



ORGANIZATION

Employers' Consultative Association of Malawi (ECAM), Malawi
pledges to

**Engage ECAM members for work readiness
initiatives for working-age children in tea
and coffee value chains**

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Name:

Engage ECAM members for work readiness initiatives (mentorships, apprenticeships, internships) for working-age children in tea and coffee value chains.

Description:

Withdrawing and protecting working-age children from the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) is most effective when training and decent work alternatives are provided to ensure alternative replacement sources of income, reducing the risk of such children being drawn back into child labour.

The specific target for 2021 is to train and empower not less than 50 working-age children withdrawn from or at risk of child labour, who will go on to be attached to various organizations either as apprentices, mentees, interns or young workers, or who become entrepreneurs in their own right.

Implementation plan:

ECAM will work together with the Government, employers, Technical, Entrepreneurial and Vocational Education and Training (TEVET) training institutions, and other stakeholders, to identify vulnerable children of legal working age (i.e. 14 to 17 years old) in or at risk of child labour, provide them with appropriate training opportunities, and link them with employers that will provide work readiness initiatives (mentorships, apprenticeships, and/or internships) for decent work opportunities as young workers and entrepreneurs, which provide valuable skills while protecting them from hazardous work.

Impact:

Firstly, our Action Pledge will show that collaboration between different actors, including businesses, is an effective approach to address child labour. Secondly, by demonstrating that providing training and alternative sources of income through decent work can help working-age children to get out of child labour, our Action Pledge will galvanize and inspire employers to undertake special efforts to do their part in contributing to the ending of child labour as part of their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR).

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