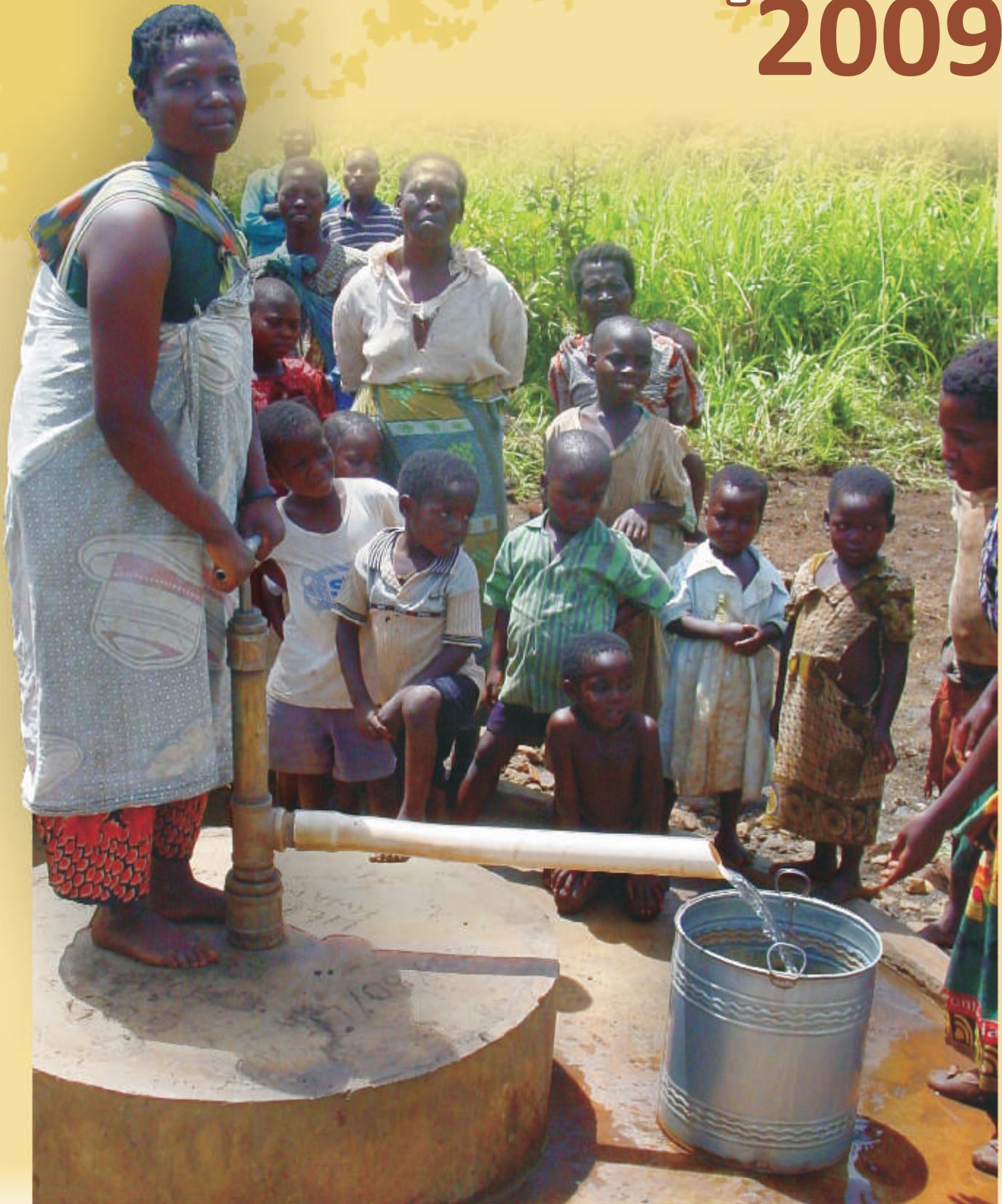


# Annual Report 2009



**ECLT Foundation**

Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing

## ECLT's unique approach



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

The 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 Foundation to target its support most effectively and informs the design of its programmes. ECLT shares research, lessons learnt and examples of good practice through its website, so that donors and development agencies can learn from its experience.

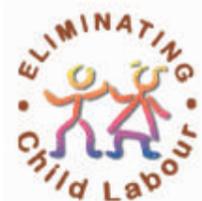
Our programmatic approach is designed to strengthen and empower local communities and government to deliver key services and take ownership of the projects. This helps to secure long term and lasting impacts for children.

To achieve this, 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.

**“Children have the right to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing hazardous work”**

1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (article 32)



# ECLT Foundation

## Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing

### Message from the President



*‘I am both humbled by, and grateful for, the dedication, hard work and support of all who have helped us in our endeavour to eliminate child labour.’*

2009 marked the tenth anniversary of the adoption of the ILO Convention 182, which set out the concrete actions required to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. Child labour in agriculture, and therefore tobacco, is one of those practices regarded as 'worst forms' because it is hazardous. Although there has been progress over the last ten years there is still a long way to go.

Child labour is a consequence of poverty and a lack of sustainable jobs, aggravated in many countries, by health issues like AIDS. In many countries, agriculture is the main, and one of the few, revenue sources for the vast majority of the population and, thus, has a high incidence of child labour.

The agricultural sector employs nearly 70 per cent of all child labour globally. Agriculture, alongside mining and construction, is ranked as one of the most dangerous industries. Risks include severe injuries, poisoning and long-term health problems from exposure to pesticides. Particularly in tobacco growing, nicotine and other substances being absorbed through the skin can cause serious illness among workers.

Child labour robs children of their health and denies them their main chance to secure a better future through education. This is why ECLT's programme both withdraws children from harmful work and makes sure they are enrolled in schools or vocational training centres. But ECLT looks beyond that. ECLT programmes also address underlying causes such as poverty, which leave parents with little choice but to send their children to work.

I am personally heartened by the progress ECLT has made over the last year. With our country partners, Board Members and staff we have enabled thousands of children to secure a better life and future.

**Antonio Abrunhosa** President, ECLT Board

### Message from the Director

This annual report highlights our work to address the causes of child labour in 2009. As a result of ECLT's programmes, thousands of children have been rescued from child labour.<sup>1</sup> Young children have gone back to school and older children have been given the opportunity to learn a trade. Thousands of families have improved their fortunes and are now better able to provide for their children. By changing attitudes and addressing factors that drive child labour, ECLT's work has safeguarded many more children from becoming child labourers.

I am very proud of how much we have achieved over the year, but this is no time to celebrate. There are still many more children whose lives and futures are being destroyed by child labour. We still need to do much more to realise our vision of a world where children can achieve their full potential. That is why ECLT undertook a strategic review in 2009 to decide on its priorities for the next six years. In the Foundation's new strategy we have identified how ECLT can target its work more effectively and assess its progress better.

**Marilyn Blaeser** Executive Director, ECLT Foundation

<sup>1</sup>In 2009 according to reports from country partners 8,688 children benefitted directly from ECLT programmes. A further 10,234 parents and families were able to improve their income and/or food security. Periodically ECLT also conducts external evaluations to provide independent assessment of partners' progress. [www.eclt.org](http://www.eclt.org).



*‘As we look back to acknowledge our achievements in 2009, we also look forward with renewed energy, to help more children secure their rights in the future.’*

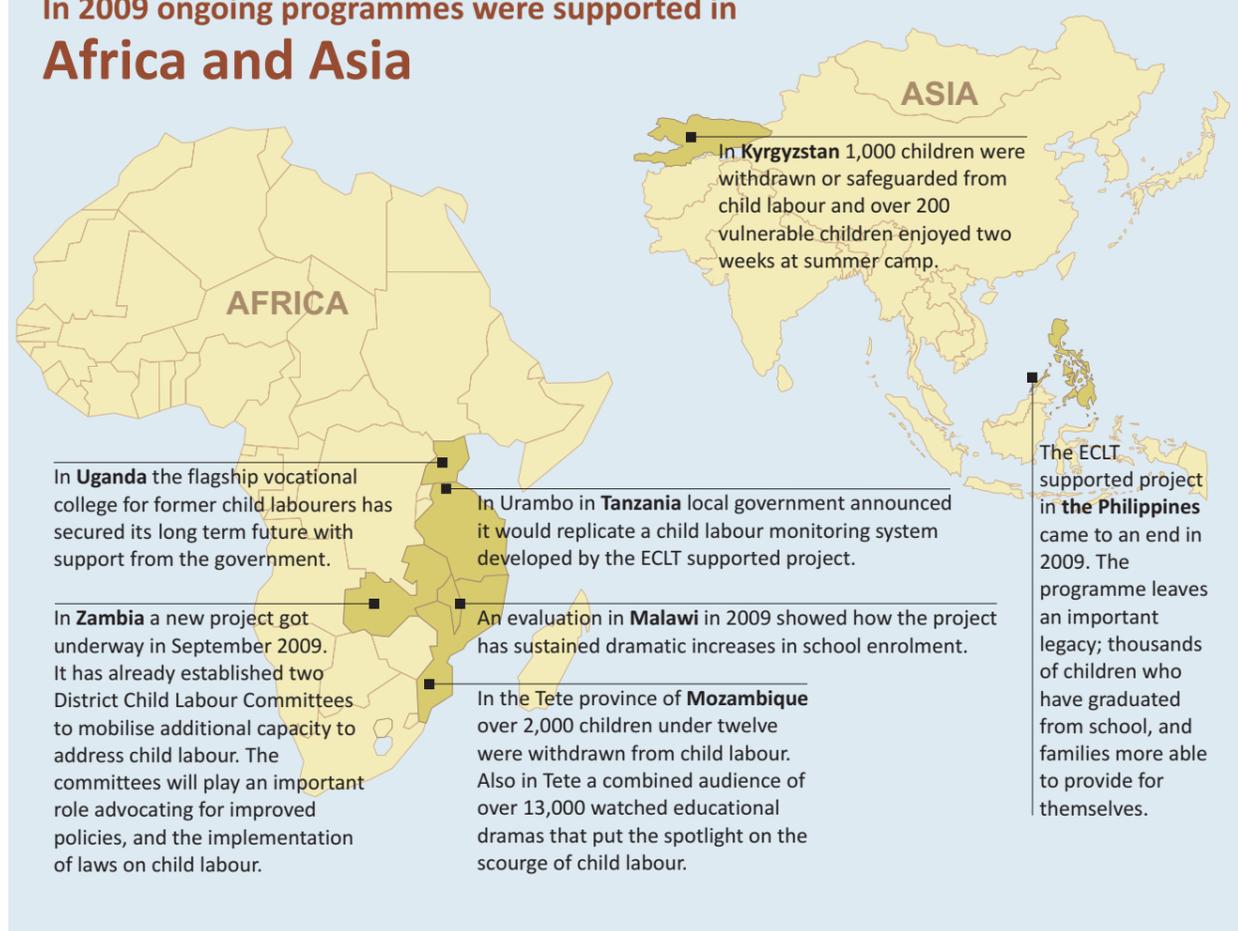
# Overview

In 2009 ECLT conducted a strategic review with the Foundation Board and identified five clear directions to guide its work between 2010 and 2015. ECLT developed a mechanism to document lessons learned, so that this experience can inform new ECLT programmes and be shared with other organisations pursuing similar objectives.

During the year ECLT continued to support integrated programmes in seven countries and made concrete progress towards ECLT's vision to eliminate child labour in tobacco growing.



## In 2009 ongoing programmes were supported in Africa and Asia



### Projects

The following section highlights the direct impact of ECLT's work on communities and their children. In 2009 five ongoing programmes were supported in southern Africa and two in Central and South East Asia. To show how these projects have touched and improved people's lives we have included stories about particular people who have benefitted from ECLT's programme over the years.

# Mozambique

**Mozambique project goal:**  
*The purpose of ECLT's involvement in Mozambique is to reduce the worst forms of child labour by improving access to education, influencing government policy, providing income generating activities for mothers and sensitising communities to the effects of child labour.*

### Progress in 2009

The two year project in the Tete province of Mozambique came to an end in 2009. Managed by American Institutes for Research the programme achieved most of its targets to reduce child labour. To ensure future sustainability the project formed partnerships with local government. Together they created a 'Child Labour Prevention Nuclei' Committee in the municipality of Tete City.

### Children go back to school

In 2009, the project withdrew over 2,000 children under 12 years from child labour and reintegrated them into formal education. Vulnerable children going back to school were supplied with school materials and bridging education to help them reintegrate. 424 older children aged 12-17 were enrolled into 14 specially established Field Farming

and Life Schools to learn vocational skills. Almost 800 children completed the programme over the two years of the project.

### Income generating activities and training helps caregivers

The project supported children further by providing income generating activities to their mothers and caregivers.

The livelihood programme was implemented in nine communities (in horticulture, livestock and small commerce). Almost 500 women enrolled and completed the Women Farmers Field and Life School programme where they received training in literacy, farming, health and nutrition.

To improve the sense of collective ownership over their plots, the project implemented an awareness campaign in 2009 that dramatically improved attitudes.

As a result, women's gardens became a reference point for communities and districts as examples of income generation and improved food security.

### Dramatic approach increases awareness

The project's innovative approach to highlighting the dangers and pitfalls of child labour continued to



**Name of project:** Reducing Exploitative Child Labour in Mozambique  
**Country partner:** American Institutes for Research (AIR)  
**Location:** Tete Province, North West Mozambique. 23 communities in the districts of Chifunde, Chiuta, Moatize, Macananga and Tete.  
**Project duration:** November 2007 to October 2009  
**Budget:** US\$805,000

be effective. The project's Drama Troupe spent time in the communities before presenting a participatory drama with, and for, community members.

The total audience of all performances in 2009 was almost 13,000 people.

In addition the troupe performed in 25 radio dramas which were broadcast during the project.



# Malawi

**Malawi project goal:**  
The overall goal of the project in Malawi is to contribute to the elimination of child labour in tobacco growing by addressing the causes that drive child labour. To achieve this goal the project aims:

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

## Progress towards goals in 2009

An evaluation in 2009 showed that the project contributed to getting children back to school. In 2007, there was an 11% increase in enrolment to school, in 2008 a 23% increase and in 2009 a further 8% increase. The contributing factors

of the programme include: improvements to school infrastructure; the sensitisation of local communities; improved food security; better access to clean water, sanitation and health services.

In 2009 a total of 1,916 children were withdrawn from child labour. Of these children, 1,253 were reintegrated into school. Monitoring is currently underway to track the other children that were withdrawn. A further 986 children were safeguarded from child labour.

## Improved school infrastructure and support for children

ECLT has found that the more effective a school is, the more likely it is that parents will send their children to that school. This is why the programme places great

importance on improving infrastructure and increasing capacity. Six schools were built in 2009 and two more schools are under construction. 13 school blocks have been renovated and another two are in progress. At the community's own initiative, and with their resources, a secondary school hall has also been renovated. Twelve teachers' houses have been renovated and five new ones have been built with the support of the community.

31 primary schools received a package of teaching, learning and sports materials to enhance the quality of education. After receiving



## Hunger is history for Joseph's family



*'Now I am a happy man, able to support my family and send my children to school. I also support my aged parents in Mulanje and visit them frequently, for transport is no longer an issue. Hunger in my family is history.'*

Joseph Mbewe lives with his wife and seven children in Chisazima village in Kasungu. Their lives and destiny were transformed by an ECLT supported livelihood project.

Previously the family would go several days without food and could only survive by selling their labour to tobacco farms. The children had to help their parents earn enough cash to buy food. This meant they frequently missed school. As a result, even when they did attend, they performed poorly.

In 2004 Total Land Care (TLC) an NGO supported by ECLT introduced cassava to the area. TLC also supported farmers with training to help them get the best out of the crop.

*'I decided to go into cassava production because I did not have money to buy fertilisers required by other crops. With cassava I could get good returns without using many inputs.'*

In the first year, Joseph earned MK60,000 (US\$400) from the sale of cassava on top of the amount he held back for his family's own use. He used the money to pay for hired labourers to work in his maize field and paid for school fees for his children. He also shared some planting materials with neighbours. Every year Joseph gradually increased the amount of cassava he grew and steadily made more money, so that in the 2008 harvest he earned MK150,000 (US\$1000). In addition to cassava production Joseph now grows groundnuts, other crops and vegetables and raises two pigs.

# Back to school

the package schools and communities are mobilised to restock it themselves annually.

Apart from making school more effective it is crucial to identify parents who simply can't pay the minimal costs. In 2009, 50 children were given bursaries to enable them to go to secondary school. Their school fees and the cost of materials were covered.

31 Child Labour Committees were established and members trained to monitor prevalence of child labour and identify children that need support. These committees were also set up with income generating activities so that they could financially support withdrawn children. Schools are now raising funds for withdrawn children by rearing pigs, tailoring, blacksmithing and running bakeries.

## Increased understanding of child labour issues amongst the community

Sensitising the local community to the ill effects of child labour is another core part of the programme. In 2009 a series of courses were run with key stakeholders to increase their understanding of child labour and to gain their support for the implementation of the project.

There were 600 recipients of the training, including Child Labour Committee members, School Management Committee/PTA members, community leaders, Community Based Child Care Centre committee members and carers; farm and estate owners; tenants.

## Improved food security

In 2009 the project engaged over 9,000 people in initiatives to improve their food security. The number of villages supported by

the project increased from 495 in 2007 to 833 villages in 2009. Field days, training sessions and demonstration meetings were organised for villagers. Sessions included: soil and water conservation, soil fertility and nitrogen fixing plants, nutrition and food preparation, food crop diversification and wood saving technologies. To save wood 2,000 mud stoves were constructed by participating households.

In 2009, 167 treadle pumps were installed and 46 hectares cultivated for maize, leafy vegetables, beans and wheat.

Over 1.25 million tree seedlings were grown, 1 million of which have been planted. A total of five small scale dams were constructed for irrigation. The story of Joseph Mbewe (featured in box) shows how the food security project helped turn around the fortunes of one farmer and his family.



## Access to clean water and sanitation facilities improved

In 2009, the project improved access to clean water and sanitation facilities. 263 villages were supported and committee members were trained to manage water points and sanitation facilities. 42 maintenance personnel were trained in the



**Integrated Child Labour Elimination Programme: Malawi**  
Country partner: Creative Centre for Community Mobilisation (CRECCOM) is responsible for coordinating the project amongst local partners.  
Location: Creigion of Malawi. Katalima and Suza Education Zones in Dowa and Kasungu districts respectively.  
First ECLT project began: July 2002  
Second phase: July 2006 – June 2010  
Budget: US\$ 4,064,105 (From July 2006 to June 2010).

maintenance and construction of shallow wells. 165 shallow wells were drilled to provide communities with potable, clean water to reduce illness.

Nine new boreholes were sunk to reduce the distances children have to go to collect water and 14 defunct boreholes were rehabilitated.

## Improved access to health care

60 volunteers and 40 Health and Water Committee members were trained to provide basic medical health care at outreach clinics.

Ten outreach posts were established. Between June 2008 and June 2009, 38,000 patients were attended to near their homes.

The static clinic treated over 76,500 patients and provided voluntary counselling and testing for HIV to almost 9,000 clients. Clinical services provided include antenatal, family planning, under five-clinic and maternity services.

# Tanzania

**Tanzania project goals:** In Tanzania the ECLT supported programme contributes to the prevention and elimination of child labour, particularly hazardous child labour in the tobacco growing area of the Urambo District. Managed by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the project builds the capacity of communities and relevant institutions, so that they can address child labour in a sustainable way.

## Progress in 2009

In 2009, 473 children were withdrawn and safeguarded from child labour. These children were enrolled into vocational training where they could learn one of three skills, sewing, masonry or carpentry. 1,500 children were supported with uniforms and



school materials so that they could go to primary school. These children had previously been withdrawn from child labour, or had been identified as being vulnerable to child labour.

Saada Hamis was one of the children that got an opportunity to go to primary school in 2006. Saada now says that she was saved from a 'useless' life. See her story featured in the box.

To support the overall goal of reducing child labour in 2009, school and college infrastructure was improved, a monitoring system was developed and the poorest families were supported with income generating activities.

## Schools and colleges were improved

By the end of 2009, 12 primary classrooms and a girls' dormitory had been built to roofing stage and were on target to be completed in 2010. The Folk Development College training facilities have also been upgraded. This involved renovating a girls' dormitory, retrofitting roof gutters to collect water for a renovated water tank, constructing bunk beds and supplying mattresses, chairs and tables for the dining hall.

## Child labour monitoring system to be replicated

A child labour monitoring system was devised, tested and reviewed in four wards.

The reporting format was developed and circulated to the wards and copies given to the District Child Labour Coordinator. The District Council has decided to replicate the system in all of the nine wards.

## Income generation tackled poverty

Nine primary schools were equipped with school income generation activities. This will help the schools support withdrawn and vulnerable children in the future, thus making the project sustainable.

Two schools have taken on beekeeping, three schools are growing sunflowers and four schools are involved in groundnut production.

Over 300 of the most vulnerable tobacco families were identified for income generating activities. This will mean that families can support their children through school instead of sending them to work. Activities included beekeeping, making local cooking stoves, and

# New opportunities for children

growing sunflowers and vegetables. These families were also sensitised to the ill effects of child labour.

## Research studies completed

Two research studies were completed. One study identified a framework for the sustainable elimination of child labour. The other one provides an assessment of child migration/trafficking in relation to child labour in the tobacco sector.

## Lessons learned inform project design

Over the year the project documented lessons learned to inform future plans. For example:

- The project's income generating activities were found to be very important, enabling most families to pay for school fees and uniforms.
- Oxens were found to be an excellent resource. Not only do they help work the land and

provide transport, but by hiring them out to others, farmers can generate an income too.

An oxen programme will be introduced into the project as an income generating activity for vulnerable families.

- A school feeding programme was found to be very important in improving school enrolment and attendance, and hence reducing child labour. Therefore school feeding will soon be introduced into primary schools.
- The project discovered that the majority of tobacco farmers invest most of their time and land in tobacco production at the expense of growing food crops, which frequently leaves them short of food. The programme now plans to introduce good agricultural practices amongst farmers in order to improve food security for vulnerable families.



**Urambo Tobacco Sector Project: Tanzania**  
 National implementing partner: International Labour Organization – International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC)  
 Location: The project covers nine wards in the Urambo District of Tabora: Usinge, Kaliua, Vumilia, Imalamakoye, Ukondamoyo, Songambebe, Muungano, Kapilula and Itundu.  
 First project began: January 2004  
 Phase two project: January 2007 – December 2010  
 Phase two budget: US\$ 1,322,672 over four years

## Saved from marriage and a 'useless' life



*'Without the ILO project I would have already been married and I could guess my life would have been useless without education.'*

The ECLT supported project in Tanzania enabled over 400 children, withdrawn from child labour, to get complementary basic education. The programme, managed by the International Labour Organization (ILO), has given these children a new world of opportunities.

Previously the outlook was bleak for **Saada Hamis**, the oldest child in her family. Saada worked in the tobacco field all day and then returned home to cook and fetch water. At the age of 12 Saada was identified and given a place in primary school.

Now 16 Saada (centre) was one of 22 former child labourers who graduated in 2008 from her primary class to go on to Matwiga Secondary School in the Urambo district. Whilst her prospects have improved she is still concerned about her younger siblings.

*'My parents are very poor, and the small amount of money they earn they keep for my education leaving almost nothing to be spent for my young brother and two sisters who are at primary school level.'*

That is why the programme addresses poverty too. The project has initiated income generating activities to help the poorest parents improve their income and be better able to support their children through school. With additional skills and new ways to earn money, Saada's parents could eventually send all their children to school.

# Uganda

**Uganda project goals:**  
The overall development objective of the project is to reduce the number of children engaged in labour on tobacco farms.

## Progress in 2009

A flagship of the Uganda project has been a vocational college that gives withdrawn child labourers opportunities to learn practical skills. In 2009, a transition phase of the project, to make the college and the programme more sustainable, came to an end. Managed by CODECA, the transition phase aimed to ensure a smooth

handover of the project to local authorities and to secure its long-term future.

During 2009, 352 former child labourers were withdrawn from work and placed in primary schools. This is three and a half times the original target for the period.

## Vocational Training Institute made sustainable

All the building work at Kyema Vocational Training Institute (VTI) was completed in 2009. Over 250 students withdrawn from tobacco farms were given places at the institute and successfully

completed their courses. The experience of Agondua Moses (featured in the box) shows how the college gave a former child labourer a second chance in life.

The business arm of Kyema VTI is now fully registered and pilot enterprises for poultry, dairy cattle and woodwork are already in progress.

A business manager has now been recruited and is a full time staff member at the Institute. This will further help to ensure the project is sustainable.

The Ministry of Education and Sports allocated funds for the

# Success sustained

college from the central Government budget. The Institute now has a fully functional and recognised Board of Directors. These measures will guarantee the sustainability of the college and government-funded students will be admitted from September 2010.

## Spotlight focussed on child labour

Challenging attitudes and practices is an important part of the strategy to reduce child labour. With good connections to local media the project was hugely successful. 280 radio talk shows and 300 radio messages in four local languages put the spotlight on child labour.

The broadcasts raised awareness about child labour amongst the local community. The increased exposure of child labour also reinforced commitment to the project amongst key stakeholders.

Tobacco farmers were also sensitised to the negative impacts of employing child labour. Village Child Labour Committee (VCLC) training manuals were developed and given to 500 VCLC members to increase awareness amongst tobacco farmers. The final evaluation reported that understanding of child labour issues amongst tobacco farmers increased by 87%.

## Child labour included in the work plans of Sub-Counties

Village Child Labour Committees have been strengthened through capacity building activities. As a result VCLC members participated in the budget formulation of their respective Sub-Counties. For the first time their activities have been included in the work plan and budget for the Sub-Counties, particularly in the project areas. Another success was the increased

support to the VCLCs by the Sub-County Development Officers. This will help to ensure the sustainability of this component of the project.

The VCLCs identified the key advocacy issues they want to pursue to address child labour. To support this objective they formed a strong network of organisations committed to the elimination of child labour.

## Lessons learned and evaluation inform new programme

Good practices and lessons learned were documented during the implementation of the project. This learning was used in the development of a new project which started in January 2010.

The new project addresses gaps and consolidates positive developments, into replicable models.



Community Empowerment for Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco (COMECA)

Implementing partner: Community Development and Conservation Agency (CODECA).  
Location: Masindi, Uganda

First project started: January 2004  
Second phase: July 2008 – June 2009  
Second phase budget: US\$1,126,771

## A second chance for a former child labourer



**Agondua Moses** is a former child labourer who turned his fortunes around when he enrolled in the Kyema vocational college.

As a boy, Agondua grew up in difficult circumstances. At the age of three, he was left in the care of his grandmother when his mother left home. The boy was moved between his grandmother Marita and his uncles who took turns looking after him. Unfortunately one uncle didn't allow him to go to school and instead took him to work in the tobacco fields. The disruption to school meant that Agondua repeatedly dropped out of school between the age of 8 and 15. Eventually, he fell too far behind the other children to ever catch up. At the age of 17 he started growing tobacco to earn his own money for clothing and bedding, until his uncle put a stop to that too. He then got involved in illegal logging where he was paid 80,000 shillings (approx. US\$40) for three months work. Fortunately, at this point Agondua found out about Kyema Vocational Training Institute.

*'I wanted to learn and acquire skills for work. As I don't qualify for formal training I therefore preferred bricklaying and concrete practice.'*

Since finishing his training Agondua has worked with several construction companies and now takes on contracts independently. Working for construction companies his pay increased quickly from around US\$1 to US\$4 a day. Working for himself has proved even more profitable with a two week contract worth US\$175. As a sign of the quality of his work Agondua is getting repeat contracts.

A normal working day for Agondua starts at 7.30am and finishes at 5pm when he goes home. He occasionally spends time with friends in their small trading centre where he entertains them and elders. He is now able to support most of the basic needs at home and he fully supports the welfare of his grandmother, uncles and cousins. He pays the medical bills for his grandmother and a cousin who has problems with his sight.

Agondua is regarded as a useful son in the village and he is an asset to the community, readily helping out when construction work is needed. He would now like to go back to Kyema to study carpentry and joinery so he can learn how to put a roof on his buildings. Then he would like to construct a home for his grandmother and himself.



# Zambia

## Zambia project goal:

*The goal of the new project in Zambia is to reduce demand for child labour amongst commercial tobacco farmers and small and medium scale tobacco farmers. The project aims to remove over a thousand children from child labour and safeguard a further 750 children.*

## Progress in 2009

Phase 1 of the project came to an end in August 2009 after four years, and Phase 2 started in September. Managed by HODI, a local NGO supported by ECLT, Phase 1 succeeded in withdrawing over 1,700 children between the ages of 5 to 17 from child labour. Of these children, 1,107 were placed in local basic schools, 440 in pre-schools, 111 in skills training centres and the remaining 75 in high schools.

A further 1,241 children were safeguarded from child labour out of a target of 1,000. These achievements were the result of improvements to education infrastructure, the establishment of child labour committees, interventions to address poverty and awareness raising activities. Since 2005, 26,000 people have

been sensitised to the consequences of child labour in tobacco and agriculture.

To help families become more self-sufficient 877 families were provided with agricultural extension and livestock support, inputs and equipment.

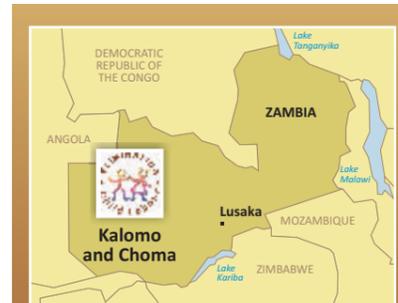
The story of Rosemary Sibundanga (featured in the box) shows how this livelihood training gave her a route out of poverty.

The new programme which started in September 2009 has strengthened the livelihood component to address the poverty which drives child labour. The project aims to withdraw 1,150 tobacco children, aged between 5 and 17 years and integrate them into school.

These activities will be complemented by a campaign to encourage medium and large tobacco growers, as well as family farms, to stop using child labour as a part of their responsible business practices.

## Securing commitment from farmers

In the first three months of the new project, HODI drafted and consulted on the development of a



## Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco: Zambia

Country partner: HODI

Location: Choma and Kalomo districts, Southern Province, Zambia

First project began: October 2005

Phase two project:

September 2009 to August 2011

Budget: US\$ US\$418,376

Commitment Form. The purpose of the form is to compel farmers to employ socially responsible practices in tobacco growing and abide by international and national labour laws, particularly child labour laws. By signing the form, the farmers agree not to employ under-age children on their farms.

## Formation of District Child Labour Committees (DCLCs)

The ECLT project formed District Child Labour Committees (DCLC) in the project Districts of Kalomo and Choma in consultation with the



# Farmers targeted

## Life is more precious than money

**Rosemary Pisani Sibundanga** and her family turned their lives around with help from HODI. Rosemary explains, *'The project has given me knowledge so that I now do things with understanding... I am more productive, and my children are healthier, and so I see a bright future for me and my family.'*

It wasn't always like this. The 44 year old mother of eight worked in tobacco farming to educate her children and feed her family. Apart from her own children, she cares for two orphans and a disabled nephew. As tobacco farming is labour intensive, she needed the help of all her children, including her youngest of just four years old, to work on the farm. She got her family up at 4am to go and work in the fields. After several hours the children went on to school, but they were frequently too tired to concentrate and eventually dropped out.

She worked herself 12 hours a day, *'I had no time to rest or cook fresh food for my children and therefore my children always ate stale, cold food...'* The children also suffered respiratory illnesses during the curing season. On one occasion, her son almost died of suffocation in the tobacco curing barn. This was the last straw for Rosemary and her husband - they needed to find another way to earn a living.

This is where HODI came in. In 2005 Rosemary participated in a training session that made her realise she could grow other crops more profitably. By growing maize, groundnuts, beans and sweet potatoes, Rosemary eventually could feed her family and was able to sell the excess crops for cash. With further training she learned to plan and budget for her farming and she opened a bank account to save money. Two of her children who had dropped out of school were able to go back to school with the project's scholarship support for poor families. This meant that Rosemary could support her other children through school. Using the proceeds from their farm, Rosemary has recently sent her oldest daughter to a teachers' training college. Their new prosperity has meant that they have been able to build a bigger, three-room, metal roofed house to replace their old grass thatched house.

The greatest impact of the project for Rosemary is that it has given her *'life and family back'*. She now has time to care and cook for her family.



Rosemary advises others who engage their children in child labour that they lose more than they earn because, *'life is more precious than money'*. Rosemary adds with pride, *'Even people who are involved in tobacco farming come to buy food from me now. I am a supplier.'*



Ministry of Labour. DCLCs are responsible for monitoring, advocacy and coordination of child labour related issues. They also play a major role in advocating for policy and an effective legal framework on child labour. The project developed the capacity of these two committees through stakeholder meetings and training workshops so that they can carry out their roles effectively. These committees are

now setting standards and providing a model which will help the Zambian government as it plans the establishment of District Child Labour Committees country wide.

## Food and economic security

Microfinancing specialist institution (HARMOS), will manage the microcredit component of the ECLT project on behalf of HODI. HARMOS carried out initial work to identify

the most appropriate products to use with the communities in the area. For example, a 'bicycle market survey' was conducted in the three project areas of Tara, Simunzele and Mbala, to assess the potential interest for this product.

# Kyrgyzstan

**Project goal in Kyrgyzstan:**  
The overall goal of the programme in Kyrgyzstan is to address the factors that encourage children to work: low incomes and lack of alternative activities for children.

**Progress in 2009**

At the end of 2009, the second

phase of the project came to an end. The two year programme successfully reduced child labour by addressing economic insecurity amongst rural families.

Thanks to the microcredits and mutual aid groups almost 1,000 children (original target 750) were withdrawn or safeguarded from

child labour. A condition of receiving microcredits is not employing children. During a short period when no microcredits were available child labour was still not used. This is important as it demonstrates that the programme is changing attitudes and practices, not simply improving conditions.

## Support to help children have a happier, healthier life



In the **Rasulov family** there has always been a shortage of money. The family grew up working in tobacco but barely earned enough to cover basics. Mirkadyr and his wife Abyda have four children, three boys and one daughter. The oldest son Nirgazy has mental health disorders and physical disabilities, and Mirkadyr himself is nearly blind. The two room house they live in is old and in need of repair. They use coal or firewood in the cooking stove as the only means to heat the house during cold winter evenings. Electricity is too expensive. They would have liked their children to enjoy sports activities organised in the nearby village but the cost at \$4 to \$5 a month was prohibitive. In 2009, the Rasulovs were identified as one of ten vulnerable families to join a mutual aid group, supported by the ECLT project.

Through the mutual aid group farmers were able to get US\$300 credit on preferential terms. The Rasulovs used the money to buy an eight month old calf and invested the rest in planting wheat and sowing tobacco. The members of the mutual aid group took turns working on each others' fields to cultivate the tobacco. As a condition of receiving credit, and a result of working together, all of the children from the ten families were withdrawn from tobacco work. The parents realised that it is better to be united and find ways to help each other during difficult times, rather than to struggle on alone.

By the autumn, with the money earned from tobacco, Mirkadyr was able to return the credit they had borrowed earlier in the year. In the spring of 2010, he expects their cow to have calves and provide milk so this will give them an additional source of income.

**In the summer of 2009, the sixteen year old son Mirlanbek was offered a place on a ten day camp supported by the ECLT project. 'My son changed after the camp,' Mirkadyr explained. 'Previously he did not go anywhere. At the camp he made friends with children from other villages. He became more sociable and his outlook is more positive. He has become tidier, pays more attention to his clothes, washes everyday and cleans his teeth.'** Daughter Begimai now looks forward to going to the 2010 summer camp.

**Describing the impact of the ECLT supported project, the father says, 'There have been big changes for us. We have felt support. If we help ourselves we can restore health and living standards and give our children a happy childhood.'**



# Changed attitudes

The example of Rasulov family (featured in the box) shows how mutual aid groups and microcredit schemes improved one family's fortunes.

The story also shows how Mirlanbek, Rasulov's second son, developed a happier and more positive outlook following a restorative summer camp. In 2009 over 200 vulnerable children and ex-child labourers attended summer camps.

**Awareness was raised amongst children and key stakeholders**

To raise consciousness about the negative impacts of child labour, six workshops and round tables were held with social and other government officers, farmers and schoolchildren.

Representatives of the school parliament were mobilised to help end child labour. Discussion events were organised where the issues were debated amongst students.

As a result, School Parliament representatives have taken responsibility for identifying and following up with pupils who miss

school, along with their parents. The representatives have undertaken to sensitise children and their parents on the negative consequences of child labour. Project staff took part in government organised forums to get the issue of child labour on the agenda. In Nookat staff participated in a forum called "By Joint efforts we improve the economy of the district". This was organised by the Centre of Support of the Civil Society. Staff in Ala-Buka also participated in a forum "Reality and prospect" organised by the Department of Support of the Family and Children.

The project reached wider audiences too. Its activities were featured on radio programmes and in local newspapers. About 5,400 information booklets and brochures on child labour were printed and disseminated.

Awareness raising activities were organised around World Day Against Child Labour in the project districts and a competition awards ceremony attracted television coverage. Drawing, drama and



**Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing: Kyrgyzstan**  
Implementing partner: Working Group on the Elimination of Child Labour in Kyrgyzstan  
Location: Alabuka and Nookat (Osh) districts. Using available credit in 2009 the project expanded its territory of implementation.  
First project began: January 2005  
Consolidation phase: January 2010 to December 2012.  
Current budget: US\$552,909

writing competitions to illustrate the theme "No child labour in tobacco growing" attracted much interest and many entries. 75 schools took part in the competitions.

The schools that had done the most effective work to discourage child labour were acknowledged with prizes including TV sets and DVD players.



# The Philippines

**Goal in the Philippines:** *The project aimed to benefit, and protect from child labour, the most vulnerable children in the project areas. It did this by strengthening the capacity of local communities and Councils for the Protection of Children, so they can address child labour, providing education assistance to the most at risk children and providing income generating activities for vulnerable families.*

## Progress in 2009

The programme in the Philippines came to an end in 2009 after six years of ECLT involvement in the country. Managed by the Department of Labour and Education the project leaves an important legacy.

For example, 200 school children were enrolled for the school year 2009-2010 even though their educational assistance ended in March 2009. More significantly more families have secured financial independence and are now able to send their children to school.

## 300 parents were supported to improve their incomes

In 2009 parents were supported with income generation activities to help improve incomes and provide more security. Livelihood

management training was provided in three regions, while a 28 week-long Livestock Farmers' School-Integrated Goat Management training was organised in another. 300 parents received funding for their chosen livelihood projects through their designated accredited co-partners. Income generation activities included goat raising, hog and cattle fattening, buying and selling of agricultural inputs and rice trading.



The story of Milagros Calleja (featured in the box) shows how an impoverished farmer became an inspirational leader after her inclusion in a goat raising project.

## Media focuses attention on child labour

Three local radio broadcasters were commissioned to air informative advertisement features on child labour, to sensitise communities to the issue.

Two articles featured the role of the Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC) in the community. Information about the Council and children's rights were also published in a regional publication. An Audio Visual Presentation on child labour was produced and copies were distributed to partners to use with a wide range of audiences.

Equipment was bought to facilitate the preparation of

information, education and communication materials.

11,500 stickers in both English and Filipino calling for the elimination of child labour were produced and distributed to the BCPCs, project partners, local government unit officials for community distribution. Flyers, posters, and booklets on child labour were also distributed.

## Capacity building and stakeholder involvement

In the final year, to ensure sustainability, the ECLT supported project continued to strengthen the capacity of Barangay Council for the Protection of Children (BCPC). Almost 1,300 members attended training sessions.

A search for the best BCPC was carried out to recognise the indispensable role of the BCPC in ensuring the protection and welfare of children.

# Capacity strengthened

## From impoverished farmer to inspirational leader



Milagros Calleja and her family struggled to get by on their income from tobacco. Although they worked hard in the fields, Milagros and her husband found it very difficult to make ends meet. There was so much work to do on the farm that sometimes Milagros took her three children to help out. Cash was so tight she couldn't afford to send her children to school.

All this changed when an ECLT supported project was implemented in the region in 2003. Supported with an education grant, Milagros was able to send her oldest child to school. A livelihood assistance initiative enabled Milagros to improve her income by breeding goats. The income earned allowed her to send the other two children to school.

In 2006, Milagros learned that she could help others prosper from what she had learned. She became the leader of the Balaon ECLTI Beneficiary Association of La Union (BEBALU). As the leader, Milagros was tasked with overseeing the livelihoods project in the area. She was very familiar with the core elements of the goat-raising project and so was well placed to provide leadership and inspiration to others. By selling the offspring of their goats, families could repay the loans they used to buy them, and then gradually over time, earn a profit.

Apart from helping to send her children to school, the income has meant that Milagros and her husband could build themselves a new home and buy a Kuliglig – a manually operated tractor. Their house and their Kuliglig are powerful symbols of how their lives have changed over the years. Now they can invest in farming and their living conditions rather than use all of their earnings on basic necessities like food.

In 2009 Milagros' oldest son graduated from high school. *'This is an important milestone. I am proud to witness my child slowly taking steps towards the realisation of his dreams.'*

Her heart is filled with hope that her son's diploma will pave the way for a more progressive life for all of them.



*'My ultimate dream is to see all my children finish school so that they will not suffer the same hardship that I and my husband have experienced.'*



**Elimination of Child Labour in the Tobacco Industry: The Philippines**  
**Country partner:** The Department of Labour and Employment Region 1 (the Philippines Government)  
**Location:** Five provinces in north Luzon.  
**First project began:** June 2003  
**Consolidation phase:** January 2007 to November 2009  
**Consolidation phase budget:** US\$533,072 (40% from local stakeholders)

## 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 2009, following an assessment of ECLT's project work to date, the Foundation articulated a clear strategy to ensure maximum impact for children over the next six years.

### 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 broadly recognised as a reference point and source of information on good practices.

Five strategic directions were formulated to help achieve this overarching vision. These set out ECLT's top priorities:

### Improve project design and development

ECLT will support its country partners, with guidelines and training, to develop quality programmes that effectively address the most significant drivers of child labour. These programmes will incorporate clearly stated, desired results, measurable success indicators and concrete means of verifying those indicators. Project design will include an exit strategy to ensure sustainable improvements in the lives of children, their families and communities.

### Identify, commission and produce information, research and data

To ensure that limited resources are used effectively and the right projects are supported, ECLT will develop tools, baseline surveys and a compendium of good practices. These resources will help to ensure that ECLT targets its efforts for maximum impact and that lessons learned inform future programme design.

### Target measurement and evaluation

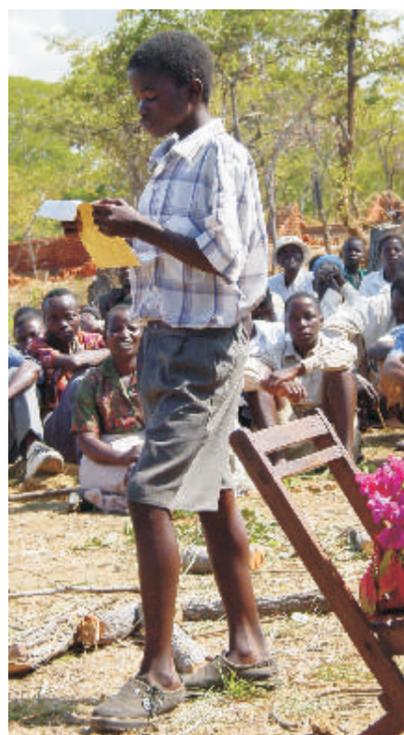
ECLT will pinpoint cost effective ways to measure the impact of each of the projects. Existing evaluations will also be reviewed and re-analysed to inform future activities and lessons learned. The evaluations will be used to extend ECLT's influence in programming and policy.

### Increase communication and engagement

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

### Maximise use of resources and bring in expertise in-kind

Through closer collaboration with related 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 personnel in areas such as accounting, human resources, communications and legislation.



## Financial Accounts 2009

The financial accounts for 2009 have been audited by an independent Geneva-based firm, Berney & Associates SA.

They have been approved by the Foundation Board, upon recommendation of the Foundation Treasurer.

## 2009 Balance Sheet

The currency used is Swiss francs (CHF)

### ASSETS

Treasury	2,109,949
Debtors	701,019
Fixed Assets (Gross amount 122,655.52)	1
<b>Total</b>	<b>2,810,969</b>

### LIABILITIES & CAPITAL

#### Creditors

Payables	26,940
Members (advance for 2010)	464,719
Accrued projects	889,744
Accrued expenses	568,867
Contingencies derived from personnel rotation	306,000
Reserve for computer renewal	75,982
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>2,332,252</b>

#### Capital and Reserve Funds

Foundation Capital	50,000
Membership fees	120,000
Brought forward as at 1.1.2008	303,014
Result of exercise	5,703
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>418,717</b>

<b>Total</b>	<b>2,810,969</b>
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## 2009 Expenditures and Receipts

### INCOME

Members' contributions	4,055,866
Bank interest and other receipts	4,625
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4,060,491</b>

### EXPENSES

Operating costs	2,013,303
Projects/Research costs	2,041,485
<b>Sub Total</b>	<b>4,054,788</b>

Excess for the period	5,703
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## **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, Farm and Hotel Workers World-Wide**

**The International Tobacco Growers' Association**

**Multinational tobacco companies:**

Alliance One International, Inc

Altria tobacco companies

British American Tobacco

Imperial Tobacco

Japan Tobacco Inc

Philip Morris International Inc

Scandinavian Tobacco Group

Swedish Match

Tribac Leaf Limited

Universal Corporation.

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

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# **ECLT Foundation**

**Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco Growing**