



ORGANIZATION

Argentinean Blueberry Committee, Argentina
pledges to

**Achieve a national social compliance system
for the blueberry sector in Argentina
with a focus on labour**

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Name:

To achieve a national social compliance system for the blueberry sector in Argentina with a focus on labour

Description:

We pledge to voluntarily adopt a control, monitoring and care programme specifically for blueberry production designed by the producers themselves to address the issue of child labour and the protection of youth labour in an integrated way.

The main beneficiaries are the blueberry sector at the national level and the entire value chain of the sector, the communities in the productive areas, the State at all levels, and children and adolescents.

The programme includes: a) awareness-raising actions involving all actors in the production chain, b) the implementation of a system to monitor and prevent the presence of child labour in the fields, and c) the establishment of care centres so that mothers have a place to leave their children, and education services so that adolescents have opportunities for training and recreation.

Implementation plan:

Poverty and school closures in the wake of the pandemic are likely to increase child labour and school dropout rates. It is necessary not only to improve controls but also to contribute to solving social problems. ABC will form an internal team to work on child labour issues in the sector. This team will train and provide technical assistance to enterprises for the implementation of the child labour prevention, care and monitoring programme. Through the enterprises, workers, contractors and transporters will be trained, awareness-raising material will be distributed and information posters will be put up in the fields. Enterprises will work together with the municipalities in the provinces and with the National Registry of Rural Workers Employers (Registro Nacional de Trabajadores Rurales y Empleadores – RENATRE) to establish care centres where mothers can leave their children during the harvest, as well as digital youth points where teenagers can access computers and receive educational support, and take advantage of training and recreational opportunities.

ARGENTINEAN BLUEBERRY COMMITTEE, ARGENTINA

Impact:

ABC will generate a model for the production sector that can be replicated by other sectors and enterprises that are part of the Business Network against Child Labour. In addition, it will specifically promote services that will directly serve children and adolescents who are currently facing difficulties in attending school. It will contribute to the eradication of child labour in three specific areas: strengthening protection and education services through public-private partnerships (digital youth points in Sargento Moya and Santa Lucia for adolescents and care centres for children); raising awareness among actors in the production chain.

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