

CHILD LABOR REDUCTION



Winrock supports child labor reduction by developing the capacity to address it and by providing children, parents, communities and governments with the tools to pursue alternatives to child labor.





An estimated 152 million children around the world are engaged in child labor, and about half of them are coerced or work in hazardous conditions. Since 2002, Winrock and local partners have worked in more than 25 countries around the world, protecting more than 75,000 children from exploitive child labor. Winrock programs emphasize smallholder agriculture to boost livelihoods and provide alternatives. Our approach actively engages governments and communities to work toward integrated, sustainable solutions.

Methodology

Winrock has a strong history of implementing successful sustainable livelihood, child labor and child protection interventions around the globe. With more than 15 years of experience combating child labor, Winrock develops and implements innovative programs that take a holistic, community-based approach to identifying and fighting the root causes of exploitive child labor. Winrock's integrated development approaches address livelihoods, food security, education, community engagement, and leadership and capacity development.

Specific strategies include:

- Withdrawing and preventing children from entering exploitive labor by offering both formal education and non-formal/vocational education training and opportunities.
- Promoting local- and national-level policy reform to address exploitive child labor.
- Raising awareness of child labor at national and local levels, which is crucial to creating sustainable change.
- Increasing incomes of parents and communities to decrease their dependency on children working in hazardous labor.
- Providing youth with training opportunities so they can find decent jobs.
- Building partners' capacity to establish sustainable systems for child labor monitoring and enforcement that protects children.
- Promoting sustainability by engaging communities in resource mobilization, child labor monitoring committees, child welfare committees, and mentoring.
- Creating public-private partnerships with key industry partners for on-the-ground solutions.



Promoting Sustainable Practices to Eradicate Child Labor in Tobacco

With funding from the Elimination of Child Labor in Tobacco Foundation, Winrock and its partners in **Tanzania's Promoting Sustainable Practices to Eradicate Child Labor in Tobacco** project worked to protect young children from exploitive and hazardous labor and to ensure that legally working youth ages 15-17 were engaged in non-hazardous activities. More than 7,900 young people have been withdrawn or prevented from child labor; 1,800 children have received scholarships leading to improved school attendance; and 1,566 mothers of scholarship recipients have been trained in business skills, financial literacy and savings. The current phase of this project continues to build on these successes.

Rwanda Education Alternatives for Children in Tea-growing Areas

Winrock's **Rwanda Education Alternatives for Children in Tea-growing Areas** program reduced child labor in all 12 of the tea-growing districts of Rwanda by supporting quality education programs including teacher training, PTA support, peer mentoring and the rehabilitation of school infrastructure. Through these efforts funded by the U.S. Department of Labor, 2,700 children have enrolled in formal school who weren't enrolled before or who had dropped out, and 1,482 working-age youth have received vocational training.

Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor

The **Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor** program works in Burkina Faso, Belize, Jamaica, Liberia, Nepal, Panama (and previously worked in Honduras) to build government capacity to address child labor by highlighting gaps in the law, mapping resources and facilitating coordination plans between government agencies. The U.S. DOL-funded project also creates toolkits to support the work of inspectors, and supports the implementation of national action plans on child labor. The project was in Nepal in 2015 when an earthquake damaged schools and homes, displacing children whose families were killed or missing. Natural disasters increase the incidence of child labor, and to ensure that a Nepalese municipality would be prepared in the future, the project team helped to incorporate protections for children into its disaster response plan.

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Achieving Reduction of Child Labor in Support of Education

With the **Achieving Reduction of Child Labor in Support of Education** program, Japan Tobacco International, Winrock International and the International Labour Organization work to improve regulatory frameworks for eliminating child labor, increase children's access to quality education, raise awareness of child labor risks, and promote economic empowerment of communities in tobacco-growing areas.

