



ECLT Foundation Programme in Zambia, 2010-2011

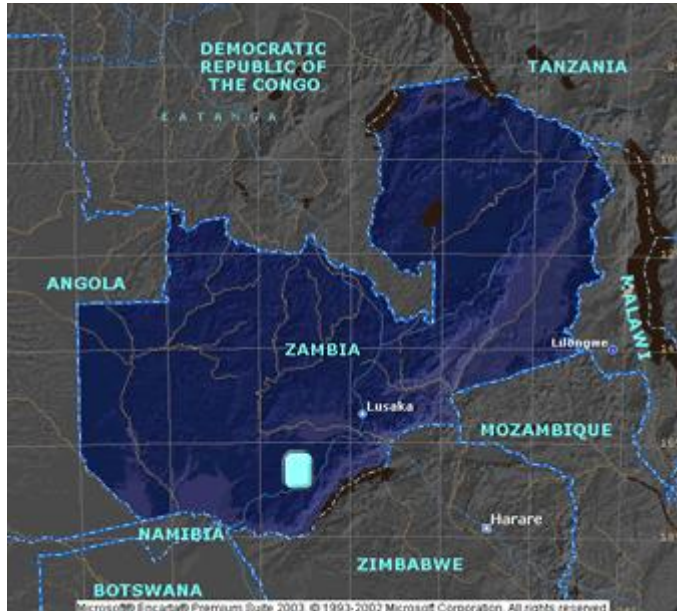
Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco-Growing, ZAMBIA

Description of the Programme

Programme background

The people of the southern province of Zambia are traditionally leading agriculturists whose livelihood was rooted in livestock and staple foods, such as maize. However diseases amongst cattle, reduction in rainfall and a sharp increase in the price of agricultural inputs has left farmers struggling to make ends meet over recent years.

The consequent increase in poverty has led to an increase in the use of child labour. The shift by most farmers to either growing tobacco or seeking employment in commercial tobacco farms has led to a major growth of the tobacco industry in Choma and Kalomo districts.



Highlighted regions where the programme will be implemented

The growth in the tobacco industry has contributed to an increase in the number of children employed to work on commercial and smallholder farms. ILO/IPEC currently estimates that there are about 1.23 million children in child labour in Zambia out of which 96% are involved in agriculture and agricultural related occupations. Of these children, various national reports have estimated that, at least 866,000 children under the age of 12 years are paid for their labour. In Choma and Kalomo alone, about 21,000 children were working in either commercial tobacco farms or family tobacco farms in December 2004. Children perform the most hazardous tasks, such as spraying, curing and grading, with most of them working up to 10 hours a day.

Programme objectives

Reduced demand for child labour will result from increased awareness and tracking progress of withdrawn children

This objective aims to address issues around the demand for child labour among commercial and small scale farmers in Choma and Kalomo districts. Strategies will be deployed to address demand for child labour. The emphasis will be on preventing entry, promoting good workplace practices and withdrawing children who have entered the workforce.

Strengthened capacity of key stakeholders at district and national level

Eliminating tobacco child labour requires comprehensive, targeted and coordinated efforts by all the stakeholders including farmers, teachers, health care providers, tobacco

growers and district authorities. It also requires a wide variety of strategies including capacity building, improved networking and forming of alliances and partnerships. In this regard, this phase of the project will create a broad committee of key stakeholders at district level, known as the District Child Labour Committee (DCLC) that will work with the Project to tackle child labour in tobacco. In addition, the project will build the capacity of relevant institutions including the project's Steering Committee to strengthen capacity to tackle child labour.

Improved economic conditions for the most vulnerable households

A diversified and commercial small-scale response, which encompasses agriculture production, technology and skills building to participate in a market economy, is essential for the farmers in the project area. In the first phase of the ECLT project some farmers achieved a significant uplift in income. In order to achieve a continued and sustainable increase in income, the market value chain analysis will be applied on crops which have an important role in improving income of households affected by child labour.

Beneficiaries reached by the programme

The project is targeting working children, children who accompany their parents in the field, farm employees and employers.

The project aims to withdraw 1,150 tobacco children, aged between 5 and 17 years. The project will integrate these children in preschools, primary, secondary schools or skills training centres. Another 750 children will be prevented from becoming involved in child labour. 1,000 children will be supported to go to preschool and 100 children will be supported with basic school scholarships.

The project will target 115 small and commercial tobacco farmers who will be encouraged to stop using child labour as a part of responsible business practices. 10,000 farm employees, employers, children and the community will be reached through awareness raising/ sensitisation activities.

Programme structure

Hodi will assume full responsibility for the implementation of the Project. Hodi will, through the project staff based in Choma, execute and coordinate all project activities. The Hodi Programme Management Team will consist of the Programme Manager, the Community Development Officer and the Project Accountant. The three project staff will be employed by Hodi and will be responsible for developing and implementing quarterly work plans and budgets, producing financial reports on monthly basis and submitting quarterly progress reports to the Hodi head office. The management team will be responsible for the selection and effective involvement of stakeholders at both district and community levels.

Budget

The total budget for the two year project is US\$442,766.

Further information on programme

For the latest documents on the programme visit the Zambia page in the Projects and Progress section on www.eclt.org.

December 2010