

GOVERNMENT

National Council Against Child Labor, Philippines pledges to

Release the updated estimates on child labour in the Philippines and provide services to families of child labourers

NATIONAL COUNCIL AGAINST CHILD LABOR, PHILIPPINES

Release the updated estimates on child labour in the Philippines and provide services to families of child labourers

Name:

Release of updated estimates on child labour in the Philippines and provision of services to families of child labourers.

Description:

The 2021 Action Pledge of the Philippines has three (3) components, namely:

Release of updated estimates on child labour in the Philippines;

Nationwide implementation of the Strategic Helpdesks for Information, Education, Livelihood and Other Developmental Interventions (SHIELD) Against Child Labour Project; Provision of livelihood and skills training to parents/guardians/older siblings of child labourers.

The current official data on child labour in the Philippines is based on the 2011 Survey on Children conducted by the Philippine Statistics Authority. Since it is already 10 years old, it does not provide an accurate picture of the child labour situation in the country. An updated data will enable the different stakeholders to come up with an accurate analysis of the situation and appropriate interventions. Thus, a rider module on child labour has been included in the October Round of the Labour Force Survey starting 2017. While the results have not yet been released, the Philippine Statistics Authority has made a commitment to release them this year.

The SHIELD Against Child Labour Project was piloted by the Department of Social Welfare and Development from 2017-2019 in four (4) regions in the country. The project was targeted to be implemented nationwide in 2020 but has been deferred to 2021 due to the COVID-19 pandemic. The Project will allow the institutionalization of the profiling of child labourers through the Barangay (Village) Helpdesks which is necessary in locating and identifying the child labourers, determining the assistance to be provided to them and their families, and facilitating the delivery of services in order to remove the children from child labour.

The provision of livelihood and skills training to parents/guardians/older siblings of child labourers will allow the families to have a source of income and the capability to sustain it. This will prevent their children to engage in child labour in order to meet their basic needs. Executive Order No. 92 institutionalizing the National Council Against Child Labour to upscale

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the implementation of the Philippine Program Against Child Labour which was signed in 2019 by the Philippine President will be used as the basis to ensure the commitment of the implementing agencies as well as to mobilize various stakeholders and the whole of society to provide support for the achievement of the 2021 Action Pledge of the Philippines.

Implementation plan:

The National Council Against Child Labour chaired by the Department of Labour and Employment will closely coordinate with the implementing agencies, namely: Philippine Statistics Authority, the Department of Social Welfare and Development, and the Technical Education and Skills Development Authority.

The updates on the status of the 2021 Action Pledge of the Philippines shall be included among the agenda items of the regular meetings for 2021 of the National Council Against Child Labour.

Impact:

The updated estimates on child labour in the Philippines will provide a more accurate picture of the child labour situation in the country which will be useful for planning and targeting purposes to ensure effective policy and program responses. This will also help in locating and identifying the children to be removed from child labour.

The SHIELD Against Child Labour Project will strengthen horizontal and vertical linkages for the profiling of child labourers and delivery of services necessary to remove the children from child labour as well as in tracking their progress and monitoring their status.

The provision of livelihood and skills training to parents/guardians/older siblings of child labourers will provide a source of income to families to meet their basic needs so that their children do not need to engage in child labour.