforts at the local level through:
  • establishment of helpdesks and a local registry on child labor
  • advocacy and capacity building
CARING Gold Mining Project

• The ILO is currently implementing the USDOL-funded project called **Convening Actors to Reduce child labor and Improve working conditions IN ASGM (Artisanal and Small-scale Gold Mining)** or CARING Gold Mining Project

• The overall objective of the project is to increase global and national capacities to reduce child labour and improve working conditions in ASGM

• In the Philippines, the project sites are Camarines Norte in Region 5 and South Cotabato in Region 12
World Day Against Child Labor

• Since 2002, the Philippines joins in the global celebration of World Day Against Child Labor in the month of June through the conduct of various advocacy activities to raise awareness on the plight of child laborers

• For 2019, the global theme is “Children should not work in fields, but on dreams!”
Maraming salamat!