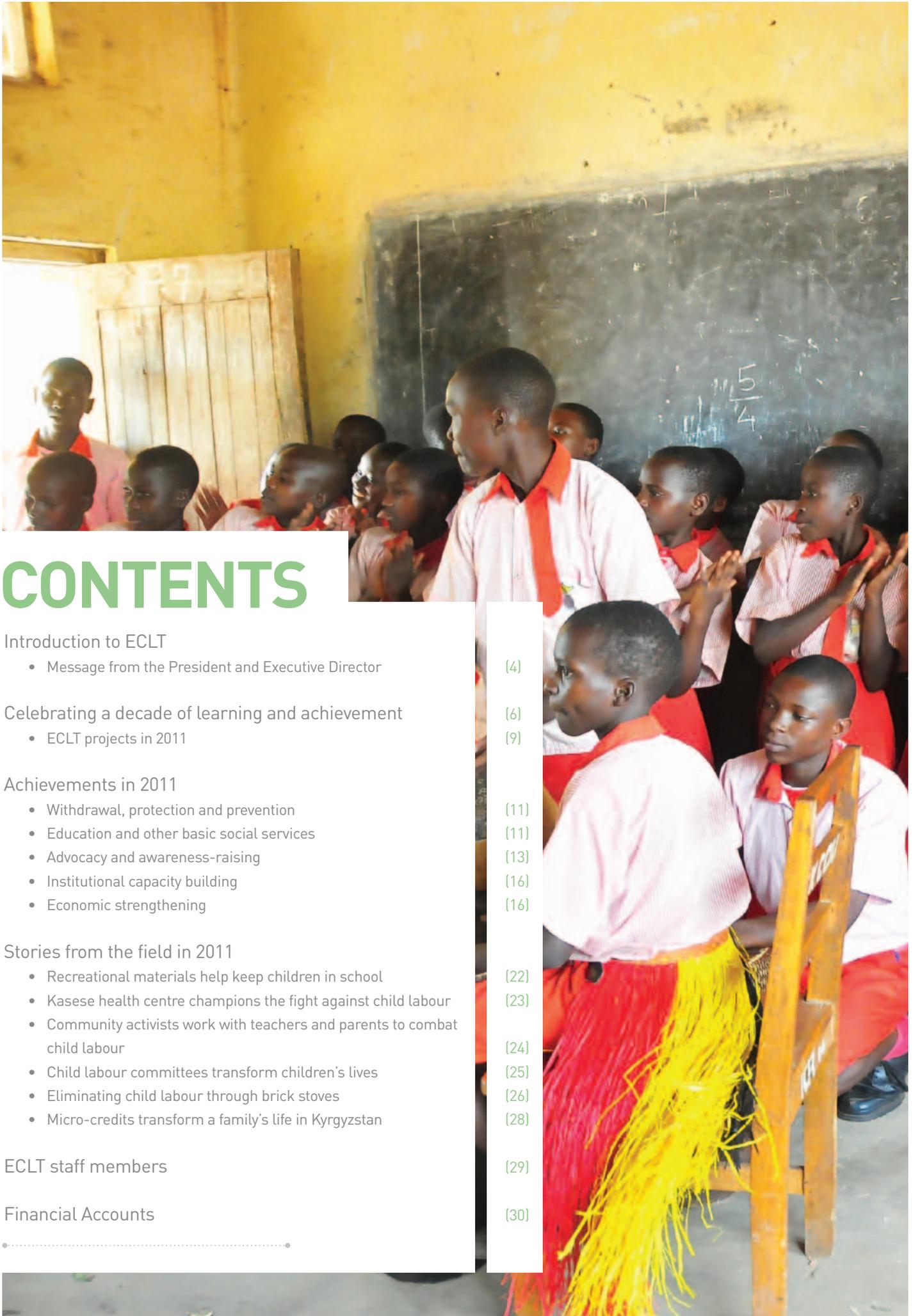


ECLT FOUNDATION ANNUAL REPORT 2011



WORKING TOGETHER TO END CHILD LABOUR IN TOBACCO GROWING



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INTRODUCTION TO ECLT

The Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco-growing Foundation (ECLT) exists because child labour in tobacco-growing is wrong. Child labour denies children their fundamental rights. It makes it less likely that children will go to school. Child labourers are prevented from learning

about the world around them, they are unable to develop the everyday skills needed to get through life, and they cannot fulfil their intellectual potential. Furthermore, child labourers are exposed to abusive situations.

The ECLT's mission is to contribute to the elimination of child labour in the tobacco-growing sector in order to provide them with an upbringing that gives them the best chances in all aspects of life.

ECLT

- Is a multi-stakeholder partnership comprising tobacco companies, agriculture unions and tobacco growers, with the International Labour Organization (ILO) as an advisor
- Is governed by a Board, which currently consists of 14 organisations
- Has funded projects in seven countries – Malawi, Tanzania, Uganda, Zambia, Mozambique, Kyrgyzstan and the Philippines – with an overall spend budget of over US\$ 40 million

MESSAGE FROM ANTONIO ABRUNHOSA, ECLT FOUNDATION'S PRESIDENT

2011 was a turning point for the ECLT Foundation: first, we celebrated ten years of existence and the continued commitment of a growing alliance of private and public partnership of funders and supporters, and second, our programme implementation model, based on the experience of the last decade, began to guide the efforts of

our implementing partners. Our newest projects CLEAR (Malawi) and PROSPER (Tanzania) are highly ambitious and constitute the single greatest investment to combat child labour in agriculture in both of those countries. By the time these projects are concluded, thousands of children will have been protected from child labour and whole communities will have been empowered to eliminate child labour for themselves.

The ECLT Foundation's purpose is to lead the way in the elimination of child labour in tobacco-growing. We seek a deeper understanding of the problem and we fund the implementation of sustainable strategies that can end child labour on the spot for thousands of children, and prevent many more from ever experiencing the perils of child labour.

We also seek enduring change and recognize that impacting child labour and poverty, and putting in place solutions such as education and opportunities for all children can only be achieved country by country, and child by child. The 2011 report presents our accomplishments in six programme countries where we were active during this year. We will only achieve change for the most vulnerable children by continuing to encourage communities and sectors to come together, and articulate their shared aspirations to eliminate child labour in tobacco-growing.

The successes of 2011 on the following pages speak for themselves. They are also

the reason why the ECLT has expanded over the last year, and I am delighted to welcome three new companies to the ECLT Board: Hail & Cotton, Sunel and Premium Tobacco.

Marilyn Blaeser retired as ECLT's Executive Director in August 2011. We are very grateful for her important contribution to the Foundation's development and work. Marilyn oversaw a complete change in the Foundation's procedures and a full renewal of the staff. She overhauled the system for project proposals and implementation of projects. After an international search for her replacement, I am very pleased to welcome the ECLT Foundation's new Executive Director, Sonia Velazquez. As we work together to face the challenges of child labour, I am confident that under her leadership, the ECLT Foundation will provide lasting solutions that impact the lives of many more children in the next decade.



Antonio Abrunhosa, ECLT President



Pupils of Lombwa Primary School in Mchinji, Malawi



ECLT'S BELIEF IS COMPELLING: THAT CHILD LABOUR WILL ONLY BE REDUCED IF ALL SECTORS ARE PREPARED TO RESPOND AND WORK TOGETHER TO RISE TO THE CHALLENGE.

MESSAGE FROM SONIA VELAZQUEZ, ECLT FOUNDATION'S EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

It is my honour to lead the ECLT Foundation as its new Executive Director. ECLT's focus on eliminating child labour in tobacco-growing through partnerships, research, and dissemination of effective practices represents a response to a situation that is simply wrong, and offers a proven solution. As a longtime advocate of children's rights, and a leader in the implementation of child and family wellbeing in many areas of the world, I found that the work of ECLT is exceptional. Its long term vision for change based on local needs is well positioned to address the root causes of a very complex problem. ECLT replicates proven successes, and provides a unique opportunity for societies, communities and families to break the cycles that keep children from developing and thriving.

ECLT's belief is compelling: that child labour will only be reduced if all sectors are prepared to respond and work together to rise to the challenge. ECLT's work in a country like Malawi, where ECLT has been heavily involved in the planning of a National Conference on Child Labour in Agriculture for 2012, has no comparison. Its joint work with the Government of Malawi, the International Labour Organization and International Programme for the Elimination of Child Labour, the Food and Agriculture Organization, and UNICEF, as well with the regional and local offices of trade unions, producers' organisations and companies from several agricultural sectors beyond tobacco – tea, coffee, sugar cane, fishing – and with international and national NGOs to develop a common and united way forward represents a powerful and inspiring model that is needed to tackle the social and economic challenges of the new century.

The ground for greater and sustained accomplishments by ECLT couldn't be more fertile. The Foundation has undertaken feasibility studies in new programme implementation areas, completed a strategic planning process, and has extraordinary staff. I look forward to engaging many others in the work of ECLT Foundation, because more than 215 million children are still trapped by child labour and ECLT exists to address that.



Sonia Velazquez ECLT Executive Director

2001-2011: CELEBRATING A DECADE OF LEARNING AND ACHIEVEMENT

What started off as a statement of intent by the International Union of Food, Agricultural, Hotel, Restaurant, Catering, Tobacco and Allied Workers' Associations (IUF), the International Tobacco Growers' Association (ITGA) and British American Tobacco BAT more than ten years ago, today stands as living testimony of the unwavering global

commitment of its stakeholders to rid the tobacco supply chain of child labour. Our aim is to support communities with long-term holistic projects to learn how to sustainably end child labour so that the Foundation's intervention is not just an isolated act, and has a lasting effect on the children of tomorrow.

ECLT's starting point is to protect children from child labour. We do this by either withdrawing children from child labour or preventing those at risk from entering child labour. In ten years, ECLT projects have withdrawn almost 18,000 children from child labour and prevented many more from falling into child labour. These children are then placed in school or, if aged between 15 and 17 years, enrolled in vocational training courses. ECLT defines a 'withdrawn' child as one that does not regress into child labour within three months and who was previously performing labour that violated the internationally accepted policy standards against child labour.

All of ECLT's projects provided educational support for withdrawn and at-risk children. We have built and refurbished schools, as well as individual classrooms and teachers' houses. We've also made sure that both teachers and children are supplied with the necessary materials, and have provided school chairs, desks, exercise books, pens, pencils, protractors and school uniforms. Over 200 teachers have been trained by our projects, and nearly 400 children from vulnerable families have been awarded scholarships to go

to school. For older children, 2,650 have been enrolled on vocational training courses.

But ECLT's projects have also focused closely on other causes of child labour. We have built the Kasese Health Centre in Malawi, where there has been an ECLT project since 2002. The centre, which also oversees mobile health clinics in the district, has served well over 1 million people over the past 10 years. It provides basic healthcare such as family planning assistance, ante-natal support, birth deliveries and HIV testing and counselling. Its work is complemented by the construction of 274 shallow wells and boreholes, which, along with water chlorination measures, ensures that families are able to access safe drinking water.

Our projects also recognized that whilst parents did not want to send their children to work in tobacco fields, they often felt they had no choice but to do so. Families were therefore offered alternative sources of income to replace those lost by their children no longer working. A total of 1,240 families were involved in Income Generating Activities



A girl in traditional dress at the closing ceremony of the ECLT-funded annual children's summer camp in Kyrgyzstan



OVER THE PAST 10 YEARS, WE HAVE SENSITIZED AND TRAINED GOVERNMENT OFFICIALS, COMMUNITY WORKERS AND LEADERS.



Pupils study at Mpalo Primary School, part of the CLEAR project in Malawi

(IGAs) set up by the projects. This ranged from vegetable production to the rearing of livestock. In Malawi this has been complemented by the introduction of new irrigation techniques – in the form of nearly 800 treadle pumps – so that families and farmers can grow more crops. Over 5,000 fuel efficient stoves have also meant that children no longer fetch firewood and miss out on school.

Children are only protected from child labour if the necessary community structures are in place. Each of our projects created child labour committees – at village, district or community levels – to identify children in and at risk of entering into child labour. Village child labour committees (VCLC) consist of prominent and highly-regarded members of the community, and act as a means of social control against child labour at village level. Crucially, VCLCs also mean that communities have a solid foundation for eradicating child labour once the project is complete. In all, 474 community committees were created by ECLT’s projects over the review period. The work of the committees has been complemented at the national level by the creation of the Project Advisory

Committees (PAC). The PACs, which are made up of project stakeholders, such as governments, companies, unions, and growers, set the overall strategic direction.

Both the child labour committees and the working groups also lead the way in another critical ECLT approach to tackling the causes of child labour. Because child labour is often embedded in local cultural practices and traditions, ECLT projects have focused heavily on innovative and effective awareness-raising and mass media activities to challenge the indifference to child labour. Over the past 10 years, we have sensitised and trained government officials, community workers and leaders. We have raised awareness about the inherent dangers of child labour with over 40,000 beneficiaries, as well as training 950 tobacco leaf technicians to monitor and record incidents of child labour. Nearly 70,000 people have been reached through a combination of child labour information, education and communication (IEC) materials and specific health messages. Thousands more were reached through radio, film and TV spots.

As we look back at the achievements of the Foundation over the past decade, it is opportune to recognize the many visionary and committed leaders who each and collectively have added value to what ECLT is today. ECLT has also worked with many partners over the years, and indeed owes its achievements to the work and commitment of its partners.

We have learned that the root causes of child labour in tobacco-growing are complex. There is no easy or short term solution to the challenge of child labour and since its inception the ECLT Foundation has carefully targeted its resources so that the challenges are addressed through knowledge and partnerships.

More remains to be done to eliminate child labour. Looking back, we can take satisfaction from the difference we have made in the lives of tens of thousands of children and families. However, we have also learnt a lot about what works and what does not. We can look to the next decade with hope and determination that working together, we can end child labour in tobacco-growing.

ACHIEVEMENTS IN 2011



Tiperi Kevin, a member of Katamarwa Village Child Labour Committee



2011 was a defining year for the ECLT Foundation. Our new programme model, resulting from the learning and partnerships of the prior years came into effect, and under it, two new projects – CLEAR in Malawi and PROSPER in Tanzania – were approved, thus committing over US\$ 12 million to

fight child labour in tobacco-growing in those countries over the next four-and-a-half years. Both projects are the largest single investments to combat child labour in agriculture in each of those countries. For more information about the ECLT programme model please visit our website: www.eclt.org

Additionally, scoping missions were completed in seven countries to determine the feasibility of new projects. The micro-credit loan scheme in Kyrgyzstan was again notable for successfully lifting beneficiaries out of poverty. In Uganda, such was the inspiration and leadership of the COMEECA project team, that community members made a substantial financial contribution to the construction of two new school blocks. ICLEP II in Malawi, which came to a close mid-way through 2011, constructed a 10,000m³ dam, and now provides over 300 households with round-the-clock water. The ECLT project in Zambia also came to an end last year, but not before it had delivered on its objectives of withdrawing over 1,200 children from child labour.

During this period, ECLT funded and supported the implementation of six projects that addressed the local challenges associated with child labour. Below are the outline details for each project.

PROJECTS ARE STRUCTURED AROUND SIX IMMEDIATE OBJECTIVES.

The overall ECLT goal is to contribute to the elimination of child labour in tobacco-growing. This goal is underpinned by two strategic objectives: i) the protection of children aged between 5 and 14 years old from child labour; and ii) the protection of legally working children aged between 15 and 17 years old. Projects are structured around six immediate objectives.

1) 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;

2) Education and other basic social services

To improve access to quality education and other basic social services at district and community level;

3) 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);

4) Institutional capacity-building

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

5) Economic strengthening

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

6) Occupational safety and health (for children legally working)

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

ECLT PROJECTS IN 2011

1. ECLTI - KYRGYZSTAN

Project Name	Elimination of Child Labour in the Tobacco Industry in Kyrgyzstan.
Partners	The Working Group on Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco Growing in Kyrgyzstan
Duration	January 2010 – December 2012
Budget	US\$ 552,909
Location	Nookat District, Osh Province and Alabuka District, Jalalabat Province
Overall goal	To create sustainable mechanisms to eliminate child labour in tobacco-growing through increased family income and the provision of alternative forms of employment.
Strategic objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Mobilise and strengthen capacity of local stakeholders to implement and monitor efficient practices to eliminate child labour in tobacco-growing. 2. Improve living standards of farmers in project districts, and expand the geographical areas covered by the project in the districts. 3. Support and develop credit unions and cooperatives to effectively reduce poverty. 4. Improve access to social services, education and vocational training to offer alternative forms of employment to children. 5. Provide direct financial support to poor families.
Direct beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 3,000 children withdrawn from child labour or prevented from entering child labour; - 903 families, through Mutual Aid Groups (MAGs)



Children of farming families in Kyrgyzstan supported by the ECLT-funded project

2. CLEAR - MALAWI

Project Name	Child Labour Elimination Actions for Real Change (CLEAR)
Partners	Save the Children Federation Malawi, Inc. Creative Centre for Community Mobilization (CRECCOM) Total Land Care (TLC) Youth Net and Counselling (YONECO)
Duration	July 2011 – December 2015
Budget	US\$ 9 million
Location	Selected communities in Ntchisi District, Mchinji District, Rumphi District and nationwide (policy development, advocacy and capacity building activities).
Overall goal	To contribute to the elimination of hazardous child labour in tobacco-growing areas in Malawi within the context of the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour in Malawi.
Strategic objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To protect children (5-17 years old) from exploitative, hazardous and worst forms of child labour in tobacco-growing; and 2. To protect legally working children (15-17 years old) in non-hazardous work in tobacco-growing.
Direct beneficiaries	14,725 boys, girls, women and men

3. ICLEP II EXTENSION - MALAWI

Project Name	Integrated Child Labour Elimination Project (ICLEP) II Extension
Partners	Creative Centre for Community Mobilization (CRECCOM) Total Land Care (TLC) Nkhoma Synod Lifeline Malawi
Duration	1st July 2010 until 30th June 2011
Budget	US\$ 1,120,534
Location	Kasungu and Dowa districts, Central Region, Malawi
Overall goal	The overall goal of the Integrated Child Labour Elimination Project (ICLEP) II Extension project was to contribute to the elimination of child labour in tobacco growing by addressing the root causes of child labour..
Objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To improve access to quality education through community sensitization and empowerment; and 2. To improve the livelihoods of families whose children are either involved in or at risk of becoming involved in child labour.
Direct beneficiaries	112,550 (including some households)



Members of a Child Labour Committee taking care of a woodlot at Chitanga Primary School, Malawi

4. PROSPER - TANZANIA

Project Name	PROSPER: Promoting Sustainable Practices to Eradicate Child Labour in Tobacco
Partners	Winrock International, Tanzania Association of Women Leaders in Agriculture and the Environment (TAWLAE) and Tabora Development Foundation Trust (TDFT)
Duration	July 2011 – December 2015
Budget	US\$ 4,750,000
Location	Urambo and Sikonge District, Tabora Region, Tanzania
Overall goal	To make a significant contribution to the elimination of child labour in tobacco- growing areas in Tanzania. The project aims to reduce child labour in Tanzania’s tobacco industry through targeted interventions to address social and economic factors that fuel child labour in the target districts of Urambo and Sikonge.
Strategic objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To protect children (5–17 years old) from exploitative, hazardous, and worst forms of child labour in tobacco-growing 2. To protect legally working children (15–17 years old) in non-hazardous work in tobacco-growing.
Direct Beneficiaries	7,800 Children and 2,330 Adults

5. COMEECA - UGANDA

Project Name	Community Empowerment for Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco (COMEECA)
Partners	Community Development and Conservation Agency (CODECA) and Platform for Labour Action (PLA)
Duration	18 months from 01 January 2011, to 30 June 2012
Estimated Budget	US\$ 779,070 (CODECA US\$483,823; PLA US\$ 295,427)
Location	Masindi and Kiryandongo districts, Uganda.
Overall goal	To contribute to the elimination of hazardous child labour in tobacco-growing areas in Uganda.
Strategic objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. By the end of the project, the incidence of child labour in Masindi and Kiryandongo districts will have reduced by 3000 children. 2. By the end of the project, national stakeholders knowledge to address hazardous child labour in tobacco growing areas in Uganda has improved.
Direct Beneficiaries	3,000 children identified for withdrawal and prevention during the first 12 months of the project

6. ECLTP II - ZAMBIA

Project Name	Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco Growing Project II
Partners	HODI
Duration	1st September 2009 until 31st December 2011 (including three month extension period)
Estimated Budget	US\$ 433,376 (including extension period)
Location	Choma and Kalomo districts
Overall goal	To reduce demand for child labour amongst 15 commercial tobacco farmers and 100 small and medium-scale tobacco farmers. Over 1,150 children will be withdrawn from child labour and safeguarded from entering in child labour.
Strategic objectives	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. To reduce the demand for child labour by raising awareness and tracking progress of withdrawn children in Choma and Kalomo Districts. 2. To strengthen capacities of key stakeholders in the fight against child labour at district and national level 3. To continue improving the living conditions of households of children at risk of entering into tobacco child labour.
Direct Beneficiaries	1,150 children withdrawn or prevented from entering child labour; 100 small-scale tobacco farmers; 15 commercial tobacco farmers.

PROJECT STRATEGIES AND OUTCOMES

PREVENTION, WITHDRAWAL AND PROTECTION

ECLT programmes prioritize withdrawal of children engaged in hazardous child labour and other worst forms of child labour in tobacco-growing. The criteria to identify children to be withdrawn or prevented from child labour are based on ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour; the ages at which children may legally work are set by



IN 2011, ECLT PROJECTS WITHDREW 4,067 CHILDREN FROM CHILD LABOUR

ILO's Minimum Age Convention 138. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (UNCRC) also sets out the protection, promotion and participation of children.

Children are considered 'withdrawn' if they have not worked in child labour for at least three continuous months. Withdrawn children were re-enrolled in schools and vocational training centres and provided with support they need to ensure they remain there.

In Zambia alone, HODI withdrew 426 children, bringing the total number of children withdrawn from tobacco fields to 1,207 since the start of the project. In Kyrgyzstan, the project withdrew 1,578 children from child labour in tobacco-growing and prevented a further 432 from entering into child labour. 2063 children were withdrawn from child labour by the COMEECA project in Uganda; a further 937 children were prevented from entering child labour.

EDUCATION AND OTHER BASIC SOCIAL SERVICES

EDUCATION

In Malawi, the ICLEP II project built two new school blocks, thus providing a safe learning environment for over 200 children in 2011 alone. This construction also increased enrolment and created local employment. The local community contributed US\$1600 towards construction, a clear demonstration of their commitment to the project.

The ICLEP II project rehabilitated school infrastructure and awarded education grants to 26 targeted schools; bursaries were awarded to 12 promising but vulnerable children. Pedagogical skills training was conducted for 96 teachers and this improvement in the quality of the teaching has the potential to benefit more than 5,000 pupils in the coming year alone. Community theatre and youth drama groups re-enrolled 25 children and assisted in the retention of those already enrolled.



IN UGANDA, 120 FORMER CHILD LABOURERS IN TOBACCO GROWING WERE AWARDED COMEECA SCHOLARSHIPS AND WERE ENROLLED AT UGANDA TECHNICAL COLLEGE-KYEMA

and recreational materials. The project also supported six primary schools with scholastic materials, which benefitted 3,143 children. In addition to text books, drawing boards, and recreational materials, the project provided a science kit for each school. It facilitated the training of 46 science teachers in the use and maintenance of these kits.

The project in Zambia supported six primary schools with scholastic materials which benefitted 3,143 children.

In Kyrgyzstan, ECLT supported the creation of 12 professional courses for schoolchildren in secondary school. These three month courses – in sewing, hairdressing and cooking – provided older schoolchildren with the chance to learn and develop skills in alternative professions. Courses were designed around local market demand and a total of 370 schoolchildren graduated from the courses in 2011.

indoor games equipment. Sporting and musical equipment for 53 schools was also provided.

In Uganda, 120 former child labourers in tobacco growing were awarded COMEECA scholarships and were enrolled at Uganda Technical College-Kyema.

In Zambia, the partners continued to support the two ECLT-funded vocational training centres in Tara and Simunzele. Courses were offered to children and young graduates. Thanks to the support of ECLT, the vocational centres are now officially registered and qualified trainers have been appointed by the government.

HEALTH

When parents or siblings fall sick, it is often the healthy children who have to look after them. This is especially the case in a country such as Malawi, which has a high prevalence of HIV/AIDS. The shortage of drugs in public health institutions saw ICLEP II's static and mobile clinics reach 94,000 people with treatment, HIV testing and counselling, and maternal and ante-natal services in 2011. The preventive school health programme was extended to all 33 schools in the project areas. The project provided capacity-building in the management of integrated childhood diseases and in the prevention of mother to child transmissions. It also facilitated under-5s growth monitoring by government community health workers.



THE PROJECT IN ZAMBIA SUPPORTED SIX PRIMARY SCHOOLS WITH SCHOLASTIC MATERIALS WHICH BENEFITTED 3,143 CHILDREN.

In Zambia, ECLT supported two pre-schools in Simunzele and Kalonda, which both encouraged early education and prevented mothers from taking their smaller children to tobacco farms. The project facilitated the training of 8 pre-school teachers in 2011 and more than 400 children benefitted from new desks

Similarly, in Uganda, 120 former child labourers in tobacco-growing were awarded COMEECA scholarships. These children were enrolled at Uganda Technical College-Kyema for six months of skills training. To help retain children already enrolled children in the college, the project procured and installed



Pupils from Waiga primary school in Uganda playing basketball



IN MALAWI, THE SHORTAGE OF DRUGS IN PUBLIC HEALTH INSTITUTIONS SAW ICLEP II'S STATIC AND MOBILE CLINICS REACH 94,000 PEOPLE WITH TREATMENT, HIV TESTING AND COUNSELLING, AND MATERNAL AND ANTE-NATAL SERVICES IN THE YEAR UNDER REVIEW.

In Zambia, local health centres were encouraged to raise awareness about the child health effects of working in some tobacco growing activities. Nine health centres were issued with health screening kits and a member of the medical staff from each of these district health centres was trained in the diagnosis and management of tobacco related risks.



Beneficiaries in Malawi tending to a groundnut field

WATER AND SANITATION

In addition to providing year-round access to clean water for 833 households in 2010, two boreholes providing safe water to 472 pupils and 741 people in 10 villages were constructed by the ICLEP team in Malawi in 2011. Two shallow wells were dug to provide safe water to a further 39 households. Local Community Water Committees were also created and trained in the repair and maintenance of these facilities.

Working together with 42 government community health workers, 6,169 households were reached with High Test Hypochlorite (HTH) chlorine. This further ensured access to safe drinking water and as a result, there were no cholera or diarrheal disease outbreaks in the project area in 2011.

The project constructed toilet blocks in six needy schools with a total enrolment of 4,100 pupils and a baseline toilet to pupil ratio of 1: 100. In those schools, the ICLEP II interventions improved the toilet to pupil ratio to 1: 70, slightly below the national education standard ratio of 1:60. The improved sanitation in these schools helps retain teachers, and improves school attendance, especially among adolescent girls. In addition, capacity building in Community Led Total Sanitation (CLTS) for communities around the six schools increased local pit latrine coverage from 60% to 80%.



IN MALAWI IN 2011, TWO SHALLOW WELLS WERE DUG TO PROVIDE SAFE WATER TO A FURTHER 39 HOUSEHOLDS. LOCAL COMMUNITY WATER COMMITTEES WERE ALSO CREATED AND TRAINED IN THE REPAIR AND MAINTENANCE OF THESE FACILITIES.

ADVOCACY AND AWARENESS-RAISING

In Uganda, the COMEECA project implemented an information campaign that targeted both children and tobacco farmers. In 2011, 3,000 posters were distributed, 24 radio talk shows aired and 4,320 radio spot anti-child labour messages were broadcast in two local languages. The project also produced and distributed 500 copies of simplified booklets on child labour laws and policies, also in the local languages. An advocacy manual for the training of Child Labour Elimination and Advocacy Network members was also produced. This enabled network members to approach decision-makers with coherent and specific messages about child labour.

In 2011, 3,000 posters were distributed, 24 radio talk shows aired and 4,320 radio spot anti-child labour messages were broadcast in two local languages by the project team in Uganda.

Likewise, in Zambia a series of sensitization meetings and events were held to increase knowledge about the impact of child labour. Over 5,000 people were reached through special events in rural communities on the World Day Against Child Labour (WDACL) on 12th June. The project also participated in Youth Day, Day of the African Child and World Aids Day celebrations and distributed posters, brochures and T-shirts with anti-child labour messages.

In Kyrgyzstan, all 43 schools in the nine districts of the project received training on the dangers of children working in tobacco. In May, each of the schools sent its best sportsmen to participate in district competitions. The winners made up the list of participants in the finals organized for WDACL on 12th June in Kokjar district school, which has both a gym and sports ground. 96 pupils took part in volleyball and table tennis competitions, and the 100 metres sprint.



STOP child labour in tobacco growing

www.eclt.org





IN 2011, 3,000 POSTERS WERE DISTRIBUTED, 24 RADIO TALK SHOWS AIRED AND 4,320 RADIO SPOT ANTI-CHILD LABOUR MESSAGES WERE BROADCAST IN TWO LOCAL LANGUAGES BY THE PROJECT TEAM IN UGANDA.

As it does each year, the Kyrgyzstan project organized a summer camp for orphans and for children from vulnerable tobacco-growing families. In 2011, 196 children attended the camp. This allows project staff to raise awareness directly with the children about the dangers of child labour and was achieved through various sports competitions, role plays, songs and short films, as well as T-shirts and leaflets. In addition, 61 sick children were sponsored by the project to attend a health rehabilitation centre.

More generally, five video clips about the dangers of child labour in tobacco-growing were produced and shown on national TV. 2,623 booklets were distributed along with 700 bookmarks, 1070 posters and 300 T-shirts. Similar activities were undertaken in Zambia, with posters, brochures and T-shirts disseminated as part of the project's advocacy campaign. The project also

developed a radio programme focusing on child labour. This featured interviews with key stakeholders, a discussion and debate around child labour, as well as drama, poetry and singing performances by children themselves. A total of 15 programmes were aired on two radio stations and reached over 40,000 listeners.

2,623 booklets were distributed by the project in Kyrgyzstan, along with 700 bookmarks, 1070 posters and 300 T-shirts.

The official launch of both the CLEAR and PROSPER projects took place in 2011. PROSPER was launched on 11th November in Dar es Salaam. The Minister for Labour and Employment, Ms. Gaudentia Kabaka MP, was the guest of honour. The awareness-raising workshop immediately after the launch was well attended and drew stakeholders from various government ministries, workers' and trade union organisations, UN agencies, tobacco companies, and NGOs. CLEAR, which was launched on 23rd November at Kwhere primary school in the Mchinji district of Malawi, was also attended by the Minister of Labour, Dr Lucious Kanyumba MP, and other senior dignitaries. An estimated 1,500 guests, including children, attended the launch.



2,623 BOOKLETS WERE DISTRIBUTED BY THE PROJECT IN KYRGYZSTAN, ALONG WITH 700 BOOKMARKS, 1070 POSTERS AND 300 T-SHIRTS.

THE LAUNCHES OF OUR NEW LONG TERM INITIATIVES, THE CLEAR AND PROSPER PROJECTS WERE WIDELY COVERED BY NATIONAL MEDIA IN MALAWI AND TANZANIA, AND PROVIDED EXCELLENT AWARENESS-RAISING OPPORTUNITIES



Agnes Sumbo deploying the sewing skills she learned at the ECLT-funded Kyema Institute, Uganda.



Alick Hardwell a beneficiary of the ICLEP II project in Malawi, a Standard 3 pupil who was withdrawn from child labour, answering a question in class

INSTITUTIONAL CAPACITY-BUILDING

Training stakeholders to pass on their knowledge is an integral part of all ECLT projects. In Kyrgyzstan, Child Labour Committees (CLCs) were created in the project area for all villages with over 1,000 inhabitants. They encouraged local participation and ownership and raised awareness about child labour in tobacco. In January, 283 people attended a workshop in Nookat district. Participants were briefed about the causes and dangers of child labour in tobacco and on the progress the project was making in tackling these challenges. Participants were also able to make suggestions for improvements to the project.

A major focus of the project in Zambia was on raising awareness about child labour in tobacco-growing amongst farmers and leaf technicians. Over the course of the project, 21 commercial farmers, nine leaf technicians and one labour inspector attended training on the national and international framework regarding child labour and children's rights. In addition 10 Child Labour Workplace Committees were formed at farm level to sensitize, monitor and report on child labour in tobacco-growing.

In Uganda, with the help of ILO-IPEC, the Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development and BAT-Uganda, the COMEECA project conducted child labour awareness training for 26 staff members of CODECA, PLA and the Uganda Technical College-Kyema. A community education manual with simplified



OVER THE COURSE OF THE PROJECT IN ZAMBIA, 21 COMMERCIAL FARMERS, NINE LEAF TECHNICIANS AND ONE LABOUR INSPECTOR ATTENDED TRAINING ON THE NATIONAL AND INTERNATIONAL FRAMEWORK REGARDING CHILD LABOUR AND CHILDREN'S RIGHTS.

messages about child labour, child rights, participation and protection of children in tobacco-growing areas was developed. It is used in the training of religious and cultural leaders and Village Child Labour Committee members.

Four representatives of key local government units and two project staff underwent extensive training on child labour in agriculture at the ILO's International Training Centre in Turin, Italy. The Turin participants became a local resource group for training a further 33 trainers – local professionals such as teachers, extension workers and police officers, who work directly with tobacco growing communities. Using this cascading model – the training of trainers (TOTs) – 19 Child Labour Elimination Advocacy Network and 308 Village Child Labour Committee members and community leaders were trained in all aspects of child labour in tobacco growing.

Using SCREAM methodology – Supporting Child Rights through Education, Arts and the Media – the COMEECA project provided training in child labour and child rights to 118 teachers, including 10 teachers from Uganda Technical College, Kyema. Teachers were also trained in psycho-social counselling and how to support children with a safe and effective learning

environment that would encourage them to attend school rather than engage in child labour. The creative use of singing, art, storytelling, drama and debate, also helped retain children in school.

In Zambia, two District Child Labour Committees (DCLCs) for Kalomo and Choma were formed in consultation with the Ministry of Labour and the ILO. 41 DCLC members were trained in child labour identification, and prevention. Action plans to prevent child labour were developed and mainstreamed in the respective departmental activities.

ECONOMIC STRENGTHENING

The main component of the ECLT project in Kyrgyzstan is the provision of small loans to qualifying tobacco farmers in Nookat and Alabuka districts. Microcredit loans of KGS15,000 (approximately US\$320) per annum were provided to 1,123 tobacco-growing families. Half of the loan is used to purchase seeds and fuel, and to pay for land rent and agricultural vehicles. The other half of the loan is used for livestock farming and to purchase goats or calves. These latter



Imagery used in 2010 communications campaign

purchases act as an insurance policy: if there is a bad harvest they can repay the loans by selling the animals.

All families who take part in the microcredit scheme are obliged to comply with a set of rules agreed by the project. These rules are that children should not be employed, that all children are to be enrolled at school and that families should join a Mutual Aid Group (MAG) and produce an acceptable business plan for the use of their loan. According to criteria laid down by Kyrgyzstan's Ministry of Social Development, in 2011 the microcredit scheme lifted 284 beneficiary families out of poverty or 25%, by increasing and diversifying their income. With a 100% repayment rate in 2011, the microcredit scheme is a very successful component of the Kyrgyzstan project.

A total of 131 MAGs have been actively working to fight child labour on tobacco farms. Each group is composed of 10-12 farmers. The groups monitor the incidence of child labour, help each other during harvest time, and share good farming practices. As a result of the microcredits, most groups have started saving together and are issuing loans to each other according to their needs.

The creation of farmers' cooperatives is another strategy that has been adopted by the Kyrgyzstan project to both increase the income of tobacco farmers and reduce demand for child labour. The Baltagulov district leased some land at preferential terms to the "Kut Keldi" farmers' cooperative after recognizing the relevance and efficiency of the cooperative in 2010. In 2011, the cooperative made more than US\$ 6,600 profit which was used to repay part of the ECLT loan.



IN KYRGYZSTAN A TOTAL OF 131 MAGS HAVE BEEN ACTIVELY WORKING TO FIGHT CHILD LABOUR ON TOBACCO FARMS. EACH GROUP IS COMPOSED OF 10-12 FARMERS. THE GROUPS MONITOR THE INCIDENCE OF CHILD LABOUR, HELP EACH OTHER DURING HARVEST TIME, AND SHARE GOOD FARMING PRACTICES. AS A RESULT OF THE MICROCREDITS, MOST GROUPS HAVE STARTED SAVING TOGETHER AND ARE ISSUING LOANS TO EACH OTHER ACCORDING TO THEIR NEEDS.

A small component of the project supports the most vulnerable families with the provision of small livestock as an income generating activity. The project supported 11 families with goats in 2011, which provide milk, wool and kids. This activity is undertaken on a "pass-on basis" and once the goats have kids, they are given to other needy families.

In Malawi's ICLEP II project, improvement in household food security was achieved through the promotion of conservation agriculture, crop diversification and small scale irrigation infrastructure and technology. In 2011, the centerpiece of the ICLEP project was the construction of a 10,000m³ dam. This benefits 324 households with round-the-clock, all year access to water for small-scale irrigation projects. Furthermore, 766,000 tree seedlings were distributed and 1,555 brick stoves were constructed. These minimize energy consumption and the time children spend on domestic chores, thus enabling them to attend

school. 50 treadle pumps were distributed on loan to farmers, so that they can grow cash crops and improve household food security. 63 hectares of land was given over to different crops – sweet potatoes, cassava, and soya beans – in the target communities.

In Uganda, the COMEECA project provided entrepreneurship and financial training to 150 tobacco farmers, using the ILO-WEDGE training on GET Ahead (Gender and Entrepreneurship Together: GET Ahead for Women in Enterprise) curriculum. In Zambia, the project supported 145 households with goats and 40 with agriculture packs, including fertilizer, maize seed, agricultural lime, and herbicide. This initiative was again undertaken on a pass-on basis, and beneficiaries are expected to share the goats with their neighbours once they have had kids.



IN MALAWI, 766,000 TREE SEEDLINGS WERE DISTRIBUTED AND 1,555 BRICK STOVES WERE CONSTRUCTED. THESE MINIMIZE ENERGY CONSUMPTION AND THE TIME CHILDREN SPEND ON DOMESTIC CHORES, THUS ENABLING THEM TO ATTEND SCHOOL. 50 TREADLE PUMPS WERE DISTRIBUTED ON LOAN TO FARMERS, SO THAT THEY CAN GROW CASH CROPS AND IMPROVE HOUSEHOLD FOOD SECURITY. 63 HECTARES OF LAND WAS GIVEN OVER TO DIFFERENT CROPS – SWEET POTATOES, CASSAVA, AND SOYA BEANS – IN THE TARGET COMMUNITIES.



Children from farming families in tobacco-growing areas in Kyrgyzstan at their summer camp



Pupils at Chiliphiza primary school making good use of the ECLT-funded treadle pump

HOW DO WE KNOW THE EXTENT OF THE PROBLEM?

The CLEAR project in Malawi and PROSPER project in Tanzania were both started in July 2011. In line with the new ECLT programming policy, baseline surveys for both projects were carried out at the beginning of the year. The main objective of the baseline surveys was to measure the levels and nature of child labour in the selected tobacco-growing areas.

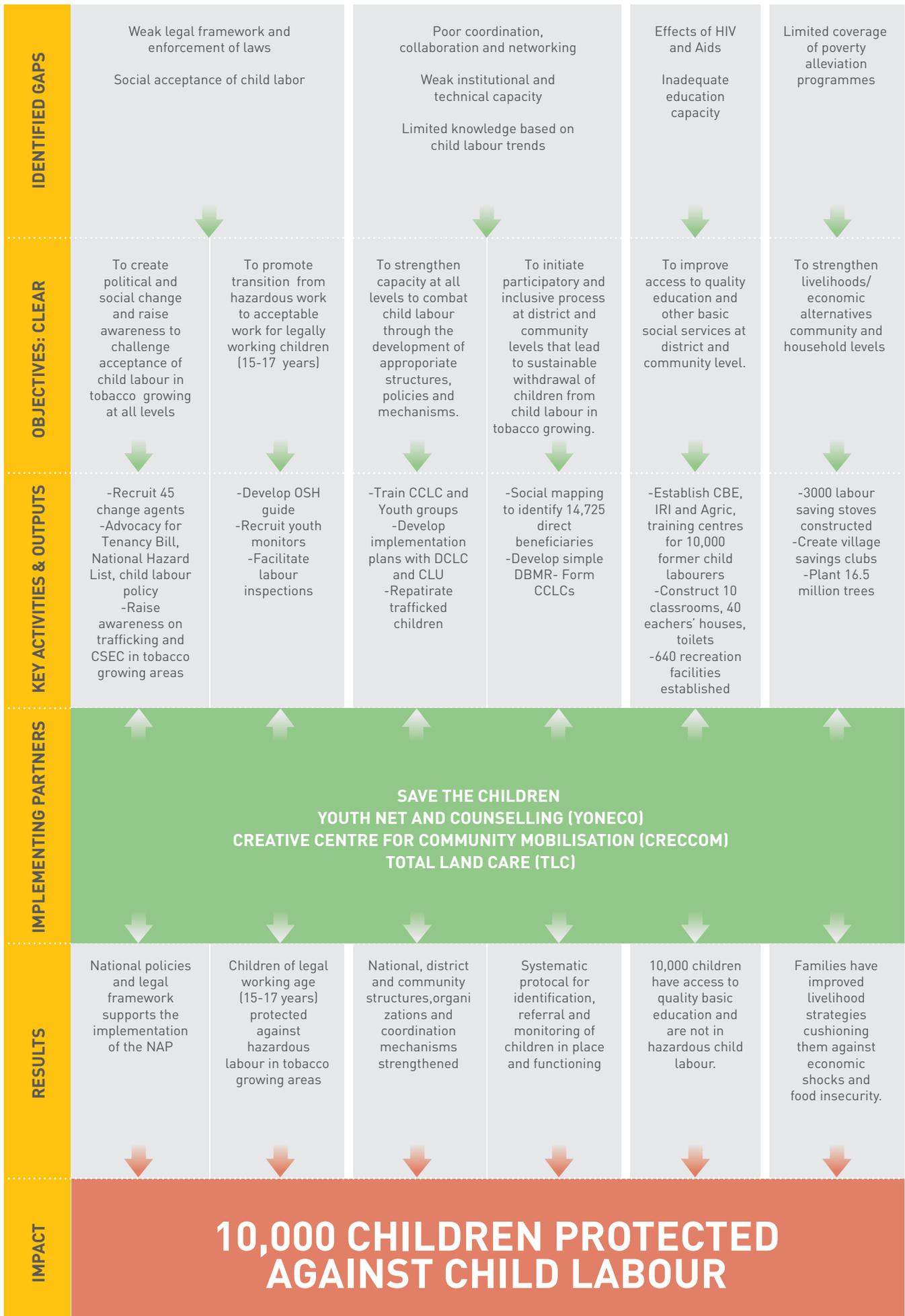
In Malawi, a team of independent

local and international experts and firms of consultants – statisticians, child labour experts, agriculturalists and social workers – were contracted to carry out the survey during February and March, the peak period of demand for labour in that country. In Tanzania, the survey was undertaken by the NGO Winrock International, and took place between January and March. Both baseline surveys comprised of three components – a household survey, a child survey and qualitative survey on the hidden forms of child labour. Expert interviews with key government ministries, civil society

members, trades unions, employers' organisations and UN agencies were also conducted.

The final baseline reports were shared with the Ministry of Labour in Malawi and the Ministry of Labour and Employment in the government of Tanzania as well as the district authorities in which the respective projects will be implemented. Besides informing policy, the baseline information will be used in subsequent evaluations of both projects.

CLEAR



PROSPER

GAPS	High Child Labour ↓	Poor Education ↓	Low Awareness ↓	Lack of CL Structure ↓	Extreme Vulnerability ↓	Poor OSH Standards ↓
PROSPER OBJECTIVES	Participatory and inclusive processes to sustainably withdraw CL from tobacco growing.	Access to quality education and other basic social services	Advocacy and raise awareness on CL issues in tobacco growing at all levels	Capacities strengthening of appropriate structures, policies, and mechanisms to combat CL in tobacco growing.	Strengthening livelihoods / economic improvement at community and household level.	Transition from hazardous work or exploitative labour to acceptable work for children of legal working age (15-17 years)
IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS	WINROCK INTERNATIONAL TANZANIA ASSOCIATION OF WOMEN LEADERS IN THE ENVIRONMENT (TAWLAE) TABORA DEVELOPMENT FOUNDATION TRUST (TDFT)					
KEY ACTIVITIES AND OUTPUTS	Prevent Withdraw, & Protect -Identification of beneficiaries -20 community involved in CAAs -Training of 20 CAs	Education -1,800 conditional scholarships -4,600 children enrolled in after school programs -20 targeted facilities improvements WatSan & Health -20 water systems, latrines or small energy improvements -1,000 Families benefit from school health & wellness screenings and curriculum	Advocacy & Awareness -NAP implementation -NISCC, ministries, districts awareness -20,000 people benefit from community awareness activities	Advocacy & Awareness -20 ministry, 40 districts and community members trained on CL monitoring -Training district coordinators and CAs on CLMS -800 farmers trained	Enterprise Dvpt -1,530 agribusiness / entrepreneur training -1,530 conditional loans Agricultural Training -1,600 youth enrolled in vocational Agritraining -Modern far (out-of-school) -Agriculture clubs -School gardens -Tobacco farmers / orgs.	OSH for Youth -Support OSH standard dvpt. -OSH training for 1,600 youths & awareness campaign
RESULTS	Model child-labour free communities 7,800 children accessed quality education and are not in child labour	Awareness of children's rights with respect to education, health, and safety strengthened	Structures, policies or mechanisms to combat CL established	Household income and livelihood increased in tobacco growing communities	Families have improved livelihood strategies cushioning them against economic shocks and food insecurity.	Hazardous work for youth aged 15-17 decreased
IMPACT	7,800 CHILDREN/YOUTH WITHDRAWN AND PREVENTED FROM WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOUR					

STORIES FROM THE FIELD

RECREATIONAL MATERIALS HELP KEEP CHILDREN IN SCHOOL

The aim of every ECLT-funded project is to withdraw children from tobacco fields and place them in school or on vocational training courses. But to a young child, working in a tobacco field can sometimes seem a better option than going to school: whilst the work is hard, the reward is immediate. Therefore children sometimes need an incentive to remain in school and ECLT's projects often provide recreational materials as way of achieving this.

Fifteen-year-old Sarah Birungi, from the Masindi district of western Uganda, is a beneficiary of the Community Empowerment for Elimination of Child Labour in Tobacco (COMEECA) project. It is Monday afternoon, and she is giving last minute directions to the school dance and drama group. The dance, 'orunyege' is traditionally performed by young men and women in Bunyoro, western Uganda,

to the beating of drums and shaking rattles tied to the legs. She does not have much of a stage, but the tree in the middle of her school compound will do. As the drums start to beat, she breaks into song. The broad smile on her face says it all.

Sarah leads the choir of Waiga primary school in Masindi. As a leader she has to make sure that everyone turns up for rehearsals and, once everyone is there, take the dancers through their steps. These days members show up for practice more regularly.

"We are now very happy. Since we got the new musical instruments, the group has been reenergized. We used to try and make our own rattles, but they were not as good and these ones. We are happy with the drums as well," she said.

Waiga Primary School is one of the 53 schools in Masindi and Kiryandongo districts, that have received recreational materials from the ECLT-funded project. Participation in extra-curricular activities

such as athletics, music, dance and drama improves children's self-esteem and confidence. There is now a more pleasant environment at the school, and the high drop-out rate, common to the area, has been stemmed.

"Since we got the school drums, we are ready to practice whenever we want. We used to borrow a drum from church. Every Sunday the drum would be taken back to church and we would have to go back every time to practice," Sarah said.

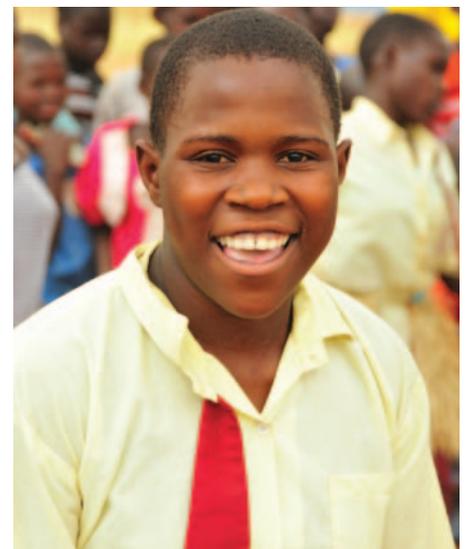
Sheila Aronbola, a primary seven pupil of Kiryandongo Church of Uganda Primary School, now participates fully in music, dance and drama, and enjoys watching volleyball and netball.

Her school received drums, xylophones and thumb pianos for music. She says that the new drums beckon her to dance. "I dance and dance until I get tired. I will not leave this school," she said.

Another pupil, Nebayosi Turinawe, loves



Pupils at the Waiga primary school, western Uganda perform the traditional 'orunyege' dance



Sarah Birungi, choir-leader



Chrissie Happy delivers a new-born baby at the Kasese Health centre in Dowa, Malawi

playing football. He is delighted with the footballs and the nets the school recently received. Now the whole school can take part in games and sports. "We leave class at 3.30 pm and go for games," he said. "We play and enjoy the games. Before we got the balls and nets, some of us would go

back home at games time, now we stay."

The materials have helped bridge the gaps in government funding. Extra-curricular activities such as art, music, and drama as well as sports are usually the first to go when there is not enough money to go round.

According to David Kasaija, the head teacher of Waiga primary school, competitive sports are very important for keeping children in school. "And we government schools have been having a shortage of funds to avail some of these materials in schools. Now that we have them, these children are going to love staying in school," he said.

His school received four footballs, two netballs, two volleyballs and two balls for the younger children. On top of this, drums, tube fiddles, thumb pianos, rattles, and xylophones were also handed out.

Mr. Kasaija's words are echoed by Edward Kirya, the District Education Officer for Kiryandongo. "Many schools from Kiryandongo have benefited and that has attracted many children back to school," he said, commenting on the direct support from COMEECA.

And that means Sarah, Sheila, Nabayosi and hundreds of their friends are now getting the education they deserve.

KASESE HEALTH CENTRE CHAMPIONS THE FIGHT AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

When parents die or are very ill, their children can easily become trapped in poverty. Without parents to provide for them, children are obliged to become the breadwinner for the household, and are forced to earn money not only for themselves but for parents and siblings too. This is particularly the case in Malawi where there is a high prevalence of HIV. Orphans, and even those with one parent still living, become ensnared in child labour. That's why several ECLT projects focus on ensuring that whole families – parents as well as children – are as healthy as possible.

In Malawi, the ECLT-funded ICLEP project built the Kasese Health Centre to bring a holistic approach to family health. Staff houses, pit latrines, an outpatient centre and an administration block were all constructed by the project. The centre therefore represents just one of the ways in which ECLT tackles the long-term, root causes of child labour.

Much of the service provided by the centre is focused on the well-being of pregnant women and mothers with young children. There has been a stark change in the lives

of expectant mothers since the centre was built. Indeed, according to nurse Chrissie Happy, before the centre was operational, giving birth could be dangerous.

"Some expectant women were being bundled on bicycles to deliver their babies at Madise Mission Hospital, some 10 kilometres away," recalls Chrissie. "Others were using ox-carts as a means of transport," she says at the health centre's maternity wing, where she has just delivered a bouncing baby girl.

Chrissie says it sometimes used to take two hours or more to reach the hospital and expectant mothers often gave birth on the way. Lack of transport and money to pay medical bills forced most women to consult traditional birth attendants (TBAs) for delivery. The government of Malawi discourages the practice as TBAs lack expertise to handle complicated obstetric cases.

"Many women died giving birth because traditional attendants are not trained to deliver babies," says Chrissie, counting herself lucky to deliver a baby at such a

modern hospital.

The institution also provides HIV testing and counselling, immunisation, growth and weight monitoring services and offers advice on family planning methods.

"We want people to know their HIV status so that they adopt lifestyles that can help prolong their lives," says Robert Chanza, the clinical officer. Malawi is a home to over 650,000 children orphaned by AIDS. "Some people come to the clinic for an HIV test and those with low CD4 Count are immediately put on antiretroviral treatment," he says.

But the work of the centre doesn't stop there.

"We also conduct campaigns against child labour, as well as training child labour committees in labour-related issues," says Robert.

On average 5,500 patients and clients use the health centre every month, which means that 66,000 people access its services each year.



MANY WOMEN DIED GIVING BIRTH BECAUSE TRADITIONAL ATTENDANTS ARE NOT TRAINED TO DELIVER BABIES

“This figure excludes those who access our services through our mobile clinic outreach programmes,” he says.

Staff run mobile health clinics at Mtambalika, Kachigamba, Chimwendo and Mambala sites where communities bring children for vaccination and to have their weight and height monitored.

In many ways, the health centre is owned by the community for the community. The clinical officer applauded people in the area for the assistance they give to the health centre.

“We work hand in hand with communities around the health centre who volunteer in our safe motherhood and immunisation campaigns,” he says.

But the Kasese health centre has not closed with the winding down of the ICLEP project. Robert makes the point that sustainability of the health centre is guaranteed as the government of Malawi assists the institution with assorted medical supplies.

“The Ministry of Health, through the District Health Office (DHO) in Dowa,

provides the health centre with drugs, medical equipment and HIV testing kits.

“The ministry also trains our staff. When our ambulance is away, we ask the DHO to help us with one,” he says.

These vital services ensure that families – parents as well as children – receive the standard of healthcare they need and deserve. When parents are as healthy as they should be, there is no need for children to go out to work. Instead, children can go to school to learn and flourish, as all children have the right to do.



A Child Labour Committee meeting, Mchinji, Malawi

THE URAMBO DISTRICT, WHICH PRODUCES ABOUT 30% OF THE TOBACCO YIELD IN THE TABORA REGION OF TANZANIA, IS ONE OF SEVERAL DISTRICTS WITH A HIGH INCIDENCE OF CHILD LABOUR IN TOBACCO FARMING.

COMMUNITY ACTIVISTS WORK WITH TEACHERS AND PARENTS TO COMBAT CHILD LABOUR

ECLT projects are designed to be sustainable over the long-term and to protect children from child labour well after the lifetime of the project itself. This continuity is ensured by empowering local communities to identify and eliminate child labour for themselves.

The roots of this local ownership are

planted in the initial stages of a project, as happened with the ECLT-funded PROSPER project (Promoting Sustainable Practices to Eradicate Child Labour in Tobacco) in 2011. The first stage is for a community asset appraisal to take place, during which the community identifies the resources it already has at its disposal to combat child labour. From this, a community action plan is drawn up.

As well as establishing members of the Village Child Labour Committees, the communities also select people to become Community Activists (CAs). CAs are

prominent members of the community and are entrusted with the role of identifying and monitoring incidents of child labour. They also work with PROSPER staff to decide what direct support the project can give to individual families, such as help with income-generating activities, scholarships, and the purchasing of basic school materials.

On such CA is Japhet Mabula, from Kasisi Village in the Urambo district of Tanzania.

“My training will help me to monitor which children don’t go to school and instead spend time in tobacco farms,” says Japhet,

beaming with pride as he talks. He is also a member of the recently-formed Kasisi Village Child Labour Committee.

Following supervision and instruction from the PROSPER team, one of Japhet's main tasks is to identify families that live near Kasisi primary school, and ascertain if the children either don't attend school or work in tobacco fields or both.

Japhet is very concerned about the welfare of children, which is what drove him to become a volunteer in the first place.

"We educate parents and guardians that children should not be employed in tobacco farms," he says, adding that child labour often forces children to work without eating from morning to evening.

The Urambo district, which produces about 30% of the tobacco yield in the Tabora region, is one of several districts with a high incidence of child labour in tobacco farming. The farming of tobacco is highly labour intensive and close care needs to be paid at all stages of production. This increases the demand for child labourers,

as children are prepared to work for less money.

Japhet notes that the committee has identified 37 pupils so far. These children are being monitored both at home and school, with regular counselling for parents and guardians. Japhet works very closely with teachers, visiting the school regularly to liaise with the teacher on the child labour committee.

Japhet explains that the child labour committee includes two representatives from each of the six neighbourhoods in the village. Village meetings are held every Wednesday, with around 70 parents attending each meeting.

Not far away in Motomoto village, another CA Dastan Mlela, has completed the process of identifying all children who have not started studying but are working in tobacco fields.

"Not only do we educate parents about why children should not work in tobacco fields, but also about the dangers of insisting that children work at home. Even

domestic chores can become child labour if they are undertaken for too long each day."

He also pointed out that most of the children who work in tobacco fields are sent by parents who are in need of money to buy foodstuff and other items.

Dastan's words are echoed in Kelemela B village where CA Leopold Ntawenganyira has completed the process of identifying all the village's 26 child labourers. He reports regularly to the VCLC on the progress of the project.

"I get good cooperation from the parents and teachers", said Ntawenganyira. With four neighbourhoods in the village – Utosini, Kalemela B Kati, Mwangaza A and Mwangaza B – he notes that his main challenge is distance, as he has to walk on from one neighbourhood to another. It takes about six hours to walk from one end of the village to the other.

Nevertheless, Ntawenganyira is optimistic as he gets going. "We work together to make the exercise a success," he says.



Malita Jefita, studying in school, a beneficiary of the ICLEP project in Malawi answering a question in class

CHILD LABOUR COMMITTEES TRANSFORM CHILDREN'S LIVES

Protecting children from child labour in tobacco growing only succeeds if the necessary structures are in place to do so. As a first step, every ECLT-funded project establishes Child Labour Committees (CLCs) consisting of members of the local tobacco-growing community. The purpose of these committees – whether they are at the village, community or district level – is three-fold. They raise awareness about the dangers of child labour, they facilitate the withdrawal of children from child labour and they ensure that children do not drift back into the labour system.

But the committees also protect children whose lives have been adversely affected by the poverty trap that families find themselves in. Even if children themselves are not obliged to work in tobacco fields they often take on the roles that parents, usually mothers, have been forced to abandon. One such child was Malita Jefita. At just 10 years old, Malita was almost a mother to her younger siblings.

The Standard 4 learner at Chiliphiza primary school in Malawi's Dowa district was doing everything a mother should do. She fetched firewood from the forest, drew drinking water from wells, cooked meals, washed clothes and even nursed her siblings when they fell ill.

Meanwhile her actual mother was busy trying to make both ends meet by working in tobacco fields.

"My mother was busy working so I had to move in to close the gap," says the shy-looking Malita.

Weighed down by domestic chores and responsibilities, Malita dropped out of school and abandoned all hope of fulfilling her dream of becoming a nurse.

"It was a painful decision, but what else would I do? How would I leave the others alone at home and go to school? How would I concentrate in class?" she

asks, biting fingernails. "That would not be good, would it?"

But now, thanks to the ECLT-funded Integrated Child Labour Elimination Project (ICLEP), Malita is back in class whilst her mother looks after her brothers and sisters. Malita is one of 75 children who have been withdrawn from child labour by Chiliphiza Child Labour Committee (CLC), which was established by the project.

The chairperson of the committee, Milika Daniel, says her group grows and sells different crops for profit. The proceeds are used to buy uniforms, soap, food and other needy items for children withdrawn from, and at risk of, child labour. Some money was given to Melita's mother so that she was able to pay for some essential items to enable Melita to go to school. With this incentive, she was able to find someone else to look after her other children.

"Although ICLEP phased out in 2011,

we are still organising campaigns to sensitise people," says Daniel.

As with all ECLT projects, ICLEP focused on strengthening the community response to combat child labour through a series of interrelated interventions in education, health, food security and water and sanitation. The project was implemented by Nkhoma Synod, Total Land Care, Creative Centre for Social Mobilisation (CRECCOM) and Lifeline Malawi. The success of the project is also demonstrated by the very fact that the CLC remains fully functioning and that interventions are taking place beyond the lifetime of the project itself. The community has been empowered to take its own decisions, decisions that will transform the lives of its members forever.

And now that she is back in class, Malita is once again able to nurture her dream of becoming a nurse.

ELIMINATING CHILD LABOUR THROUGH BRICK STOVES

ECLT-funded projects attack the idea that it is acceptable for children to work instead of going to school. It is important to recognise that all children have a better chance in life having attended school.

Young children, especially girls, are often made to fetch firewood for the home instead of going to school. This can mean long and sometimes dangerous walks into the forest with their mothers several times a week. The ECLT-funded CLEAR project has therefore devised a solution to help ensure that girls no longer have to make these treks: a specially-designed fuel efficient brick stove.

To Emelesi Jasoni, a 42-year-old mother of four, a brick stove means a great deal. It means that Emelesi, who lives in Kafwafwa village in the Ntchisi district of Malawi, spends less time looking for firewood in the forest. Since she started using the new stove, Emelesi goes to the forest just once a week. In the past, she used to go two or three times a week, taking up time she could otherwise use in economically-productive activities. She now has more time to spend on her farming and as a result her children attend school more regularly.



Emelesi Jasoni cooking on her new mud stove

The brick stove means that she and others like her, no longer have to rely on child labour to fetch wood.

"The stove consumes less firewood compared to the traditional method of cooking in which three stones are used. As such, I no longer need to frequent the forest as I used to. Instead, I invest more time in growing crops and doing small-scale income generating activities," she said.

"The more time I spend in the garden, the more maize I will grow both for eating and for sale. The stove will, directly or otherwise, help us to deal with the twin challenges – hunger and poverty – that drive our children into child labour," says Emelesi.

Children staying in school, she says, is the only way to end poverty and eliminate child labour.

"If our children are educated, they will get good jobs which will enable them fend for their families. And that will destroy a vicious circle of poverty haunting us and our children," she says.

Most mothers, according to Ireen Rabson, chairperson of Kwafwafwa Child Labour Committee, have already changed to the technology. The stove, made of bricks, is being promoted by Total Land Care, one of four partners in the CLEAR Project. The other three are CRECCOM, Save the Children and Yonoco.

"So far, 58 stoves have been made in Kafwafwa Village," says Emelesi, adding that the stove will dramatically reduce child labour and protect forest resources.



Chipwaira Women's Group, with skills acquired from ICLEP Project, processing vegetables for future use

PARENTS DO NOT SEND CHILDREN TO WORK INTO TOBACCO FIELDS BECAUSE THEY WANT TO: THEY DO IT BECAUSE THEY OFTEN FEEL THEY HAVE NO ALTERNATIVE.



Farmer Manzura Bakirova outside her home

MICRO-CREDITS TRANSFORM A FAMILY'S LIFE IN KYRGYZSTAN

Parents do not send children to work into tobacco fields because they want to: they do it because they often feel they have no alternative. Recognising the importance of this and that families will need another source of income if their children are withdrawn from tobacco-growing, one of the six programmatic objectives of the ECLT is to strengthen the economic viability of individual households and families.

In Kyrgyzstan, the ECLT's micro-credit loan scheme ensures that children do not need to work in tobacco fields. Farmers borrow money at much lower interest rates than commercial loans and are able to afford to hire adults for labour.

One of the beneficiaries of this scheme is Manzura Bakirova (pictured). She and her husband are tobacco farmers in the Osh district of Kyrgyzstan. Manzura's parents were also tobacco farmers, so she has been involved in tobacco growing almost all her life.

Manzura and her family live in very tough conditions. Their three-roomed house has never been completed, despite her husband's attempts to do so. It is heated by a coal-fired stove but has no running water. The family grows

potatoes, onions, tomatoes, and peppers in the garden, but these are for the family only and there is never anything left over for sale.

Before she became involved in the ECLT project, Manzura and her family never borrowed money from banks and nor had they heard of microcredit institutions. They lived and worked independently and did not know anything about collective work. At one point, Manzura did not have enough money to buy even essential items for cooking such as flour and oil. As a result, they had to borrow money from relatives.

Things changed in 2011. Under the micro-credit scheme implemented by the ECLT, they were able to borrow enough money to employ adults to work in the tobacco fields during peak harvesting season. They became part of a Mutual Aid Group (MAG) made up of other farmers in a situation similar to their own. The MAGs work together to solve collective problems. Each farmer helps the other farmers in the group, as long as – as with the conditions of the loan – they do not employ children in the fields. Manzura and her husband employed three people and paid them each 300 KGS per day.

As a result, they planted more tobacco but without once using child labour. They increased their income and were able to pay back the original loan on time and

with interest. This year, they plan to rent more land and plant other income generating crops besides tobacco such as wheat, maize, and water-melons.

But the project did not only help with the direct intervention of the loan. Their son still goes to school and is currently in the seventh form. Until recently he had never attended the summer camp that is run each year by the project. The camp is an organised holiday for farmers' children, and last year the MAG selected Manzura's son for the first time as one of the lucky ones to take his holidays there. He became friends with the other children and began to learn how to be independent. He also learned a lot about child labour and child rights at the seminars that the project organised at the camp.

The challenges are by no means over for Manzura and her family. The oldest daughter has finished school but does not have a job. There is no spare money to pay for her to go to university. During the peak of the harvesting season, their daughter is still forced to help her parents in the fields. Both she and her parents are keen for her to complete her education, and hope she might be able to find work in an office.

But they are hopeful that with further help from the ECLT, they may be able to overcome even these challenges.

ECLT STAFF MEMBERS

ECLT FOUNDATION STAFF

- Executive Director – Sonia C. Velázquez
- Senior Programme Manager – Innocent Mugwagwa
- Finance Manager – Chris Burton
- Programme Manager – Cindy Serre
- Communications Manager – Robert Bartram
- Technical Coordinator – Stéphanie Garde.

FINANCIAL ACCOUNTS 2011

The financial accounts of 2011 have been audited by an independent Geneva-based firm, Berney & Associates S.A.

2011 BALANCE SHEET

The currency used is US Dollars (USD)

ASSETS		
Treasury	4,006,232.41	
Debtors	10,482.19	
Fixed Assets	124,483.98	
		4,141,198.58

LIABILITIES & CAPITAL		
Short term		
Payables	145,230.81	
Members (advance for 2011)	2,782,991.12	
Accrued projects	-	
Accrued expenses	278,668.83	
Contingencies derived from personal rotation	325,241.28	
Sub Total		609,066.54
		4,141,198.58
Capital & Reserve Funds		
Foundation Capital	53,144.00	
Membership Fees	127,545.60	
Brought Forward as at 1.1.2010	415,017.26	
Result of exercise	13,359.68	
Sub Total		609,066.54
		4,141,198.58

2011 EXPENDITURES AND RECEIPTS

INCOME		
Members' contributions	4,768,589.92	
Bank interest and other receipts	658,406.27	
Sub Total		5,426,996.19
EXPENSES		
Operating Costs	1,880,607.84	
Projects/Reserch Costs	3,533,028.67	
		5,413,636.51
Surplus for the period		13,359.68



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 (ILO-IPEC) (as an advisor), IUF Uniting Food, Farm, and Hotel Workers World-Wide, The International Tobacco Growers' Association

LIST OF TOBACCO COMPANIES

Alliance One International Inc.
Altria Client Services Inc.
British American Tobacco Holdings
Hail & Cotton
Imperial Tobacco Group PLC
Japan Tobacco Inc.
Philip Morris International
Premium Tobacco
Scandinavian Tobacco Group
Sunel
Swedish Match
Universal Leaf Tobacco Company

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

ECLT FOUNDATION

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