



# Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor (CLEAR II) Project in Jamaica

## Overview

Implemented by Winrock International and partners Lawyers Without Borders (LWOB) and Verité, CLEAR II is a global four-year, United States Department of Labor funded project that works with host governments, providing technical assistance to support a global reduction in child labor. Working collaboratively with host governments, CLEAR II is providing technical assistance to bring about meaningful reductions in child labor in Jamaica, Panama, Belize, Burkina Faso, Nepal, Liberia, and Honduras. Using targeted activities, CLEAR II partners with governments to support their goals to make meaningful efforts to implement actions described in the USDOL's most recent child labor report. CLEAR II's four focus areas include: legislation, monitoring and enforcement, national plans of action and policies and social programs.

## CLEAR II in Jamaica

At the close of the 4th Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labor in November 2017, the Network of Focal Points of the Regional Initiative, Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labor, of which Jamaica is a member, stood up to pledge its commitment to mapping national risks of child labor and prioritizing the development of integrated policies and services aimed at effective prevention and sustained removal of children and adolescents from work, especially in its worst forms.

CLEAR II has consulted with the Ministry of Labour and Social Services (MLSS), the Child Protection and Families Services Agency (CPFSA), and other local stakeholders to develop a list of activities that will support the Government of Jamaica in meeting this commitment, while also contributing to the fulfillment of the following CLEAR II intermediate objectives:

1. Improvements in legislation that address child labor issues, including bringing local and national laws into compliance with international standards;
2. Improvements in monitoring and enforcement of laws and policies related to child labor;
3. Effective implementation of national plans of action on child labor.

## Project Activities in Jamaica

### NAP Child Protection Collaboration Workshop and Coordination Plan

In collaboration with the MLSS and the Child Labor unit, CLEAR II intends to provide technical assistance to train child protection agencies on coordination for NAP implementation, as well as child labor identification, reporting, referrals, and joint investigation for child labor monitoring stakeholders. As an outcome of the workshop, the project will help to create an action plan that details specific areas for cooperation, responsibilities of each party and steps to be taken to ensure follow up. The coordination plan may include roles and responsibilities, and will be led by the MLSS and the Child Labor Unit.

### Child Labor Prosecution Training of Trainers

CLEAR II plans to engage with the MLSS, Court Management Services, and other relevant stakeholders to carry out trainings for judges and prosecutors that will increase their familiarity with the nuances of child labor cases and promote proper identification of violations to facilitate prosecutions. By training government trainers, CLEAR II will work closely with government agencies to promote the adoption of training modules as well as a sustainable training plan.

### Development of a National Action Plan (NAP)

Based on the priorities of MLSS, and in alignment with the Jamaican government's commitment to reduce child labor, CLEAR II intends to provide technical assistance to MLSS in the review and finalization of a NAP by the MLSS and other NAP development stakeholders, such as employment groups and private sector entities.



*David Dobrowolski, Sr. Director at Winrock International greets the Minister of Labor and Social Security, Hon. Shahine Robinson, at the launch of the CLEAR II Project in Jamaica. Looking on are Permanent Secretary, MLSS, Colette Roberts-Risden (left) and Political/Economic Officer, U.S. Embassy, Daniel Walker (right)*

### Development of Light and Hazardous Work Lists

The development of light and hazardous work lists allows governments to protect children and youth from participating in work that would be considered harmful to their health and safety, by naming specific activities that are allowable and unallowable for minors. CLEAR II intends to provide technical assistance to the Occupational Health and Safety Department and the Child Labor unit to review and finalize regulations pertaining to child labor, including light work and hazardous works lists, under the Occupational Safety and Health Bill.

### Support Study on Jamaican Street Children

The Jamaica Child Protection & Family Services Agency (CPFSA), with the support of CLEAR II, will be conducting a study to estimate the numbers of street children in metropolitan areas of Jamaica, determine causes, and identify areas to strengthen in the social protection system.

**To learn more, please contact:**

**Cheryl Davis Ivey**  
CLEAR II – Jamaica Country Coordinator  
[Cheryl.Ivey@winrock.org](mailto:Cheryl.Ivey@winrock.org) – 1.876.839.8277

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