



GOVERNMENT

United States Department of Labour, United States
pledges to

**Contribute to the reduction of International
and National Child Labour through technical
assistance, research, trade policy,
and enforcement**

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Name:

Contribute to the Reduction of International and National Child Labour through Technical Assistance, Research, Trade Policy, and Enforcement

Description:

The U.S. Government's Action Pledge consists of commitments to address child labor, forced labor and human trafficking by a number of U.S. Government agencies, and will include the following specific actions:

1. ILAB will provide \$57 million during 2021 to accelerate action internationally to eliminate child labor and forced labor
2. The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division, which conducts labor inspections within the United States, pledges to harness all of its resources in the push to eliminate child labor and forced labor
3. The U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons will support efforts to address child trafficking and child labor through the Department of State's Child Protection Compact Partnerships (CPCs), Program to End Modern Slavery projects, and its Responsible Sourcing Tool.
4. USAID is committed to combating harmful child labor in 2021 through its targeted counter-trafficking in persons programs that focus on preventing forced child labor through protection, prosecution, prevention, and partnerships as well as through a dedicated focus on children in adversity
5. The Office of the United States Trade Representative will seek to utilize the full range of trade tools and work with our trade partners and allies to protect labor rights, including the elimination of the worst forms of child labor, especially forced child labor.

Implementation plan:

The U.S. Government's Action Pledge consists of commitments to address child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking by a number of U.S. Government agencies, and will include the following specific actions:

1. ILAB will provide \$57 million during 2021 to accelerate action internationally to eliminate child labour and forced labour by:
 - Supporting efforts by the global community, including worker organizations, civil society, and Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder countries, to address child labour and forced labour;
 - Expanding access to social protection for vulnerable children, workers, and families, to ensure that a crisis like the COVID-19 pandemic will never again threaten their health and wellbeing;
 - Fostering companies' responsibility and accountability for their supply chains and promoting respect for worker voice and other labour rights;
 - Creating an online platform to share with the public the tools, resources, research, and lessons learned developed through decades of ILAB-supported technical assistance programming aimed at eliminating child labour and forced labour around the world;
 - Promoting donor coordination to share good practices with the goal of maximizing the impact of international technical assistance funding;
 - Conducting research and analysis on the efforts of 130 countries to address child labour during 2020, in the face of COVID-19;
 - Issuing the Iqbal Masih award in recognition of exceptional efforts to reduce child labour;
 - Supporting the V Global Conference on Child Labour, including promoting full participation by civil society and workers.
2. The U.S. Department of Labor's Wage and Hour Division, which conducts labour inspections within the United States, pledges to harness all of its resources in the push to eliminate child labour and forced labour by:
 - Investigating and determining compliance with child labour laws in every full investigation that it conducts under the U.S. Fair Labor Standards Act;
 - Prioritizing compliance with child labour laws in agriculture, and making compliance an integral component of training in our national agricultural enforcement and education initiative;
 - Prioritizing outreach efforts and engaging stakeholders across industries likely to employ minors to educate them on child labour laws; and
 - Continuing to focus on implementing a Community of Practice on Child Labour to identify effective stakeholder engagement, enforcement, and awareness-raising strategies.

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3. The U.S. Department of State's Office to Monitor and Combat Trafficking in Persons will continue to support existing U.S. Department of State Child Protection Compact Partnerships (CPCs) with the Governments of the Philippines, Peru, Jamaica, and Mongolia to strengthen their efforts to effectively prosecute and convict child traffickers, provide comprehensive trauma-informed care for child victims of these crimes, and prevent child trafficking in all its forms. We also will work to sign a new Child Protection Compact and through the Program to End Modern Slavery to support programs informed by rigorous research that aim to reduce the prevalence of human trafficking. The U.S. government will continue to support and promote the Responsible Sourcing Tool, which provides free risk management tools to help the private sector prevent human trafficking.
4. USAID is committed to combating harmful child labour in 2021 through its targeted counter-trafficking in persons' programs that focus on preventing forced child labour through protection, prosecution, prevention, and partnerships as well as through a dedicated focus on children in adversity. USAID will help to ensure that parents are empowered and engaged in decent work that follows local labour laws that increasingly approach international standards and that they earn decent wages and access social protection benefits, augmenting the ability of parents to effectively protect and care for their children. For example, an ongoing effort in Burundi will work to prevent the trafficking of children through enhanced monitoring by local organizations.
5. The Office of the United States Trade Representative will seek to utilize the full range of trade tools and work with our trade partners and allies to protect labour rights, including the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, especially forced child labour.

Impact:

Our Action Pledge will contribute to ending child labour internationally by involving workers, civil society, donors, and business and supporting them to address child labour both in their own spheres of influence and collaboratively, by extending social protection to families and children and addressing some of their vulnerabilities to child labour and forced labour, by sharing good practices with the global community, by combating child trafficking through protection, prosecution, prevention, and partnerships, and through negotiation, monitoring, and enforcement of a worker-centric trade policy that combats exploitative labour, including forced labour and child labour. Our Action Pledge will also contribute to ending child labour domestically by making it more difficult for companies to employ children illegally and increasing awareness about labour rights and protections amongst youth of legal working age.

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