



ORGANIZATION

Action against Child Exploitation (ACE), Japan
pledges to

**Ending child labour through partnership
and collective impact**

Ending child labour through partnership and collective impact

Name:

Ending child labour through partnership and collective impact

Description:

ACE adopts a collaborative/systemic approach to eliminating child labour by engaging multiple stakeholders. We conduct community development projects in Ghana, India and Japan; advocate to the Japanese government and international community; involve the business sector in supply chain transparency; and raise people's awareness of child labour issues. In 2021, we are focusing on strengthening partnerships and collaborative mechanisms among these various stakeholders for the elimination of child labour in cocoa production in Ghana. This is expected to facilitate collective impact on a large scale.

Implementation plan:

ACE will implement its 2021 Action Pledge based on the three strategic pillars – “Action, Inspire, Scale up”-, and by placing importance on partnership and collective impact.

Action

- In overseas communities:
Continue the implementation of the SMILE Ghana Project in cocoa-production areas and the PEACE India Project in cotton-production areas in order to prevent and end child labour via the establishment of collaborative mechanisms in the communities, engaging children, community members, schools, local governments and others.
- For businesses in Japan:
Conduct seminars, training workshops and awareness-raising activities, and provide consultation services, in order to promote businesses that are child labour-free.
- To the Japanese government and international communities:
Advocate taking action to eliminate child labour

Inspire

Organize events and provide information on the International Year to raise awareness and inspire people to take action for the elimination of child labour, including via the publication of newspaper articles and organization of events in collaboration with a major national newspaper, the Asahi Shimbun.

ACTION AGAINST CHILD EXPLOITATION (ACE), JAPAN

Scale up

- Provide support to the Government of Ghana to implement the National Plan of Action Phase II on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor:

ACE has been implementing the SMILE Ghana Project since 2009 and succeeded in establishing a sustainable mechanism, in collaboration with local governments, to prevent and end child labour in 10 communities and 72 sub-communities in cocoa-production areas in the south-west of Ghana. Based on the knowledge and experience obtained in operating these activities, in 2018-2020 we supported the Ghanaian government formulate and establish the Protocols and Guidelines on “Establishing Child Labour Free Zones (CLFZs) in Ghana,” engaging multiple stakeholders in the process. In 2021, we launched pilot activities in two districts in the south-west of Ghana in line with the Guidelines as part of a JICA (Japan International Cooperation Agency) project, with the aim of testing whether the implementation of the Guidelines is feasible and effective. The results of the pilot will be compiled in a report to be released in March 2022, which we hope will show the Guidelines to be successful and pave the way for scaling up CLFZs in Ghana, West Africa and ultimately globally.

Impact:

In order to eliminate child labour, it is multi-stakeholder collaboration that is of vital importance. ACE will take the initiative to strengthen partnerships by engaging policy makers, businesses, trade unions, NGOs, consumers, communities where child labour exists, and the general public. In particular, we will promote the Guidelines and Protocols, “Establishing Child Labour Free Zones (CLFZs) in Ghana” through pilot activities in collaboration with the Ghanaian government and JICA. This is expected to present a model case of collective impact for the elimination of child labour.