



Child Labor and the EFA initiative: The challenge of including the “hard-to-reach” children (Oslo, October 20-21 2008)

More than a decade has passed since the Oslo Conference on Child Labor in 1997. The conference marked the beginning of a decade of research and other initiatives aimed to better understand how to deal with the evils of child labor, and help children to access quality education instead. ILO documents in their most recent global report that progress is remarkable. Nonetheless, more than 218 million children are still involved in child labor.

In December the Norwegian Government will be hosting the next Education for All (EFA) High-Level Group meeting. The time leading up to the EFA meeting in Oslo represents an opportune occasion to discuss what has been learned since the Oslo Conference in 1997, and what relevance such new knowledge may have for the EFA process.

The Fafo Institute for Applied International Studies, in collaboration with the UCW-project and the Global March against Child Labour therefore organize a workshop in Oslo, October 20-21, 2008. The workshop aims to be an arena for the type of discussion described above, as it brings together leading child labor researchers, civil society and policy makers for an exchange of experiences, views and advice.

The agenda of the workshop will be organized around three thematic sessions leading up to one group work session:

- Education policy: the role of access to quality education,
- Social protection policy: the role of poverty and vulnerability, and
- Policy processes and Legal frameworks.

Each technical session will be opened by the presentation of a **national case example**, explained by a Government representative who has a central role in the program's design and implementation. Each case example will be followed by two **researcher presentations** on the evidence base for similar program types. A **panel** of 3-4 representatives from NGOs and international organizations will comment on each session, followed by a **plenary** brain storm on key messages.

The second day after lunch, participants are invited to join a **working group** for a more in depth discussion of the evidence and key messages that have stood out during the workshop. Participants with a mandate from their organizations are also invited to support a list of outcome suggestions to be presented to Governments and other stakeholders involved in the EFA process.



12.25 Plenary brain storm: Key messages on how to reduce child labor and improve enrollment of hard-to-reach children by improving schooling incentives.

13.00 Lunch

Session 2. Social protection policy: Poverty and vulnerability

Chair: Senator Cristovam Buarque, Brazil

14.00 **How they did it: South Africa**
Gugu Ndebele, Deputy Director General, Department of Education, Gov. of South Africa

14.40 **Poverty, risks and shocks, child labor and schooling**
Anne Kielland, researcher, Fafo Institute for Applied International Studies

15.05 **Child labor within a broader social policy agenda**
Beverly Grier, North Carolina Agricultural and Technical State University. chair of the interdisciplinary department of Liberal Studies

15.30 Coffee break

15.45 Panelists: **OPCION:** Consuelo Contreras Largo, Director
World Bank: Maurizia Tovo, Senior Social Protection Specialist
Plan Norway: Helen Bjørnøy, Secretary General

16.25 Plenary brain storm: Key messages on how to reduce child labor and improve enrollment of hard-to-reach children through social protection programs.

17.00 Adjourn



October 21, 2008

Session 3. Policy Processes and Legal frameworks

Chair Unicef: Joanne Dunn, Senior Protection Advisor, Child Labor

- 9.00 How they did it: India**
Dir. SR. Joshi, Director, Ministry of Labor and Employment
- 9.40 Child labor and schooling in the broader policy context**
Cristovam Buarque, Brazilian senator
- 10.05 International standards and national legal frameworks on child labor: How they relate to the education debate**
Yoshie Noguchi, Senior Legal Officer, ILO/IPEC
- 10.30 Coffee break**
- 10.45 Panelists:** **The Global March:** Kailash Satyarthi, President
 CARE Norway: Marte Gerhardsen, Secretary General
 Unicef: Joanne Dunn, Senior Protection Advisor, Child Labor
 ILO: Frank Hagemann, Chief - Policy and Research, ILO/IPEC
- 11.25 Plenary brain storm: Key messages on how to reduce child labor and improve enrollment of hard-to-reach children by supporting policy processes.**
- 12.00 Lunch**

Session 4: Group work

- 13.00 Group work: Key messages from the workshop to the EFA process**
- 14.45 Coffee break**
- 15.00 Presentation of group recommendations in plenary**
- 16.00 Concluding remarks: What research and experiences can and cannot (yet) tell us.**
Anne Kielland, researcher, Fafo