



UNDERSTANDING CHILDREN'S WORK PROGRAMME NEWSLETTER

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About us

The Understanding Children's Work (UCW) programme is an inter-agency research cooperation initiative involving the International Labour Organisation (ILO), UNICEF and the World Bank.

UCW is guided by the Roadmap adopted at The Hague Global Child Labour Conference 2010. The Roadmap calls for effective partnership across the UN system to address child labour, and for mainstreaming child labour into policy and development frameworks. The Roadmap also calls for improved knowledge sharing and for developing further methodologies and capacity to conduct research on child labour.

UCW research activities are designed to inform policies that impact upon the lives of child labourers in countries where they are prominent. Research efforts help provide a common understanding of child labour, and a common basis for action against it. For further information, see the Programme website at www.ucw-project.org.

Featured research

UCW inventory on impact evaluation.

This edition of the Newsletter introduces the new UCW Inventory on impact evaluation. The Inventory, developed in the framework of the USDOL-funded project *Building the knowledge base on the design and implementation of impact evaluation of child labor interventions*, is designed to consolidate and provide access to state of the art information on statistical impact evaluations of projects relating to child labour. As such, it will contribute to building and spreading the knowledge of specific programme interventions on child labour and will help improving child labour program design and effectiveness, and will help to guide the expansion of program interventions.

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UCW
 Understanding Children's Work
 An Inter-Agency Research Cooperation Programme

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Inventory of child labour impact evaluations

The Inventory of Impact Evaluations consolidates and provides access to information on statistical impact evaluations of projects and programmes relating to child labour. Research evidence and past policy experience points to four policy "pillars" of particular relevance to child labour - education, social protection, labour markets, and advocacy - and the impact evaluations are classified on the basis of these policy pillars

Click below to access the inventory:

- All policy areas
- Education
- Social protection
- Labour markets
- Communication/advocacy

UCW COUNTRY REPORTS ON CHILD LABOUR AND YOUTH EMPLOYMENT

Detailed analyses of the child labour phenomenon in specific country contexts. Read More...

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|--|--|
|  Rwanda 2011 |  Mali 2010 |
|  Senegal 2010 |  Cambodia 2009 |
|  Mongolia 2009 |  Vietnam 2009 |
|  Zambia 2009 |  Uganda 2008 |
|  El Salvador 2009 |  Guatemala 2009 |
|  Morocco 2004 |  Nepal 2003 |
|  Yemen 2003 | |

The Inventory also fits within the wider UCW strategy of disseminating knowledge products and research tools in the area of child labour to policymakers, practitioners and other concerned groups. It will help promote the evaluation of existing public policy interventions not primarily aimed at combating child labour on children's involvement in child labour. This in turn is critical to broadening the knowledge base on the intended and unintended consequences of programmes and policies on child labour. The Inventory is the results of a process of gathering, mapping and analyzing impact evaluations of programs with a potential bearing on child labour initiated in 2009. It covers the main sources of information on impact evaluation, including the World Bank Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME) database, the Poverty Action Lab, the Social Science Research Network (SSRN), Network of Networks for Impact Evaluation (NONIE) and the International Initiative for Impact evaluation (3IE). The Inventory therefore provides a good indication of the state of knowledge on child labour impact in relevant policy areas.

The process underlying the mapping and analysis of impact evaluations consists of a number of sequential steps. Each step involves both contact with counterparts, and selection and in-depth review of relevant documentation (including concept notes of the project, questionnaires for data collection, working papers, published paper, etc.) As a first step, sources of information on impact evaluation are screened to identify impact evaluations of most potential relevance to child labour. They include impact evaluations of initiatives directly focused on child labour as well as impact evaluations of initiatives not directly focused on child labour but with potential effects on the issue. Subsequently, relevant and updated related material are collected, and impact evaluations including variables relating to child labour are identified. Study documentation is obtained and reviewed for inclusion in the inventory of impact evaluation.

After reviewing a large set of documents, a total of 60 impact evaluations were initially identified. Matrices were prepared summarizing methods and findings of each of the IEs identified to date, and posted on UCW website. On this basis, a review paper is being drafted aimed also at identifying some general conclusions concerning the impact of different policies on child labour.

Progress in expanding the knowledge base on child labour has improved understanding of the complexity of the phenomenon and of the consequent need for a comprehensive response. Rather than an isolated issue, child labour is a phenomenon that cuts across policy boundaries. Research evidence and past policy experience points to four policy "pillars" of particular relevance to child labour – education, social protection, labour markets, and advocacy. The Inventory therefore focuses on evaluations of interventions in these four policy sectors.

The state of knowledge concerning child labour impact is not, however, uniform across these four policy pillars. The Inventory to date relates primarily to the social protection, and, to a lesser extent, the education sector. There are no statistical impact evaluations of interventions relating to labour markets or advocacy with child labour information in any of the five main impact evaluation databases reviewed for the inventory. UCW is promoting the addition of child labour variables in impact evaluations of labour markets and advocacy interventions as part of a broader effort to fill this knowledge gap.

The impact evaluations included in the Inventory are organized by policy sector, country/region, project type, evaluation method and a variety of other criteria. The impact evaluations vary widely in terms of methodology, and, accordingly, in terms of the statistical robustness and external validity of the results they yield. The evaluation results presented in the Inventory should therefore be interpreted with this in mind.

Readers are invited to visit the new Impact Evaluation Inventory at <http://www.ucw-project.org/impact-evaluation/inventory-impact-evaluations.aspx> and are encouraged to forward information

concerning other completed or ongoing evaluations at info@ucw-project.org in order to make the inventory as comprehensive as possible.

Programme news and events

1. Expert Review Meeting on Impact Assessment and Evaluation (Geneva, June 2011). The meeting brought together experts in the field of impact assessment and evaluation, and aimed at providing the appropriate context to take stock of the developments, challenges and achievements from a decade of IPEC work on impact assessment. The meeting also provided an opportunity to take the role of impact assessment/evaluation further. UCW shared his experience from its ongoing project on impact evaluation of child labour interventions (see UCW Newsletter Issue # 10, April 2011).

2. Atelier technique sur les méthodes de prévision économique et d'évaluation des politiques publiques (Technical Workshop on economic forecasts and evaluation of public policies, Alger, June 2011). The workshop, organized by the Ministère de la Prospective et des Statistiques of the Government of Algeria (MPS), was aimed at sharing the international experience in the area of planning and economic outlook. The workshop also presented evaluation methods for public investment, with a focus on Active Labour Market Policies (ALMPs). UCW contributed to the workshop by presenting the main concepts relative to evaluation methods and indicators, and selected case studies of impact evaluation of Active Labour Market Policies (ALMPs). UCW participation in the workshop is part of its activities in the country, that will be presented in the next issue of the UCW newsletter.

3. National employment stakeholders forum and child labour workshop in Rwanda (June 2011, Kigali). The Ministry of Public Service and Labour (MIFOTRA) organized the Rwanda Employment Stakeholders Forum Workshop, on 27-28 June 2011 in Kigali. The objective of this forum was to place employment at the centre of Economic and Social Policies of the Government of Rwanda and its partners, and to establish a forum where different Stakeholders meet and share information. The UCW report 'Understanding children's work and youth employment outcomes in Rwanda' was presented to contribute to the understanding of the linkage between child labour and youth employment. A discussion of policy options aimed at responding to child labour and youth employment concerns. The forum was open to all Government and Private Institutions, National and International Organizations, Trade Unions and Civil Society.

4. Analyzing child labour data: A joint ITCILO-IPEC-UCW Training Course (September 2011, Turin). The second edition of the training combined IPEC and UCW expertise in child labour and related fields with ITC's experience in designing and implementing high-level in-service training programmes on labour market data analysis. The one-week course contributed to raise the capacity of national stakeholders, social partners, and staff from international organisations to analyse survey data on child labour. An additional and related objective is to support the interpretation of such data in order to support the design of well-informed policies in the area of child labour mitigation.

5. Global Partnership for Youth Employment. In 2008, with support from the World Bank Development Grant Facility, the Understanding

Children's Work Program, the International Youth Foundation, the Youth Employment Network, and the Arab Urban Development Institute joined together to form the Global Partnership for Youth Employment (GPYE). The partnership's goal is to build and disseminate evidence on youth employment outcomes and effective programs to help address the challenges facing young people in their transition to work. The GPYE leverages the technical and regional experience of the five partner organizations in youth employment research, programming, evaluation, and policy dialogue. The partnership's work focuses on Africa and the Middle East, regions in need of better evidence on effective approaches to promote youth employment. The partnership's website has been recently launched, and provides further information about the partnership's activities (visit www.gpye.org)

6. Global Initiative on Out-of-School Children (OOSCI). The Global Out-of-School Children Initiative (OOSCI) was launched by UNICEF and UNESCO Institute for Statistics (UIS) in 2010 to accelerate efforts towards the goal of universal primary education by 2015. The goal of the Initiative is to achieve a breakthrough in reduction the number of out-of-school children. The UCW program is supporting the Initiative by the exploring the analytical linkages between out-of-school children and child labour. The OOSCI has country, regional and global dimensions and is designed to have research- and action-oriented and capacity-development-related outputs. Twenty-five countries from seven region are presently engaged in the Initiative.

Recently posted

UCW, *Understanding Children's Work and Youth Employment Outcomes in Rwanda*. UCW, Rome, 2011

UCW, *Understanding the Brazilian success in reducing child labour: empirical evidence and policy lessons. Drawing policy lessons from the Brazilian experience*, UCW, Rome, 2011