



## Quick Facts

### **ECLT project in the Philippines**

#### **Implementing partner**

Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE), Government of the Philippines

#### **Overall goal**

**The population of children in the five project areas is estimated at 3,802. The project aims to benefit, and protect from child labour, at least 10% of the most vulnerable children in these areas.**

#### **Objectives**

The objectives of the project are:

- To intensify and scale up awareness-raising campaigns;
- To reorganise and revitalise 113 Barangay (community) Councils for the Protection of Children;
- To strengthen the project committee;
- To provide educational assistance and vocational training for vulnerable children;
- To create income generating activities for 300 parents and develop their entrepreneurial capacity;
- To set up an effective and efficient monitoring and evaluation system.

#### **Location**

The ECLTI project runs in five priority areas in the Ilocos Region of North Luzon, in the Philippines. These areas were identified as primary sites of tobacco growing where child labour was found to be present. The areas are: Pangasinan: Alcala; La Union: Balaoan; Ilocos Sur: San Emilio; Ilocos Sur: San Juan; Ilocos Norte: Pinili.

#### **Duration**

The first phase of the project started in August 2003 and ended in March 2006. The second phase ran from March 2007 until November 2009.

#### **Project achievements**

286 children directly benefited from the project through educational assistance grants. Income generating activities for the parents of these children meant that at least four other children from each family also indirectly benefited.

Education campaigns against child labour conducted in all the Barangays (communities) of the five project areas helped change the attitudes of parents, so that they were less likely to make their children work in



tobacco. Communication about the harm caused to the physical development of children, made parents less likely to let their children work in tobacco and other agricultural sectors.

Specific achievements include:

- Although provision of educational assistance ended in March 2009, all 200 school students are enrolled for school year 2009-2010; two student beneficiaries in vocational training received National Certificates of completion for information technology courses in April 2009.
- Livelihood management training was conducted in Pinili, Ilocos Norte; San Juan, Ilocos Sur; San Emilio, Ilocos Sur while a 28 week-long Livestock Farmers' School-Integrated Goat Management training was organised in Alcala, Pangasinan.
- 300 parent beneficiaries received funding for their chosen livelihood projects through their respective designated accredited co-partners:
  - Alcala, Pangasinan: Goat raising;
  - Balaoan, La Union: Goat raising and hog fattening;
  - Pinili, Ilocos Norte: Goat raising and cattle fattening;
  - San Emilio, Ilocos Sur: Goat raising, buying and selling of agricultural inputs, Palay (rice) trading, Tilapia (fish) culture;
  - San Juan, Ilocos Sur: Cattle Fattening;
- Involvement of stakeholders in the project was intensified through consultative meetings:
  1. Feedback/debriefing session in relation to the final evaluation of the Project Phase 2;
  2. Exit meeting and consultation with project partners about a possible new project.

## **Budget**

- Phase 1, August 2003 - March 2006: US\$105,735 (10% from local stakeholders).
- Phase 2, January 2007 - November 2009: US\$572,042 (40% from local stakeholders).

## **Steering Committee**

- DOLE (Department of Labor and Employment Regional Office No.1, Bureau of Women and Young Workers now the Bureau of Workers with Special Concerns);
- Government ministries (Department of Education, Department of the Interior and Local Government, Department of Social Welfare and Development, Department of Agriculture, Commission on Higher Education, National Tobacco Administration, National Economic and Development Authority, Technical Education and Skills Development Authority, Philippine Information Agency, and Department of Trade and Industry); Local Government Units;
- Tobacco companies (Philip Morris Philippines Manufacturing Inc., Continental Leaf Philippines, Universal Leaf Philippines Inc., Trans-Manila Inc.), Northern Tobacco Redrying Company, Inc.;
- Trade Union Congress of the Philippines; (Management and Labour Union)
- International Labour Organization (ILO) and United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF).

## **Lessons learned**

The project learnt that:

- The more engaged children are in education and the more support they get from their parents, the more motivated they are to attend school and concentrate on their studies. The provision of educational assistance enabled children to go back to school. The livelihood assistance is expected to enable families to support all their children through education, even now that the project has ended, thus providing some level of sustainability.
- Effective strategies were strengthened by inter-agency collaboration, public-private partnership building, convergence of expertise and financial resources, initiatives to improve livelihoods and marshalling appropriate political support from local government units and local bodies.
- The absence of dependable baseline data on child labour and identification of target beneficiaries at the start of the project made it difficult to determine the wider impacts of the project.

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