

In 2015, Ecuador made a moderate advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Government enacted legislation that expands the list of hazardous work for children to include dangerous agricultural activities and paid domestic indoor work. The National Plan to Eradicate Child Labor (2015–2017) was implemented and the Government also adopted a protective policy framework document on the elimination of child labor in domestic work and the protection of young domestic workers of legal working age. However, children in Ecuador are engaged in the worst forms of child labor, including in forced domestic work and commercial sexual



exploitation, each sometimes as a result of human trafficing. The number of labor inspectors responsible for enforcing laws related to child labor is insufficient to provide adequate coverage of the workforce. In addition, the Government lacks national coordinating mechanisms to combat child labor, including its worst forms; and child labor programs do not provide adequate coverage of the worst forms of child labor, including street work.

I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Children in Ecuador are engaged in the worst forms of child labor, including in forced domestic work and commercial sexual exploitation, each sometimes as a result of human trafficking.(1-3) In 2013, the Government released the results of the Child Labor Survey, which indicates that 359,597 Ecuadorian children and adolescents work, or 8.6 percent of the population between the ages of 5 and 17. Data from this survey were not analyzed in time for inclusion in Table 1.(2, 4) Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in Ecuador.

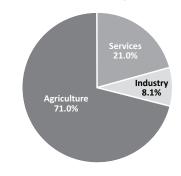
Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5-14 yrs.	2.7 (75,689)
Attending School (%)	5-14 yrs.	96.9
Combining Work and School (%)	7-14 yrs.	2.4
Primary Completion Bate (%)		112.6

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2014, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2015.(5)

Source for all other data: Understanding Children's Work Project's Analysis of Statistics from Encuesta Nacional de Empleo, Desempleo, y Subempleo (ENEMDU), 2011.(6)

Figure 1. Working Children by Sector, Ages 5-14



Based on a review of available information, Table 2 provides an overview of children's work by sector and activity.

Sector/Industry	Activity
Agriculture	Production of bananas,† palm oil,*† timber,*† and flowers,† including the use of chemical products*† and machetes* (3, 7-13)
	Fishing† (12-14)
Industry	Gold mining† and small-scale mining† (2, 11, 14, 15)
	Production of bricks* (16, 17)
	Construction,† including loading construction material, mixing materials to make concrete, and brickwork (13, 17, 18)
Services	Domestic work*† (12)
	Unpaid household services* (2)
	Street work, including begging, shoe shining,* selling newspapers,* and vending* (10, 12-14, 19, 20)

Table 2. Overview of Children's Work by Sector and Activity

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Sector/Industry	Activity
Categorical Worst Forms	Commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (19, 21-23)
of Child Labor‡	Use in illicit activities, including drug trafficking* (19)
	Use in armed conflict by illegal Colombian non-state armed groups,* activities unknown (24, 25)
	Use in the production of pornography* (10)
	Forced labor in domestic work, street vending, and begging, each sometimes as a result of human trafficking* (20, 23, 26-30)

Table 2. Overview of Children's Work by Sector and Activity (cont)

* Evidence of this activity is limited and/or the extent of the problem is unknown.

† Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.

‡ Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor per se under Article 3(a)-(c) of ILO C. 182.

Reports indicate that children working in commercial sexual exploitation are induced by traffickers to recruit friends and classmates. Children are also used in commercial sexual exploitation in illegal mines.(3)

Although the Constitution provides for free education, in practice, students are sometimes required to pay for uniforms and books, which may be prohibitive.(31) Reports indicate that migrant children and children of certain ethnic groups face barriers to education. Indigenous children in rural and urban areas are found to abandon school early.(13, 22) For example, 48 percent of indigenous children do not attend secondary school in rural areas, and 37 to 40 percent do not attend secondary school in urban areas.(32)

Indigenous children and children of migrants and refugees are particularly vulnerable to involvement in child labor; 82 percent of children who work come from homes that are in extreme poverty and lack basic necessities.(3) In Ecuador, 44 percent of children were identified as indigenous in the 2010 census.(32) The Child Labor Survey indicates that Cotopaxi Province in the central highlands has the highest percentage of children working.(33)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Ecuador has ratified all key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor

	Convention	Ratification
ETTOR	ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	\checkmark
	ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
	UN CRC	\checkmark
	UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	\checkmark
	UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	✓
	Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	1

The Government has established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 4).

Table 4. Laws and Regulations Related to Child Labor

Standard	Yes/No	Age	Related Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	15	Section 5, Article 46 of the Constitution; Title V, Chapter 1, Article 82 of the Childhood and Adolescence Code (34, 35)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Title I, Article 2 and Title V, Chapter 1, Article 87 of the Childhood and Adolescence Code (35)

Table 4. Laws and Regulations Related to Child Labor (cont)

Yes/No	Age	Related Legislation
Yes		Title II, Chapter 1, Article 5 and Chapter 2, Article 8 of Resolution No. 016 of 2008; Article 5 of Ministerial Accord MDT–2015–0131 (36, 37)
Yes		Articles 91, 92, 105, and 213 of the Integral Penal Code (38)
Yes		Articles 91, 105, and 213 of the Integral Penal Code (38)
Yes		Articles 91, 92, and 103 of the Integral Penal Code (38)
Yes		Articles 219 and 220 of the Integral Penal Code (38)
N/A*		
Yes	18	Title III, Chapter 4, Article 57 of the Childhood and Adolescence Code (35)
Yes	15	Chapter 5, Article 38 of the Organic Intercultural Education Law (39)
Yes		Title VII, Article 4 of the Organic Intercultural Education Law; Chapter 5, Article 28 of the Constitution (34, 39)
	Yes Yes Yes Yes N/A* Yes Yes	Yes Yes Yes Yes Yes N/A* Yes 18 Yes 15

* No conscription (34)

In 2015, the Ministry of Labor (MOL) issued ministerial accord MDT–2015–0131, which expanded the list of hazardous activities for teenagers to include activities that require youth to be in forced physical positions, such as squats or push-ups, and requires the use of a safety net or scaffolding for children working at dangerous heights.(31, 37, 40)

III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor, including its worst forms (Table 5).

Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Labor and Industrial Relations (MOL)	Monitor child labor, conduct labor inspections at work sites, and enforce child labor laws in the formal sector. Administer sanctions against companies found using child labor.(3, 10) Has a system to collect fines.(8)
Ministry of Economic and Social Inclusion (MIES)	Provide remediation services to child laborers and their families. Assist victims of child labor found in the informal sector.(3, 4) In the case of the Institute for Children and Families (INFA), provide social services and assist children who are victims of abuse, human trafficking, exploitative child labor, and sexual exploitation of all types.(4, 41) Run seven protection centers staffed by social workers, doctors, psychologists, and educators.(4)
Attorney General's Office	Enforce criminal laws against child labor, commercial sexual exploitation, and human trafficking.(24, 42)
Ministry of Interior	
Ministry of Interior	Oversee and evaluate all police actions, including the Judicial Police Anti-Trafficking Police Unit (ATU) and the National Police Unit for Crimes against Children and Adolescents (DINAPEN). The ATU investigates human trafficking cases, rescues victims, and arrests traffickers.(10) DINAPEN investigates all crimes against children, including abuse, sexual exploitation, sex tourism, smuggling, kidnapping, exploitative child labor, and forced labor.(20, 43) The DINAPEN anti-trafficking unit also investigates child trafficking cases.(3) Police units have officers in each province dedicated to victims and witness protection.(4, 44)
Office of the Prosecutor	the National Police Unit for Crimes against Children and Adolescents (DINAPEN). The ATU investigates human trafficking cases, rescues victims, and arrests traffickers. (10) DINAPEN investigates all crimes against children, including abuse, sexual exploitation, sex tourism, smuggling, kidnapping, exploitative child labor, and forced labor. (20, 43) The DINAPEN anti-trafficking unit also investigates child trafficking
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Labor Law Enforcement

In 2015, labor law enforcement agencies in Ecuador took actions to combat child labor, including its worst forms (Table 6).

Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2014	2015
Labor Inspectorate Funding	Unknown* (43)	Unknown* (3)
Number of Labor Inspectors	164 (43)	139 (3)
Inspectorate Authorized to Assess Penalties	Yes (43)	Yes (3)
Training for Labor Inspectors		
Initial Training for New Employees	Yes (43)	Yes (3)
Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor	Yes (43)	Yes (3)
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (43)	Yes (3)
Number of Labor Inspections	24,745 (43)	683 (3)
Number Conducted at Worksite	Unknown	683 (3)
Number Conducted by Desk Reviews	Unknown	0 (3)
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	1,496 (43)	520 (3)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed		
Number of Penalties Imposed That Were Collected	117 (43)	Unknown* (3)
	Unknown	Unknown* (3)
Routine Inspections Conducted	Yes (43)	Yes (3)
Routine Inspections Targeted	Yes (43)	Yes (3)
Unannounced Inspections Permitted	Unknown (43)	Yes (3)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted	Unknown (43)	Yes (3)
Complaint Mechanism Exists	Yes (43)	Yes (3)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services	Yes (43)	Yes (3)

*The Government does not make this information publicly available.

According to the ILO recommendation of 1 inspector for every 15,000 workers in industrializing economies, Ecuador should employ about 489 inspectors to adequately enforce labor laws throughout the country.(3, 46-48) Research indicates inspectors often lack the necessary resources to carry out their mandate, and the number of inspections conducted in 2015 decreased significantly from 2014.(3, 42, 43) Labor inspectors and police officers sometimes encountered language barriers in rural areas when conducting inspections and enforcing laws in indigenous towns, and inspectors sometimes had no access to transportation to conduct inspections.(3, 42) During the reporting period, the ILO and a local NGO worked with the MOL to develop training guides for labor inspectors.(42) However, sources indicate that labor inspectors lack adequate knowledge of child labor laws, the processes in place for referring children to the appropriate social services, and how to impose penalties consistent with the law.(3)

In 2015, the Government drafted a strategy to identify the most risk-prone sectors for child labor to improve the quality and targeting of inspections. As of early 2016, implementation of the strategy had not yet begun.(3) MOL has 10 technicians in the Project to Eradicate Child Labor (PETI) who refer children to the appropriate social services agencies and local enforcement officials investigate the cases.(3, 13)

Criminal Law Enforcement

In 2015, criminal law enforcement agencies in Ecuador took actions to combat child labor, including its worst forms (Table 7).

Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2014	2015
Training for Investigators Initial Training for New Employees Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor Refresher Courses Provided 	Yes (43) Unknown* (43) Yes (43)	Yes (43) N/A (3) Yes (3)
Number of Investigations	Unknown* (43)	948 (3)
Number of Violations Found	Unknown* (43)	1,422 (3)

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Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2014	2015
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	Unknown* (43)	Unknown* (3)
Number of Convictions	Unknown* (43)	Unknown* (3)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (43)	Yes (3)

Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor (cont)

*The Government does not make this information publicly available.

In 2015, DINAPEN employed 635 agents nationwide to handle all crimes against children, including 23 officers in its antitrafficking unit. The ATU employed 20 agents based in Quito.(3) During the reporting period, DINAPEN and the ATU conducted operations to combat commercial sexual exploitation, child trafficking, child begging, and exploitative child labor.(3) The Government of Ecuador works with several NGOs to provide services to child victims of trafficking, including shelter, food, job training, legal assistance, and psychological and medical care.(10)

Sources indicate that DINAPEN officers lack sufficient human and material resources to adequately investigate reported cases of child abuse and the use of children in the micro-trafficking of drugs.(3) Although the DINAPEN anti-trafficking unit and the ATU assist in complex cases of child trafficking, DINAPEN is unable to investigate all potential cases of child trafficking.(3)

IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Although the Government has established a Coordinating Ministry of Social Development, research found no evidence of mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor, including its worst forms (Table 8).

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Inter-institutional Committee for the Eradication of Child Labor	Coordinate government efforts to combat child labor.(3) In 2015, reviewed the Unified System of Registering Child Labor (SURTI), a new mechanism to file and respond to child labor complaints.(3, 42)
Inter-Agency Committee against Trafficking in Persons*	Coordinate government efforts to combat human trafficking, including child trafficking. Established as part of the National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, Sexual and Labor Exploitation, and other Forms of Exploitation.(42)
Coordinating Ministry of Social Development	Convene government ministries to discuss issues, including child labor.(3) In 2015, improved protection and shelter services for victims of human trafficking.(42)
National Council for Intergenerational Equity	Coordinate interagency efforts to protect vulnerable populations, including children.(3)
Local Autonomous Governments	Participate in coordinating mechanisms to combat child labor and implement the guidelines provided by the National Council.(3) Mayors are held accountable to ensure that children do not work, and they can be fined if children are discovered to be working.(49)
Ministry of Tourism and DINAPEN	Coordinate prevention work against the commercial sexual exploitation of minors.(42, 50)

Table 8. Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

* Mechanism to coordinate efforts to address child labor was created during the reporting period.

In 2015, the Interagency Steering Committee (IAC) was disbanded as the Government shifted its strategy to focus on government actors through the Coordinating Ministry of Social Development; however, meetings on child labor issues occur only infrequently.(3)

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government of Ecuador has established policies related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 9).

Table 9. Policies Related to Child Labor

Policy	Description
National Plan to Eradicate Child Labor (2015–2017)†	Establishes strategy for the eradication of child labor in Ecuador by 2017.(3)
Project to Eradicate Child Labor (PETI) (2014–2017)	MOL program to prevent hazardous child labor in agriculture, manufacturing, construction, and mining. Aims to strengthen the legal framework and enforcement mechanisms to combat child labor, to design strategies for the protection of vulnerable youth, to strengthen public-private cooperation, and to establish an identification and referral system for children removed from exploitative labor situations.(13)

Table 9. Policies Related to Child Labor (cont)

Policy	Description
Ecuador Without Child Labor	Seeks to increase efforts to eradicate child labor by improving data collection, strengthening labor inspections, and carrying out awareness-raising activities in 150 municipalities. Government agencies work with the private sector and other actors to address child labor in agriculture, construction, and flower sectors.(51) The Government signed an agreement with the agriculture, flower, livestock, and construction sectors to coordinate actions and promote joint programs for the elimination of child labor in those sectors.(51, 52) MIES entered into 206 agreements with local governments and organizations throughout the country to help up to 41,000 children and improved protection and shelter to victims of human trafficking.(4)
National Plan for Good Living (2013–2017)	Seeks to improve living conditions for all citizens and promote social inclusion and decent work. Eradicating child labor and providing access to decent work for adolescents of legal working age are guiding policies under Objectives 2 and 9 of the plan.(53) Provides conceptual framework for plans to combat child labor, including PETI.(42)
National Plan to Combat Human Trafficking, Sexual and Labor Exploitation, and other Forms of Exploitation†	Establishes processes to prevent, investigate, and impose legal sanctions for human trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, and other forms of abuse, and to protect and restore the rights of victims of these crimes.(54, 55)
Declaration of the Establishment of the Regional Initiative: Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labor (2014–2020)	Regional initiative launched in 2013 at the Third Global Conference on Child Labor. The declaration re-emphasizes signatories' commitments to eradicate all child labor by 2020. Also recognizes that child labor contributes to social and economic inequality.(56-58) In 2015, shared best practices with counterparts in Brazil, Colombia, Panama, and Peru.(42)
Declaration of Cancún 2015†	Resulted from the XIX Inter-American Conference of Ministers of Labor in December 2015 to promote decent work with social inclusion throughout the Americas. Aims to foster policies to eliminate labor exploitation, including child labor, and to promote education and vocational training for youth.(59, 60) Participating countries each adopted a Plan of Action that prioritizes the elimination of child labor, including through data collection, enforcement of labor laws, and the development of social protection policies for children and families.(60, 61)
Sectorial Strategy to Eradicate Child Labor (2014–2017)	Outlines national priorities and goals for each ministry in eliminating child labor. Delegates responsibilities and budget to each ministry to achieve goals.(43)
Binational Plan†	Strategic alliance between Ecuador and Peru to progressively eradicate child labor.(3)

† Policy was approved during the reporting period.

The MOL has completed the Sectorial Strategy to Eradicate Child Labor (2014–2017), which is pending approval and implementation. The plan will foster coordination in among governmental agencies responsible for the eradication of child labor.(3)

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2015, the Government of Ecuador funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms (Table 10).

Table 10. Social Programs to Address Child Labor

Program	Description
Grants for Human Development†	MIES conditional cash transfer program, supplements household income. Also targets vulnerable families and conditions payments on keeping children under age 15 in school and taking them for medical checkups.(15, 62, 63) Working children whose families receive grants are more likely to stay in school rather than work, particularly children between the ages of 11 and 15.(64, 65)
National Program to Combat Child Begging†	Government program that raises awareness about child begging in originating and receiving communities.(28) In 2015, MIES invested \$1,456,000 in 44 cooperation agreements, which affected 4,941 individuals found begging or at risk.(3) DINAPEN rescued 1,318 children and adolescents during its operations to combat child begging during the reporting period.(42)
School Meals Program†	Government program that provides free meals to school children across the country. In 2015, 2.3 million students benefited from the program. (3, 66)

Table 10. Social Programs to Address Child Labor (cont)

Program	Description
Business Network for a Child Labor Free Ecuador†	UN initiative that seeks to gain commitment from participating industries to promote the prevention and elimination of child labor in their supply chains.(67-69) Businesses participating in the program have three commitments: to promote zero tolerance of child labor, to conduct a supply chain analysis to determine if there is child labor, and to develop strategies to prevent and eradicate child labor in the supply chain.(68) In 2015, in collaboration with the MOL, a new reporting system was created to facilitate the transfer of information from the Business Network to MOL. During the reporting period there were 26 active business members.(3)
Eradication of Child Labor in Latin America (Phase 4) (2011–2015)	\$4.5 million Government of Spain-funded, 3-year multi-country project for the eradication of child labor.(3, 70)
Education and Monitoring Program for the Eradication of Child Labor (2012–2015)	\$1.3 million Government of Spain-funded, 3-year multi-country education and monitoring program for the eradication of child labor.(70)
Support to the Partnership Program to Prevent and Eliminate Child Labor in the Americas (2009–2017)	\$3.8 million Government of Brazil-funded, 9-year project that supports exchange of good practices to combat child labor between Bolivia, Ecuador, Paraguay, and Timor-Leste.(70)
Global Action Program on Child Labor Issues Project	USDOL-funded project implemented by the ILO in approximately 40 countries to support the priorities of the Roadmap for Achieving the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labor by 2016 established by the Hague Global Child Labor Conference in 2010. Aims to build the capacity of the national Government and develop strategic policies to address the elimination of child labor and forced labor, and strengthen legal protections and social services delivery for child domestic workers in Ecuador.(71) In 2015, adopted the protection of young domestic workers of legal working age.(71)
Building Effective Policies Against Child Labor in Ecuador and Panama (2012–2016)	\$3.5 million USDOL-funded, 4-year project implemented by ILO-IPEC, aims to strengthen policy and enforcement of child labor laws and occupational health and safety services.(40) Promotes lesson sharing between Ecuador, Panama, and other countries. In Ecuador, piloting efforts to address the link between child labor and disabilities.(40) In 2015, developed and adopted the hazardous work list and assisted the MOL in revising the National Plan. Developed a training module on eradicating child labor in collaboration with the Ecuadoran Service for Professional Training and provided training to 60 MOL child labor inspectors and other stakeholders.(40) In collaboration with the MOL, piloted (SURTI), which refers victims of child labor to social services providers.(3, 40)
EducaFuturo Project (2012–2016)	\$6.5 million USDOL-funded, 4-year project implemented by Partners of the Americas to combat the worst forms of child labor among the most vulnerable populations, including Afro-descendants, migrants, and indigenous children, by providing them with educational and livelihood services in Ecuador and Panama.(72) The project also promotes lesson sharing between Ecuador, Panama, and other countries. In Ecuador, the project is piloting efforts to address the link between child labor and disabilities.(72) Since the start of the project, provided educational services to 2,584 children and provided livelihood services to 500 households in Ecuador.(73)
Projects to Combat Human Trafficking and Exploitation	National INFA program to assist children who are engaged in child labor or who are victims of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation. Works closely with law enforcement officials to protect children and provide social services at 86 INFA centers across the country.(10)
Prevention of Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents from Tourism†	Ministry of Tourism program that seeks to prevent sexual exploitation by creating regulations and awareness campaigns in the tourism sector.(74)
Awareness Raising Activities†	MOL programs to raising awareness of child labor issues and build the capacity of stakeholders to combat child labor. In 2015, held 60 street theater presentations and 46 events to commemorate World Day Against Child Labor, which reached 21,876 public officials, employers, and children.(3)

+ Program is funded by the Government of Ecuador.

Although Ecuador has a program that targets child labor in street work, including begging, the scope of the National Program to Combat Child Begging is insufficient to fully address the extent of the problem. Sources also indicate that during the reporting period, the number of child laborers in street work, including begging, increased slightly.(3)

VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor, including its worst forms, in Ecuador (Table 9).

Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, Including its Worst Forms

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Enforcement	Make information publicly available on the funding for the labor inspectorate.	2015
	Significantly increase the number of labor inspectors responsible for enforcing child labor laws in accordance with the ILO's recommendation.	2009 – 2015
	Ensure that labor inspectors are familiar with existing laws, penalties, and referral processes for victims.	2015
	Make publicly available the number of penalties imposed and collected, prosecutions initiated, and convictions made.	2014 – 2015
	Ensure that inspectors receive adequate resources, such as transportation and translators, to effectively carry out their duties and investigate all cases of child labor.	2014 – 2015
Coordination	Establish coordinating mechanisms to combat child labor, including its worst forms.	2015
Social Programs	Expand efforts to improve access to education for all children, particularly for children from different ethnic groups and migrant children.	2014 – 2015
	Expand child labor programs that target the worst forms of child labor, including street work.	2009 – 2015

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the Committee for Development Policy. The basic criteria for inclusion require that certain thresholds be met with regard to per capita GNI, a human assets index and an economic vulnerability index. For the purposes of the Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor Report, "developed economies" equate to the ILO's classification of "industrial market economies; "economies in transition" to "transition economies," "developing countries" to "industrializing economies, and "the least developed countries" equates to "least developed countries." For countries that appear on both "developing countries" and "least developed countries" lists, they will be considered "least developed countries" for the purpose of calculating a "sufficient number" of labor inspectors.

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