



# ECLT Foundation

## ANNUAL REPORT 2010

Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing



IS PREVENTION

EAST AFRICA

Uganda

LOCATION OF KENYA IN AFRICA

KENYA

AFRICAN COUNTRIES

PARTS OF THE DIGESTIVE SYSTEM



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# ECLT's Unique Approach

ECLT contributes to the elimination of child labour through collaboration and partnerships. ECLT fulfils its vision through three main areas of work: supporting projects in country; funding independent research; sharing good practice.

Our programmatic approach is designed to strengthen and empower local communities and government to deliver key services and take ownership of the projects. This helps to secure long term and lasting impacts for children.



To achieve this, the ECLT and its partners:

- Build partnerships and improve dialogue between growers, unions, companies and local and national governments. All of these groups are represented on local project steering committees;
- Cooperate closely with local and national authorities;
- Integrate projects within national frameworks of action against child labour;
- Build local capacity to ensure ownership and long-term sustainability;
- Ensure project accountability through monitoring, impact assessment and evaluation.

Research uncovers the prevalence of child labour in tobacco growing regions and provides an objective picture of working and living conditions for children. It enables the ECLT to target its support most effectively and informs the design of its programmes. The ECLT

shares research, lessons learned and examples of good practice through its website so that donors and development agencies can learn from its experience.

In 2010, five ongoing programmes were supported by the ECLT – in Kyrgyzstan, Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda and Zambia. To demonstrate how these programmes have reduced child labour in tobacco growing, we narrate the achievements of each project country by country. We also focus on a case-study in each country and show how individuals, families and communities have benefited from these programmes.

## Message from the President Antonio Abrunhosa

With the Hague Global Child Labour Conference in May last year, 2010 saw one of the most crucial developments in the international fight against child labour. Over 500 representatives from 97 countries around the world participated. Over the course of the two days attendees took stock of progress made and assessed

the key remaining obstacles to the eradication of child labour, particularly its worst forms, and shared good practices and lessons learned. On the final day, participants adopted the Roadmap for Achieving the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2016. But with 215 million children still trapped in child labour worldwide, it is clear that the road to 2016 is going to be a difficult one.

The ECLT has played its part on the international scene in contributing towards the elimination of child labour, both at the conference and elsewhere. Part of the ECLT's remit is to advocate to national governments and international agencies on behalf of children, and activities in this sphere have continued. We have been quietly encouraging governments to legislate and implement child labour laws, always acknowledging the difficulties that some countries face. In Malawi, for instance, the ECLT has been helping the government deliver on the National Action Plan (NAP) to end child labour and continues to engage the authorities on a cross-sectoral roadmap



to eliminate child labour in that country. In Uganda, the ECLT handed over the Kyema Vocational Training Institute to the Ministry of Education, thus allowing children withdrawn from child labour in tobacco growing to access a wider range of vocational courses than before. In Tanzania, the ECLT/ILO project worked with government and other stakeholders in developing three manuals for use by tobacco extension workers in addressing child labour at farm level. Elsewhere we have been helping to improve educational standards, contributing to the fight against HIV/AIDS, and fostering a commitment to human rights.

But much more must be done if we are to reach the target in 2016. I am confident, though, that the ECLT will play its part and continue to be a significant player in the fight against child labour in tobacco growing.

### **Message from the Executive Director Marilyn Blaeser**

Throughout 2010, the ECLT Foundation continued to tackle the root causes of child labour in tobacco-growing. We have set up community networks and committees to raise awareness and change attitudes and behaviour. Our interventions have included refurbishing schools and encouraging vocational

training so that children are able to access the education they deserve. To further reduce the chances of children becoming ensnared in child labour, we have also ensured that families, not just children, are helped. Parents remain in good health through the services provided by ECLT-supported static and outreach health clinics. This means that fewer children will have to become bread-winners as their parents are part of a healthier workforce. Our partners have also constructed new wells so that clean water is available closer to villages, schools and farmers' fields. This access to water has encouraged families to grow their own food, and not become overly reliant on supplies from elsewhere.

This year has also seen the growth of ECLT projects. We have issued two successful Requests for Proposals for new projects, one in Malawi and one in Tanzania. In addition, the ECLT has also supported significant research to assess the extent of child labour in tobacco-growing in these two countries. This important research will be used by the Governments of Malawi and Tanzania in their national statistics offices. In the autumn, we brought together a team of expert consultants to discuss what works, lessons learned and good practices in child labour projects and within the development field. As a result,

we have designed a new programme model for the ECLT, which will ensure that in the future, new projects will follow a strict set of institutional objectives designed to achieve greater results and impact. These efforts, together with the Foundation's new staff will help the ECLT to accomplish its mission: to contribute to the elimination of child labour in tobacco-growing across the world.



## ECLT's new programme model and core programmatic principles

In the Autumn of 2010, the ECLT undertook a fundamental review of its programme model in order to strengthen its approach towards the elimination of child labour growing in tobacco growing.

The overall ECLT development goal, in alignment with the ECLT mission, is to contribute to the elimination of child labour in tobacco growing.

In order to achieve this overarching goal, two strategic objectives and six immediate objectives were identified during the ECLT review. The two strategic objectives are i) the protection of children between 5 and 17 years, against child labour; and ii) the protection of legally working children aged between 15 and 17 years.

The six immediate objectives provide a structure and guide the design of ECLT programmes.

### **Prevention, withdrawal and protection**

To initiate participatory and inclusive processes at district and community level that lead directly to the sustainable withdrawal of child labour from tobacco growing;

### **Education and other basic social services**

To improve access to quality education

and other basic social services at district and community level;

### **Advocacy and awareness-raising**

To support advocacy to create political and/or social change and raise awareness to challenge acceptance of child labour in tobacco growing at all levels (national, district, community);

### **Institutional capacity-building**

To strengthen capacities at all levels to combat child labour in tobacco growing, through the development of appropriate structures, policies and mechanisms;

### **Economic strengthening**

To strengthen livelihoods /economic improvement at community and household level;

### **Occupational safety and health (for children legally working)**

To promote at all levels transition from hazardous work or exploitive labour to acceptable work for children of legal working age (15-17 years old).

These objectives are further underpinned by six core programmatic principles:

#### **a. Human rights based programming**

Human rights based programming entails that interventions are designed not only in respect for basic human rights principles, but aim to promote the realization of human rights for all human beings, and in ECLT's case

children especially. ECLT interventions are rights-based by nature, as the elimination of child labour in tobacco growing areas is a direct contribution to fulfilling children's rights to education and health, to freedom from economic exploitation, and to protection as defined in the UNCRC and ILO Conventions.

#### **b. Gender**

Although commitment to achieving gender equality has been made by many organizations (including governments) over a long period of time, in many situations there is still a continued need for targeted interventions to promote gender equality and women's empowerment.

All ECLT-funded projects incorporate an early gender analysis and clearly identify activities that aim to promote gender equality, within the context of the planned interventions for the elimination of child labour in tobacco growing.

#### **c. Partnerships**

The ECLT aims that all funded activities, wherever possible, are designed, planned and implemented in genuine partnership with other existing organizations and/or institutions, with the purpose of:

- Avoiding duplication;
- Building on existing knowledge, experience and lessons learned;
- Using the different expertise and skills available with different partners;
- Realizing the most cost-effective implementation modality;
- Strengthening social cohesion.

All kinds of partnership are of interest to the ECLT – for example, with government bodies and authorities, academia, unions, civil society organizations (CSOs), non-governmental organizations (NGOs), media and the private sector. The ECLT encourages private-public partnerships for project delivery, where these meet the five criteria above.

#### **d. Measurability**

ECLT receives funding on the basis of the effectiveness of the funded projects



to make a significant reduction in the incidence of child labour in tobacco growing. Therefore the principal components of all projects funded by the ECLT is the capacity to measure qualitative and quantitative progress against baseline indicators, so that the ECLT and other child labour stakeholders can verify the impact of project interventions (or the lack of impact).

**e. Sustainability**

In order to increase sustainability of interventions, the ECLT projects strive to complement existing efforts to eliminate child labour in the target country. Where

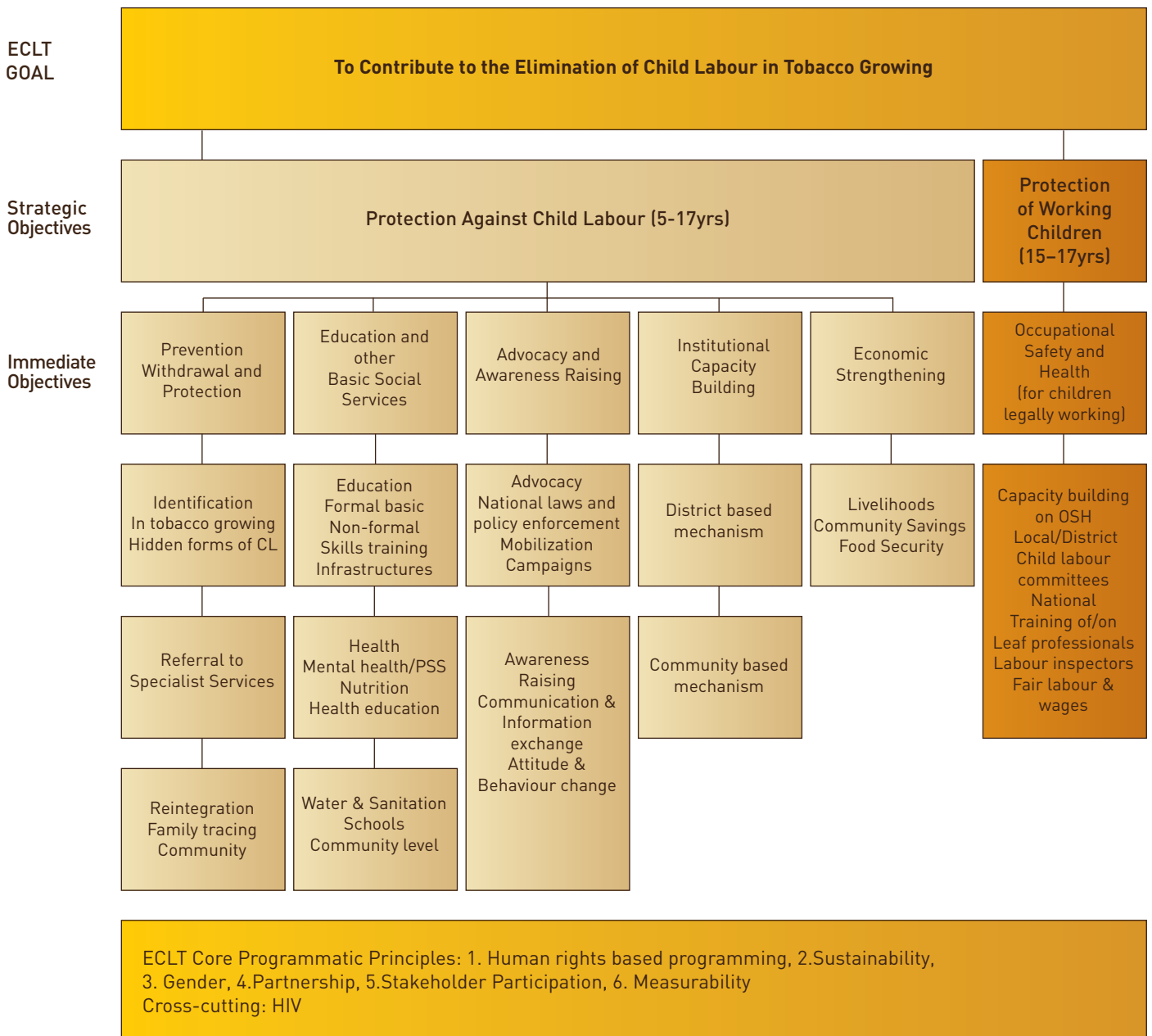
appropriate, the ECLT encourages the replication or enhancement of successful models to reach a greater number of children and communities.

The ECLT-supported projects are time-bound. The ECLT encourages the formulation of a clear exit strategy for each project to demonstrate how the effects and impact of the interventions will be sustained beyond the completion of the project. These should demonstrate the extent to which the experience and lessons learned can be disseminated and benefit other children in the worst forms of child labour or children at risk.

**f. Stakeholder Participation**

Experience across the majority of development sectors has shown that stakeholder participation is essential for interventions to be relevant and effective and also accepted, supported and sustained into the future, beyond the life of the current project. All ECLT-supported projects are encouraged to develop strong stakeholder partnerships. Projects are developed and implemented in a participatory manner which ensures that stakeholders' suggestions and concerns are incorporated in the design.

**ECLT New Programme Model**



# Kyrgyzstan

The overall project goal is to address the factors that encourage children to work: low incomes and lack of alternative activities for children.



## Kyrgyzstan project partner

The project is implemented by the Working Group on the Elimination of Child Labour in Kyrgyzstan.

### Progress in 2010

By the end of 2010, the project had prevented 2,370 children from entering into child labour in tobacco growing. The project tackles the root causes of child labour through targeted microcredit funds, health and education activities. Against this background, the project provided small loans to 801 tobacco growing families, on the condition that they do not employ children, that they have all children enrolled in school and that they produce acceptable business plans. Thanks to the microcredits, beneficiary families were able to increase and diversify their income and thus reduce demand for child labour. The loans were mainly invested in farmers' inputs tools, purchasing small livestock and household goods.

Inspired by the success of farmers' cooperatives in other areas, the project also instigated 93 Mutual Aid Groups (MAG), regrouping the 801 tobacco farmers. The MAGs have been effectively

fighting child labour in tobacco farms, sharing good farming practices and accumulating common savings. Two MAGs in the Baltagulov village district of Alabuka area created a registered cooperative "Kut keldi" which was able to rent additional farming land. The project provided credit to purchase a second-hand tractor in support of this initiative.

The project has worked throughout 2010 to develop a professional curriculum so that secondary students can have a brighter future and access alternative forms of employment. Twelve secondary schools were selected to provide professional training courses in hairdressing, sewing and cooking starting in January 2011.

### Support to vulnerable children

Children's welfare is at the centre of the project's approach. During the summer of 2010, 276 children from vulnerable tobacco growing families attended summer camps in the Nookat and Ala-Buka areas. This was an opportunity to provide specific care and rest for children formerly employed in tobacco fields or at risk

of entering into child labour. Through recreational activities including video clips and drawing competitions, the project raised awareness of the issue of child labour in tobacco growing. The summer camp successfully improved the nutritional and health status of the children; an average of 1-2kg weight gain was recorded. Support for children suffering from work-related sicknesses was also provided through the project. 61 sick children received high quality treatment in the medical rehabilitation centre "Charbak" in the Aravan area during the summer. All these children were selected according to reports from medical institutions near to where they lived. They were treated for 15 days, and as a result, were able to start their school year healthy.

### Awareness raising

Because the success of the project relies on a participatory approach, several workshops and meetings were held to raise awareness, train and strengthen the capacity of health workers and farmers. A total of 1,245 people were reached in 2010 through these workshops and meetings for farmers. Furthermore, nine meetings

were held to raise awareness amongst government and local leaders about the harmful effects of child labour in tobacco-growing. Over 100 people attended, including local magistrates, social workers, heads of villages, elders, directors of schools, and representatives of medical institutions.

The project reached wider audiences

too. To raise awareness about the issue of child labour more broadly, the project was featured on television and four video clips were produced on the theme of "NO child labour in tobacco growing!" 400 schoolchildren from 300 comprehensive schools took part in competitions devoted to celebrate the World Day Against Child Labour.

Pupils organized concerts and sketches, also on the theme of "No child labour in tobacco growing." All participants received T-shirts, leaflets and booklets with information on child labour.

## Kyrgyzstan Case Study



### Farming income grows but without child labour

The central strategy of the ECLT-funded project in Kyrgyzstan is to ensure that families earn enough income so that children are not forced into child labour. Farmer Zulaika Jumabaeva heads a family of six. Living in the village of Airy-Tam in the Jalalabat oblast, her husband Nurkamil Amanbaev has been ill and an invalid for some time. Of their four children, two of them go to school and two are preschool age. They live in a two-room temporary building, just 28 square metres. The family income is derived solely from agriculture.

Before joining the project, they sowed wheat and reaped only 600 kg of grain. They did not have enough money for fertilizers or for irrigated water. The wheat they grew was not enough even for the family, let alone to sell. They

also rented an additional 0.3 hectares to grow tobacco.

Most of the work was undertaken by the children. Because of a small harvest and low tobacco grade, they received only \$US 300 of income with which they used to support themselves for the whole year, including the husband's medicines. He was further unable to prepare documents to get his disability pension as he could not travel to the regional office to collect the necessary certificates.

Thanks to ECLT Foundation funding which increased the credit fund in 2010, the project expanded its activity in the district. As a result, Zulaika's family was eligible for financial support. She became involved in the project and enrolled as member of the mutual aid group "Bereke" consisting of ten

families. Her family could receive a microcredit of approximately \$US 250 with an annual interest rate below 11%. They could rent more land - 0.5 hectares - and expand their tobacco growing. To avoid children cultivating tobacco as had previously been the case, the members of the mutual aid group helped each other in peak season, undertaking all tasks related to tobacco growing. They also ensured that no children worked in their fields.

Good care and proper irrigation led to a better result and at the end of 2010, the family received an income of \$US 800. Although an improvement from previous years, it was not quite enough to support Zulaika's family for the full year. As the family is still vulnerable, the project decided to lend them a milking cow so the children can drink milk daily. Zulaika's family will keep the cow until a calf has been born and return the cow to the project after one year.

At the end of 2010, the family repaid the credit on time and filed an application for repeat delivery in 2011.



# Malawi

The overall goal of the project is to contribute to the elimination of child labour in tobacco growing areas by addressing the root factors of child labour.

## Malawi project goal

To achieve this goal, the project aims:

- To improve access to quality education through community sensitization and empowerment;
- To improve the livelihoods of families whose children are either involved in child labour or at risk of becoming involved.

## Malawi project partners

This Integrated Child Labour Elimination Project (ICLEP) II focuses its efforts in four distinct areas. Each component is implemented by a specialist NGO. Firstly, the project improves the access and quality of education for children withdrawn from child labour or at risk of becoming involved. This component is implemented by CRECCOM. Secondly, implemented by Lifeline Malawi, the project focuses on health, as experience has shown that ill-health of adults is one of the main reasons children are pushed into work. Thirdly, the project has a water and school sanitation component that focuses on reducing the need for withdrawn and 'at risk' children from travelling long distances to fetch water, while at the same time ensuring that the school environment is safe and healthy. This component is implemented by Nkhoma Synod. Finally, implemented by Total Land Care, the project seeks to improve food security, in response to the reality that food insecurity at household level often drives children in tobacco growing areas into child labour.

## Progress in 2010

### Withdrawal of children from child labour

The project withdrew 90 children from child labour from April to December 2010. All of them were enrolled in school, except for three who were

instead enrolled for vocational training with the Technical Entrepreneurship and Vocational Skills Training Authority (TEVETA). This brings the cumulative number of children withdrawn from child labour from the beginning of the project in July 2006 up until December 2010, to 2,160.

### Education

The education interventions were aimed at improving access to, and the quality of, education for children in tobacco growing areas. In 2010, the project constructed two school blocks, consisting of two classrooms and an administration block in between. In order to create employment and improve the local economy, the project trained local builders at the two building sites. When completed, the new infrastructure will improve access to education for children withdrawn and at risk of child labour in the targeted tobacco growing areas. Three teacher pedagogical review sessions were conducted during 2010, thus contributing to the improvement of the standard of teaching and the learning of the pupils. 75% of project bursary beneficiary students passed their secondary school final examinations and were ready to enrol for various vocational courses.

### Health

Healthy parents are able to fend for their families and are therefore much less likely to use their children to complement their household incomes. In 2010, the health component project reached 27,650 patients with treatment, testing and counselling services as well as child labour messages at Kasese Static Clinic and another 6,896 patients through outreach clinics. The preventative and school health programme reached 33 schools as planned with child labour messages to school children, hygiene and health talks, de-worming, presumptive

treatment of bilharzia as well treatment of common skin conditions.

### Food security

The project contributed to improving household food security in tobacco growing areas through the promotion of conservation agriculture, the distribution of treadle pumps and seed distribution. Working with model farmers in selected villages, the project successfully introduced or piloted conservation agriculture as a low cost and labour-saving methodology to attain food security. Conservation agriculture is sustainable and involves the use of crop residues as mulch for soil fertility (manure after decomposition), weed control and conservation of moisture. As a result of the adoption of conservation agriculture, household demand for child labour has been reduced, elderly headed households can produce enough food for their families, children of targeted farmers go to school, farm productivity has increased and farmers can grow other crops with the staple maize, thus diversifying their food and income sources.

50 treadle pumps were distributed on loan to farmers, who grew crops on 11.7 ha of land thus contributing to food availability in vulnerable households. The project raised and planted a total of 752,108 tree seedlings by December 2010, which contributed to the development of woodlots and trees that will eventually reduce demand for child labour.

### Water and sanitation

Access to clean water is important not just for health reasons, but for reducing child labour as well. Children in tobacco growing areas, especially girls, often spend long hours fetching water, thus missing out on or interfering with

school. In addition, inadequate school sanitation facilities are linked with high absenteeism of girls. For these reasons, ICLEP has a prominent water and sanitation component.

In 2010, Nkhoma Synod drilled 10 shallow well and three boreholes in the project area, providing safe water for 833 households with children in or at risk of child labour. In addition, the project provided Hygiene and Sanitation Packages

in two schools (each comprising four double Ventilated Improved Pit latrines and two single pit latrines for teachers). The improved sanitation helped the neediest schools to retain teachers as well as improve school attendance.

## Malawi Case Study

### Conservation agriculture helps to end child labour

Daimon Chingagwe (pictured below) is a widowed 81 year old man from Chapuwala village, Dowa, a tobacco growing district in Central Region of Malawi. Due to his age and a disability, he has difficulty walking around, doing household chores and working in his field. He therefore relied on his four grandchildren to till the fields, make ridges, weed and harvest the crop, and perform household chores. Apart from work in the fields, his grandchildren had to travel long distances to look for firewood. Due to the intensity of work and household chores during the peak season, his grandchildren often had to skip school.



It was not until he attended one of the several sensitizations meetings hosted by ICLEP that he learned about child labour. Before then, he did not realize that what he was doing was wrong and unfair on the children. He also learned that the Food Security component of ICLEP had programmes that could reduce the labour required for crop production. One of these technologies that appealed to him was conservation agriculture.

Conservation agriculture involves the use of crop residues as mulch for soil fertility manure after decomposition,

weed control and conservation of moisture. To further reduce the population of weeds the farmers use herbicides to kill the ones that inhibit germination and growth.

Working at a village model field, Total Land Care introduced Mr. Chingagwe and other tobacco farmers in his village to conservation agriculture two years ago. During that time, the farmers have seen the fertility of their soils improve through use of organic fertilizers, improvement in yields and savings in labour. For Mr. Chingagwe, conservation agriculture

has been heaven-sent. Not only has the practice eliminated the need for him to use his grandchildren's labour in producing maize, but it has also increased the volume of his yield significantly. The children now attend school without fail and can help each other to do household chores after school, thus creating more time for homework. "My critics are now envying me; they come and walk around in appreciation of the good crop that I have." He even now has time to make mats for sale to earn an extra income, something that was not possible more than two years ago.

# Tanzania

The overall goal of this project is to contribute to the prevention and elimination of child labour in Tanzania, particularly hazardous child labour in the tobacco growing area of Urambo District.



## Tanzania project partner

The Urambo Tobacco Sector Project Phase II was a three year programme implemented from January 2007 to December 2010 by the International Labour Organization. There was an extension phase of three months to 31st March 2010 to ensure the smooth completion of activities.

## Success over the course of the project

Over the course of the project, a total of 1,973 children were supported of which 972 were withdrawn and 1001 were prevented from entering into child labour.

In 2010, 1,500 children aged between eight and twelve continued to be withdrawn or safeguarded from child labour in tobacco growing areas. All 1,500 have been re-integrated into primary school and continued receiving learning materials which included a school uniform, socks, shoes, school bags, exercise books, pens and pencils.

## Supporting Economic Improvement

405 families either with children in child labour or at risk of entering child labour have been trained in income-generating activities. 250 families have been given shared sewing machines and 155 families have been given foot water pumps. The project has connected some of the beneficiary families with the tobacco companies' social corporate responsibility programs. Several of them are now getting a pair of oxen for the purpose of increasing the acreage farmed and reducing the demand on the labour force, including child labour.

473 children between the ages of eight and seventeen continued to be supported and trained in vocational skills in two colleges. The classes were in masonry, carpentry and tailoring. The children have been given working tools which they share. The majority of the children's groups have now been introduced to the Youth Entrepreneurship Facility, a new ILO programme to support youth groups.

## Child Labour Booklet Series

The project funded the development of three booklets on Child Labour with the purpose of raising awareness amongst leaf technicians and farmers. This booklet series was presented at a launch meeting in May 2010 which was also an opportunity to advocate for the elimination of child labour in tobacco growing. The booklets have been distributed to key stakeholders for further dissemination to farmers. Since their publication, the booklets have been successfully used by the project in Urambo to train 941 leaf technicians who subsequently monitor child labour in the tobacco fields.

## Final Evaluation and Lessons Learnt from UTSP II

As 2010 was the final year of UTSP II, an external final evaluation was commissioned by ECLT in November and identified a number of lessons learned and good practices. Some of the good practices identified are:

- The integration of a child labour module into the training of leaf technicians is a key achievement of the project. Leaf technicians, who are instrumental in training farmers, are now aware of child labour issues in tobacco growing. They actively monitor farmers and report cases of child abuse.
- The project successfully involved the community at village level by creating Village Child Labour

Committees. These were trained in child labour issues and were instrumental in reporting cases to the district child labour office.

- Income generating activities for vulnerable households was found to be an excellent strategy to address poverty, one of the root causes of child labour. The distribution of sunflower seeds and market gardening tools enabled income generating groups to

diversify their income and improve their food security.

- The Child Labour Monitoring System (CLMS) implemented in Urambo has been selected as one of the twenty Good Practices at the Hague Global Child Labour Conference in May 2010. Urambo is currently leading the way in Tanzania for the implementation of the CLMS which was first initiated in 2004.

## Tanzania Case Study

### Vocational training brings new opportunities for former child labourers

One of the great successes of this project has been the provision of vocational training courses for withdrawn children or those at risk of entering into child labour.

473 teenage children between the ages of 14 and 17 who had already dropped out of school were offered the chance to develop skills in tailoring, mechanics or masonry in a vocational training centre. This will greatly improve their employment and income prospects. This

sponsorship programme was combined with vocational school infrastructure improvements so that the trainees could access good quality teaching. The project renovated facilities at the Folk Development College in Urambo town - the main Vocational Education Training providers in the district - and provided sewing machines for the trainees.

Rehema (pictured below) is one of the successful beneficiaries of the project. Formerly working in tobacco fields, she was identified by the project and withdrawn from labour. Sponsored by the project to attend Folk Development College, Rehema received three months

of training in tailoring and started working as a self employed tailor from home. She hires a sewing machine for \$5 a month from someone in her village and averages three customers per week, who purchase their own cloth and bring them to her for sewing. Thanks to the project she has gained valuable skills and is currently earning a modest income. She is saving her profit to purchase her own machine.

She is proud of her new skill and says tailoring is luxury work compared to farming - and the income is better. She is now able to hire somebody else to do her farming work in the fields.



# Uganda

The overall goal of the project is to reduce the number of children engaged in labor on tobacco farms in the project area by 2012.

## Uganda project partner

The project is implemented by Codeca.

## Vocational training for former tobacco child labourers

The Kyema Vocational Training Institute, constructed with ECLT funding between 2006 and 2009, continued to give children withdrawn from tobacco fields access to practical skills training in 2010. Other agencies sent children from their programmes to the KVTI, thus underlining its recognition and untapped potential in Uganda. In March 2010, the Kyema Vocational Training Institute was officially handed over to Masindi District Local Government, in line with the original project plan.

By August 2010, the KVTI was finally transferred to the Ministry of Education and Sport, and subsequently elevated to college status. It is now called Uganda Technical College Kyema and offers Diploma and craft certificate courses in water engineering, mechanical engineering, civil engineering and electrical engineering, among other technical courses. The statutes of the Uganda Technical College Kyema commit it to its original purpose: the provision of vocational training opportunities to children withdrawn from child labour in tobacco growing. Former child labourers enrolled in the institute have an opportunity to be enrolled in the formal programme, and to be trade tested, thus becoming full artisans.

## Village Child Labour Committees

Village Child Labour Committees (VCLCs) are an important structure for the effective and sustainable identification and withdrawal of children from tobacco fields. In 2010, the project established six VCLCs per village in all the 50 villages to work as community volunteers in the identification, withdrawal and placement of children

in schools. All the VCLCs were trained both on their new roles and in the use of Management Information System (MIS) for capturing household information and child in-take forms.

## Research and capacity building

Research was undertaken to ascertain basic information about tobacco growing households and the numbers of children either already working in tobacco, or at risk of doing so. 866 households were included in the survey out of the planned 1,250 in the five sub-counties. The analyzed data produced three categories of children. Firstly, there were those who never enrolled in school; secondly there were those who enrolled in school but subsequently dropped out; and those in school but at risk of dropping out. This categorization helped the project focus and tailor its interventions to meet the children's unique needs.

Government Community Development Officers (CDOs) were trained by the project in child labour monitoring. They in turn transferred their knowledge to the VCLCs. The VCLCs subsequently produced reports for the CDOs on the incidence of child labour in villages. A Community Education Manual was also produced and distributed to families and 32 visits were undertaken in the schools covered by the project area. The Community Education Manual is a highly accessible document. It serves as standard reference manual and participatory toolkit for VCLCs to use in educating communities on child labour in tobacco growing, involving families in the identification and withdrawal of child labourers and provides an overview of the Uganda law relating to child labour.

## Improving access to education

Families of Kiyogoma villages opened their own school to meet the children's educational needs (see case-study).

More widely, the project staff conducted school monitoring visits in 12 schools in four sub-counties in the project area. The monitoring visits were aimed at assessing the trend in school enrolment during 2008-2010; check on the record management in targeted schools; assess the general school environment and co-curricular activities and challenges faced by the school administration.

## Awareness raising

The social acceptance of child labour in tobacco growing is one of the major drivers of the scourge. In 2010, the project continued to bring the issue of child labour in tobacco to a wider audience across Uganda. Four radio talk shows were conducted and disseminated details of the project, including activities undertaken as part of the celebrations for the World Day Against Child Labour on June 12th. 420 spot messages were aired in broadcast in English and Runyankitara, urging listeners to value the education of children and put an end to child labour in tobacco growing.

## Capacity assessments and project revision

ECLT commissioned an independent technical and financial capacity assessment of the COMEECA project in 2010. The mission reviewed the COMEECA project document, the status of the ECLATU Trust, the operations of Kyema Vocational Training Institute and the management and operational capacity of the implementing partners. As a result of the capacity assessments, a project revision was undertaken to refocus the project and the partner portfolio streamlined. The project is now implemented by two partners targeting 3,000 children and is due to be completed in June 2012.

**Project Advisory Committee**

One Project Advisory Committee meeting and two District Project Committee meetings were convened in 2010, thus allowing the multi-stakeholder inputs to influence the project’s direction and maximize project impact. At national level, the Ministry of Labour, BAT Uganda, ECLATU Trust, Uganda Leaf Tobacco, the Federation of Uganda Employers, the National Trade Unions of Uganda,

Continental Tobacco, Uganda Tobacco Growers Association and ILO/IPEC, among others, participated. At district level, Masindi Local Government, field staff of BAT Uganda and Continental Tobacco, Ministry of Education and traditional leaders attended the meetings. As a result of these meetings, local obstacles to the smooth implementation of the project were removed.



**Uganda Case Study**



**VCLCs tackle the causes of child labour**

A central plank of the success of this project has been the establishment of the VCLCs. Following training on the dangers of child labour undertaken by project officers, the committees began to address the educational problems that the children and families of Kiyogoma I and Kiyogoma II villages faced. The nearest school was Katulikire Primary School, more than five kilometres away. The distance from the villages to school encouraged many children to be absent and consequently to be drawn into child labour. These two villages are situated in a particularly intensive tobacco growing area.

As a result of their training, the VCLCs understood the importance of education as a sustainable alternative to child labour.

They soon realized that this problem of the long distance and journey time to school was one of the obstacles in eliminating child labour.

Omirambe Morris and Okech Peter, both members of the VCLC, called a meeting of the two villages to find a way forward to provide accessible education opportunities for their children. It was suggested that a new school be built, and this idea was welcomed by the community. Soon after, some land was identified for building the new school. The members of the community offered their labour and brought local materials. They constructed two blocks of four classrooms using mud and wattle and a grass thatched roof. Once completed, volunteer teachers among the VCLCs, and other members of the

community began teaching the pupils who had enrolled in the school.

Members of the community and the parents contribute some money on a termly basis to provide scholastic materials and a token payment to the volunteer teachers. The school had reached the level of primary three with a total of 340 children by the end of 2010.

**Plans for 2011**

The VCLCs are seeking supporters to acquire further scholastic materials and better remuneration for the volunteer teachers. They are also seeking the intervention of Kiryandongo district council to inspect the school and recommend it for consideration under Universal Primary Education.

# Zambia

The project in Zambia aims to reduce the demand for child labour amongst commercial tobacco farmers and small and medium scale tobacco farmers in two districts, Choma and Kalomo.

## Zambia project partner

The project in Zambia is implemented by HODI.

HODI expects to achieve this goal by raising awareness and tracking progress of withdrawn children; strengthening capacities of key stakeholders in the fight against child labour; and improving the living conditions of vulnerable households with children at risk of entering into labour. The project is implemented by HODI.

Over the course of 2010, the project successfully withdrew 313 children from child labour in tobacco growing.

## Education

Improving access and quality of primary education are proven strategies in eliminating child labour. Therefore the main focus of the project is to improve the services provided by both pre-schools and basic schools so that children have access to an appropriate learning environment. During the year, teaching and learning materials as well as sports and recreational materials, were procured and delivered to two preschools, Kalonda and Simunzele and five basic schools. This was complemented by the purchase and distribution of 142 desks for basic schools.

In 2010, 45 children (16 boys and 29 girls) formerly employed in tobacco fields, also received school sponsorship towards the payment of their schools fees.

The quality of teaching was improved through the support for teacher training. Three teachers from the two sponsored preschools were retrained in new teaching methodologies including child labour and health issues. Twenty teachers from Kalomo District, drawn from areas with a high prevalence of child labour also attended a five day training course where they gained knowledge and skills to effectively combat child labour.

## Health

In order to improve the project area's health centres' capacity to screen and monitor tobacco related health issues such as poisoning and allergies, the project procured emergency medical kits in consultation with the Department of Health. This was complemented by the provision of training on diagnosis and management of tobacco related risks for nine medical personnel from Kalomo and Choma district health centers.

## Child Labour Monitoring

A vital component of this project is to ensure that children at risk are monitored through an effective child labour monitoring system. Two District Child Labour Committees (DCLC) for Kalomo and Choma were formed in consultation with the Ministry of Labour and their training undertaken and completed.

A child labour monitoring form and an age verification procedure was developed and disseminated to the 14 child labour workplace committees created by the project. Through a series of sensitization meetings and trainings, the project significantly improved the knowledge of employees, employers and communities on the prevention and elimination of child labour in tobacco growing.

The project further trained eight leaf technicians, one labour inspector and 15 farmers on the national and international framework regarding child labour and children's rights. Following the training, all participants understood their role in monitoring child labour in tobacco farms and were equipped to further train an additional 115 farmers in child labour issues.

## Household Economic Strengthening

Poverty is one of the root causes of child labour in tobacco in Zambia. In order to improve food security and livelihoods

of households with children at risk of entering child labour, the project procured and distributed conservation farming kits. Items that make up these kits include fertilizer, maize seed, agricultural lime, herbicide and a conservation farming handbook. A total of 45 vulnerable families whose children were part of the school sponsorship programme received these kits and improved their yield and crops.

With this kit, each household was able to produce between 20 and 30 bags of maize at 50 kg per bag. This greatly increased the food security of these households. The improvement of food security will enable these families to free other resources or income to support the children to stay in school.

## Awareness Raising

The project also focused on raising awareness of child labour issues in tobacco. The project participated in the World Day Against Child Labour (WDACL) and the Day of the African Child on 12th and 16th June. More than 2,500 people participated in the WDACL event organized in Kalomo district, where the project distributed posters, brochures and t-shirts and disseminated messages against child labour.

In 2010, the project developed a radio programme to raise child labour issues with a wider audience. In the last quarter of 2010, five radio programmes, each 30 minutes long, were broadcast on the popular Sky FM during prime listening time (19:30). More programmes are planned to be aired in 2011.

## Zambia Case Study

### From the Tobacco Fields to a High School Student

18 year old George (not his real name) is a proud and determined high school student at Choma Secondary School. He holds a position of leadership as House Captain/Prefect responsible for over 450 other students. His love for school and determination to utilize the opportunity he has been given to transform his life is very clear when you speak to him. But the story has not always been so promising for George. His life took a terrible turn for the worst when he was orphaned at the age of 8. Still only in Grade 5, George moved to live with his aunt but his life was tough as he was not given any time to rest. George relates that he used to report for school after one month with only a quarter of the school fees and then he would fail tests and exams because he missed a lot of lessons. He was always late and always tired.

*'Many times I just wanted to stop school because I used to fail. I loved school so much but I had no one to help me'*

George says. The desire to get an education drove him into the tobacco farms to work with the hope of raising enough money for school fees. But this proved futile as he was working 12 hours non-stop in the tobacco fields, only to be paid an equivalent of \$1.50 for one week's work. The hardest work was chopping trees which left him exhausted



at the end of the day. But even with these hardships, he used to save the little he made to pay the school fees whenever he had an opportunity to go back to school. He said the school authorities were understanding and sympathetic to his situation. He sometimes used to do small pieces of work in teachers' compounds to try and raise more money for his school fees although this meant he did not have time to rest and study as his friends were doing. Later George moved to his grandmother's with a hope for a better life but his grandmother also died shortly afterwards. This left him homeless.

George's chance for a better life came when a teacher spotted his determination and connected him to the ECLT Project through the Elimination of Child Labour Committee. When George passed his Grade 7 exam he was selected for the ECLT scholarship programme.

*'I have been on the scholarship programme since Grade 8 (2007) and now I am completing high school. I thank God, I am very happy I am completing school'*

he says with confidence. George further says that during school holidays, he does some light work to raise funds for groceries. His only challenge now is that he has nowhere to go following the

death of his grandmother. The Project is in the process of requesting that the school authorities allow him to remain in school during school holidays.

When asked if he has any final words to say about his life, his future and the impact of the ECLT-funded Scholarship Programme, George had this to say:

*'I never knew I would reach Grade 12, my friends never had the opportunity and some are even married at my age. I promise my sponsors that I will work very hard and pass my exams. I passed Grade 7, Grade 9 and now I am determined to pass Grade 12 with very good points. I can't just struggle from the time my parents died up to now for nothing! I would like to become an accountant or an engineer. One of the subjects I take is Geometrical Mechanical Drawing (GMD) and although I do not do well in it sometimes due to lack of instruments, I will not stop.'*

*I am so thankful to ECLT and HODI because without them I wouldn't have made it this far! I have hope for the future now. ECLT are my parents and I am humbled and count myself privileged that they picked me among so many who are suffering. May God bless them indeed!'*



# ECLT's Strategic Review



ECLT's programme of work has been informed by ten guiding principles since it was set up in 2001. In 2009, after eight years, it was time to review progress and develop a new vision.

In March 2000, the Foundation articulated a clear strategy to ensure maximum impact for children over the next six years. This followed an assessment of the project work undertaken by ECLT to date.

## **ECLT Vision 2015**

By 2015 ECLT will be able to demonstrate the impact of an effective multi-stakeholder programme model that promotes wider sustainable impact on child labour in the tobacco growing sector. It will be adequately resourced and recognised broadly as a reference point and source of information on good practices.

A new strategic direction, consisting of five key components, was drawn up to ensure how this vision is to be achieved. These set out ECLT's top priorities:

### **Improving project design and development**

ECLT is supporting its country partners by developing high quality programmes that effectively address the most significant drivers of child labour.

Through guidelines and training, these programmes incorporate clearly stated, desired results, measurable success indicators as well as concrete means of verifying those indicators. Project design includes an exit strategy to ensure sustainable improvements in the lives of children, their families and communities.

### **Identifying, commissioning and producing information, research and data**

ECLT is developing tools, commissioning baseline surveys and compiling a compendium of good practices to ensure that limited resources are used effectively and the right projects are supported. These resources are helping to ensure that ECLT is targeting its efforts for maximum impact and that lessons learned inform future programme design.

### **Targeting measurement and evaluation**

ECLT is pinpointing cost-effective ways to measure the impact of each of



the projects. Existing evaluations are also being reviewed to inform future activities and lessons learned. The evaluations will be used to extend ECLT's influence in programming and policy.

### **Increasing communication and engagement**

ECLT is identifying appropriate stakeholders and developing their capacities so that they can act effectively as national catalysts for policy change. To support their efforts, ECLT is building partners' capacity in advocacy and providing training in child labour issues, rights and related ILO Conventions. ECLT is also building awareness on child labour in tobacco growing by providing stakeholders with appropriate tools and materials.

### **Maximising use of resources and using expertise in-kind**

Through closer collaboration with other stakeholders working to eliminate child labour, shared costs in joint initiatives could maximise use of ECLT's resources. ECLT could also draw on the expertise and skills of tobacco industry staff in areas such as accounting, human resources, communications and legislation.

## Financial Accounts 2010

The financial accounts for 2010 have been audited by an independent Geneva-based firm, Berney & Associates S.A.

### 2010 Balance Sheet

The currency used is Swiss Francs (CHF)

<b>ASSETS</b>	
Treasury	3,326,240
Debtors	148,792
Fixed Assets	89,126
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,564,158</b>
<b>LIABILITIES &amp; CAPITAL</b>	
<b>Short term</b>	
Payables	304,048
Members (advance of 2011)	1,818,708
Accrued projects	27,857
Accrued expenses	492,242
Contingencies derived from personnel rotation	306,000
Accrued salaries	45,819
Reserve for computer renewal	9,019
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>3,003,693</b>
<b>Capital &amp; Reserve Funds</b>	
Foundation Capital	50,000
Membership Fees	120,000
Brought Forward as at 1.1.2010	308,717
Result of exercise	81,748
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>560,465</b>
<b>Total</b>	<b>3,564,158</b>

### 2010 Expenditures and Receipts

<b>INCOME</b>	
Members' contributions	4,229,722
Bank interest and other receipts	4,337
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4,234,059</b>
<b>EXPENSES</b>	
Operating Costs	1,147,357
Projects/Research Costs	3,004,954
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4,152,311</b>
<b>Surplus for the period</b>	<b>81,748</b>

# Thank you!

## Thank you to ECLT's members, supporters and staff

ECLT's important work is supported and funded by its members, which include:

**The International Labour Organization, International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour** (as an advisor)

**IUF Uniting Food, Far, and Hotel Workers World-Wide**

**The International Tobacco Growers' Association**

### **Tobacco companies**

Alliance One International, Inc.

Altria Client Services

British American Tobacco

Imperial Tobacco Group

Japan Tobacco Inc.

Philip Morris International Inc.

Scandinavian Tobacco Group

Swedish Match

Universal Leaf Tobacco Company, Inc.

Particular thanks go to ECLT Board Members for their dedication, time and commitment.



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