

DURBAN CALL TO ACTION:


Civil Society Organisations and Unions Perspective on Progress Made



November 2025

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This report has been jointly published by Global March Against Child Labour (Global March), International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), and Education International (EI) as part of their collective efforts to accelerate progress towards the elimination of child labour. It draws from the voices, experiences and insights of civil society organisations, unions, and education actors worldwide who continue to champion the rights of children and workers in challenging contexts.

About the Organisations

Global March Against Child Labour (Global March) is a worldwide network of trade unions, teachers' organisations and civil society groups uniting efforts to end all forms of child labour, slavery and trafficking. Through advocacy, research and partnerships, Global March strives to protect children's rights to education and decent work for adults.

International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC) represents more than 191 million workers in over 169 countries, promoting and defending workers' rights, equality, and social justice. ITUC plays a key role in ensuring that the global labour agenda upholds the principles of decent work, collective bargaining, and fair treatment for all.

Education International (EI) is the world's largest federation of teachers' unions, representing educators in more than 170 countries. EI advocates for quality, inclusive education and decent employment conditions for teachers, recognising education as a key pathway to ending child labour.

Acknowledgement

This report would not have been possible without the participation and contributions of civil society organisations, trade unions, and teachers' unions across Africa, Asia, Europe and Latin America who responded to the global survey and shared their invaluable perspectives. Their continued commitment to advancing the Durban Call to Action and amplifying the voices of affected children, workers, and communities remains central to the global fight against child labour.

Assessing Progress on the Durban Call to Action: Civil Society and Union Insights Towards the 2026 Global Conference on Child Labour

Introduction

In 2022, the global community came together at the 5th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour in Durban, South Africa, and adopted the Durban Call to Action. This declaration outlined six key pillars of action to eliminate child labour, ranging from securing decent work and social protection to ending child labour in agriculture and ensuring universal education. With the 6th Global Conference approaching in Morocco in 2026, this report presents key findings from a multilingual survey conducted among civil society organisations (CSOs), trade unions, and teachers' unions globally to assess progress, identify persistent challenges and provide recommendations for the upcoming 6th Global Conference in Morocco in 2026. The survey captures diverse perspectives from across regions, sectors, and communities, highlighting both successes and ongoing gaps in addressing child labour, decent work, education and other crucial areas. It reflects the experiences of those on the frontlines of advocacy and action, offering critical insights into what is working, where efforts are falling short, and how stakeholders can strengthen collaboration. By presenting these findings, the report aims to inform policy discussions, guide future strategies, and ensure that civil society and unions' voices remain central to global efforts to eradicate child labour. *(See Annex 1 to view the Durban Call to Action document)*

Methodology

- The findings presented in this report are based on more than 40 survey responses gathered between May-June 2025 from CSOs, teachers' unions, and labour federations across Africa, Latin America, and Asia. The survey was disseminated in English, French, and Spanish and asked respondents to share insights on the six Durban pillars most relevant or resonant to their work or context.
- Respondents represented a mix of grassroots NGOs, national education unions, child rights coalitions, trade unions and informal worker organisations. Responses were both quantitative (progress ratings) and qualitative (open-text comments, best practices, and challenges).
- Limitations include uneven regional coverage and varying levels of detail across responses, but the qualitative richness offers critical insight into both systemic gaps and innovations led by civil society.



1. Executive Summary

Despite growing urgency, the findings reveal serious stagnation and setbacks in implementation. Most organisations report that child labour is either increasing or evolving into more hidden, hazardous forms. The capacity of frontline actors has been stretched thin, especially in contexts facing armed conflict, economic crises, or shrinking civic space.

Major trends include:

- Widespread lack of funding, data, and political will
- Weak or symbolic government structures on child labour
- Under-resourced education and protection systems
- Minimal private sector accountability, especially in informal and domestic sectors

However, CSOs and unions also outlined creative, community-rooted practices they continue to pursue, often without systemic support, and offered clear proposals for stronger, more meaningful partnerships toward SDG 8.7.

2. Key Findings Across the Six Pillars

To assess progress on the Durban Call to Action, the survey invited respondents to reflect on six key pillars – decent work, agriculture, data, education, social protection, and financing – in relation to their national or local contexts. Participants were asked to rate the level of progress, identify persistent challenges, and share good practices and recommendations. They were also encouraged to highlight gaps in survivor and youth participation, cross-sector coordination, and resource allocation. The full questionnaire is included in the Annex 2 for reference. Insights gathered from this exercise form the basis of the following analysis, which presents a consolidated view of progress and gaps across the six pillars.

01

Decent Work for
Adults and Youth



*Companies don't talk to us –
only to donors. Meanwhile, children
are in the fields, unpaid, unseen.*

- Trade Union, West Africa

- Moderate progress on wage reforms, with a few countries like Malawi revising minimum wages to align with living standards, though these reforms remain limited in scope and enforcement.
- Progress is also visible where minimum wage adjustments and sectoral coverage (esp. agriculture) have moved.
- Informality persists as a dominant form of employment, particularly in agriculture, domestic work, and small-scale enterprises, leading to widespread vulnerability and exploitation of adult and young workers.
- Young workers continue to face unsafe and precarious working conditions, with limited access to labour rights, social protection, or workplace grievance mechanisms.
- Occupational Safety and Health (OSH) standards for youth above minimum working age remains uneven.
- Enforcement of labour law provisions remains weak due to capacity constraints, corruption, or lack of political will, even where protective laws exist, violations often go unpenalized.
- Barriers to union organising include legal restrictions, surveillance of organisers, denial of registration, non-recognition of informal sector unions and weakening collective voice and workplace accountability.
- There is little to no enforcement or oversight in sectors where most child labour occurs, particularly in family-run or informal agricultural work and domestic labour.
- Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) efforts by businesses are often top-down, short-term, or donor-driven, with minimal engagement of local worker organisations, resulting in superficial commitments without structural change.

02

Ending Child Labour in Agriculture



There are child labour policies but no money, no monitoring, no coordination – just symbolic meetings.

- CSO respondent, Francophone Africa

- Agriculture continues to be the sector with the highest prevalence of child labour globally, especially in subsistence farming, livestock, fishing, and export-oriented crops including, but not limited to- cocoa, cotton, cashew, coffee and sugarcane.
- Some localized and community-driven initiatives (e.g., Senegal's "Zone Libre") have shown promise in creating child-labour-free zones, but they remain fragmented and under-supported.

- Structural factors such as entrenched rural poverty, long distances to schools, lack of transport or infrastructure, and seasonal demand for child labour during harvest periods contribute to children's involvement in farm work.
- While many countries have national policies or action plans to eliminate child labour, actual implementation is inconsistent and often lacks cross-ministerial coordination, funding, and accountability mechanisms.
- Political instability, austerity measures, and reduced public spending in parts of Latin America and Asia have led to regression in policy commitments and dismantling of institutions previously focused on child labour prevention.

03

Data Driven & Survivor Informed Responses



We can't address what we can't see. No surveys, no statistics, no urgency.

- Trade Union representative, South Asia

- Most countries lack recent, disaggregated, and comparable data on child labour—especially by sector, age, gender, and region—severely limiting targeted and evidence-based policymaking.
- Child labour monitoring and data systems are largely top-down, with little participation of affected children, families, or survivor-led groups in identifying risks, shaping questions, or validating findings.
- Mechanisms to document survivors' experiences and reintegrate them into education, training, or decent work are weak, fragmented, & often donor-driven rather than survivor-led.
- Psychosocial, legal, and livelihood follow-up for survivors is rarely built into monitoring systems; survivors' voices are used as "case stories," not as inputs to policy design.
- Coordination among ministries, trade unions, CSOs, and survivor-led organisations to track reintegration outcomes is ad hoc, with no shared indicators or accountability frameworks.
- Collaboration between civil society and government on data collection and validation is limited; community-based monitoring tools developed by CSOs are rarely integrated into national databases.
- Very few countries have ethical or participatory guidelines for collecting data from child labour survivors or children at risk, resulting in tokenistic engagement or retraumatisation.
- Risk assessment systems for trafficking victims and long-term reintegration tracking exist in a few contexts, leading to poor visibility of survivors' trajectories and barriers to education and decent work.

- Data use in policymaking remains inconsistent; existing surveys are outdated, lack granularity, and are seldom linked to programmatic responses or funding priorities.
- Since COVID-19, investment in public awareness and survivor-led advocacy has declined, despite evidence that community-driven approaches sustain visibility and accountability.
- In some contexts, authorities suppress or withhold survey findings or monitoring reports, reducing both transparency and survivor trust in state systems.
- Survivor-led organisations report limited access to funding, data, and decision-making spaces, reinforcing a cycle where those most affected remain least heard.

04

Right to Education



Children work because the school is far, unsafe, expensive, or low-quality.

- Teachers Union in East Africa

- This is one of the few pillars where some momentum is visible, thanks to persistent advocacy by teachers' unions, education CSOs, and community actors, particularly in urban settings.
- Access and retention improvements where fee barriers and distance issues are addressed; teacher recruitment/training investments noted in some contexts.
- Non-formal/accelerated pathways exist but are not scaled; teachers' unions are involved in several settings, yet school resourcing remains a bottleneck.
- Despite this, many children remain excluded – especially those in rural areas, conflict-affected regions, migrant families, or indigenous communities – where the education systems are weak or absent.
- Legal guarantees of free and compulsory education often fail to translate into reality due to user fees, lack of transport, or unsafe school environments.
- Privatisation of education, shrinking public investment, and a shift to low-fee private schools have undermined the quality and accessibility of public education, particularly for the poorest of families.
- Education is often not integrated into broader social protection or child labour prevention strategies, making it less responsive to the needs of at-risk children.



05

Universal Access to Social Protection



While some social protection initiatives have shown promise, they remain uneven & largely inaccessible to the workers who need them most.

- CSO Representative in South Asia

- Some countries have piloted or scaled up social protection schemes through union-led campaigns, but coverage remains patchy and inconsistent.
- Social protection measures, such as cash transfers or child allowances, are rarely designed with explicit child labour prevention goals or conditionalities, limiting their effectiveness.
- Coverage of informal workers (farmers, domestic workers, day labourers) is limited; awareness and enrolment hurdles persist.
- Explicit linkage of Social Protection to Child Labour prevention is rare; universal social protection is increasingly acknowledged but under-financed.
- Informal and rural workers, who are most likely to have children in labour are often excluded from national protection schemes due to eligibility criteria tied to formal employment or documentation.
- Fiscal constraints and austerity policies continue to shrink the scope of public benefits, even where promising pilots have existed.

06

Financing & International Cooperation

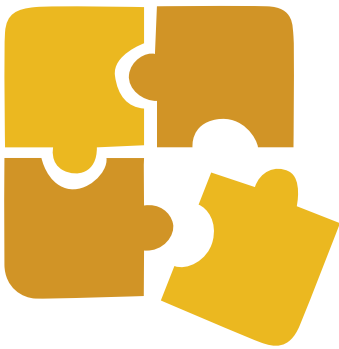


We are only invited to validate pre-decided plans, not to co-create them.

- CSO respondent, Francophone Africa

- International donor funding continues to play a critical role in sustaining child labour elimination efforts, especially where governments lack fiscal space, yet such funding is often unpredictable and short-term.
- Domestic financing for child labour policies, data systems, or monitoring remains inadequate, with little prioritisation in national budgets.
- Multilateral platforms like Alliance 8.7 and regional coordination mechanisms are underutilised by national governments, limiting knowledge-sharing and joint accountability.

- While global supply chains remain a key driver of exploitative labour practices, enforcement of corporate due diligence or accountability laws is weak, especially when violations occur in the Global South.
- There is limited transparency in how international commitments (e.g., SDGs, ILO conventions) are translated into resourced national strategies.
- Youth and survivor participation remains underfunded, with few international or domestic funding streams prioritising their leadership in policy processes or monitoring frameworks
- CSOs are often consulted symbolically, rather than meaningfully engaged as implementation partners or knowledge contributors, reflecting a broader gap in how international cooperation platforms and donors promote inclusive governance.
- Donor support and participation in international initiatives (e.g., Alliance 8.7) are relatively common as compared to local and national coalitions and platforms led by CSOs.
- Domestic budget allocations for child labour policies, data systems or monitoring remains inadequate, with little prioritisation in national budgets.



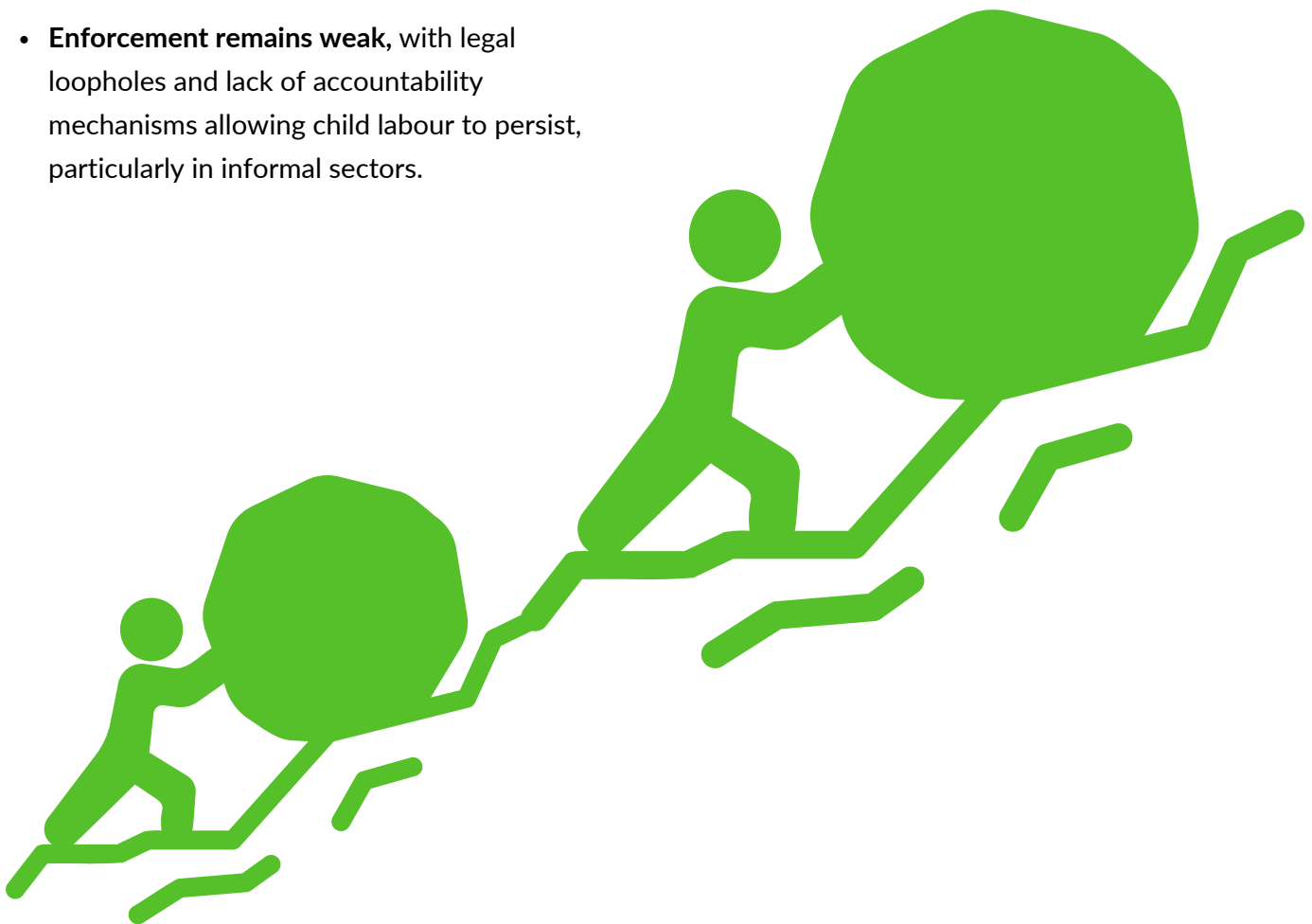
Obstacles and Needs

In addition to assessing progress, the survey also invited respondents to identify the main obstacles and needs faced by their organisations in addressing child labour, as well as their perceptions of broader national and systemic challenges. Participants were encouraged to reflect on barriers such as policy gaps, funding constraints, shrinking civic space, limited coordination with governments and international actors, and the challenges of sustaining community engagement. The insights below capture both organisational-level and country-level perspectives, highlighting the conditions required to strengthen collective action against child labour.

- **Top obstacles (organisational level):** resource constraints, staff capacity, limited access to policy fora, and data gaps.
- **Top obstacles (country level):** weak enforcement, informal economy dominance, rural barriers to schooling, insufficient social protection coverage.
- **Primary needs:** funding, capacity building, technical support (case handling, monitoring), and policy space for unions.

Cross Cutting Challenges

- **Chronic underfunding continues to undermine frontline efforts** — from staffing and outreach to monitoring and survivor reintegration, with many organisations reporting they are expected to “do more with less.”
- **Shrinking civic space** is a growing concern, as CSOs and unions face legal restrictions, political surveillance, and reduced opportunities for advocacy and mobilisation.
- **Lack of political will and weak inter-ministerial coordination** hinder the translation of child labour commitments into effective, resourced action.
- **Data gaps** persist, particularly in the collection of updated, disaggregated national statistics, which are crucial for tracking progress and tailoring interventions.
- **Conflict, displacement, and migration** are exacerbating children’s vulnerability, especially in rural or crisis-affected regions, where protection systems are weakest.
- Policy incoherence between child rights, education, labour, and social protection frameworks limits the effectiveness of national responses.
- **Limited civil society inclusion and social dialogue** means grassroots actors are often excluded from decision-making and programme design.
- **Enforcement remains weak**, with legal loopholes and lack of accountability mechanisms allowing child labour to persist, particularly in informal sectors.



Ranked thematic analysis of challenges and gaps:

Since a range of challenges was reported by respondents, it became crucial to rank thematic issues to understand the scope of progress by scoring the issues. The average score for each issue was calculated based on respondents' self-assessed ratings of national progress, using a simple scale: **0 for "No progress," 1 for "Some, but very limited progress,"** and **2 for "Significant progress."** Only valid responses were considered, and the scores were averaged across all responses for each indicator.

Respondents (CSOs, unions, etc.) were asked to assess progress on specific child labour-related issues in their countries. For each issue, they selected one of the following response options, each assigned a numeric score:

Score	Response Option
0	No progress at all
1	Some progress, but very limited
2	Significant progress

In some cases, additional categories may have been offered (e.g., "Don't know" or "Not applicable"), but only scored responses were averaged.

- For each issue, we only included valid responses (i.e. excluding "Don't know/NA").
- We then averaged the numeric scores across all responses for that issue.

Example:

If 5 people responded to an issue with the following:

- 2 said "No progress" (score = 0),
- 2 said "Some progress" (score = 1),
- 1 said "Significant progress" (score = 2),

Then the average score would be:

$$(0 + 0 + 1 + 1 + 2) / 5 = 0.8$$

In parallel, we also counted how many respondents selected:

"No progress" or

"Some progress, but very limited".

This gave us the number of organisations reporting low progress for each issue — a second indicator of how widespread the concern is.

Gap Area	Avg. Progress Score (0–2)	# Orgs Reporting Low Progress	Summary
Linking social protection to child labour prevention or removal strategies	0.44	14	No strong connection between welfare schemes and child labour removal.
Including child labour survivors in policies	0.56	13	Survivors rarely have a voice in making/reviewing policies.
International financial support strengthening (debt relief, grants)	0.74	12	Countries aren't getting enough global help to fund anti-child labour work.
Child labour data and monitoring systems strengthening	0.75	10	Systems to track, report or fix child labour are weak/missing.
Updated, detailed, disaggregated data about child labour	0.78	11	Governments lack good, recent stats to make decisions.
Education access for overcoming barriers by vulnerable groups	0.82	10	Not enough support for girls, disabled, or migrant children in education.
Recognition of the role of universal social protection as a key strategy to prevent child labour in recent policy discussions	0.84	11	Policymakers don't yet treat social protection as a key anti-child labour tool.
Allocation of government funds and resources for child labour prevention and elimination efforts	0.89	10	Too little budget is going toward fighting child labour.

Gap Area	Avg. Progress Score (0–2)	# Orgs Reporting Low Progress	Summary
Bilateral or multilateral initiatives in your country promoting corporate accountability for child labour in supply chains	0.89	10	Weak accountability for businesses using child labour indirectly.
Increase in financial support from donor governments and international agencies for child labour elimination	1.00	8	International funding is still too low.
Linking of national child labour prevention strategies with efforts to improve school access and retention	1.05	9	Education programs not always integrated with anti-child labour work.
Efforts from international development assistance institutions (e.g., from UN agencies, donors, or IFIs) supporting national efforts to eliminate child labour:	1.06	8	Global institutions aren't doing enough to back up national efforts.
Active measures to ensure rural children's access to quality education and prevent dropouts due to farm work	1.11	8	Farm children still drop out due to lack of access or support.
Active involvement of teachers' unions in efforts to prevent child labour and promote inclusive, public, quality education for all children	1.12	7	Teachers aren't involved enough in child labour prevention.

Gap Area	Avg. Progress Score (0–2)	# Orgs Reporting Low Progress	Summary
Data on child labour used in the design & implementation of national policies/programs	1.16	8	Even when data exists, it's not used well in policymaking.
Active engagement of agricultural worker unions and CSOs in policy discussions or monitoring child labour in agriculture	1.20	8	Those closest to the problem aren't at the table enough.
Adoption or renewing of specific national policies or action plans to eliminate child labour in agriculture	1.22	7	Some countries haven't adopted clear policies on this.
Interventions to improve access to quality education for children at risk of child labour	1.22	7	Children at high risk of labour don't get enough schooling support.
Expansion/improvement of social protection systems (e.g., cash transfers, child benefits) to prevent child labour	1.22	7	Safety nets are still too narrow or weak.
Active engagement of the country in multilateral or regional cooperation platforms to eliminate child labour (e.g., Alliance 8.7, Regional Initiatives)	1.25	6	Countries aren't active enough in cooperation platforms.

Gap Area	Avg. Progress Score (0–2)	# Orgs Reporting Low Progress	Summary
Integrating of child labour concerns into broader development policies and trade agreements (e.g., SDGs, education, social protection, labour strategies)	1.30	7	Child labour isn't always part of trade, social or development policies.
Reducing school-related barriers (e.g., school fees, distance, gender disparities)	1.41	5	Issues like school fees, long distances, or gender gaps still exist.
Effective reintegration and long-term follow-up mechanisms for child labour survivors (e.g., access to education, psycho-social support, vocational training)	1.44	5	Few long-term support systems exist for children who return from work.
Extension of labour law coverage, particularly in agriculture where most child labour occurs	1.44	5	Many child labourers on farms are still not protected by labour laws.
Country's participation in international or regional cooperation initiatives to combat both child labour and forced labour	1.50	4	Some countries aren't engaged enough in international cooperation.

3. Regional Highlights

Based on the most commonly reported themes, challenges, and priorities shared by respondents from each region.

Africa



- Strong grassroots mobilisation, led particularly by teachers' unions and community-based organisations, continues to anchor national advocacy efforts. Unions report taking on roles far beyond education, facilitating case referrals, monitoring school attendance, and mediating with local authorities
- Child trafficking, domestic labour, and agricultural exploitation remain pervasive, driven by rural poverty, weak enforcement, and cross-border movement. Respondents highlighted a worrying rise in informal recruitment networks and seasonal migration patterns that expose children to multiple forms of abuse.
- Enforcement, data systems, and coordination structures remain extremely limited, with several countries lacking updated statistics, functional child labour units, or rural inspection capacity. Many CSOs note that governments rely heavily on NGOs for evidence generation, yet rarely translate findings into concrete, budgeted action.

“Enforcement is our biggest missing piece. Laws exist on paper – but without labour inspectors on the ground, children remain invisible.”

- Trade Union, East Africa

“When schools are under-resourced, children are pushed out and into labour. Investing in education is not just a social policy – it is child labour prevention.”

-Teachers Union, East Africa

“Children work because the schools can be far, unsafe, expensive, and/or low-quality.”

-Teachers Union, South Africa

“Governments can’t keep using poverty as an excuse. Child labour is a choice of neglect, not fate.”

-CSO, Francophone Africa

Asia

- Legal frameworks exist but suffer from chronic under-enforcement, with inspection systems stretched thin and penalties rarely applied. Respondents stressed that child labour persists openly in sectors such as agriculture, domestic work, small-scale manufacturing, and home-based supply chains due to minimal oversight.
- The informal economy continues to be a major driver of child labour, particularly in family-run enterprises, seasonal farm work, home-based production, brick kilns, and street vending. Workers' organisations report barriers to organising informal workers, which constrains collective bargaining and decent work gains.
- Growing calls for national legal reforms and zone-based interventions reflect the success of localised, community-driven models in reducing hazardous child labour. Civil society emphasises the need to scale these approaches, link them to social protection, and integrate them into national action plans—supported by real financing rather than symbolic commitments.

“We don’t need another round of consultations. We need enforcement, funding, and freedom to organise.”

-Trade Union, Asia

“Freedom of association is not a luxury. If workers cannot organize, child labour will always be the cheapest labour.”

-Trade Union, South Asia

“According to the National Report on Child Labour, 1.1 million children are in child labor, but the civil society organizations working for the elimination of child labour is very minimal. The federal government provided 5 lakh incentive to each municipality for the declaration of child labour-free Municipalities”

-CSO, Nepal



Latin America

- Civil society campaigns remain strong and often centre on awareness, prevention, and rights-based education, with unions and NGOs jointly mobilising around public education, safe schools, and youth engagement. Respondents cited effective community networks that identify at-risk children and connect families to local support services.
- Several countries report regression or weakening of child protection laws and institutions, linked to political shifts, austerity policies, and shrinking public budgets. This has reduced oversight in high-risk sectors and undermined earlier gains in institutional coordination.
- Concerns around domestic and agricultural labour remain prominent, especially in rural and indigenous communities where poverty, migration, and limited access to public services push children into unpaid family work or informal wage labour. Respondents emphasise the lack of targeted interventions for these contexts and the need to revive state-led monitoring and enforcement systems.

“Addressing child labour is met by challenges such as insufficient funding, inadequate staffing, limited technical expertise, weak civil society cooperation, restricted access to children in labor, low public awareness and gaps in data.”

-CSO, Latin America

“Despite persistent challenges, we are committed to prevent and eradicate child labour and to protect working adolescents. Our efforts centre on children and adolescents, their families, schools, and communities – the environments where they live, learn, and build their futures.”

-CSO, Latin America

“We mobilize public attention across the calendar to expose the realities of child labour and drive accountability. Through strategic awareness campaigns, rigorous knowledge generation, and sustained political advocacy, we work year after year to shift both public attitudes and public policy.”

-CSO, Latin America

“There is resilience on the ground – but resilience alone is not a policy.”

-CSO, Latin America

4. Recommendations

Cross-Cutting Recommendations

- Recognise and resource child labour elimination as a governance issue, not just a project issue, embed child labour into national planning, budgeting, and inter-ministerial coordination.
- Prioritise informal and agricultural sectors in legal coverage, labour inspections, and union engagement, since these are where most child labour and labour rights violations occur.
- Fund and embed survivor and youth participation in policy monitoring and design — not as token voices but as core contributors.
- Promote accountability in supply chains by linking national enforcement with global due diligence norms and ensuring workers and CSOs can trigger grievance mechanisms.
- Treat data as a public good — mandate disaggregated data collection, make it accessible, and integrate findings into policy and program design.
- Prioritise living wage advocacy, OSH for young workers, and closing the agricultural coverage gap; push for inspection capacity.
- Embed meaningful child, youth, and survivor participation in policy design, monitoring, and program implementation. Their voices must inform decision-making rather than being token inputs.
- Invest in inclusive, quality public education as a cornerstone of prevention by ensuring free, accessible and equitable schooling for all children, with targeted support for those at risk of entering child labour. Education systems must be resourced to retain learners, respond to local vulnerabilities, and coordinate with child protection services.



To Governments

- Enforce labour and child protection laws in informal, agricultural, and domestic sectors — with clear mandates, budgeted action plans, and measurable targets to ensure stable domestic financing for child labour elimination and social protection/education systems.
- Invest in rural education and social protection, especially children in agriculture, migrant families, and conflict-affected areas.
- Ensure inter-ministerial coordination, especially between labour, education, agriculture, and social welfare ministries, to close implementation gaps.

- Fund regular, disaggregated national data collection and make it publicly accessible for transparency and accountability.
- Create space for meaningful civil society and union participation in policymaking and monitoring — not just symbolic consultation.
- Protect civic space by ending reprisals against activists and upholding freedoms of association and expression.
- Mainstream survivor and youth voices into national child labour prevention strategies through funded mechanisms for engagement.
- Urgently institutionalise referral pathways and reintegration monitoring; secure budget lines and inter-ministerial MoUs.
- Link anti-child labour strategies to concrete education financing and teacher workforce plans; protect public, quality, inclusive education.
- Institutionalize mechanisms for regular consultation with children, youth, and survivors, especially in designing reintegration, education, and social protection programs.
- Ensure budgeted structures for survivor-led monitoring and community-based reporting of child labour cases.



To the ILO, UN Agencies, and Multilateral Platforms

- Champion civic space protection as a core pillar of child labour elimination in all country strategies and reporting.
- Strengthen inclusive monitoring frameworks (e.g., Alliance 8.7) to require participation of unions, CSOs, and affected communities.
- Provide technical support for inter-agency coordination, especially around education, labour, and social protection.
- Fund participatory research and data systems, led or co-designed by local actors, to fill evidence gaps and drive action.
- Develop model tools or benchmarks for survivor engagement, grievance mechanisms, and grassroots inclusion.
- Support tools, frameworks, and funding to enable child and youth-led monitoring, advocacy, and participation in international accountability mechanisms.



To Donors and Philanthropic Foundations

- Shift from project-based to long-term, flexible funding for CSOs and unions working on child labour and decent work.
- Prioritise funding to rural, grassroots, and survivor-led organisations, especially in under-resourced regions and sectors.

- Invest in local data collection, reintegration services, and community monitoring, not just national advocacy.
- Ensure grantee partnerships promote localisation and power-sharing, especially where large INGOs dominate funding flows.
- Incentivise government action by linking aid to measurable progress on enforcement, participation, and civic space.
- Prioritise funding for initiatives that empower children, youth, and survivors as active participants in program design, monitoring, and evaluation, rather than only beneficiaries.



To Corporates and Business Actors

- Go beyond CSR to embed child labour due diligence in all tiers of domestic and global supply chains, including informal and agricultural nodes.
- Recognise and collaborate with unions and grassroots CSOs as implementation partners, not PR risks.

- Adopt and comply with binding human rights due diligence (HRDD) obligations.
- Support sectoral-level wage reforms and social protection that reduce household reliance on child labour.
- Fund or co-fund community-based remediation and monitoring, including child-labour-free zones and school reintegration.
- Disclose supply chain risks transparently and allow independent worker and CSO monitoring.



To Civil Society, Trade Unions, and Grassroots Organisations

- Continue to lead on community-based solutions, including prevention, identification, and reintegration.
 - Strengthen alliances across education, labour, and child rights sectors to push for policy coherence.
-
- Use data and lived experience to influence policy — including through shadow reports and participatory evidence.
 - Push for meaningful roles in national and international platforms (e.g., Alliance 8.7, UN forums) to co-shape agendas.
 - Nurture youth and survivor leadership within organisational structures to ensure intergenerational accountability.
 - Bargain for inclusive Social Protection floors, automatic enrolment for vulnerable groups, and built-in Child Labour case management.
 - Advocate for regular labour force/household surveys with child labour modules; require public reporting to guide funding and enforcement.
 - Push for stable domestic financing and binding human rights due diligence; ensure Trade Union participation in monitoring
 - Target underperforming pillars with tailored campaigns, including negotiating social protection floors with explicit child labour linkages and securing survivor reintegration systems.
 - Advance collective bargaining and legal reform to ensure living wages, occupational safety and health for youth, coverage in agriculture, formalisation incentives, and stronger labour inspection staffing.
 - Advocate for education financing and teacher workforce improvements through ring-fenced budgets and partnerships with teachers' unions for retention-focused reforms.
 - Strengthen data governance by pressing for regular child labour measurement and public dashboards, and requiring data use in budget justifications.
 - Push for binding human rights due diligence in supply chains, worker-driven monitoring, and remedies for affected children and families.
 - Mobilise resources by blending domestic allocations with donor lines tied to measurable child labour outcomes, while tracking disbursement and results.