GLOBAL MARCH
Against Child Labour
Contra el Trabajo Infantil
Contre le Travail des Enfants

ANNUAL REPORT

2022

STRENGTHENING CAPACITIES FOR ACTION AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

www.globalmarch.org

TABLE OF CONTENTS

CONTENTS

01.

INTRODUCTION: PAGE: 2

02.

FORWARD NOTE: PAGE: 3-4

03.

IMPACT THROUGH INTERVENTIONS: PROJECT UPDATES: PAGE 5-11

04.

ADDRESSING CHILD LABOUR IN SUPPLY CHAINS: GLOBAL TO LOCAL : PAGE: 12-15

05.

AROUND THE GLOBE; GMACL MEMBER UPDATES. PAGE: 16-20

06.

GMACL EVENTS & CAMPAIGNS, 2022. PAGE: 21-23

07.

PUBLICTION, 2022. PAGE: 24

INTRODUCTION

ABOUT US

The Global March Against Child Labour (Global March) is a worldwide network of trade unions, teachers' associations and civil society organisations that work together towards the shared development goals of eliminating and preventing all forms of child labour, slavery and trafficking and ensuring access by all children to free, meaningful and good quality public education.

HOW WE WORK

Global March, as a unique coalition of trade unions, teacher organisations and child right organisation works to support the challenge of elimination of child labour by developing strong knowledge management, strategic alliances, actions of political impact, social mobilization and awareness.

WHAT WE DO

- Developing and collating knowledge-based evidences
- Building and strengthening a worldwide movement of stakeholders
- Spearheading and coordinating advocacy activities in partnerships on policies and programmes.
- Fostering meaningful and positive social change through awareness-raising.

FORWARD NOTE

In a year that saw the world battered by a continued pandemic, increasing conflict and climate pressures, the fight to eliminate child labour was met with severe challenges. Nevertheless, the resilience of parents and children, their communities, activists, workers, policy-makers and governments alike showed in the renewed efforts to combat child labour in 2022. And the Global March and its members demonstrated that resilience and ways forward across three continents. What makes this resilience work is the crucial role of the network of civil society organizations, trade unions, community groups, and educators that can touch the reality of children's lives where they live but also educate policy makers on how their actions are critical as well. Global March works vertically and laterally and integrates the two.

This past year saw the Global March continue its role representing child labour organizations in the Global Coordinating Group of the ILO's Alliance 8.7, advocating for governments to engage with their civil society counterparts to create truly effective National Action Plans to combat child labour. International advocacy continued with the Global March's engagement with EU governments over the development of proposed Human Rights Due Diligence legislation. And at the national and local levels, the Global March and its members continued to advocate on a variety of issues, from public awareness programs in Pakistan to gender violence and girl-child labour issues in Tanzania, from advocating for significant child labour legislation in the U.S. to calling for quality public education programs in Argentina. The ground-breaking work in Uganda involves both NGOs and trade unions, is building community-based power, new coalitions and advocacy channels that reach the national and local levels, and expands that advocacy across borders to make common cause with other organizations in surrounding countries.

"The vision to see a world free of child labour is reinvigorating the Global March movement and activists around the globe."

FORWARD NOTE

This advocacy, moreover, is fueled and inspired by the work carried on by Global March member organizations at the grass-roots and community levels. The holistic approach to advocacy and program impact is intimately linked to the Global March's bottom-up and top-down strategy which informs the fight against combat child labour on multiple levels. In this report, you'll read about the detailed and comprehensive work undertaken by Global March members across a dozen countries. Beyond just the physical and situational challenges the Global March network faces in its daily work to eliminate child labour, in some countries political repression makes the goal of building an equitable, community-based response to this scourge extremely difficult.

Nevertheless, across a wide field of effort including education, climate, supply chains, agriculture and legal barriers, the Global March members and network made significant progress in 2022, creating a foundation for further impactful work in the years to come. It's been a very difficult few years but the commitment, the will, and the vision to see a world free of child labour is reinvigorating the Global March movement and activists around the globe. Since its introduction in 1998 and final ratification by every country in the world by 2020, ILO Convention 182 and its fallout signified serious progress, lifting tens of millions of children out of labour and into schools. Progress has paused but neither this status quo nor increasing child labour is acceptable; the only choice is to recognize that now is the critical moment to renew the ultimate pursuit to end child labour.

Timothy Ryan
Chairperson, Global March Against Child Labour

IMPACT THROUGH INTERVENTIONS

Catalyzing Civil Society to Accelerate Progress Against Child Labor (Catalyst)

Introduction

With a grant from the U.S Department of Labor, Global March began a four-year project in 2022 in Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder Countries Nepal, Uganda, and Peru to assist in advancing the child labor agenda in those countries by strengthening civil society capacity to combat child labor and accelerate evidence-based policies towards Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) Target 8.7. In each Pathfinder Country, Global March collaborates with regional CSO partners to implement the work. The goal is to reinforce the role and participation of multinational CSO networks in advancing the child labor agenda in global and regional fora while facilitating the exchange of information and innovation among CSOs.

Country Validation Workshop, Nepal (2022)

In Peru, we partner with CESIP (Centro de Estudios Sociales y Publicaciones), a non-governmental development organization, founded in 1976 and committed to the full exercise of the rights of children and adolescents. DyA (Centro de Desarrollo y Autogestión) is a co-implementer in Peru, an organization working for more than thirty years in the areas of education, health, development, and child labor. In Nepal, we partner with SAN (Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal) a Nepalese non-government organization that works to end deprivation through developmental activities and combat all forms of discrimination and slavery-like practices. In Uganda, we partner with the ANPPACAN (The African Network for the Prevention and Protection against Child Abuse and Neglect). The ANPPACAN Uganda chapter is part of the Pan-African organization with country chapters in 27 countries across the continent. ANPACCAN is a leading national child rights advocacy and protection organization in Uganda. In addition to laying the groundwork for project implementation in the above countries, we also embarked on the initiation and piloting phase.

In 2022, three consultation workshops were organised, one in each implementing country, Peru, Uganda, and Nepal. The workshops saw civil society organisations, government institutions, and trade unions, amongst others, come together to get an overview of the project and discuss strategies to reinforce civil society organisations at the local and national level to accelerate efforts to eliminate child labor.

CATALYST IN NEPAL

The Situation:

During the early months of the project, the 2022 Nepalese local elections resulted in the election of 753 new executive representatives at the local level. This transition provided an opportunity for the project to work closely with the newly elected leaders for the long term. The government in Nepal has shown openness to work on the issue of child rights and advocates for greater support for the cause through comprehensive policy initiatives that strengthen measures to end child labor. A key example is the announcement mandating the provision of child welfare officers at the local government level across the country. The Government of Nepal delegates (Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security) also participated in the Global Conference of Child Labor *"5th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour"* at Durban, South Africa.

In the initial phase of the project, our partner focused on developing the annual plan, relevant interventions, and budget requirements. The Project Coordinators also attended several meetings with the Ministry of Labor Employment and Social Security and the provincial government to advocate for child labor issues at the national and to try to help set priorities for the local level.

Country Validation Workshop, Nepal (2022)

Key Project Highlights:

1. **Coordination with Government and CSOs to implement the project:** SAN Coordinated with thirty selected municipalities and nine CSOs from three provinces of the Catalyst project site to secure approval of respective stakeholders to ensure smooth implementation of the project.
2. **Facilitated technical group meeting of CSOs:** SAN organized the initial meeting of the CSOs' Forum on SDG 8.7 in August. The meeting discussed the role of the CSOs' Forum, and the scope of work on SDG 8.7 to increase engagement on the provincial and local levels from different stakeholders like CSOs, trade unions, rights holders, and the private sector. Representatives of ten organizations took part in the meeting.
3. **Organized Country Validation Workshop:** In November, Global March and SAN organised a validation workshop in Kathmandu aimed at introducing the project to high-level stakeholders and gather their support for the Catalyst Project. The workshop saw participation from a diverse group, including a representative from a federal government official, local government officials, trade union representatives, development partner representatives, and civil society representatives. It also involved a discussion on the Theory of Change (ToC) with the stakeholders responsible for project implementation.

Recommendations to strengthen collaboration among various project partners:

- The role of civil society in facilitating the promotion of Alliance 8.7 actions at the local level was highlighted, leveraging opportunities such as the recent local government leadership elections, positive engagement from the federal ministry, and the formation of Alliance 8.7 at the federal level to combat child labor.
- Suggestions to mitigate actions include media mobilization, child-led advocacy and campaigns, direct interventions, policy advisory, and child investment plans.
- The participants also acknowledged the lack of a unifying definition, common understanding of child labor, ambiguity in the conceptual understanding of the Area-Based Approach, and relevant regional, and international reporting mechanisms. Advocacy and capacity-building interventions like training and amplifying information dissemination were suggested.
- Suggestions to involve journalists, local government leaders, youth leaders, community organizations, and child club leaders in the capacity-building works.
- Discussion and further work was identified to enhance efforts through forming joint fora at the provincial and local levels, community mobilization for advocacy, and mobilizing champions among parliamentarians, bureaucrats, civil society leaders, media professionals, and faith leaders.

CATALYST IN PERU

The Situation:

In Peru, our partner organizations CESIP and DyA are actively supporting governmental efforts and are engaging with the Steering Committees for the prevention and eradication of child labor. They are contributing to the national and regional plans and assessing the National Strategy for Child Labor Prevention - a key document in the development of the National Multi-Sectoral Public Policy. They are implementing Municipal Models by holding several working engagements with municipalities seeking commitment and, in some cases, carrying out training to local officials and promoting the *Child Labor Free Seal (SELTI)* through campaigns, field monitoring, and technical assistance.

Country Validation Workshop, Peru (2022)

The project started with strategizing its advocacy work and implementation actions, which involved several coordinating meetings to align the project's efforts with government processes and initiatives on child labor. The meetings took place at national, regional (within Peru), and local levels, with different institutional and governmental bodies, including the Ministry of Labor and Promotion of Employment (MTPE), the National Steering Committee for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor (CPETI), two Regional Steering Committees for the Prevention and Eradication of Child Labor (CDRPETI) and some Municipalities. An agreement was reached between the Catalyst Project and the MTPE, particularly with the Directorate of Fundamental Rights and Health and Safety, to establish joint actions and contributions to the project.

Country Validation Workshop, Peru (2022)

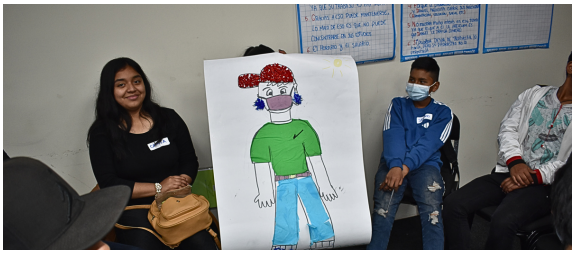
Key Project Highlights:

1. **Facilitated strategy workshop among national stakeholders**: In September, an initial workshop *"Strategy for our strengthening: development of capacities for advocacy and surveillance in the prevention and eradication of child labor"* was held. The workshop aimed to collaboratively craft a joint strategy document for CSOs and trade unions, aligning the priorities and actions required at the national, provincial, and local levels to involve CSOs in the national roadmap priorities of Peru as a Pathfinder Country and other child labor-related political priorities. This inclusive event featured participatory sessions across four key areas: understanding child labor and advocacy concepts, presenting the national child labor landscape, assessing CSOs' capacities, and formulating an advocacy and monitoring strategy for child labor prevention and eradication policies.
2. **Creation of CSO Coalition:** As part of the advocacy strategy, a CSO coalition was created among workshop participants who are also part of the CPETI. The coalition is unanimously called *"Grupo Impulsor"* and the group will have a more active and vigilant role within the CPETI. The coalition was officially introduced to the Director of the Direction of Fundamental Rights and Safety and Health at Work for effective liaisoning.
3. **Technical meetings and capacity building:** The project also facilitated technical meetings with the District Municipality of Ica and Salas Guadalupe to work on the Municipal model to identify and address child labor. Subsequently, training and awareness workshops for officials of the District Municipality of Salas Guadalupe were also done to raise awareness among government officials. A training and awareness workshop for two agricultural companies in the Ica region related to the Child Labor Free Seal (SELTI, for its acronym in Spanish) was also executed to solidify the role of private businesses.
4. **Organized country validation workshop:** In November, CESIP organized a validation workshop among project stakeholders. The core objective of the meeting was to highlight and reaffirm Peru's commitment as a Pathfinder Country to Alliance 8.7 as well as to validate the various actions and commitments for the project implementation. For the introductory session, Peru's commitments and actions to combat child labor were highlighted along with the relevance of the Catalyst project, elaborating its Theory of Change (ToC). In the second session, recommendations for the project to broaden its scope were discussed.

Recommendations to strengthen collaboration among various project partners:

- Align communication, awareness, and advocacy actions from CSOs at different levels (national, regional, and local).
- Establish coordination meetings with the newly elected regional authorities.
- Establish an entry strategy with those regional authorities focussing on the actions of the CDRPETI, fostering CSO and trade union participation and alignment with national and local levels.
- Define territories with characteristics for the implementation of the Area-Based Approach promoted activities (Municipal Model and SELTI) to address child labor.
- Promote subregional spaces as a sub-structure of the CDRPETIs for better coverage.

Children and Youth Consultation., Peru (2022)



CATALYST IN UGANDA

The Situation:

As in the other countries, in Uganda the Catalyst Project focused on strengthening civil society organizations at the local, regional, national, and global levels to address child labor and accelerate progress on SDG 8.7. During its first year the project was accepted by the government of Uganda and given the green light for implementation. The government also pledged any support required for the project to achieve its goal.

Country Validation Workshop, Uganda (2022)

Key Project Highlights:

1. **Technical capacity assessment:** The project was able to facilitate CSO technical capacity assessment and identified the capacity gaps for CSOs (including ABA, child and youth participation, advocacy, documentation and reporting of child labor, fundraising, resource mobilization, and communication as an overarching pillar) that will be built in the subsequent years of the project implementation for CSOs to meaningfully engage with the government to accelerate child labor elimination.
2. **Organizational capacity assessment:** The project supported the implementing partner in conducting its organizational capacity assessment in order to strengthen it and formulate a strategic vision to address SDG 8.7.
3. **The signing of MoU to establish partnership:** The project implementing partner of GMACL also signed MoUs with the Kyotera and Rakai district governments in Uganda to work collectively towards addressing the issue of child labour in the two districts by building the capacity of CSOs and key stakeholders in the regions under the Catalyst project.
4. **Country validation workshop:** ANPPCAN Uganda highlighted the importance of success of the Catalyst Project. The goal was to help stakeholders understand and support the project, while also seeking input on the opportunities and capabilities of CSOs in addressing child labor issues at the national level. The workshop covered several critical aspects, including a discussion on the current global and national labor situations, the primary objectives of the project, and the strategies intended to achieve them. Additionally, Global March presented a Theory of Change that explained how the Catalyst Project aims to meet its goals and gathered feedback from CSOs and other stakeholders.

Country Validation Workshop, Uganda (2022)

Recommendations to strengthen collaboration among various project partners:

- The project should leverage existing coalitions'/networks' interventions and engagements to end child labor, including reporting mechanisms, government interventions like the Well-Being Steering Committee, and CSOs on child labor/exploitation.
- Stakeholders should amplify existing government initiatives/programmes (such as the Parish Development Model) and work within the framework to mobilize vulnerable communities to benefit from joint efforts to eliminate child labour.
- Specific focus on building a conceptual understanding of child labor and child work and factors perpetuating child labor regionally
- Consider involving locally based organizations that have experience in child labor programming in capacity-building opportunities for easy implementation of the area-based approach
- Research on the key aspects of the area-based approach and failed interventions to inform the new implementation strategies on child Labor

Country Validation Workshop, Uganda (2022)

ADDRESSING CHILD LABOUR IN AGRICULTURAL SUPPLY CHAINS, GLOBAL TO LOCAL

UGANDA: SEEDS FOR EDUCATION

In Uganda, our implementing partners and Global March members, ANPPCAN and NOTU (National Organisations of Trade Unions) are using the Area-Aased Approach, introducing the *Child Labour Monitoring System (CLMS)* in the Mbale and Munafwa regions of Uganda to address child labor in the coffee supply chains. ANPPCAN with support from Global March supported the Parish Development Model Committees (PDM) used CLMS to mobilize and include the "Poor" and "Active Poor"-ranked households to join group enterprises. To ensure the inclusion of vulnerable communities, ANPPCAN conducted a wealth ranking within the community, community resource mapping, and enterprise selection and enterprise group formation.

Our partner also organized knowledge-sharing meetings with coffee companies as most private coffee companies accepted that child labor cases were happening in their supply chain. At the meeting, coffee companies committed to designing and implementing workplace policies that protect children from exploitation and abuse. They also agreed to undertake due diligence vis-a-vis their supply chain on issues of child labor. These coffee companies also committed to acknowledging the link between coffee farming and child labor and climate change adaptability and management.

Child Labour in coffee supply chain. Representative Image

The Seeds for Education initiative being implemented by our member organizations NOTU and ANPPCAN Uganda ensures surplus food production at the community and school level to promote food security, and agricultural income leading to preventing child labor. So far, from 2021-2023, seeds (maize, beans, cabbages, and tomatoes) have been given to 242 smallholder farmers and 19 schools as garden inputs. Other farm inputs like fertilizers, spraying tanks, and pesticides are also given to utilize the land to establish gardens for food production.

In Uganda, the initiative has proven to be an effective intervention and has served as a magnet that attracts children to enroll in schools. When pupils tell their peers in villages that they are served a meal at school, they feel attracted to school life and enroll, influencing absenteeism and dropout rates among children. A baseline and data gathering on the progress of the impact is currently underway, with an end-line assessment being designed.

Impact Highlight:

A highlight of the project in 2022 was a joint resolution by coffee companies, UCDA (Uganda Coffee Development Authority), district-level government bodies, and CSO members to commit to good practices for child-labor-free coffee supply chains; receive referrals concerning child labor for access to remedy; and scaling up the inspection of the coffee farms, factories, and other suspected facilities to ensure that children are not employed in other sectors as well. The project was able to build the capacity of coffee companies in Uganda based on the ABA. Two coffee companies, Mt. Elgon Coffee and Honey Cooperative and Kikobero Coffee put measures into place to ensure that any case of child labor is reported and addressed using the referral system wherein identified child laborers relate to NGOs supporting withdrawal and remediation of children.

International Labour Organization. Representative Image

BANGLADESH: CHILD LABOUR FREE UPAZILA

In Bangladesh, the project's implementing partner INCIDIN Bangladesh achieved a milestone as it was able to influence the government to form a Sub-Committee under the NCLWC (National Child Labour Welfare Committee) to develop a model on Child Labour Free Upazila (District) and priority Upazilas to pilot the model. The sub-committee submitted its recommendations in line with the objectives to adopt and implement the ABA model as the Child-Friendly Upazila in the country's vulnerable coastal areas with high incidents of child labour in shrimp fry catching.

Child labour free Upazila, Bangladesh

GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS PROGRAMS: Assessing the risk and root causes of child labour in scrap metal recycling

INDIA

Global March conducted a local impact assessment research on child labour risk in the scrap metal supply chain of India, funded by the Fund Against Child Labor, RVO, the Netherlands. The research conducted over a period of 8 months in 3 states of India - Gujarat, Maharashtra, and Punjab focused on assessing the risk of child labour in the Indian scrap metal recycling value chain for a Dutch company. Based on stakeholder consultations, field visits, and interactions with rights holders (workers in scrap yards, rag picking, local processing units, etc.) and value chain analysis, it is determined that hazardous child labour is prevalent in the domestic value chain in the focus areas of study mainly in - rag picking, local processing units, and scrap yards. Additionally, there are various concerns pertaining to the situation of labour rights in the industry such as no employment contracts for workers, poor health and safety procedures at work, extreme working conditions, and lack of protective gear.

Deutsche Welle. Child labour in scrap metal recycling. Representative Image

Multidimensional poverty, migration, the informality of the sector, and lack of access to education policies and employment opportunities for migrants are key factors behind the issue of hazardous child labour and working conditions for adult workers. The lack of access to the Dutch company's Indian buyers and their value chain makes it impossible to confirm the existence of child labour in their supply chain. However, based on the on-ground research and stakeholders' consultation as well as workers' interviews and spontaneous visits to scrap yards and local processing units, evidence of hazardous child labour in scrap metal recycling is clearly evident.

GLOBAL SUPPLY CHAINS PROGRAMS: Protecting Children's Rights in the Coconut Oil Supply Chain

PHILIPPINES

In 2021, the GMACL became one of the implementers of a project *"Protecting the Rights of the Children in the Coconut Oil Supply Chain in the Philippines"* to investigate the possible existence of child labour in the coconut supply chain. The cooperation partners in this project are Cargill, Wilmar, Cordaid, The Integrated Rural Development Foundation, Verité, GMACL, MVO, and Vernof. RVO supported this project via a subsidy from the Fund against Child Labour (FBK). After playing the role of a technical expert on child labour in the 1st phase of the project in 2021, GMACL is now leading the second phase, which focuses on preventing and combatting child labour in the coconut supply chain. Setting up a multidimensional CLMS, in partnership with schools and local authorities, allows them to track whether children attend school in coordination with schools and other local authorities. The system will enable us to identify the existence of child labour and empower relevant stakeholders to take action.

[0]. Business World. Child labour in coconut supply chain. Representative image.

During the second phase, the project partners will also focus on poverty alleviation where a new business model will help farmers increase their income and strengthen their livelihoods. Local parties should benefit from this altered approach after the project ends. The project is built upon a rights-based, participatory, and community-led basis. Furthermore, it should also help strengthen the human rights due diligence processes of the private sector.

AROUND THE GLOBE: MEMBER UPDATES

The strength and breadth of Global March's continuing international advocacy is fueled and inspired by the work carried on by its member organizations in their community, regional, and national contexts. The holistic approach to advocacy and program impact is intimately linked to the Global March's bottom-up and top-down strategy which informs the fight against child labor on multiple levels.

Children's Rights Club: Peru

To combat child labour at the grassroots level, Global March member **Centro de Estudios Sociales y Publicaciones (CESIP)** put together Children's Rights Clubs, which are active in the communities of Jicamarca, Cajamarquilla, and Nievería, in the area of Huachipa, Lima. The clubs are comprised of groups of boys and girls aged between 5 to 12 years, all of whom have either been or are involved in child labour.

The Clubs host sessions aimed at increasing knowledge of the child rights recognized by the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child as well as in the Peruvian Code of Children and Adolescents. The children involved in these clubs have shown increased interest and confidence in expressing their opinions, contributing ideas during the development of the sessions, and have even carried out research activities on the degree of recognition and compliance their own communities meet vis-a-vis child rights. Currently, there are twelve Children's Rights Clubs with 71 boys and 85 girls.

Child Labour in the Agriculture Sector: United States of America

The **Child Labor Coalition (CLC)** and its selected members began a series of meetings with the US Department of Labor/Wage and Hour Leadership to secure enhanced Hazardous Occupations Orders. This was essentially a list of safety rules for children who work on farms. The CLC also joined hands with Human Rights Watch and the Justice for Migrant Women for a submission to the UN Committee on the Elimination of Racial Discrimination that eventually resulted in calling for the end of child labour exemptions in agriculture. Addressing reports of child labor in an Alabama Hyundai supplier factory, the CLC highlighted concerns about children working in meat processing facilities. Their efforts led to a congressional hearing, resulting in the Children's Act for Responsible Employment and Farm Safety, raising the federal minimum age for farm work from 12 to 14 and for hazardous farm work from 16 to 18.

Child Well-Being Committees: Uganda

Strengthening child well-being committees was found to be a sustainable way to address child labour in Uganda because these committees created a proper structure at every level of the community; right from the national level, to the district, sub-county and parish level. Global March member, **ANPPCAN-Uganda** Chapter (with financial support from ILO) supported the local governments in five districts to establish and strengthen these structures, with the aim of protecting children from child labour.

Good Practices For Tackling Child Labour in Agriculture: Indonesia

To develop a child-friendly village model in 20 villages in Indonesia, Global March member, **JARAK** and other local stakeholders, planned activities for the development of a child-friendly village model that covered institutional development, village-level policy development related to child protection, and the provision of educational services. The project on child labour in agriculture in Indonesia saw some good practices emerge in the last few months of working.

JARAK put together community activity centres for vulnerable children and parents. A grassroots program, the centres aimed to provide non-formal educational services to children and their parents, including filling children's free time outside of school hours to reduce their involvement in activities on the farms that surround them. Today 3,929 working and vulnerable children and 1,629 parents have accessed educational activities carried out by 58 Community Activity Centres located in 20 villages in East Java, and many child beneficiaries have been reported to reduce their involvement in agricultural work.

Child Rights Clubs in Schools: Malawi

Global March member **Education International** along with its constituent unions representing over thirty million teachers worldwide celebrated the Week Against Child Labour (in August) as a part of the Education Union Project that has so far removed 1,000 children from work and helped 1,200 students at risk of falling victim to child labour. The creation of children's rights clubs in schools, raising awareness amongst parents and local leaders about the importance of education and the negative effects of child labour, and providing remedial catch-up classes for the children removed from child labour and for those who are at risk of dropping out, helped the project with their success. A Child Labour Open Day Event was organised on August 19 where children performed songs, recited poems, and performed plays to highlight the importance of education to combat child labour.

Awareness and Advocacy: Niger

Global March member **Association pour la Lutte contre le Travail des Enfants au Niger (ALTEN)** organised awareness and advocacy activities around children's rights and the fight against child labour in 2022. This work included putting together a campaign in the framework of Alliance 8.7 with the submission of a memorandum to the Minister of Labour, a radio and television interview, and mobilization of NGOs to raise awareness of children's rights and the fight against child labour and trafficking in Niger.

ALTEN also organised conferences and debates in a few universities and colleges in Niamey, Niger. The conferences focused on child labour in Niger and in the world, the promotion of children's rights and the fight against violence against children. More than 500 students were engaged through these conferences.

The Girl Child & Gender-Based Violence: Tanzania

To observe the International Day of the Girl Child (11th October), Global March partner **Tanzania Child Welfare (TCW)** joined hands with other stakeholders in Lindi Municipal to spread awareness on the challenges faced by the girl child. This included child labour, child trafficking, child marriage and early pregnancy. To further spread the work on this, TCW spoke about the issue on radio programs where they also launched the "16 Days Campaign against Gender Based Violence."

TCW also joined hands with the KKKT Morogoro Community to raise awareness at the Mwembe Songo Ward Mororgoro Municipal around Gender Based Violence. Activities such as street theatre, local dances, and music performances helped spread awareness. The TCW staff also engaged with the communities, giving information about gender-based violence and child labour and how to fight against both of these social issues.

Increasing Capacity to Fight Child Labour: Nepal

Global March Partner **Swatantrata Abhiyan Nepal (SAN)** organized multiple events in the region to address child labour and forced labour. Province-level discussions were held in Bagmati Province, Gandaki Province, and Sudurpaschim Province between August & October 2022. The aim of the discussions was to increase capability and collaboration between the provincial coordinating committee, civil society, and the local government, as well as accentuate the local-level contributions to ending child labour. SAN reached 101 representatives from the federal, provincial, and local governments, the ILO, CSOs working on child labour and forced labour issues, and the Province Police and media.

To further strengthen the capacity and cooperation between the Local Government, Province Coordination Committee, and Civil Society, the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MoLESS) and SAN conducted a District Level Meeting to Eliminate Child Labour in the Kailali and Kanchanpur Districts of Sudurpaschim Province in October 2022. During the program MoLESS shared its plan to declare 70 municipalities as child labour-free municipalities by the end of 2023.

Training on Forced Labour Reporting: Ghana

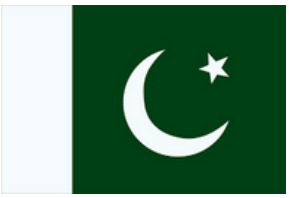
In November 2022, 17 journalists received training on effective and accurate reporting on forced and child labour issues in Ghana. Organised by the **General Agricultural Workers Union (GAWU)**, an ITUC affiliate, with technical and financial support from the Forced Indicators Labour Project and the US Department of Labour, the training aimed to enable journalists to be equipped with relevant information and skills to help reduce forced labour and also enhance advocacy and public education to use ILO's indicators on forced labour to identify and address forced child labour.

Andrews Tagoe, the Anglophone Africa Regional Coordinator for Global March and Deputy General Secretary of GAWU, said the education given to the reporters was paramount as it would help identify people in workplaces who were in conditions that were unacceptable by law and to address these conditions.

Public Education to Combat Child Labour: Argentina

The twelfth Assembly of the Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education (CLADE) took place in Tegucigalpa, Honduras from November 7 to November 11. Around 70 activists and organization representatives met to discuss and articulate strategic planning in defense of the right to education in the region. Global March Against Child Labour - South America was represented by Patricio A. Cabezas, from **CePaDeHu** Argentina, who participated in the discussions. Addressing the need for funding for public education, Patricio A. Cabezas said, "Increased funding for public education is the best response to eradicate violence, discrimination, child labor and other denials of rights."

The Tegucigalpa Declaration stated "That all States in the Latin American and Caribbean region guarantee the full exercise of human rights and human dignity", an affirmation that has been supported by the 18 national forums, ten regional networks, among them the Global March Against Child Labor-South America, and the seven international organizations that make up the network of the Latin American Campaign for the Right to Education.



Building Awareness About Child Rights: Pakistan

Global March member Grass-roots Organization for Human Development **(GODH)**, organised several events and meetings to further the cause of eradicating child labour and promoting child rights. A meeting was conducted with child protection committees in August to discuss how children can be kept safe against violence and abuse. Multiple workshops and trainings were also hosted by GODH across colleges, schools, and for child rights activists to create awareness around child rights and child protection.

AROUND THE GLOBE: GLOBAL UPDATES

GLOBAL ROUNDTABLE

Global March organised a Global Roundtable on developing a global strategy to accelerate CSO action towards child labour elimination, towards 2025, the target date for achieving SDG 8.7. The Global Roundtable was held on 29-30th December in Brussels and saw the participation of network leaders, viz CSO representative leaders from different regions and trade union representatives. Based on the discussions at the Roundtable and inputs received from the Global March network via a survey disseminated in September, the global strategy will be finalised in the first quarter of 2023.

HRDD TRAINING (HUMAN RIGHTS DUE DILIGENCE)

The agro-food sector confronts significant challenges within its production chains, encompassing issues such as child labour, environmental risks, and inadequate livelihoods for many producers. As part of the Dutch IRBC Agreement for the Food Products Sector, Global March, together with a group of Dutch NGOs and trade unions, co-organised a series of seven webinars and five regional trainings (Latin America, Asia, West Africa, East Africa, and Middle East-North Africa) on Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD) and international guidelines for IRBC with an emphasis on human rights risk assessment.

These webinars serve to identify, prevent, and mitigate these risks by delving into the human rights dimensions involved. They also offer a comprehensive understanding of the practical implications of executing due diligence, incorporating key interventions to tackle risks and adverse impacts across supply chains. The training provided an introduction to HRDD and particular attention to some of the most salient risks found in the agri-food sector, in its particular producing context, as well as in the connection with international supply chains.

The regional training aimed to deepen the participants' understanding of how to conduct risk assessments in the agri-food supply chain and also to understand the frameworks and tools available from a practical perspective. Another area of focus was strengthening the participants' HRDD risk assessment research and reporting skills. Global March led the training in Asia (Thailand) in July and co-facilitated the one in West Africa (Ghana) in September 2022.

HRDD Training in Thailand, 2022

ENGAGEMENT WITH THE EUROPEAN COMMISSION

Global March participated in an EU parliament discussion on a report on trade volumes of goods produced by children imported into the EU. We presented our project interventions in Bangladesh and Uganda. Additionally, Global March held regular meetings with the European Commission's department on the interventions in Uganda and Bangladesh for International Partnerships as examples of good practices.

TRANSFORMING ATTITUDES THROUGH PARTICIPATION

GLOBAL MARCH EVENTS & CAMPAIGNS, 2022

AFRICA VIRTUAL MARCH AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

(10th January- 10th March, 2022)

The Africa Virtual March Against Child Labour, held from January 10th to March 10th, 2022, was a concerted effort to combat child labor in the African region. The campaign focused on the critical message that children belong in school, not at work, and aimed to harness the power of collective action to achieve this objective. The campaign was initiated with the recognition that while child labour had significantly reduced in Asia-Pacific and Latin America, Africa continues to grapple with this concerning challenge. The three-month virtual march sought to mobilize support and galvanize efforts to end child labour in Africa urgently. We saw participation from partner organizations from Ghana, Tanzania, Malawi, Zambia, Uganda, Togo, Niger, Ivory Coast, Mali and South Africa. The event coincided with the 5th Global Conference on Child Labour scheduled for May 2022 in South Africa, making it a strategic opportunity for nationwide advocacy.

The campaign engaged various stakeholders, including civil society actors, the general public, and influencers, both within and outside Africa, rallying them behind the key message of ensuring children's return to school. Among its primary objectives were to mobilize national actions that aligned with the United Nations Sustainable Development Goal 8.7, which aims to end child labour, and to ensure that civil society's voice was heard at the 5th Global Conference. It also aimed to provide a platform for voices to be raised and contributions made toward eradicating child labour, strengthening child labour networks and coalitions at the country level, and raising awareness about the perils of child labour.

Various activities were conducted across ten countries as part of the campaign including awareness campaigns emphasizing the importance of education, anti-child labour presentations, sensitisation efforts about the dangers of child labour, petition initiatives urging children to attend school, community engagement on education's significance, collaboration with industry stakeholders to combat child labour, and training programs focused on child protection and labour eradication. These efforts aimed to mobilize support and engage communities and governments in the fight against child labour while promoting education as a fundamental right for all children.

5TH GLOBAL CONFERENCE ON THE ELIMINATION OF CHILD LABOUR

Durban Call To Action (15th-20th May 2022)

The 5th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour concluded with the *'Durban Call to Action'* initiating strong commitments to eradicate child labour and raising concerns regarding the slowing down of progress as an impact of COVID-19. The call to action prioritises upscaling action in 6 areas covering decent work, child labour in agriculture, education, social protection, international financing, and cooperation. Child labour in agriculture is a thematic priority for Global March and for the first time finds special focus in the outcome document of Global Conferences. The conference featured a diverse group of attendees, with 1,000 delegates in person and an estimated 7,000 online participants.

Plenary speaker Mr. Kailash Satyarthi at Durban Call To Action, 2022

Highlights from Global March's in-person engagement and its members' participation:

1. **Participation in Plenary Session:** Mr. Kailash Satyarthi, founder of the Global March and a Nobel Peace Laureate, was featured as a high-level speaker in the plenary sessions on Day 1 and Day 2. He contributed to setting global priorities and discussing child labor issues and its root causes, thus reinforcing the importance of the conference's goals.
2. **Convening CSO Forum:** Global March convened and facilitated the Civil Society Organization (CSO) Forum at the conference. This forum aimed to broaden the horizons and partnerships of anti-child labour CSOs by engaging with other organizations working on different topics and Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). It provided a platform for sharing experiences and building alliances to strengthen the fight against child labour.
3. **Thematic Session on Child Labor in Supply Chains:** Global March contributed to a thematic session on May 19th, which focused on discussing concrete actions to address the root causes of child labor in supply chains. Global March representative from Desarrollo y Autogestión (DyA) in Peru provided the civil society perspective and discussed strategies to combat child labour in agro supply chains.
4. **Participation in Side Events:** Global March actively participated in four side events at the conference organized to tackle the root causes of child labor in supply chains, engaging key stakeholders in a dialogue. They also collaborated on a session that highlighted youth, student, and survivor-led actions to end child labor, emphasizing the importance of partnerships between student groups/organizations and civil society.

Additionally, Global March co-organized a session on an integrated *Area-Based Approach* to tackle child labor at its roots and ensure the right to education sharing best practices and experiences from implementing such approaches in various countries.

WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR (WDACL)

Digital Media Campaign: GMACL X 100 Million Campaign
(12th - 16th June, 2022)

Amplifying Testimonies of Former Child Labourers

Africa continues to be a region with the highest prevalence of child labour. For WDACL, Global March with the 100 Million Campaign and other organisations carried out a digital media campaign to amplify the voices of child laborers and survivor-advocates by sharing their testimonies and demands in films recorded by youth activists across Africa. It was a week-long campaign, starting on 12th June, WDACL, and ending on 16th June, the Day of the African Child.

The effort involved showcasing eight powerful films and short movies recorded by youth activists across the continent. These films addressed interconnected themes related to child labor, including poverty, exploitation, drug addiction, sexual harassment, and military abduction. Through these films and short movies, youth advocates aimed to draw attention to the plight of child labourers and survivors while appealing to governments to amplify the rights of children, ensuring they are protected from the various forms of exploitation and abuse associated with child labour.

Additionally, Our Peruvian member CESIP, held a seminar in Huachipa, Lima, with the participation of former child labourers and adolescents on the WDACL. They made a virtual and face-to-face presentation to the local authorities about the risks and consequences of child labour, asking the authorities to comply with the laws that protect them from child labour. In Costa Rica, Our member, DNI Costa Rica, in alliance with the Ministry of Labour and Social Welfare of Guatemala MINTRAB, and the General Labour Inspectorate IGT organised a first Diploma course on Child and Adolescent Labour. The course was held from June 6 to 10, in accordance with the WDACL. The course was aimed at Guatemalan labour inspectors and administrative personnel of the MINTRAB, to strengthen their capacities and exchange knowledge and reflections about child and adolescent labour. It was attended by 27 officials

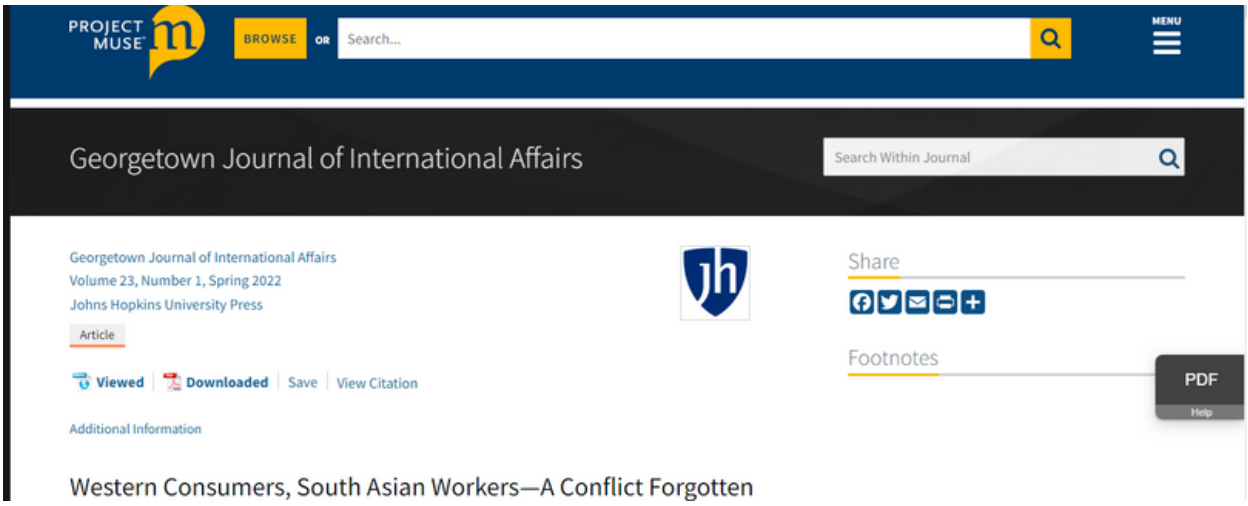
Diploma course on Child labour: DNI Costa Rica

PUBLICATION

"WESTERN CONSUMERS, SOUTH ASIAN WORKERS—A CONFLICT FORGOTTEN BY WHOM?"

-Timothy Ryan (Chairperson, Global March Against Child Labour)

Timothy Ryan's thought-provoking article sheds light on the complex and often overlooked dynamics of the global economy. With over two billion individuals from South Asia and the Western world deeply interconnected within this economic system, Ryan delves into the inherent conflicts that arise. He highlights how Western brands have, at times, been complicit in the exploitation of marginalized workers in South Asia, a reality that these workers confront daily. His article challenges the prevailing narrative surrounding global capitalism's rapid expansion and delves into the influence of consumers in driving new forms of exploitation, like the rise of fast fashion. He acknowledges the power consumers wield and how their actions intersect with the endeavors of South Asian workers fighting for their rights.



Ryan's article provides a critical examination of these intricate global dynamics, making it a significant contribution to understanding the complex and often fraught relationships within the global economy. He asserts that while the attention of Western consumers and multinational corporations may ebb and flow, the conflict is far from forgotten, especially for the South Asian labour force engaged in industries such as garment, seafood, crafts, and agriculture. These workers are on the front lines, battling against the inequities perpetuated by global supply chains.

Read the full article **HERE**

> Early on, child labor was the most egregious violation identified in many Western-contracted factories. Child labor also is the "canary in the coal mine" for all other labor violations—if children are working in factories, it is guaranteed that many other rights violations are present.

Global March Against Child Labour
Koningskade 30, 2596 AA The Hague, The Netherlands

/GlobalMarch @kNOwChildLabour @global-march