European Commission

Workshop

Brussels, 21 March 2018

Cocoa, an unsavoury sweet?

Assessing progress, practices and challenges to identify effective actions to eradicate child labour from cocoa production and value chains

International Cooperation and Development

BACKGROUND

The challenge of ending child labour remains formidable with 152 million children in child labour around the world, 71 % of these are engaged in the agricultural sector, with Africa home to nearly two-thirds of all child labourers. Child labour in agriculture is characterised by the high risks of hazardous work and the worst forms of child labour likely to harm the health, safety and morals of children.

Cocoa is one of the most common agricultural commodities produced with a high prevalence of child labour. There are 2.1 million children alone estimated to be engaged in child labour in the cocoa supply chains of major producer countries' Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, which together account for 60 % of total world production.

While chocolate consumption increases in the European Union and globally, the cocoa industry is dominated by low incomes for producers, poor and unsafe working conditions and cheap child labour. Indeed, many cocoa farmers in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana live under the extreme poverty line.

Children working in family farms are unpaid, with their work being considered a social norm. While the acquisition of skills can be beneficial for children, it should not interfere with their health, safety, education and personal development. However, this is rarely the case for child labourers on the cocoa farms, where extreme poverty forces children to work in unacceptable and hazardous conditions.

Cocoa supply chains are diverse and highly complex, with small family farms engaged in primary production. The industry is characterised by informality, lack of social protection and decent wages, dangerous working conditions and poor traceability and transparency. The desperation of marginal farmers has a negative impact on the environment, contributing to soil degradation and deforestation.

While there is a better understanding of the issues and approaches, progress has been frustratingly slow. International efforts have made tremendous strides but a sustained commitment from all stakeholders is urgent if SDG target 8.7[1], which aims to end child labour in all its forms by 2025, is to be achieved.

A more systematic approach to combatting child labour in agriculture is needed, paying particular attention to the needs of rural youth and adolescents, many of whom are

migrants from neighbouring countries and vulnerable to forced labour.

Strategic and comprehensive interventions in value chains for export commodities like cocoa can significantly contribute to reducing child labour. The EU, as the world's largest importer of cocoa, accounting for over 60 % of global imports, has a major role to play. In addition to more sustainable industry practices and traceability systems, diversification of production and respect of environmental standards can be advanced.

While access to quality education is a key factor in eliminating child labour, it is not sufficient on its own. Given that many cocoa farmers fall beneath the extreme poverty line, the provision of social protection could be an effective instrument to build resilience to shocks and insulate families from the worst consequences of extreme poverty, and reduce the need for child labour.

Holistic solutions are necessary to respond to the needs and aspirations of vulnerable cocoa farmers and their families. In order to identify and expand upon good strategies, it is important to spread and increase knowledge and share experiences in cooperation with all stakeholders and partners, with the aim of effectively reducing child labour in this and other areas.

It is a shared responsibility to take urgent action now to put an end to this exploitation and social injustice: 2025 is tomorrow, it is urgent to select strategic actions with effective, short term results and sustainable impact for the next seven years and beyond.

1 SDG Target 8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

Together with other donors and non-state actors, the EU is committed to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The focus of this workshop was **SDG Target 8.7 "Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms."** Other SDGs relating to extreme poverty, education and a more effective partnership for development were also discussed.

The EU subscribes to the responsible donor practices associated with the SDGs and the new European Consensus on Development.[2] These are structured around the five dimensions: People, Planet, Prosperity, Peace, and Partnerships. For the cocoa supply chain, this relates to

- Capacity development and reduction of extreme poverty among small-scale cocoa producers, and investment in education.
- More sustainable land and water use, and a diversification of agricultural production to reduce reliance on pesticides.
- Increased productivity of family and small farms, replacement of child labour by properly-paid jobs for young adults with decent working conditions, reduction in commodity price fluctuations and their impact on small farmers.
- Better infrastructure, integrated rural development and job creation to reduce land conflicts in cocoa-producing regions.
- Strengthening the lead role of the governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana in particular, to ensure enforcement of their ambitious programmes to eliminate child labour, ensure universal access to quality primary education, create rural livelihoods with decent conditions, and help local stakeholders capture a greater share of value added in the cocoa product chain.

This workshop was organised by the European Commission's Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development (DG DEVCO), Sector on Employment and Social Inclusion, to contribute to accelerating the elimination of child labour (SDG target 8.7), by identifying gaps and opportunities to tackle child labour in the cocoa production and value chains.

The one-day facilitated, interactive and participatory workshop was intended to:

- Assess progress and share good practices for replication in education and training, improved livelihoods, alternative income generating activities, infrastructure development, awareness raising, legal and regulatory frameworks, social dialogue and fair trade;
- Clarify the needs and roles of stakeholders, and opportunities to build strategic partnerships between central and local government, donors, farmer organisations, industry players, civil society, communities and consumers associations;
- Share innovative, sustainable and holistic approaches to ensure investment, decent jobs, improved and diversified production, safeguarding fair prices, increasing safe working conditions and the implementation of environmental friendly practices;
- Assess potential to increase local chocolate production and other quality cocoa products, while respecting economic, social and environmental standards;
- Identify opportunities for influencing policy dialogue, trade agreements and global supply chains including certification, transparency and traceability initiatives.

To prepare the workshop, a concept note and discussion paper were prepared in advance (they are annexed to this report).

2 https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/policies/european-development-policy/european-consensus-development_en

PARTICIPANTS

There were 62 participants include staff of EU institutions, EU Member State development agencies, producer country representatives, trade operators, private sector, producer and consumer associations, international organisations, civil society, trade unions and academia.

Capacity4Dev, the EU's development cooperation knowledge sharing platform, produced an article on the workshop, which includes a video of interviews with the speakers.

The photo gallery of the workshop can be consulted and photos downloaded from the following link: http://bruagency.photodeck.com/-/galleries/20180321-workshop-child-labour

SUMMARY OF THE PRESENTATIONS

Opening remarks

JEAN-LOUIS VILLE, Former Acting Director DEVCO B "People and Peace," European Commission

Child Labour does not belong to history, there are 152 million children working, mostly in agriculture. Cocoa is one of the most important exported products in the world and the EU is one of the major importers.

For many years the EU has funded projects directly and indirectly contributing to remove and prevent child labour: focused actions or interventions in education, health, food security, rural development, gender empowerment, decent work and social protection, etc.

However, in a globalised world, the fight against child labour needs a more systemic approach, more strategic interventions, and expanded partnerships - global and local, private and public - for integrated and holistic actions.

There is a pressing need for more research, data and knowledge sharing among policymakers, investors and practitioners. This workshop is intended to share good and bad practices, and to brainstorm on the most effective frontline strategies to address child labour in this sector, through a value chain and integrated approach or in other innovative models.

The EU and workshop participants are all committed to Sustainable Development Goal target 8.7: to eliminate child labour in all forms by 2025, as well as collective implementation of the Buenos Aires Declaration of November 2017.

The workshop discussions were framed by six short, focused presentations from Europe and from the field. The presentations can be downloaded from the following link: https://www.dropbox.com/sh/va66ctrwuwiw0nz/AAAoqXRuhg7pZiFn5iR2BP70a?dl=0

Child Labour International Labour Conventions, EU-ILO partnership

FRANCESCO D'OVIDIO, Head of Solutions and Innovation Unit, Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch, Governance and Tripartism Department, International Labour Organisation

As Francesco noted, although the world is making significant progress towards the elimination of child labour, progress in eliminating child labour in agriculture has been slow, due to the sector specificities. These include limited coverage of agriculture and family undertakings in national labour legislations, limited unionization, fragmentation of the labour force, low capacity of labour inspectors to cover remote rural areas, majority of child labourers working as unpaid family labour without formal contracts, and traditions of children participating in agricultural activities from a young age. It is essential to tackle cocoa in a holistic way at community level, looking also at the other worst forms of child labour present. Sustainable monitoring systems must be developed and strengthened, based on the primary responsibility of the Government (labour inspection) and more in general in the framework of the Decent Work Agenda. The EU provides significant support to the ILO for the fight against child labour. However, more must be done to establish a broader partnership in the framework of Alliance 8.7.

Discussion:
Participants commented on the challenges of accurate, timely and cost-effective measurement of child labour.

Suggested background reading:
- Impact of 10 years of EU-ILO collaboration for decent work and social justice: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@europe/@ro-geneva/@ilo-brussels/documents/publication/wcms_195135.pdf
- Good practice and lessons learned in cocoa communities in Ghana: http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Informationresources/WCMS_IPEC_PUB_27315/lang--en/index.htm
- Overview of ILO initiatives on child labour: http://www.ilo.org/ipec/lang--en/index.htm

Examples of in-depth research and monitoring on child labour in cocoa supply chains

OLIVIER LABOULLE, Programme Manager for Responsible Supply Chain Management, International Cocoa Initiative

Olivier presented the ICI Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS). Whereas certain certification standards, by using a compliance approach, may have created disincentives for accurate reporting, the CLMRS encourages a transparent identification and discussion of child labour cases. This supportive approach has helped to detect and address approximately 20 % of child labour cases in certified cooperatives which were deemed to be "child labour free". The CLMRS recognises the challenges of cost, scale and effectiveness. It seeks to use intermediaries who are in contact with many farmers (delivery personnel, cooperative staff) whose salaries and travel costs are already covered. ICI serves as a platform for pre-competitive learning by cocoa companies.

Suggested background reading:
- ICI Effectiveness Review of Child Labour Monitoring Systems in the Smallholder Agricultural Sector of Sub-Saharan Africa (2017): http://www.cocoainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/ICI-CLMS-Effectiveness_15_May.pdf
- About ICI: http://www.cocoainitiative.org/about-ici/about-us/
- 2017 report on tackling child labour, produced by Nestlé Cocoa Plan and International Cocoa Initiative: https://www.nestlecocoaplanreport.com

LEONIE BLOKHUIS, **Program Manager, Research & Innovation, Fair Labor Association (FLA)**

Leonie presented the Agriculture program of the Fair Labor Association and its work in the cocoa sector since 2011. Leonie explained FLA's experience with the mapping of Nestlé's cocoa supply chain in the Ivory Coast and yearly in-depth assessments and public reporting on the monitoring and action plans of FLA's members Nestlé and Olam. Based on the first research in 2012, the FLA provided the recommendations for setting up of Child Labor Monitoring and Remediation Systems as well as strengthening of alternative income generation activities for farmers and development of vocational schools. To strengthen the decision taking power of women in cocoa communities the FLA has started a Gender Dialogue project in 2015 together with Nestlé. The initial outcomes of this project are positive and preparations for scaling up are underway. FLA is supporting Olam in implementing CLMRS in their own business practices and currently in-depth research is done to get more insight in the (non-) functioning of complaint mechanisms with the intention to improve the opportunities for workers to raise their voice. The report on this is expected in the second half of 2018.

Suggested background reading:

- About FLA cocoa work: http://www.fairlabor.org/search/node/cocoa
- Independent assessment of Nestlé cocoa supply chain operations in Ivory Coast in 2016: http://www.fairlabor.org/report/2016-assessments-nestlé-cocoa-supply-chain-ivory-coast
- FLA's agriculture program and principles: http://www.fairlabor.org/agriculture-principles

WeShare: a transparent shared value system can eradicate poverty & child labour

FERNANDO MORALES-DE LA CRUZ, **Founder of Cacao for Change and Café for Change**

Fernando reminded participants that child labour is only one part of the Human Cost of Cocoa. Because child labour is a consequence of extreme poverty and an exploitative business model; he argued that only by creating and implementing a transparent Shared Value compensation system that can increase significantly the price of cocoa, passing these costs on to consumers, can the necessary resources be generated to raise the incomes of farmers and farm workers, eradicating extreme poverty and reducing the industry's dependence on child labour and exploitative wages. Fernando claimed that "fair trade" and "ethical" consumption initiatives funded by the EU and national governments are deceiving consumers, failing farmers and farm workers and ultimately hurting innocent children. For Fernando, existing 'fair' and 'ethical' trade initiatives are "aspirin-like solutions to a cancer-like problem". Since child labour is a Human Rights issue, no company should believe they can continue to profit from child labour even one more day. Even if the ILO Buenos Aires Conference talks about a deadline of 2025 to eradicate child labour, we should not forget that child labour is illegal today!

Fernando stated that "the European Union is the largest financial beneficiary of child labour and extreme poverty in cocoa and coffee communities".

Suggested background reading:

- www.CafeForChange.org

The community-based approach to tackle child labour with an example from a cocoa area in Ghana

GERARD OONK, **Senior Advisor Stop Child Labour Coalition and Director India Committee of the Netherlands**

Gerard outlined the best practice of the community-based approach to tackling child labour. This entails the creation and gradual extension of child labour free zones, understood as defined areas, where everyone is convinced that 'No child should be working, every child should be in school!' Teachers, local authorities, village leaders, employers, parents and children in these zones work together to get children out of work and into school. The focus is not on child labour in specific sectors or the 'worst forms of child labour', but on all children who work and do not go to school. An example from this approach in a cocoa region in Ghana was given. The community-based approach is also being combined with a supply-chain approach by Stop Child Labour.

Suggested background reading:

- International Stop Child Labour movement handbook: '5x5 Stepping Stones towards creating Child Labour Free Zones': http://www.stopchildlabour.eu/handbook/ and position paper: Getting children out of work and into school – Combining Bottom-Up and Top down Strategies to Stop Child Labour: http://www.stopchildlabour.eu/assets/Stop-Child-Labour-position-paper.pdf
- Video on child labour free zones: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WEHwLFiZMOQ

The transparency journey of a chocolate producer

OWEN BETHELL, **Public Affairs, Issue Management & CSV Communications, Nestlé S.A**

Owen presented the challenges Nestlé has faced in addressing the issue of child labour in cocoa and on reporting progress. While negative publicity and CSO lobbying has forced chocolate producers to pay more attention to child labour issues, internally such messages can initially provoke a defensive, rather than constructive approach. Nevertheless, over time Nestlé has gained experience in tackling child labour in cocoa, including through Monitoring and Remediation systems.

Suggested background reading:

- 2017 report on Tackling Child Labour in Cocoa: https://www.nestle.com/asset-library/documents/creating-shared- value/responsible-sourcing/nestle-cocoa-plan-child-labour-2017-report.pdf

WORKING GROUP DISCUSSIONS

In the afternoon, participants divided into three working groups to share experience and identify common priorities at three levels of intervention:

Community level

The discussion focused on local solutions, combining a community-based approach with a supply chain approach.

The questions covered included:

- What are the gaps empowering families, in particular women and youth, to improve resilience and livelihoods in cocoa growing areas?
- How to avoid the displacement effects of children working in other sectors?
- How to ensure a fair price and strengthen resilience of local producers to income loss? Are stock systems and diversified production viable options?
- How to improve the effectiveness and impact of fair trade interventions?

Participants had confidence in the existing approaches that reflect 'best practice' in combining a community-based approach with a supply chain approach. Concerns mostly related to how to replicate and upscale successful initiatives, and how to increase impact. Only a small proportion of target groups are addressed. Upscaling requires the earmarking of government budgets for relevant programmes, with incentives for private sector and other actors to develop complementary activities. A more sustained attention to child labour from development partners is also required.

Participants had a wide range of concerns regarding efforts to protect and strengthen capacity of local small-scale producers. Some commented that in Côte d'Ivoire only 40 % of cocoa farmers are members of cooperatives, and that many CSO initiatives focus on these farmers, who, though poor, are not likely to be the poorest and most vulnerable. While CSO representatives tended to argue for diversification of peasant production as the desired strategy to increase resilience of local producers, some industry representatives suggested that in fact plantation production allows for more modern and verifiable labour conditions. Some participants stressed the over-reliance of poor Ivoirians and Ghanaians on cocoa farming, and the need to reduce the number and proportion of marginal farmers by creating other rural livelihoods.

Girls and women face particular challenges in all these areas.

National level

Discussion explored integrated strategies for education and training, youth employment, decent work and social protection.

Questions discussed included:

- What are the strategic opportunities for mainstreaming the elimination of child labour in cocoa?
- How to replace child labour with decent jobs for young adults?
- How to work with governments and key stakeholders to create productive employment and expand effective social protection systems?

Participants stressed the need for greater reinforcement and expansion of initiatives to reduce poverty and vulnerability (including ensuring that children receive birth certificates and improved rural infrastructure).

Participants also noted the positive role as child labour 'champion' of Côte d'Ivoire's First Lady, Madam Dominique Ouattara.

Despite efforts to expand social protection, communities vulnerable to child labour are not adequately addressed. Current government priorities for expanding social protection in Ivory Coast do not address these vulnerable citizens.[3] Ghana has a range of relevant programmes, but their potential to contribute to child labour reduction is not fully exploited.

3 For example, in Côte d'Ivoire the three current initiatives for extending social protection deal with formal sector and relatively stable informal sector workers. See https://afrique.latribune.fr/politique/politique-publique/2017-05-19/cote-d-ivoire-trois-nouveaux-regimes-de-prevoyance-sociale-d-ici-fin-2018-716935.html

There are opportunities to increase membership of cooperatives and improve member services, and to reduce the role of those intermediaries whose profits are in excess of the value they bring to the process.

There is a continued lack of infrastructure for small producers. There is a lack of schools in remote areas and quality of education is poor. There is a lack of access to cheap credit. There is a lack of government programmes and of multi-stakeholder collaboration which could provide resources and facilitate the development of new business models, training schemes, credit circles, improved education and vocational training opportunities etc. Not surprisingly, agricultural vocations are not popular among children and young adults who believe that they have a choice.

The transition from formal education to work is problematic. Local education systems do not provide the right mix of skills for small-scale farms. There are a lack of non-farming opportunities for rural youth who complete secondary or even tertiary education. Some of these youth return to the village and become farmers – but their education has not prepared them for this and they have lost several years of income-earning potential.

Some participants stressed the need to better understand cultural issues. It was noted that cocoa-producing countries have varying rates of child labour, and the reasons for this are not fully understood. Issues discussed include macro-economic context, productivity per hectare, the market and price for high-end cocoa, the quality of social infrastructure, and social norms.

Global level

This workshop addressed several political and economic aspects of supply chain intervention.

The questions covered included:

- Are consumers sufficiently aware of the use of child labour in cocoa production?
- How to minimise negative side effects of potential embargos and boycotts?
- How to make the outcomes and pledges made at the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, held in Buenos Aires in November 2017 more operational and effectively mainstream child labour into cocoa sectors and other connected key areas?
- What short- and medium-term measures are necessary to accelerate the achievement to eliminate child labour in all forms by 2025?

There was some discussion about the role of fair trade and other ethical consumption initiatives. Many civil society participants saw these as playing a positive role, some critical voices suggested that such initiatives have made exaggerated claims about their success, and have served to confuse consumers.

There was some discussion about lawsuits and negative publicity. Some suggested that negative publicity focuses industry manager attention to take defensive steps. Industry representatives suggested that more constructive communication could solicit a more proactive and constructive approach. Other non-state actors seemed mostly not convinced by these arguments, with most arguing (privately) that any kind of public pressure on the owners of Europe's main chocolate brands is likely to increase corporate commitment to reducing child labour

Participants discussed the complex relationship between cocoa prices, extreme poverty and child labour. Cocoa prices are currently at their lowest since 2013. Their increase would contribute to some increase in income of small scale cocoa farmers, but could also encourage more poor farmers to grow cocoa, exposing their families to the fluctuations of global commodity prices. The large number of small scale producers and labourers willing to work for very low wages is itself a factor driving the price down. The return to political stability in Côte d'Ivoire (the major exporter) has also contributed to an increase in global supply and therefore lower prices.

Despite low prices, consumption in the EU, US and China is not significantly increasing, partly due to health concerns associated with obesity and with sugar and fat consumption. Increasing margins of chocolate producers are also the result of a consumer shift to higher value gourmet and speciality products.

Some participants are in favour of a greater use of mechanisms to reduce price fluctuation and reduce speculation.

Other participants expressed doubts about the real possibility of such interventions, or simply prefer the current liberalised market arrangements.

Reducing extreme poverty is essential for sustainable reduction in child labour, but is not a sufficient precondition.

Low productivity of cocoa farmers in West Africa is recognised as a driver of family dependence on income from child labour. Low productivity is the result of low capital investment, ageing tree stock, low diffusion and impact of more productive selection and breeding programmes, and declining soil fertility levels. There are a range of perspectives on how to increase productivity. For some industry representatives, larger plantations offer the potential for increased productivity and higher wages and benefits, but of course only for a limited number of workers. There is a clear lack of economic activities in rural areas that could absorb the marginal cocoa farmers and offer them better prospects.

Participants (from the industry and from the CSO sector) did not identify significant opportunities to increase the small farmer and country-level value added in the cocoa value chain, since there is no significant local market for cocoa in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, and chocolate production is more economical in temperate climates such as Europe, where consumers are concentrated, and where there are also competitive sources of milk and sugar, the other key ingredients of chocolate. The export processing of cocoa is already highly mechanised in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire.

European Union public procurement contracts should include clauses that oblige companies to demonstrate supply-chain compliance with international standards. Trade measures could include a sales ban on products made using the worst forms of child labour as defined by the ILO. Some participants suggested that the USA is ahead of the EU in this respect.

Closing remarks

In her closing remarks, Maria-Rosa De Paolis of DEVCO B3, European Commission, thanked participants. She commented that this workshop had demonstrated that the complexity of this problem require holistic and multidimensional solutions, and strategic partnerships. This workshop was a first attempt to identify areas where DEVCO could potentially contribute to reducing child labour in the cocoa sector. Thanks to the various presentations and discussions some main conclusions were reached. These will guide DEVCO and other EU colleagues in integrating key elements of common interest into existing instruments and sectors. A joint effort between DEVCO B3 and other units of DEVCO will be necessary to tackle child labour across relevant sectors such as education, agriculture, private sector, and trade. In DEVCO's Employment and Social Inclusion sector we will strengthen the technical support to partner countries through the Socieux+ expert facility for social protection, labour and employment; we will make available to partner countries relevant European expertise to fill the gaps in sectors where child labour is identified.

DEVCO is also looking at the possibility to target the integration of child labour into youth employability programmes. From Brussels, DEVCO already provides support to our EU Delegations through guidance, training and quality reviews on employment, decent work and vocational education and training: child labour will be further addressed in relation with rural youth employment in the agro-food value chains.

Recommendations

Main recommendations

- The **European Union** should strengthen its legislative and regulatory framework to create more "carrots and sticks," with the most obvious incentive being improved EU market access. The **EU** should use its existing legal instruments more actively to promote reduction in child labour. **DG Trade** should make regular public reports about its progress in reducing child labour.
- The **EU and Member States** should work together to elaborate a unified European due diligence framework, and reverse the current multiplication of regulations and frameworks at the Member-State level.
- **DG DEVCO** bilateral programmes could be adjusted to reinforce attention to child labour issues. This could include supporting the efforts of the main partner countries to strengthen implementation of their (already

significant) legislation, regulations and policy objectives, as well as commissioning studies and evaluations and facilitating discussion and dissemination of recommendations regarding M&E of child labour elimination actions.

- The **European Commission** could play a useful role in facilitating a multi-stakeholder dialogue that would not be confined to specific programme and project frameworks.

Proposals supported by a significant proportion of participants were received in the following areas:

Regulations

The **European Union** should strengthen its legislative and regulatory framework to create more "carrots and sticks," with the most obvious incentive being improved EU market access. Trade in timber (the Forest Law Enforcement, Governance and Trade Initiative - FLEGT) was identified as one interesting approach to explore.[4]

The **European Union** should use its existing legal instruments more actively to promote reduction in child labour. The Generalised System of Preferences (GSP)[5] and particularly the Special Incentive Arrangement for Sustainable Development and Good Governance (GSP+) initiative,[6] could be used more actively to promote implementation of ILO conventions on child labour.[7]

In this respect, **DG Trade** should make regular public reports about its progress in reducing child labour.

The **EU and Member States** should work together to elaborate a unified European due diligence framework, and reverse the current multiplication of regulations and frameworks at the Member-State level.

In this respect, **DG for International Cooperation and Development** (DG DEVCO) could facilitate a multi-stakeholder dialogue concerning existing and planned due diligence frameworks in the EU.

Mainstreaming child labour in EU development cooperation

DG DEVCO bilateral programmes could be adjusted to reinforce attention to child labour issues. An increase in cash transfers to the poorest in cocoa-producing regions would reduce family dependence on the marginal income from child labour. Several participants suggested that for example, nutrition, education, gender equality and social protection programming could focus on programmes to support school attendance in cocoa-producing areas. Some CSOs were in favour of conditional benefits, others not, reflecting a general debate about social protection frameworks.

DG DEVCO could also support the efforts of the main partner countries to strengthen implementation of their own legislation and regulation. Most participants commented that both Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire have significant relevant legislation, regulations and policy objectives already in place. Efforts could therefore be focused on implementation of these.

Support could also be given to the development of national initiatives that could shield small producers from commodity price fluctuations. There is a lack of consensus about what initiatives could be appropriate in the current liberalised context, as well as concern with the sustainability of such initiatives.

DG DEVCO could also contribute to increasing quality of co-funded development cooperation actions relevant to child labour by commissioning studies and evaluations and facilitating discussion and dissemination of recommendations regarding M&E of child labour elimination actions.

DG DEVCO could improve the contribution to child labour reduction of the large number of anti-trafficking actions currently co-funded, through commissioning studies and evaluations to identify gaps and opportunities.

4 For more information see the EU proposal for a FLEGT action plan http://eur-lex.europa.eu/legal-content/EN/TXT/PDF/?uri=CELEX:52003DC0251&from=EN as well as the initiative website http://www.flegt.org/about-flegt

5 http://ec.europa.eu/trade/policy/countries-and-regions/development/generalised-scheme-of-preferences/

6 http://trade.ec.europa.eu/tradehelp/gsp

7 No countries with significant cocoa production are currently involved in the GSP+ initiative. See http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/docs/2017/july/tradoc_155842.pdf

Social protection

DG DEVCO could increase its support to social protection systems in the cocoa-producing countries, with a particular focus on women, and on the rural and non-cooperative sector, where much child labour is concentrated.

Partnerships

The **European Commission** could play a useful role in facilitating a multi-stakeholder dialogue that would not be confined to specific programme and project frameworks. The EC and its Delegations have a significant power of convocation.

Multi-stakeholder dialogue could also be a useful forum for discussing issues of income and price, in a non-competitive and non-confrontational context. This should be sufficiently transparent to avoid any suspicion of price-fixing.

DG DEVCO could facilitate a multi-stakeholder dialogue on certification schemes to encourage exchange of best practice and convergence around common priorities.

DG DEVCO could also play a complementary role in commissioning research related to the other recommendations in this document. Such research would be most valuable if its scope is broader than specific projects and programmes (such research may be funded in other frameworks).

Feedback about the event itself

The feedback from participants was mostly positive or very positive. Participants welcomed the diversity of speakers and the invited participants. Such multi-stakeholder dialogue, not constrained by a specific programme or initiative, were considered very valuable, and many participants encouraged the EU to facilitate future similar events. Suggestions for improving future similar events included ensuring that discussion materials are distributed in advance, and more opportunities to dialogue with EU staff, particularly from DG Trade, DG Agriculture and the various DG Development services responsible for bilateral programming. Some participants suggested that it is difficult to understand EU positions and formulate proposals in a context of relatively limited participation of EU services other than DG for International Cooperation and Development. Industry participants commented that future events should incorporate a legal statement/disclaimer to avoid suspicion of price-fixing.

A stronger participation by partner country stakeholders was also identified as something to be taken into account. In this respect, some participants suggested that such meetings could alternate between Brussels and either Abidjan or Accra.

ANNEXES

Annex 1: EU action on child labour

Annex 2: The European Parliament and Child Labour in the cocoa value chain

Annex 3: List of participants

Annex 4: Concept note

Annex 5: Discussion paper

Annex 6: Agenda

ANNEX 1

EU action on child labour

The new European Consensus on Development[8] commits the EU and Member States to combat child labour in an integrated approach in line with the 2030 Agenda. The EU's Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy[9] sets the objective to support partner countries to promote, protect and fulfil children's rights and their best interests including the fight against child labour. The Plan has also a strong focus on business and human rights to promote social responsible behaviour in enterprises in line with the EU strategy on Corporate Social Responsibility. The EU also has dedicated Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child.[10]

EU Development Cooperation support is focused on strengthening the capacities of partner countries to combat child labour, improving the regulatory and legislative framework, raising awareness, strengthening community prevention mechanisms and social support structures, and providing alternative training for decent jobs and income generating activities. Child labour is also addressed through the EU's assistance in key areas of child rights, women empowerment, decent work, social inclusion and protection, education and skills development. Recently the EU has launched or co-financed several initiatives to promote decent work and responsible supply chains.

The EU's Trade policy can also be instrumental in combatting child labour. The main trade policy instruments for promoting core labour standards are the EU's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) and in particular the special incentive arrangement for human rights, sustainable development and good governance (GSP+).[11]

ANNEX 2

The European Parliament and Child Labour in the cocoa value chain

On 20th November, the European parliament asked the European Commission about child labour in the coffee and cocoa supply chain.

The Commission must now respond in writing to two specific points:

1. Can the Commission state what immediate measures it will take to eradicate child labour in the supply chain of coffee and cocoa consumed in the EU to protect millions of children from the consequences of the exploitative trade practices of powerful corporations?
2. How will the Commission ensure that EU coffee and cocoa consumers do not fund exploitative businesses?

The full question and list of MEP supporters can be viewed here. The Commission's response can be found here.

The EU engagement to eliminating child labour in the coffee and cocoa supply chains was also discussed during a debate at the Development Committee of the European Parliament on 20th March 2018: the video of this discussion can be viewed at http://web.ep.streamovations.be/index.php/event/stream/20180320-1430-committee-deve (see in particular the discussion from 18:07 onwards)

Other useful links

ILO links to the Conventions

- **ILO Brochure:** ILO Convention No. 138 at a glance http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/download.do?type=-document&id=30215
- **ILO Brochure:** An introduction to legally prohibiting hazardous work for children http://www.ilo.org/ipecinfo/product/download.do?type=-document&id=30296

8 European Consensus on Development https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/policies/european-development-policy/european-consensus-development_en

9 EU's Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/30003/web_en__actionplanhumanrights.pdf

10 Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eu_guidelines_rights_of_child_0.pdf

11 Factsheet on the EU GSP+ programme http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/155235.htm

ANNEX 3

List of participants

Adogla	**Jedidiah**	Embassy of Ghana
Assanvo	**Alex**	Mars
Avenati	**Elena**	Save the children Italy
Bernhard	**Charlotte**	Dutch Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment
Bethell	**Owen**	Nestlé
Biraghi	**Emanuele**	UNICEF Cote d'Ivoire
Blokhuis	**Leonie**	Fair Labor Association
Christian	**Julia**	Fern
Conti	**Lucia**	AVSI Foundation
Culora	**Rossella**	European Parliament
De Knoop	**Michel**	European Commission
De Paolis	**Maria Rosa**	European Commission, DEVCO B3
De Schutter	**Simon**	Belgian FPS Foreign Affairs
Deketele	**Caroline**	GOPA Com.
Di Cristo	**GIULIA**	Save the Children Italy
Djelantik	**Sita**	Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs
Domas-Conzemius	**Johann**	Chocolat Guérin-Boutron SPRL
d'Ovidio	**Francesco**	ILO
Englebert	**Christine**	CoVISU scs
Erbrath	**Torben**	BDSI-Association of the German Confectionery Industry
Forsberg	**Mattias**	Save the Children
Fountain	**Antonie**	VOICE Network
Garlando	**Efrem**	European Commission
Gobbi	**Donatella**	European Commission
Gutmann	**Bernadette**	UNICEF
Heald Han	**Shelly**	Fair Labor Association
Heikkila	**Kaija**	Finland Permanent Representation
Kelly	**Eoin**	European Commission
Korter	**Muriel**	CAOBISCO
Laboulle	**Olivier**	International Cocoa Initiative
Langendam	**Irma**	Wageningen University and Research

Le Guével	**Audrey**	ILO
Marien	**Silvie**	ABVV/FGTB Horval
McGinty	**Mark**	GOPA Com.
McQuade	**Aidan**	Anti-Slavery International
Morales-de la Cruz	**Fernando**	Cafe for Change
Moser	**Sarah**	Cargill Cocoa & Chocolate
Negoiescu	**Cristina**	World Vision
O'Neill	**Michelle**	Mars
Oonk	**Gerard**	Stop Child Labour Coalition
Orlandoni	**Olimpia**	Agrinatura
Pastouret	**Aurélien**	European Commission
Peters	**Conny**	Rainforest Alliance (old UTZ)
Pődör	**Sára**	UNICEF
Poos	**Samuel**	Enabel (Trade for Development Centre)
Prins	**Christian**	Baar Collesant
Seiffert	**Bernd**	Food and Agriculture Organisation of the United Nations (FAO)
Sekulovic	**Saba**	Landmark Public Affairs
Suman	**Maria**	European Cocoa Association (ECA)
Sund	**Lena**	DG Trade, European Commission
Sundmark	**Alexandra**	European Commission
Tschannen	**Andres**	Barry Callebaut
Valenza	**Marta**	B&S Europe - GOPA Com.
Van Besien	**Bart**	Oxfam-Wereldwinkels
Van Peteghem	**Andreas**	Belgian FPS Foreign Affairs, Foreign Trade and Development Cooperation
Vila	**Blerina**	Wexam Consulting
Ville	**Jean Louis**	European Commission
Yabo	**Mondon**	Mission de la République de Côte d'Ivoire auprès de l'UE à Bruxelles
Yao	**Kouman Adingra**	Mission de la République de Côte d'ivoire auprès de l'Union Européenne
Yver	**Fabienne**	Fair Trade Advocacy Office
Zeggoud	**Amale**	Nestlé
Zoe	**Druilhe**	FAO
Zwolsman	**Olivier**	Ferrero

ANNEX 4

European Commission

CONCEPT NOTE

Cocoa, an unsavoury sweet?

Assessing progress, practices and challenges to identify effective actions to eradicate child labour from cocoa production and value chains

Workshop **Wednesday 21 March 2018, 8 - 18h**

Hotel EU Berlaymont Boulevard Charlemagne 11-19, B-1000 Brussels

Background

The challenge of ending child labour remains formidable with 152 million children in child labour around the world, 71 % of these are engaged in the agricultural sector, with Africa home to nearly two-thirds of all child labourers. Child labour in agriculture is characterised by the high risks of hazardous work and the worst forms of child labour likely to harm the health, safety and morals of children.

Cocoa is one of the most common agricultural commodities produced with a high prevalence of child labour. There are 2.1 million children alone estimated to be engaged in child labour in the cocoa supply chains of major producer countries' Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana, which together account for 60 % of total world production.

While chocolate consumption increases in the European Union and globally, the cocoa industry is dominated by low incomes for producers, poor and unsafe working conditions and cheap child labour. Strikingly, nearly all cocoa farmers in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana live under the extreme poverty line.

Children working in family farms are unpaid, with their work being considered a social norm. While the acquisition of skills can be beneficial for children, it should not interfere with their health, safety, education and personal development. However, this is rarely the case for child labourers in the cocoa industry, where extreme poverty forces children to work in unacceptable and hazardous conditions

Cocoa supply chains are diverse and highly complex, with small family farms engaged in primary production. The industry is also ripe with informality, lack of social protection and decent wages, dangerous working conditions and poor traceability and transparency. In addition, the low prices of cocoa are indirectly impacting the environment, as they lead to increased production and over farming, which accelerates deforestation.

While there is a better understanding of the issues and approaches, progress has been frustratingly slow. International efforts have made tremendous strides but a sustained commitment from all stakeholders is urgent if SDG target 8.7[1], which aims to end child labour in all its forms by 2025, is to be achieved.

A more systematic approach to combatting child labour in agriculture is needed, paying particular attention to the needs of rural youth and adolescents, many of whom are migrants from neighbouring countries and vulnerable to forced labour.

Strategic and comprehensive interventions in value chains for export commodities like cocoa can significantly contribute to reducing child labour. The EU, as the world's largest importer of cocoa, accounting for over 60 % of global imports, has a major role to play. In addition to more sustainable industry practices and traceability systems, increasing local chocolate production, diversification of production and respect of environmental standards can be advanced.

While access to quality education is a key factor in eliminating child labour, it is not sufficient on its own. Given that many cocoa farmers fall beneath the extreme poverty line, the provision of social protection could be an effective instrument to build resilience to shocks and insulate families from the worst consequences of extreme poverty, and reduce the need for child labour.

Tailored solutions are necessary to respond to the needs and aspirations of vulnerable cocoa farmers and their families in a participatory and systemic approach. In order to identify and expand upon good strategies, it is important to spread and increase knowledge and share experiences in cooperation with all stakeholders and partners, with the aim of effectively reducing child labour in this and other areas.

It is a shared responsibility to take urgent action now to put an end to this exploitation and social injustice: 2025 is tomorrow, it is urgent to select strategic actions with effective, short term results and sustainable impact for the next seven years and beyond.

1 SDG Target 8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

The EU's work to combat child labour

The new European Consensus on Development commits the EU and Member States to combat child labour in an integrated approach in line with the 2030 Agenda. The EU's Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy sets the objective to support partner countries to promote, protect and fulfil children's rights and their best interests including the fight against child labour. The Plan has also a strong focus on business and human rights to promote social responsible behaviour in enter¬prises in line with the EU strategy on Corporate Social Responsibility. The EU also has dedicated Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child.

The EU's support is focused on strengthening the capacities of partner countries to combat child labour, improving the regulatory and legislative framework, raising awareness, strengthening community prevention mechanisms and social support structures, and providing alternative training for decent jobs and income generating activities.

Moreover, child labour is addressed through the EU's assistance in key areas of child rights, women empowerment, decent work, social inclusion and protection, education and skills development. Recently the EU has oriented support to promote decent work and responsible supply chains.

The EU's Trade policy can also be instrumental in combatting child labour. The main trade policy instruments for promoting core labour standards are the EU's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) and in particular the special incentive arrangement for human rights, sustainable development and good governance (GSP+).

Objectives of the workshop

To provide a substantial contribution to accelerate the achievement of SDG target 8.7 by 2025 we propose to exchange views and best practices, identify gaps and needs to tackle child labour in the cocoa production and value chains.

At the end of the workshop we aim at formulating a number of tangible actions and identify strategic stakeholders to tackling the root causes of child labour, improving children's and families' lives in cocoa growing areas in order to prevent and eliminate unacceptable forms of child labour.

Proposed areas of discussion

The one-day facilitated, interactive and participatory workshop aims to:

- Assess progress and share good practices, based on evidence and long term impact;
- Identify best practices for replication in education and training, improved livelihoods, alternative income generating activities, infrastructure, awareness raising, legal and regulatory frameworks, social dialogue and fair trade;
- Discuss lessons learned, identify gaps and failures;
- Identify the needs and roles of beneficiaries, in particular women and youth, and other stakeholders;
- Build strategic partnerships: central and local government, donors, farmer organisations, industry players, civil society, communities and consumers associations;
- Discuss innovative, sustainable and holistic approaches to ensure investment, decent jobs, improved and diversified production, safeguarding fair prices, increasing safe working conditions and the implementation of environmental friendly practices;
- Raising the importance of the needs of rural youth: vulnerable adolescents and skills and jobs for youth in legal working age;
- Assess support and potentialities to increase local chocolate production and other quality cocoa products, with related and integrated activities respecting economic, social and environmental standards;
- Integrate occupational safety and health standards in policies and strategies;
- Discuss interventions in policy dialogue, trade agreements and global supply chains including certification, transparency and traceability aspects, traders, buyers and consumer roles.

Questions to feed the debate

- What are the gaps empowering families, in particular women and youth, to improve resilience and livelihoods in cocoa growing areas?
- How to avoid the displacement effects of children working in other sectors?
- How the recent tangible results have been monitored and evaluated for long-term impact?
- Would strategic opportunities help in mainstreaming the elimination of child labour in cocoa where young workers could replace child labour?
- How to work with governments and key stakeholders to create productive employment and offer effective social protection systems?
- Why the fair trade interventions have not been sufficiently effective to eliminate child labour in cocoa production?
- Are consumers sufficiently aware of the use of child labour in cocoa production?
- How to avoid serious consequences to local producers due to the side effects of potential embargos on the cocoa trade?
- How to ensure a fair price and strengthen resilience of local producers to income loss? Are stocks systems and diversified production viable options?
- How to make the outcomes and pledges made at the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, held in Buenos Aires in November 2017 more operational and effectively mainstream child labour into cocoa sectors and other connected key areas by 2025?

Participants

EU Institutions, EU Member State development agencies, trade operators, private sector, producer and consumer associations, development partners, international organisations, civil society, social partners, networks and academia.

ANNEX 5
DISCUSSION PAPER

European Commission

DISCUSSION PAPER

Cocoa, an unsavoury sweet?

Assessing progress, practices and challenges to identify effective actions to eradicate child labour from cocoa production and value chains

Workshop Brussels, Wednesday 21 March 2018, 8 - 18h

OBJECTIVES OF THE WORKSHOP

This workshop will contribute to accelerating the elimination of child labour (SDG target 8.7),[1] by identifying gaps and opportunities to tackle child labour in the cocoa production and value chains.

Participants include staff of EU institutions, EU Member State development agencies, trade operators, private sector, producer and consumer associations, international organisations, civil society, trade unions and academia. Participants are invited to join for networking breakfast and lunch at the conference venue.

This one-day facilitated, interactive and participatory workshop will

- Assess progress and share good practices for replication in education and training, improved livelihoods, alternative income generating activities, infrastructure development, awareness raising, legal and regulatory frameworks, social dialogue and fair trade;
- Clarify the needs and roles of stakeholders, and opportunities to build strategic partnerships between central and local government, donors, farmer organisations, industry players, civil society, communities and consumers associations;
- Share innovative, sustainable and holistic approaches to ensure investment, decent jobs, improved and diversified production, safeguarding fair prices, increasing safe working conditions and the implementation of environmental friendly practices;
- Assess potential to increase local chocolate production and other quality cocoa products, while respecting economic, social and environmental standards;
- Identify opportunities for influencing policy dialogue, trade agreements and global supply chains including certification, transparency and traceability initiatives.

This workshop has three focus areas:

MODELS FOR PRIVATE SECTOR: COMBINING A COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH WITH A SUPPLY CHAIN APPROACH

- What are the gaps empowering families, in particular women and youth, to improve resilience and livelihoods in cocoa growing areas?
- How to avoid the displacement effects of children working in other sectors?
- How to ensure a fair price and strengthen resilience of local producers to income loss? Are stock systems and diversified production viable options?
- How to improve the effectiveness and impact of fair trade interventions?

1 SDG Target 8.7: Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

INTEGRATED STRATEGIES FOR EDUCATION AND TRAINING, YOUTH EMPLOYMENT, DECENT WORK AND SOCIAL PROTECTION

- What are the strategic opportunities for mainstreaming the elimination of child labour in cocoa?
- How to replace child labour with decent jobs for young adults?
- How to work with governments and key stakeholders to create productive employment and expand effective social protection systems?

POLITICAL ASPECTS OF SUPPLY CHAIN INTERVENTION

- Are consumers sufficiently aware of the use of child labour in cocoa production?
- How to minimise negative side effects of potential embargos and boycotts?
- How to make the outcomes and pledges made at the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, held in Buenos Aires in November 2017 more operational and effectively mainstream child labour into cocoa sectors and other connected key areas?
- What short- and medium-term measures are necessary to accelerate the achievement to eliminate child labour in all forms by 2025?

PRESENTATIONS

The workshop discussions are framed by six short, focused presentations from Europe and from the field.

1 / INTERNATIONAL LABOUR STANDARDS ON CHILD LABOUR, EU-ILO PARTNERSHIP. ILO'S EXPERIENCE IN TACKLING CHILD LABOUR IN COCOA SECTOR: CHALLENGES AND RESULTS

Francesco d'Ovidio, Head of Solutions and Innovation Unit, Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch, Governance and Tripartism Department, International Labour Organisation

EU-ILO collaboration covers a wider range of interventions. Progress in eliminating child labour in agriculture has been slow due to the sector specificities. Limited coverage of agriculture and family undertakings in national labour legislations, limited unionization, fragmentation of the labour force, low capacity of labour inspectors to cover remote rural areas, majority of child labourers working as unpaid family labour without formal contracts, continuity between rural household and the workplace, and traditions of children participating in agricultural activities from a young age make the problem difficult to address. Gender roles, age, and cultural norms distinguish the type of work performed by girls and boys, the number of hours worked as well as who gets an education. Gender differences in child labour increase with age. In many cases, girls work more hours than boys when domestic chores are taken into account, leaving less time for school.

SUGGESTED BACKGROUND READING:

- *Impact of 10 years of EU-ILO collaboration for decent work and social justice: http://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@europe/@ro-geneva/@ilo-brussels/documents/publication/wcms_195135.pdf*
- *Good practice and lessons learned in cocoa communities in Ghana: http://www.ilo.org/ipec/Informationresources/WCMS_IPEC_PUB_27315/lang--en/index.htm*
- *Overview of ILO initiatives on child labour: http://www.ilo.org/ipec/lang--en/index.htm*
  Insights on the innovative work with the private sector to embed due diligence systems into the cocoa supply chain

2 / INSIGHTS ON THE INNOVATIVE WORK WITH THE PRIVATE SECTOR TO EMBED DUE DILIGENCE SYSTEMS INTO THE COCOA SUPPLY CHAIN

Olivier Laboulle, Programme Manager for Responsible Supply Chain Management, International Cocoa Initiative

How best to combine elements of the Community and the Supply Chain approaches in tackling child labour in the cocoa sector A presentation of the ICI Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System (CLMRS) – How it works, the difference between this system and a certification approach, the results achieved so far, the challenges of cost, scale and effectiveness. ICI as a platform for pre-competitive learning

SUGGESTED BACKGROUND READING:

- *ICI Effectiveness Review of Child Labour Monitoring Systems in the Smallholder Agricultural Sector of Sub- Saharan Africa (2017) http://www.cocoainitiative.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/05/ICI-CLMS-Effectiveness_ 15_May.pdf*
- *About ICI http://www.cocoainitiative.org/about-ici/about-us/*
- *2017 report on tackling child labour, produced by Nestlé Cocoa Plan and International Cocoa Initiative https://www.nestlecocoaplanreport.com*

3 / EXAMPLES OF IN-DEPTH RESEARCHES AND MONITORING ON CHILD LABOUR IN COCOA SUPPLY CHAINS

Leonie Blokhuis, Program Manager, Research & Innovation, Fair Labor Association

The Fair Labor Association (FLA) started working on the cocoa sector in 2011-12 with the mapping of Nestlé's cocoa supply chain in the Ivory Coast. This report revealed the systemic and cultural challenges to elimination of child labor on cocoa farms. Among the recommendations were the setting up of Child Labor Monitoring and Remediation Systems as well as strengthening of alternative income generation activities for farmers and development of vocational schools. FLA continued with annual assessments of cocoa farms in the Ivory Coast to monitor the situation and progress for Nestlé and Olam, both FLA affiliates. The mandate of these Independent External Monitoring Visits includes an assessment of labour risks including child labor. The reports including corrective action plans are available on the FLA website (see link below). FLA provides advice and support to companies in implementing projects to address these issues. Currently the FLA is providing training and support to Olam to implement a Child Labor Monitoring and Remediation System and to have this integrated within their own business practices. To strengthen the decision taking power of women in cocoa communities the FLA has started a Gender Dialogue project in 2015 together with Nestlé. The initial outcomes of this project are positive and preparations for scaling up are underway.

SUGGESTED BACKGROUND READING:

- *About FLA cocoa work: http://www.fairlabor.org/search/node/cocoa*
- *Independent assessment of Nestlé cocoa supply chain operations in Ivory Coast in 2016 http://www.fairlabor.org/report/2016-assessments-nestlé-cocoa-supply-chain-ivory-coast*

4 / WESHARE: A TRANSPARENT SHARED VALUE SYSTEM TO ERADICATE POVERTY AND CHILD LABOUR IN COCOA PRODUCING COMMUNITIES

Fernando Morales-de la Cruz, Founder of Cacao for Change and Café for Change

We know that extreme poverty and under development are the root cause of child labour in cocoa producing communities and this agricultural product is essential for a very successful global industry that generates yearly billions of euros in added value, profits and taxes in the EU and in other developed nations. So shouldn't we focus most of our efforts in creating and implementing a transparent shared value compensation system that eradicates poverty, fast tracks rural development and protects human rights? That would be a real path to true sustainability based in a new business model that could also be implemented in coffee, tea and in other agricultural products that perpetuate poverty in rural communities, exploit tens of millions of farmers and rural workers, and hurt tens of millions of innocent children.

SUGGESTED BACKGROUND READING

- *www.CafeForChange.org*

5 / THE COMMUNITY-BASED APPROACH TO TACKLE CHILD LABOUR WITH AN EXAMPLE FROM A COCOA AREA IN GHANA

Gerard Oonk, Senior Advisor Stop Child Labour Coalition and Director India Committee of the Netherlands

A child labour free zone is a defined area, such as a village or a plantation, where everyone is convinced that 'No child should be working, every child should be in school!' Teachers, local authorities, village leaders, employers, parents and children in these zones work together to get children out of work and into school. The focus is not on child labour in specific sectors or the 'worst forms of child labour', but on all children who work and do not go to school.

Since 1992, this approach has brought more than 1 million children out of work and into school. Today, there are child labour free zones in Africa, Asia and Latin America (http://www.stopchildlabour.eu/partners-overview/).

SUGGESTED BACKGROUND READING

- *International Stop Child Labour movement handbook: '5x5 Stepping Stones towards creating Child Labour Free Zones' http://www.stopchildlabour.eu/handbook/*
- *Video on child labour free zones: https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=WEHwLFiZMOQ*

6 / THE TRANSPARENCY JOURNEY: PUBLISHING NESTLÉ'S FIRST REPORT ON TACKLING CHILD LABOUR IN COCOA

Owen Bethell, Public Affairs, Issue Management & CSV Communications, Nestlé S.A

The challenges Nestlé has faced in addressing the issue of child labour in cocoa and on reporting progress. The story behind Nestlé's first report on tackling child labour in cocoa. Possible lessons for the wider chocolate industry.

SUGGESTED BACKGROUND READING:

- *2017 report on Tackling Child Labour in Cocoa https://www.nestle.com/asset-library/documents/creating-shared-value/responsible-sourcing/nestle-cocoa-plan-child-labour-2017-report.pdf*

EU ACTION ON CHILD LABOUR

The new European Consensus on Development[2] commits the EU and Member States to combat child labour in an integrated approach in line with the 2030 Agenda. The EU's Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy[3] sets the objective to support partner countries to promote, protect and fulfil children's rights and their best interests including the fight against child labour. The Plan has also a strong focus on business and human rights to promote social responsible behaviour in enterprises in line with the EU strategy on Corporate Social Responsibility. The EU also has dedicated Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child.[4]

EU Development Cooperation support is focused on strengthening the capacities of partner countries to combat child labour, improving the regulatory and legislative framework, raising awareness, strengthening community prevention mechanisms and social support structures, and providing alternative training for decent jobs and income generating activities. Child labour is also addressed through the EU's assistance in key areas of child rights, women empowerment, decent work, social inclusion and protection, education and skills development. Recently the EU has launched or co-financed several initiatives to promote decent work and responsible supply chains.

The EU's Trade policy can also be instrumental in combatting child labour. The main trade policy instruments for promoting core labour standards are the EU's Generalised System of Preferences (GSP) and in particular the special incentive arrangement for human rights, sustainable development and good governance (GSP+).[5]

2 European Consensus on Development https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/policies/european-development-policy/european-consensus-development_en

3 EU's Action Plan on Human Rights and Democracy https://www.consilium.europa.eu/media/30003/web_en__actionplanhumanrights.pdf

4 Guidelines for the Promotion and Protection of the Rights of the Child https://eeas.europa.eu/sites/eeas/files/eu_guidelines_rights_of_child_0.pdf

5 Factsheet on the EU GSP+ programme http://trade.ec.europa.eu/doclib/html/155235.htm

ANNEX 6

European Commission

PROGRAMME

Cocoa, an unsavoury sweet?

Assessing progress, practices and challenges to identify effective actions to eradicate child labour from cocoa production and value chains

Workshop Wednesday 21 March 2018, 8 - 18h

Hotel NH Brussels EU Berlaymont, Boulevard Charlemagne 11-19, B-1000 Brussels

Moderator: Adam Novák PhD, Child Labour and Human Rights Expert

8.00 – 9.00 Welcome breakfast

9.00 – 9.15 **Opening remarks**
Jean-Louis Ville, Acting Director DEVCO B "People and Peace"
Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development
European Commission

9.15 – 9.45 **Introduction and preliminary notes**
Adam Novák, Moderator

9.45 – 10.00 **International Labour Standards on Child Labour, EU-ILO partnership. ILO's experience in tackling child labour in cocoa sector: challenges and results.**
Francesco d'Ovidio, Head of Solutions and Innovation Unit
Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch, Governance and Tripartism Department, International Labour Organisation

10.00 – 10.15 **Insights on the innovative work with the private sector to embed due diligence systems into the cocoa supply chain**
Olivier Laboulle, Programme Manager for Responsible Supply Chain Management, International Cocoa Initiative

10.15 – 10.30 **Examples of in-depth researches and monitoring on child labour in cocoa supply chains**
Leonie Blokhuis, Program Manager, Research & Innovation, Fair Labor Association

10.30 – 11.00 **Discussion**

11.00 – 11.15 Break

11.15 – 11.30 **WeShare: a transparent Shared Value system to eradicate poverty and child labour in cocoa producing communities**
Fernando Morales-de la Cruz, Founder of Cacao for Change and Café for Change

11.30 – 11.45 **The community-based approach to tackle child labour with an example from a cocoa area in Ghana**
Gerard Oonk, Senior Advisor Stop Child Labour Coalition and Director India Committee of the Netherlands

11.45 – 12.00 **The transparency journey: Publishing Nestlé's first report on tackling child labour in cocoa**
Owen Bethell, Global issue and Communications Manager, Public Affairs at Nestlé

12.00 – 12.30 **Discussion**

12.30 – 14.00 Group photo and networking lunch

14.00 – 14.30 **Summary of the morning presentations and introduction to the working groups**
Adam Novák, Moderator

14.30 – 16.00 **Working groups (participants to select one of them):**
1. Models for the private sector: combining a community-based approach with a supply chain approach
2. Effective integrated strategies through education and training, youth employment, decent work and social protection

16.00 – 16.30 Break

16.30 – 17.15 **Working groups' presentations and discussion**

17.15 – 17.45 **Wrap-up and preliminary orientations**
Adam Novák, Moderator

17.45 – 18.00 **Conclusions**

Maria Rosa De Paolis, Child Labour and Forced Labour Policy Officer,
Unit DEVCO B3 "Migration, Employment", Directorate B "People and Peace"
Directorate-General for International Cooperation and Development
European Commission

https://ec.europa.eu/europeaid/sectors/human-development_en

Email: EUROPEAID-B3@ec.europa.eu

Employment & Social Inclusion
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Empowering people, building prosperity