



Updates:

## Elimination of WFCL in cocoa in Ghana

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Presented by:

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Worst Forms of Child Labour in Cocoa  
(NPECLC)**

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# Background of efforts

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Cocoa is the life blood of Ghana's economy

- ❑ It impacts directly on 3.5 million people in the rural areas
- ❑ Indirectly impacts every Ghanaian
- ❑ Farming is essentially small family holding- about 3.5-5 acres on the average
- ❑ National Programme for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Cocoa (NPECLC) was launched by the Ghanaian Gov't in August 2006 to address child labour and certification issues.

# Objectives

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- Aims to reduce the incidence of the worst forms of child labour in cocoa production processes to the barest minimum by 2011, while contributing to the elimination of WFCL from all sectors in the medium to long term

# Strategic Objectives

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- Enhancement of the knowledge base on child labour in the cocoa sub-sector to inform planning, programme design and implementation, awareness raising and advocacy activities.
- Strengthening of the legal framework for dealing with WFCL in cocoa growing areas, with the main emphasis on the enforcement of existing laws and regulations. Mobilization of cocoa growing communities, district assemblies, the local cocoa industry and other key stakeholders to work together to eliminate child labour, with a particular focus on the WFCL.
- Development and implementation of interventions for eliminating WFCL in cocoa growing areas, with priority emphasis on the different stages of the cocoa production process.

# Strategic Objectives (con,t)

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- ❑ Promotion of universal basic education and human resource development among cocoa growing communities.
- ❑ Development and implementation of interventions that reduce the need for child labour in the cocoa sub-sector.
- ❑ Development of institutional, technical and organizational capacities at central, regional, district and community levels to effectively address child labour in the country, with particular emphasis on WFCL in the cocoa sub-sector.

# Pilot study on labor in the cocoa sector

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- Pilot survey undertaken as a starting Point (With funding from the World Cocoa Foundation (WCF).
- Pilot survey undertaken by Department of Agricultural Economics and Agribusiness, University of Ghana - November 2006. peak harvesting season
- Multi sectoral Technical Working Group (TWG):
  - Ghana Statistical Service
  - Employment Information Branch (EIB) & Child Labour Unit (CLU)
  - Ghana Cocoa Board
  - UNICEF - ILO - General Agric. Worker's Union (GAWU)
  - Future Resource Development  
offered technical advice through out the process

# Pilot study on labor in the cocoa sector

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- Survey report presented to the National Steering Committee and other stakeholders on April 19th, 2007
- Survey report posted unto the Ghana COCOBOD website [www.cocobod.gh](http://www.cocobod.gh)

# Summary of key findings (1)

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- The survey covered 600 cocoa farm households in 24 communities in 6 cocoa growing districts
- Objectives are:
  - to identify sources, types and period of labour needs
  - document incidence or otherwise of the WFCL and
  - Incidence or otherwise of FAL
- Cocoa farming in Ghana is largely family based small holder farming and labour intensive. Sources of labour are sharecroppers, hired labour and family labour
- 84.1% of children on cocoa farms live with their parents. 13.5% staying with relatives (uncles, aunts) & non-relatives

# Key findings ( 2)

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- Most children assist in cocoa farming on non-regular basis and mostly during non-school periods:
  - enrolment rate - 91%
  - work during weekend - 92%
  - Holidays - 88%
- 71% of children interviewed had attended school the week before the survey.
- 3% did not attend school
- Children are sometimes involved in hazardous activities such as:
  - carrying of heavy loads - 49%
  - using cutlass-75%
  - applied/spraying of pesticide - 47%
  - applied fertilizers – 28%
- There are no findings of FAL

# Follow-up on a Working Child

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Elimination of WFCL in cocoa in  
Ghana

# Remediation activities -on-going (1)

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- ❑ District sensitization and mobilization. Started with 6 districts where survey was undertaken. All 43 cocoa administration districts (same as 67 cocoa districts) will be covered in collaboration with partners.
- ❑ Formation of Child Protection Committees in all cocoa districts & communities (6 established already)
- ❑ Instituted a platform for partners to share experiences and had done maiden meeting in April

# Other planned activities after survey

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- ❑ Develop & implement occupational safety and health measures including extensive outreach interventions ( initial support from Danish Embassy)
- ❑ Design & implement interventions to reduce the use of children
  - ❑ Provision of farming implements & tools such as carting equipment
  - ❑ Interventions to improve income of cocoa farmers (taking into consideration the seasonality of the crop).
  - ❑ Enhancement of farm management skills  
(Collaborate with STCP & other partners)

# Planned activities

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- **Scale-up of survey & implementation of Community-based Child Labour Monitoring System (CCLMS)**
  - Planned to take off 2007/2008 cocoa season
  - Cocoa communities and districts to be actively involved.
  - To cover an area producing at least 50% of Ghana's cocoa.
  - Results & will be used to prepare the certification report in accordance with the Harkin-Engel Protocol by July 2008
  - Public communication of results

# Planned activities

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- Promote universal education & skills training
  - Provide school infrastructure in collaboration with partners
  - Provide children and teachers with learning materials
  - Build capacity of teachers to enhance learning
  - Identify & support/rehabilitate children involved in the WFCL

# Planned activities

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- Sensitization & social mobilization
  - Extensive sensitization programmes
  - Mobilize & train key partners including the media on WFCL & existing national & international laws on child labour
  - Capacity building/sensitization of district Assemblies, MDAs & law enforcement agencies

# Challenges

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- ❑ Funding – for remediation activities
- ❑ Scale-up of survey & implementing community based child labour monitoring

# Partnerships

- ~~Governmental agencies and ministries~~
  - Ministry of Finance and Economic Planning and Ghana COCOBOD
  - All other ministries concerned with child labor and/or cocoa issues
  - General Agriculture Workers Union of the Trades Union Congress (GAWU of TUC)
  
- International organizations providing technical & financial assistance
  - WCF) - ILO - UNICEF
  - Danish Embassy
  - International Cocoa Initiative (ICI)
  - Department for International Development (DfID)

# Partnership

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NGOs

District Assemblies

# Thank you.

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