

Good Practice: South-South Cooperation Programme to Prevent and Eradicate Child Labour in Supply Chains in Latin America and the Caribbean

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Countries involved: Antigua and Barbuda, Argentina, Bahamas, Barbados, Belize, Bolivia, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Cuba, Ecuador, El Salvador, Grenada, Guatemala, Guyana, Haiti, Honduras, Jamaica, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Dominican Republic, Saint Kitts and Nevis, Saint Lucia, Suriname, Trinidad and Tobago, Uruguay, and Venezuela

South-South Objective (s)	The initiative aimed to strengthen the Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour as a tripartite South-South platform to prevent and eradicate child labour in regional supply chains. It sought to promote decent work, enhance the capacity of governments, employers' and workers' organizations, and facilitate peer learning on the application of due diligence principles in global and domestic supply chains, aligning with SDG 8.7 and the ILO's decent work agenda.
South-South Cooperation between institutions and countries to achieve the objectives	The project connected 31 countries in the region through a structured South-South and Triangular Cooperation model, bringing together ministries of labour, employers' and workers' organizations, and ILO technical teams. Through regional exchanges, virtual learning spaces, and a collaborative observatory, participants shared methodologies, policies, and tools to identify and mitigate child labour risks in supply chains. Cooperation was strengthened with technical contributions from Brazil, Argentina, and Mexico, as well as interregional exchanges with Africa and Asia through ILO's global networks.
Effectiveness of the South-South / peer learning methodological approach	The initiative applied the ILO's eight-step South-South learning methodology — offer, demand, commitment, execution, reflection, action, accompaniment, and feedback — ensuring a truly horizontal process. Countries jointly identified priority supply chains and co-developed national and regional action plans. Continuous peer exchanges, hybrid workshops, and a shared monitoring tool enabled knowledge transfer, collective accountability, and institutional learning. The tripartite approach guaranteed participatory engagement and the integration of local contexts into regional strategies.
Innovation	The project innovated by integrating a technological monitoring platform within the Regional Child Labour Observatory, allowing countries to track progress, share good practices, and visualize results in real time. It also produced a regional <i>Practical Guide for Identifying Vulnerability to Child Labour in Supply Chains</i> and a <i>Governance Roadmap</i> to sustain the Regional Initiative. The inclusion of an intersectional gender approach (EGIR) ensured that all actions addressed the specific vulnerabilities of women, adolescent girls, and boys in informal and export-oriented sectors. The creation of the MONITORA tool has been very effective and efficient because it provides a harmonized digital system for tracking progress across 31 countries, enabling real-time visualization of results and peer learning. Developed through South-South Cooperation, it fosters joint monitoring and mutual accountability among countries, reducing reporting times, improving

	data quality, and strengthening evidence-based decision-making at both national and regional levels.
South-South Sustainability	Sustainability was ensured through institutional ownership and the integration of project results into the Regional Initiative's 2022–2025 Strategic Plan. The tripartite governance model, endorsed by 31 countries, allowed ongoing replication and financing through national and regional mechanisms. The online monitoring tool, housed within the ILO Regional Observatory, continues to function as a living repository of practices and commitments, guaranteeing that knowledge and accountability remain active beyond the project cycle.
South-South Adaptability	The model proved highly adaptable to other regions. Its tools and methodologies have already been requested by African and Asian countries engaged in South-South and Triangular Cooperation on child labour and decent work in supply chains. The step-by-step approach, together with the participatory peer learning structure and digital monitoring system, offers a replicable framework for tackling other labour-related issues, such as forced labour or gender inequalities, within global production networks.
South-South Results	South-South Results • Strengthened tripartite capacities to identify and address child labour risks in at least four prioritized supply chains (agriculture, mining, manufacturing, and tourism). • Creation and operationalization of an online regional monitoring platform hosted by the Child Labour Observatory. • Adoption of formal South-South cooperation agreements and roadmaps among 10 countries. • Publication of a <i>Regional Action Plan for the Eradication of Child Labour in Supply Chains</i> and the <i>Governance Roadmap</i> of the Regional Initiative. • Enhanced integration of gender equality principles (EGIR) into national and regional child labour strategies. • Reinforced visibility and recognition of the Regional Initiative as a leading South-South cooperation mechanism within the ILO and G20/BRICS+ dialogues. •
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Funding Sources	RBTC–SSTC funding (USD 150,000) complemented by resources from Brazil (RLA/20/05/BRA), Spain (PRAETI), and the United States (USDOL–GALAB), as well as in-kind support from participating countries and the ILO's Regional Office.

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