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ECLT Work to Support Farmers in the Fight Against Child Labour

27th Oct 2022



About ECLT



ECLT registered in Geneva 'to promote the elimination of CL in tobacco growing'



1996

1997

1998

2000

2001

2002



Line Eldring
Sabata Nakanyane
Malehoko Tshoedi

Child Labour in the Tobacco Growing Sector in Africa

Report prepared for the IUF/ITGA/BAT Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour, Nairobi 8-9th October 2000

Association for the Elimination of Child Labour Project: Malawi Unions, Govt, Companies, TAMA



Who is behind ECLT?

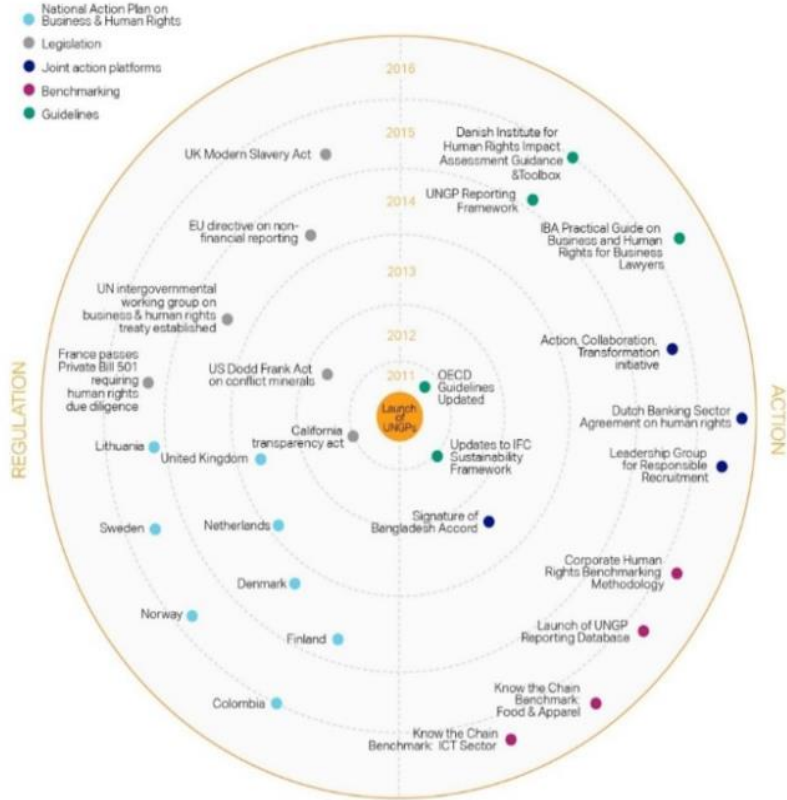


Independent
Advisor

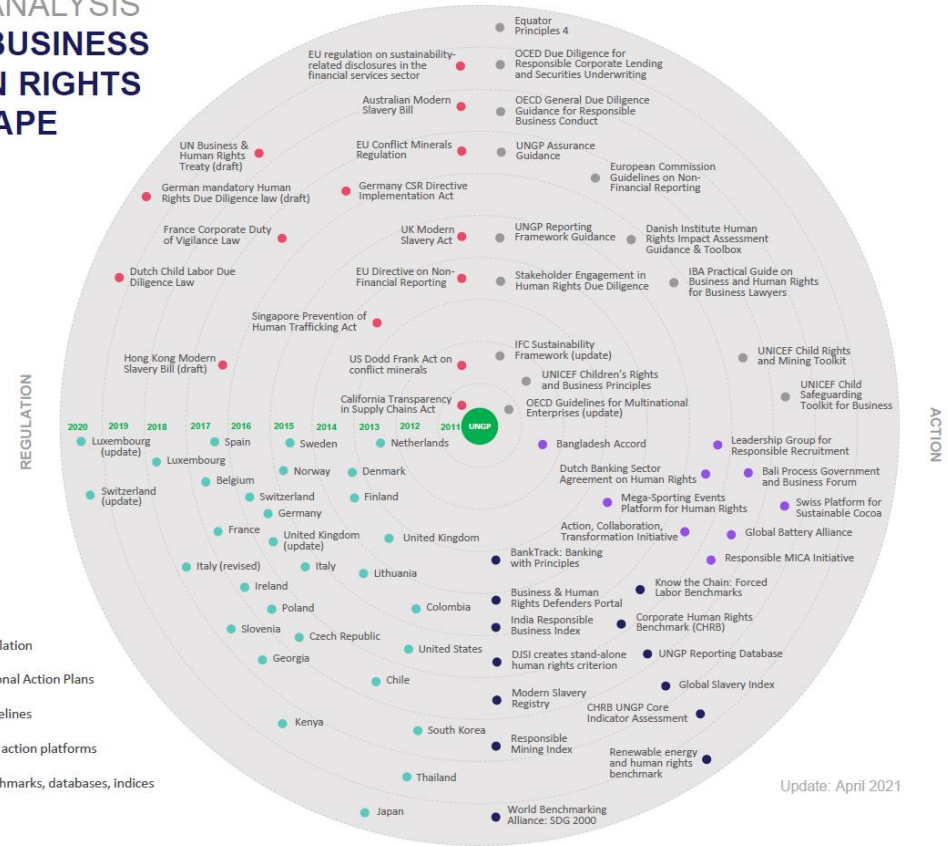
ECLT memberships



Business and human rights landscape



WBCSD ANALYSIS OF THE BUSINESS & HUMAN RIGHTS LANDSCAPE



Update: April 2021

(Notable landmarks across the business and human rights landscape 2011 – 2016.)



The consequences of child labour allegations

Example of Malawi

CBP Issues Withhold Release Order on Tobacco from Malawi

Release Date: Fri, 11/01/2019 - 12:00

WASHINGTON—U.S. Customs and Border Protection (CBP) issued a withhold release order on tobacco from Malawi and products containing tobacco from Malawi. The products will be detained at all U.S. ports of entry. CBP issued the WRO based on information collected by the agency that reasonably indicates the tobacco from Malawi is produced using forced labor and forced child labor.



“CBP wants to ensure the business community is compliant with the law requiring clean supply chains with no use of forced labor of any kind,” said Brenda Smith, Executive Assistant Commissioner of CBP’s Office of Trade.

While the WRO will require detention of tobacco from Malawi at all U.S. ports of entry, the WRO is not a ban. Rather, importers may offer proof that their tobacco and tobacco-containing products do not include tobacco from Malawi that was produced with labor prohibited under U.S. law. Importers of shipments detained under this WRO are also provided an opportunity to export their shipments under certain circumstances.

Root causes of child labour

- AGING POPULATION
- DEFINITION OF CHILD LABOUR
- **INCOME & FAIR WAGES**
- **FORCED LABOR**
- FREEDOM OF ASSOCIATION & COLLECTIVE BARGAINING
- **GOVERNMENT INCAPACITY**
- **HEALTH & SAFETY/CPA MANAGEMENT**
- LABOUR SHORTAGE
- LACK OF WOMEN EMPOWERMENT
- LAND OWNERSHIP
- MIGRANT LABOR
- NON-DISCRIMINATION AND EQUALITY
- **SHORTAGE OF DECENT WORK OPPORTUNITIES**
- WORKING HOURS

ECLT Activities Mapping



WHAT ECLT DOES	KEY ECLT INITIATIVES	ECLT SUPPORT TO FARMERS
Support governments to protect children's rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Support for NAPs development • Child labour surveys • Definition of lists of hazardous tasks 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ensure farmers' voice in NSC • Fund strength-based surveys • Ensure farmers' voice in HCL
Support business to respect children's rights	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Due diligence assessments • Industry multistakeholder platforms • Minimum standards for growers 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Assess farmers policies & practices • Facilitate farmers' participation • Ensure effective consultation with farmers
Support governments and business to provide remedy	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Farm risk management training • Tools, guidance and resources • Model farm schools for youths 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Funding & Training of trainers • Helping farmers to save • Training future farmers in decent work

Exhibit 1

Supporting growers' associations through research in USA:

360 Assessment of Child Labor in Agriculture in North Carolina

- **2019:** delegation of growers (agricultural and tobacco farmer associations) from North Carolina
- Concerns related to a global perception of the prevalence of child labour in agriculture production throughout the state.
- Support provided by the Foundation, to identify both good practices and existing gaps in fighting child labor in the state *“would be welcome and needed to help ensure that good labor practices were being supported, reinforced, and adapted to support both farmers and farmworkers alike”.*

360 Assessment of Child Labor in Agriculture in North Carolina

1. Identify good practices in the agricultural sector which are helping to prevent and/or keep child labor at bay;
2. Identify potential blind-spots, or entry points where child labor may enter the equation including availability and barriers to child and youth programs in areas where children/youth are working in agriculture; and,
3. Support collective action to scale up good practices and/or close identified child labor gaps to ensure that agriculture communities have the resources, knowledge and support that is needed to thrive. Examples of good practices include health and safety education, procedures and equipment utilized in agriculture for children/youth and partnerships to ensure availability of, and access to, programs to serve children/youth.

Crops include tobacco, fruits, vegetables, sweet potatoes and Christmas trees

EXHIBIT 2

Defining list of hazardous tasks in tobacco in Zimbabwe

ECLT is supporting the Ministry of Labour to develop lists of hazardous tasks in 47 sectors of the economy

In developing the list for the tobacco sector, the Zimbabwe Tobacco Association is taking a central role in defining unacceptable work for children in agriculture, and in tobacco

The NEC Tobacco has already gazetted list of hazardous tasks covering secondary activities in tobacco sector



EXHIBIT 3 Defining minimum standards for growers in Zimbabwe

'Income earned during a pay period or growing season shall be in accordance with the minimum wage, and always be enough to meet workers' basic needs and shall be of a sufficient level to enable the generation of discretionary income.

No grower shall pay any employee a wage which is lower than that to fair labour specified for such employee by law or by agreement made under the Labour Act of Zimbabwe.

The grower shall pay workers in accordance with Zimbabwean law which stipulates the following minimum wages as of the 1st March 2021:

- Grade A1: ZWL4,882.00 per month
- Grade A2: ZWL5,235.00 per month'

Recognizing that without a living income growers are more likely to resort to child labour, tobacco buyers and manufacturers shall progressively build and support the capacity of growers to pay their workers a living wage.

EXHIBIT 4

Farm risk management training in Malawi

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ECLT entered into partnership with TAMA to build capacity of TAMA to train farmers in farm risk management training

EXHIBIT 5
Model farm schools for youths in
Tanzania



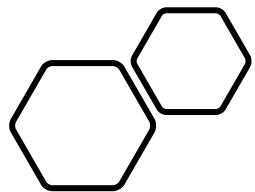
EXHIBIT 5
Model farm schools for youths in
Tanzania



EXHIBIT 6

Improving farmers' access to finance and business training in Tanzania and Kyrgyzstan

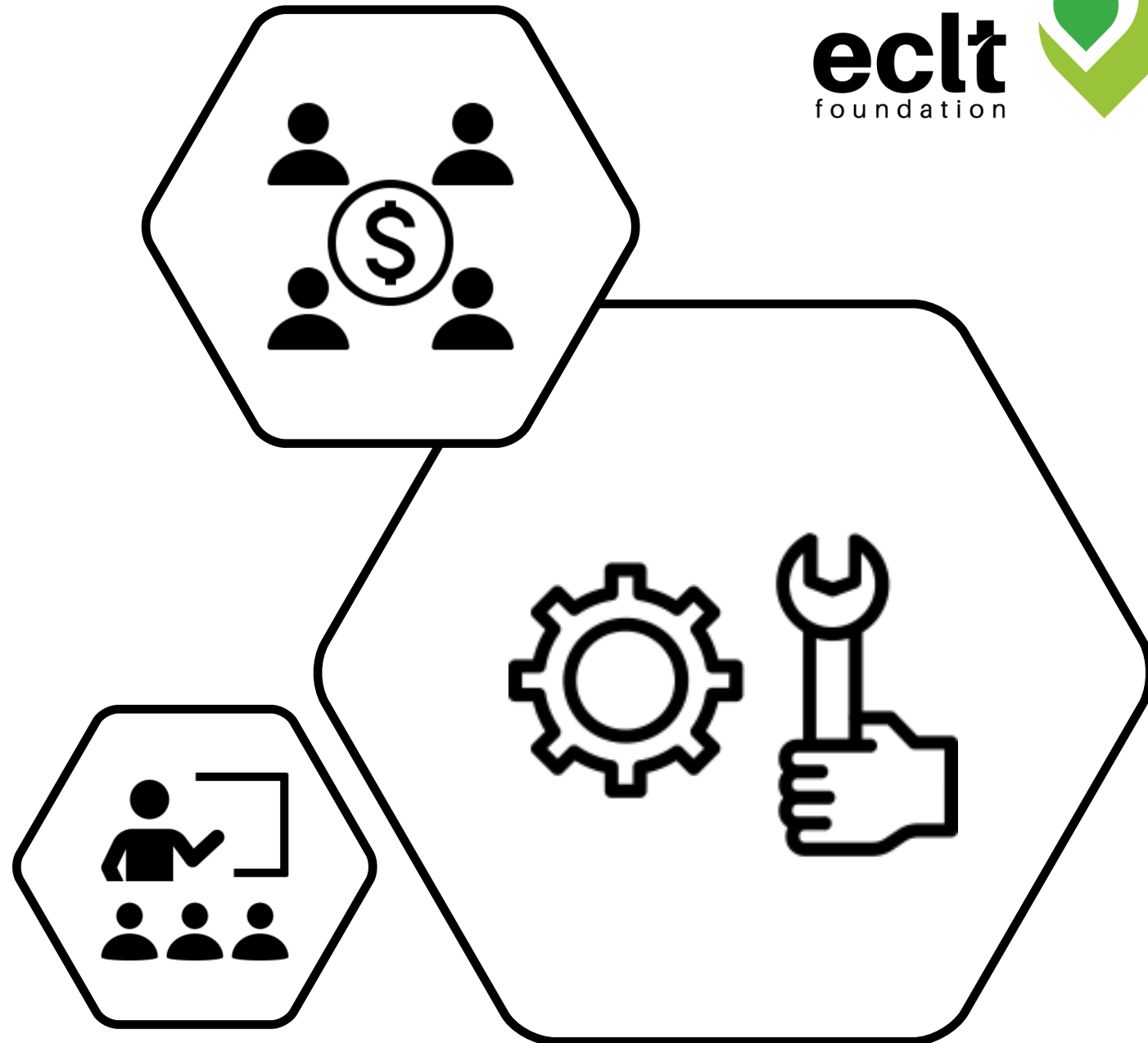




To conclude

ECLT supports farmers through:

- Technical assistance/ advisory
- Training / capacity building
- Funding research and projects
- Creating multistakeholder platforms
- Give and amplify farmers' voice
- Support awareness raising
- Child labour advocacy



Making a better life for children in tobacco-growing communities.

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