



# SYSTEMS TO PROTECT CHILDREN

ANNUAL REPORT 2020







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## FOREWORD

Throughout 2020 the COVID-19 crisis posed an urgent risk to children, keeping millions out of school and potentially pushing them into child labour. Responding quickly to emerging needs, the ECLT Foundation took essential steps in the countries where we work which have since shown results. This report provides us with an important moment for reflection on the ECLT Strategic Plan, our impact in 2020, and helps us to confirm our commitment to supporting farmers, families, and children by addressing the many interlinked root causes of child labour.

As we reflect on our work in 2020, we see progress against the challenging background of the COVID-19 crisis. Working together with partners on the ground, schools, and farming communities, ECLT reached over **300,000 people across 7 countries**:

- **Raising awareness and supporting good hygiene and access to water to prevent COVID-19 infections**
- **Helping to ensure children could access scholastic materials and on-line learning**
- **Supporting schools to reopen safely**

These specific interventions had positive spill-over effects beyond COVID-19: increasing communities' capacity to deal with health challenges, decreasing infections of endemic water-borne diseases, helping farmers irrigate crops and continue to reach markets, and improving safety for women and girls collecting water.

These types of additional positive benefits are evident in all of ECLT's work. By acknowledging that child labour is a complex challenge that cannot be solved by any single factor, we focus on broad collaboration and strategic investment to encourage rural development, strengthen local and national systems, improve access to education, and set farmers and young people up with the skills they need to thrive. The progress we make allows us to show impact not just against child labour but against **11 Sustainable Development Goals**, in line with national action plans and international best practices.



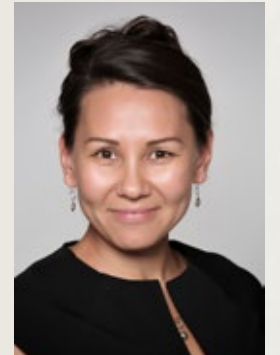
As we prioritise engagement with all relevant stakeholders - from policymakers and businesses across agricultural sectors to cooperatives, unions, development agencies, civil society, as well as communities, farmers, and children themselves - **ECLT creates opportunities for coordinated action**, so that the efforts of every stakeholder go further to fight child labour and promote sustainable development in farming communities.

We invite you to continue reading the 2020 Annual Report to see the results of our investments and collaboration. Though much has been accomplished during these challenging times we know that children, farmers, and families are counting on us now more than ever.

Looking ahead, we will continue to forge new partnerships, promote leadership, and coordinate the actions of all stakeholders in order to fight child labour and advance the 2030 SDG agenda.



**Mike Ligon**  
President  
ECLT Foundation



**Karima Jambulatova**  
Executive Director  
ECLT Foundation



# WHO WE ARE

The ECLT Foundation is committed to

## COLLABORATIVE SOLUTIONS FOR CHILDREN, FARMERS AND FAMILIES

to combat the root causes of child labour in agriculture



Founded as an not-for-profit Swiss foundation in 2000 to bring together key stakeholders against child labour in areas where tobacco is grown, the ECLT Foundation is based in Geneva, Switzerland. The Foundation is a member of the UN Global Compact and holds special consultative status with UN ECOSOC.



### WHAT WE BELIEVE

The ECLT Foundation works towards a world with thriving agricultural communities, where children are free of child labour and can go to school and develop in a safe environment. We believe that supporting capacities and building lasting partnerships for sustainable solutions are the best ways to address the root causes of child labour, at local, national, and international levels and promote positive change.



### WHAT WE DO

We strategically invest and provide technical assistance to support and promote:

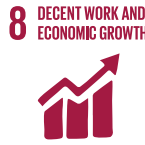
- **The development and implementation of strong laws and policies** in line with the SDGs and international human rights frameworks.
- **Multi-stakeholder collaboration** to maximise coordination and leverage resources to prevent child labour from happening and to address it when it does.
- **Research to understand the nature and scope of child labour and best practice exchange** to build farmer incomes and resilience, keep children in school, and equip young people with the skills they need to access decent work.



### BEYOND SUPPLY CHAINS

There are **152 million children** in child labour worldwide. **7 out of 10 work in agriculture**. This is a major concern in agricultural supply chains. The complex root causes of child labour – such as systemic poverty, lack of education and infrastructure, and uneven development, as well as specific drivers like migration and environmental changes – mean that no single actor or supply chain can address child labour alone.

However, **working to tackle the root causes of child labour can accelerate progress** across many SDGs as well as other national and international sustainability and development frameworks.



### OUR ADDED VALUE

By engaging policy makers, businesses across agricultural sectors, cooperatives, unions, development agencies, organisations working on the ground, and communities themselves, ECLT works to create an enabling environment with stronger systems, so that the actions of every stakeholder go further to fight child labour and promote development in farming communities.





# SINCE 2000, THE ECLT FOUNDATION HAS REACHED 1 MILLION+ CHILDREN, FARMERS, AND FAMILIES

Here are our highlights from 2020, working in seven countries.

-  GUATEMALA
-  INDONESIA
-  MALAWI
-  MOZAMBIQUE
-  TANZANIA
-  UGANDA
-  ZIMBABWE



## UNGC PRINCIPLE 1

### 1 NO POVERTY



**16,200+**  
HOUSEHOLDS

learned skills to increase their income, access credit and manage finances

**6,800+**  
PARENTS AND CAREGIVERS

accessed loans through village groups to grow their businesses and cover unexpected expenses

## UNGC PRINCIPLE 1

### 2 ZERO HUNGER



**17,900+**  
CHILDREN

in Malawi provided with school meals

**300+**  
FARMERS

growing food like maize and beans learned practices for higher yields

## UNGC PRINCIPLE 5

### 4 QUALITY EDUCATION



**600+**  
CHILDREN

improved their literacy and numeracy skills in Malawi in 189 new learning centres

**880+**  
CHILDREN

who were previously child labourers were supported to attend school

**2,240+**  
CHILDREN

now benefit from a better learning environment in Uganda through improved facilities in schools



UNGC PRINCIPLE 6

5 GENDER EQUALITY



**7,500+ WOMEN**

financially empowered through participation in saving and loans groups

**75% OF SAVING AND LOAN GROUP MEMBERS** are women, promoting financial independence and financial stability



UNGC PRINCIPLE 9

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



**5,100+ PEOPLE**

in Malawi now have improved crop yield from solar irrigation pumps

**1,500+ CHILDREN**

now have new and renovated washrooms in schools in Uganda

**4,500+ STUDENTS** in Mozambique can now access clean water



UNGC PRINCIPLE 2,4,5,6

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



**25,000+ CHILDREN**

were directly removed and kept away from child labour

**710+ YOUNG PEOPLE** graduated from job skills training

**1,900+ SMALLHOLDER FARMERS**

now have improved farming methods, higher yields, and access to more markets

UNGC PRINCIPLE 1

10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



**364,900+ COMMUNITY MEMBERS**

learned about the dangers of child labour, and how to prevent it, and remove and help those at risk

**4,900+ CHILDREN AND PARENTS**

are now better informed on the risks of child labour and early marriage

**7 COMMUNITY CHILD PROTECTION COMMITTEES**

established in Mozambique

UNGC PRINCIPLE 7 & 9

12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



**900+ FARMERS & FARM WORKERS**

trained on child labour regulations in agriculture in Indonesia

**300+ SMALL-SCALE PRODUCERS**

trained on improved agricultural practices and are now more resilient to climate change



UNGC PRINCIPLE 3

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



**2 NATIONAL ACTION PLANS** finalised, approved, and disseminated in Malawi and Uganda

**1,000+ STAKEHOLDERS AND UNIONS**

brought together across commodity industries like tea, cotton, coffee, tobacco, sisal, cashew, citrus, sugar, and many more

**250+ PEOPLE** actively engaged in child protection by joining a Community Child Protection Committee

**4 DISTRICT ACTION PLANS** in Tanzania and in Uganda were supported by ECLT







# COLLABORATION TO BUILD FORWARD BETTER

Collaboration is the key to sustainable solutions for farmers, families and children. In 2020, we worked together with rural communities, local and national authorities, trade union and cooperative representatives, farmers' associations and private companies to drive forward the fight against child labour.





# PROTECTING CHILDREN

## FROM CHILD LABOUR NOW MORE THAN EVER

**COVID-19 could push millions more children into child labour, in every sector, in every country.**

An estimated 71% of all child labour is in agriculture, which is why it is particularly critical that we continue to support rural communities to fight child labour during the COVID-19 crisis. Schools had to close and in remote areas many households do not have access to electricity, let alone the Internet. With millions of children out of school, many of them had no choice but to do dangerous work on farms.

“

**The Covid-19 restrictions have denied access to education for public school students.”**

Guatemala survey respondent, Aug 2020

During this difficult time, the ECLT Foundation partnered with local and national capacities to take urgent action and ensure sustainable change. These partnerships allowed for a great deal to be accomplished: from supporting children to access online learning with data packages to donating additional seeds, constructing boreholes, and working with farmers’ associations to share important information about the virus and its potential impact on child labour. Collaborating across sectors during a crisis like COVID-19 is the best way to protect lives, secure food supply chains, and support rural livelihoods.



On the next page you can read about some of the interventions ECLT supported to continue the fight against child labour during the COVID-19 crisis.

TOP  
NUMBERS

**280,000+**  
**PEOPLE**

reached with awareness-raising material following WHO recommendations on how to keep safe from COVID-19.

**10,000+**  
**SOAPS AND MASKS**

distributed to rural communities.

**150+**  
**SCHOOLS**

supported with new hygiene resources including handwashing stations, thermometers and soap.



“

**Social protection is vital in times of crisis, as it provides assistance to those who are most vulnerable. Integrating child labour concerns across broader policies for education, social protection, justice, labour markets, and international human and labour rights makes a critical difference.”**

ILO Director-General, Guy Ryder





# IMPROVED ACCESS TO CLEAN WATER

## WITH UNEXPECTED OUTCOMES

As part of ECLT’s ongoing support in Malawi, solar water pumps in three districts were installed to provide easier access to safe drinking water to irrigate crops in the local area. In the midst of COVID-19, access to hygiene became critical for many societies around the world. We found that the positive outcomes of access to clean water on the lives of families and farmers went far beyond what was expected.



“  
As village headmen, we observe fewer cases of gender-based violence.”

Reported village headman Mwandira of Jeka in Rumphi

TOP  
NUMBERS

**3,000+**  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
now using clean water at home  
and on their farms.

**30+**  
COMMITTEE MEMBERS  
responsible for monitoring the  
pumps.

**40+**  
SCHOOLS  
farmers now growing maize,  
beans and other vegetables  
thanks to irrigation provided  
by the pumps.



“  
I saw great potential here for producing crops like maize and beans, even Irish potatoes. Now, thanks to the water from the pump, I can start growing these crops on my land. My family is very thankful to ECLT Foundation for this great support not only to this community but to people like me.”

Mr. Kafere, a proud farmer

### SAFETY FOR WOMEN AND GIRLS

Before the water pumps, women and girls were waking up at 3 am to walk long distances to avoid queuing to collect water from shallow and unsafe water sources. Now the maximum walk to the pump from the communities is 10 minutes.

### LESS WATER-BORNE DISEASES

Since the communities started using water from the solar water pumps, the reported cases of water-borne diseases have significantly reduced in all three communities.

### SAFER ACCESS TO WATER

Before the solar water pumps were installed, there were many cases of children and women falling into wells in search of water. Two of the communities had previously reported five cases of children falling into wells in search of water since they are usually slippery and deep. Now, thanks to the tap, collecting water is far safer, and not a single accident has been reported.

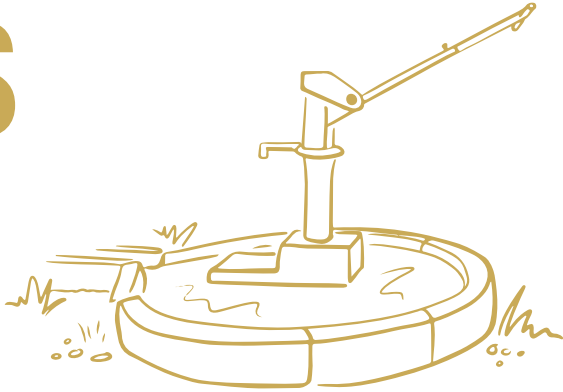




# SAFE SCHOOLS APPROACH

## IN MOZAMBIQUE

To open schools after the closures in Mozambique due to COVID-19, the Government established a checklist. The ECLT-supported project consulted with communities about the urgent need to open the school whilst also keeping children and caregivers safe from COVID-19. Discussions revealed that schools had no access to clean drinking water: in fact students and parents were walking long distances to collect unsafe water from the river.



ECLT worked with implementing partner FAA to install five water holes across five rural communities to provide families with safe water for drinking, washing, and irrigation. Over 4,400 children now benefit from clean water.

As part of COVID-19 response, children in the local area also participated in awareness-raising activities and were taught to wash their hands to keep themselves and their family members safe from COVID-19. Masks, soaps, and bleach were distributed to farmers, and over 50,000 people were reached with awareness-raising materials on keeping safe from COVID-19 following WHO recommendations.

TOP  
NUMBERS

**13,000+**  
**COMMUNITY MEMBERS**  
now have access to clean drinking water.

**500+**  
**MASKS**  
were distributed to farmers and local officials.

**50,000+**  
**PEOPLE**  
reached with COVID-19 awareness materials.



“

The borehole has greatly changed the situation in our community, in our school, and in our lives. Before, we had no drinking water; we drank unsafe water from rivers and wells, even sharing it with some animals. Now people can use clean water that is good for the health of our children; students at school now have better personal hygiene.”

Marieta Andre, Angónia District, mother of four





# SUPPORTING CHILDREN DURING SCHOOL CLOSURES

TOP NUMBERS

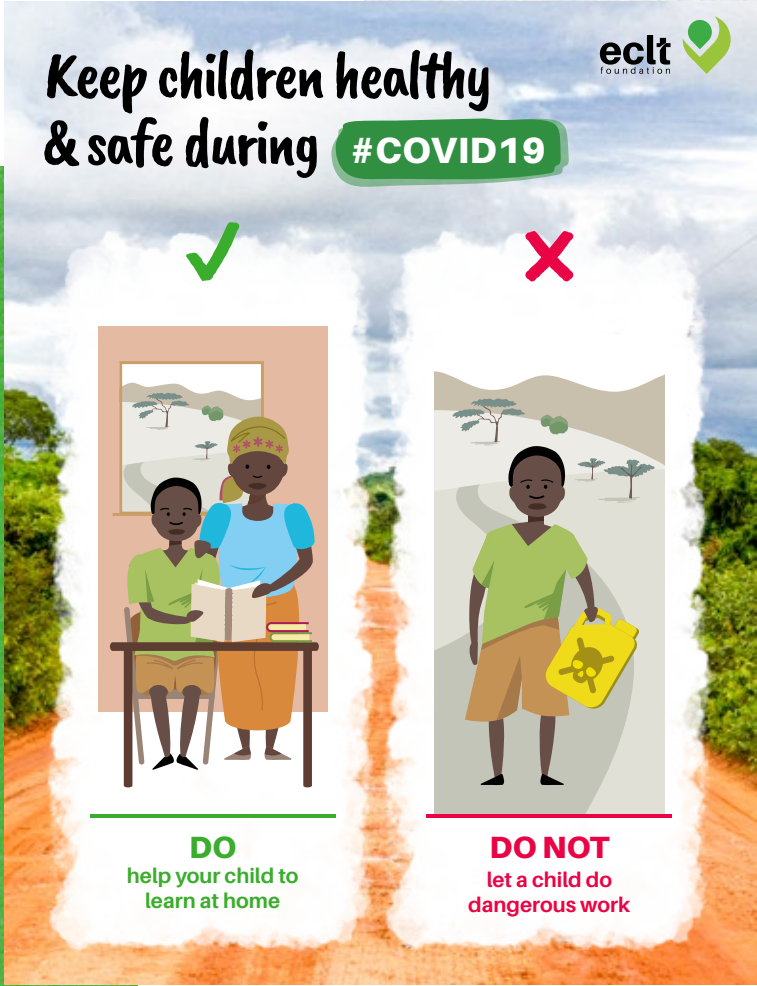
**36,000+** CHILDREN in Tanzania can now access better hygiene supplies in school

**58,800+** CHILDREN in Malawi have handwashing stations, facemasks for the vulnerable, and better stocked classrooms

**190+** STUDENTS in Guatemala received data packages so that they could keep learning during school closures



Child friendly poster on keeping safe from COVID-19, based on WHO recommendations

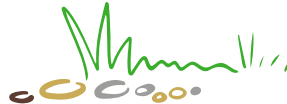


## MAKING SCHOOLS A HEALTHY PLACE TO LEARN IN TANZANIA

After 3 months of closures, schools reopened in Tanzania at the end of June. To keep schools from becoming a hotspot for COVID-19 infections, ECLT worked with local partners TDFT to support 30 schools with hygiene and first aid supplies such as soaps, water stations, and thermometers. Special awareness-raising materials in Swahili for children were also shared with the schools to remind students of the precautions they need to take to keep themselves and their families safe during COVID-19. All materials were jointly distributed with the local government authorities in Urambo, Kaliua, Sikonge districts and Tabora Municipal. Working together with public and private partners can reach far more people, and this is crucial during a time of crisis like COVID-19.

“Social protection is vital in times of crisis, as it provides assistance to those who are most vulnerable. Integrating child labour concerns across broader policies for education, social protection, justice, labour markets, and international human and labour rights makes a critical difference.”

Dick Mlimuka, Programme director TDFT





# BRIDGING THE DIGITAL DIVIDE IN GUATEMALA

During the school closures due to COVID-19 in Guatemala, the Ministry of Education set up online learning for students so that they could keep learning even at home. To support this initiative, and to ensure education continuity for the rural communities who do not have access to the Internet, the ECLT Foundation provided over 190 students with data packages. With the provided airtime, the students were able to continue to have frequent discussions with teachers, receive, complete, and return their homework, and even attend lessons from their own homes.



“ECLT has helped us access internet so that we can continue studying. Now our teacher provides us with tasks online, we download them, complete the work, and send it back. It is a great help for us to continue learning during the pandemic and not fall behind.”

Osvin, student, 15 years old

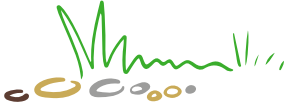


# STRENGTHENING SCHOOLS AFTER COVID-19

In Malawi, the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MOEST) issued guidelines on re-opening schools after the closures caused by the pandemic. ECLT’s project used these guidelines to assess the capacity of the schools to provide a welcome and safe return to education for the students. Conducted jointly with MOEST’s Primary Education Advisors, the assessment found water and sanitation supplies were not adequate. Following the issued guidelines, and the findings of the assessment, ECLT supported over 100 schools with info-sheets, handwashing stations, hand sanitizer, soap, and additional school supplies (movable chalk boards and chalk boxes). The intervention also ensured masks for vulnerable children and will train parents’ groups on how to make face masks for their local school.

“When the schools open up we need to support teachers to make up for the lost time. There may be need for extra interventions to support children to catch up to where they should be in the academic year.”

Dr Elizabeth Meke, Senior Research Fellow, Centre for Educational Research and Training, University of Malawi.





# RAISING AWARENESS ON COVID-19

## IN RURAL INDONESIA



In Indonesia, ECLT-supported project KESEMPATAN designed and printed posters with messaging on the importance of wearing masks, social distancing, and general WHO recommendations on how to prevent COVID-19 transmission. Along with two billboards, these posters were directed at children, farmers, and villagers to help spread the word amongst the most rural and remote communities.



“

Village stakeholders appreciated these activities and over time more and more people increased their knowledge about what COVID-19 is and what should be done to prevent its spread.”

Ms Suharti, Director of SANTAI, West Nusa Tenggara

A COVID-19 handbook in Bahasa was also printed to help Village Task Forces, Regional Facilitators, and Children’s Forums to support their communities on hygiene measures to prevent coronavirus. Using healthy lifestyle tips developed by the Ministry of Health including how to wear masks, and wash hands, messages were shared through social media campaigns.

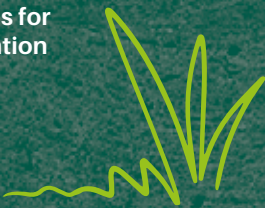
An online consultation service called **“Take Care of Families and Children”** was made available to the communities where ECLT works. Expert speakers were invited to speak on these online forums to disseminate information about the virus and answer potential questions from a wide range of stakeholders.

TOP  
NUMBERS

**2000**  
MASKS AND SOAPS  
distributed

**12** VILLAGES  
reached with  
awareness-  
raising materials

**24** BILLBOARDS  
with Ministry of Health  
recommendations for  
COVID-19 prevention





# RECOGNISING THE IMPACT OF COVID-19 ON CHILD LABOUR IN UGANDA



In Uganda, the ECLT Affiliate Office played a key role in raising awareness on COVID-19 by disseminating information leaflets in local languages including Runyoro and Kiswahili to rural and remote communities. The leaflets were developed following the WHO and the Ministry of Health in Uganda COVID-19 prevention guidelines and were distributed to local Governments and private companies, including tea and sugar producers.

Radio programmes including talk shows were also organised with the local Governments of Kikuube and Hoima. These focused on COVID-19 prevention and its spread, as well as other key issues including the closure of schools and an increase in reported cases of child labour, child abuse, and child neglect.

The Government of Uganda officially recognised the impact that COVID-19 and school closures could have on child labour and adapted their **National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour 2020/21-2024/25** to this new reality. This will be made publicly available in early 2021.

TOP  
NUMBERS

**22,000 +**  
COMMUNITY MEMBERS  
reached with COVID-19 and  
child protection awareness-  
raising materials

**10,000+**  
INFORMATION LEAFLETS  
printed and disseminated  
to rural and remote areas

**20** HEALTH UNITS  
established to distribute  
thermometers, gloves, masks,  
hand sanitizers, and soap

“

Through the personnel protection equipment (PPE) provided to frontline workers as well as the awareness-raising materials and radio talk shows, we were able to reach many people on COVID-19 prevention and the fight against child labour. The pandemic could have a real impact on child protection and we are pleased that the new National Action Plan recognises the very real risk this poses and recommends actions which take this new context into account.”

Ronald Byarugaba, Bugambe Tea Estate, Vice  
Chairperson of ECLT Uganda Board





# PARTNERING WITH FARMERS FOR CHANGE

COVID-19 could push millions more children into child labour, in every sector, in every country.

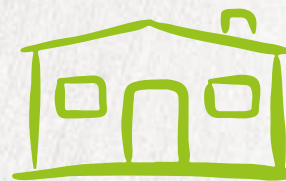
## Most child labour happens on farms.



Supporting farmers and their families at a time of crisis, like that of COVID-19, is critical to keeping children safe from child labour. **With millions of children out of school, many of them end up doing dangerous work on farms.**

During COVID-19, getting produce to markets became extremely difficult for farm workers. In some areas, farmers lost a weekly cash flow of nearly 50%. When farmers and their families struggle to earn a living, they often have no choice but to send their children to work in the fields.

In this difficult time, the ECLT Foundation has been partnering with local and national capacities like **Farmers' Associations** to share important information about the virus and its potential impact on child labour in order **to protect lives, secure food supply chains, and support rural livelihoods.**



# REACHING MORE IN MALAWI



Partnering with TAMA's Farmer's Trust, ECLT supported a holistic yet systemic approach to tackling the root causes of child labour during a pandemic. In an initial phase, meetings coordinated with District Labour Committees explored appropriate and thorough approaches to implementing programmes whilst ensuring that these took into account the very real consequences and restrictions of COVID-19.

**Five categories of messages were identified:** targeting children, parents and guardians, employers, traditional leaders (chiefs), and teachers. The messages included: preventive measures such as washing hands with soap regularly, keeping social distance, and avoiding crowded places; a call to action to protect children from abuse and child labour; and the role of parents in supporting their children to continue learning while at home. All of the messages were made available in the local languages and aired on public radio. These reached a widespread audience without gathering crowds therefore respecting COVID-19 prevention measures.

**These methods aligned with the Government's National response plan and reached over 140,000 community members in rural and remote areas.**

TAMA, and ECLT's implementing partners in Malawi also donated soaps, disinfectants, and hand washing stations to community centres and schools for when they are able to open once again.





# ECLT & ITGA

## TOGETHER WE CARE



Farmer representation is of significant value in ECLT’s work, and the Foundation has closely collaborated with the International Tobacco Growers’ Association for nearly 20 years.

As of April 2020, ECLT has been working with the ITGA to reach more communities in the fight against child labour in the context of COVID-19. ITGA spoke with farmers around the world to understand their needs and to develop tailored messaging about maintaining safe and ethical farming practices during the outbreak.

ECLT and ITGA drew from these consultations to create posters, T-Shirts, signs, and other communication materials on how to prevent child labour and on WHO approved recommendations for keeping healthy and safe from COVID-19. These were disseminated to rural communities in **five countries**, reaching over **150,000 people**.

“

Last year, small scale farmers in Malawi were the most vulnerable and most affected in the tobacco value chain. Besides the inherent health risks, they were subject to market limitations which it made it very difficult for them to sell their tobacco and get the income they needed for survival.

Mercedes Valquerez, ITGA



“

Thanks to the cooperation between ECLT and ITGA and the readiness to build an operation together with other key players in the sector in Malawi, the negative impact of COVID-19 crisis was reduced and remediated within the possibilities.”

Mercedes Valquerez, ITGA







# ECOSYSTEMS

Guided by the Convention on the Rights of the Child, a Child Protection Eco-System goes beyond the consideration of one specific issue to prevent and respond in a wider context in order to make sure that no child is left behind. To see how a Child Protection Eco-System works in the context of child labour, check out our diagram on the next page.





# ECLT SUPPORTS STRONGER SYSTEMS TO ADDRESS ROOT CAUSES OF CHILD LABOUR



## WHAT IS A CHILD PROTECTION SYSTEM?

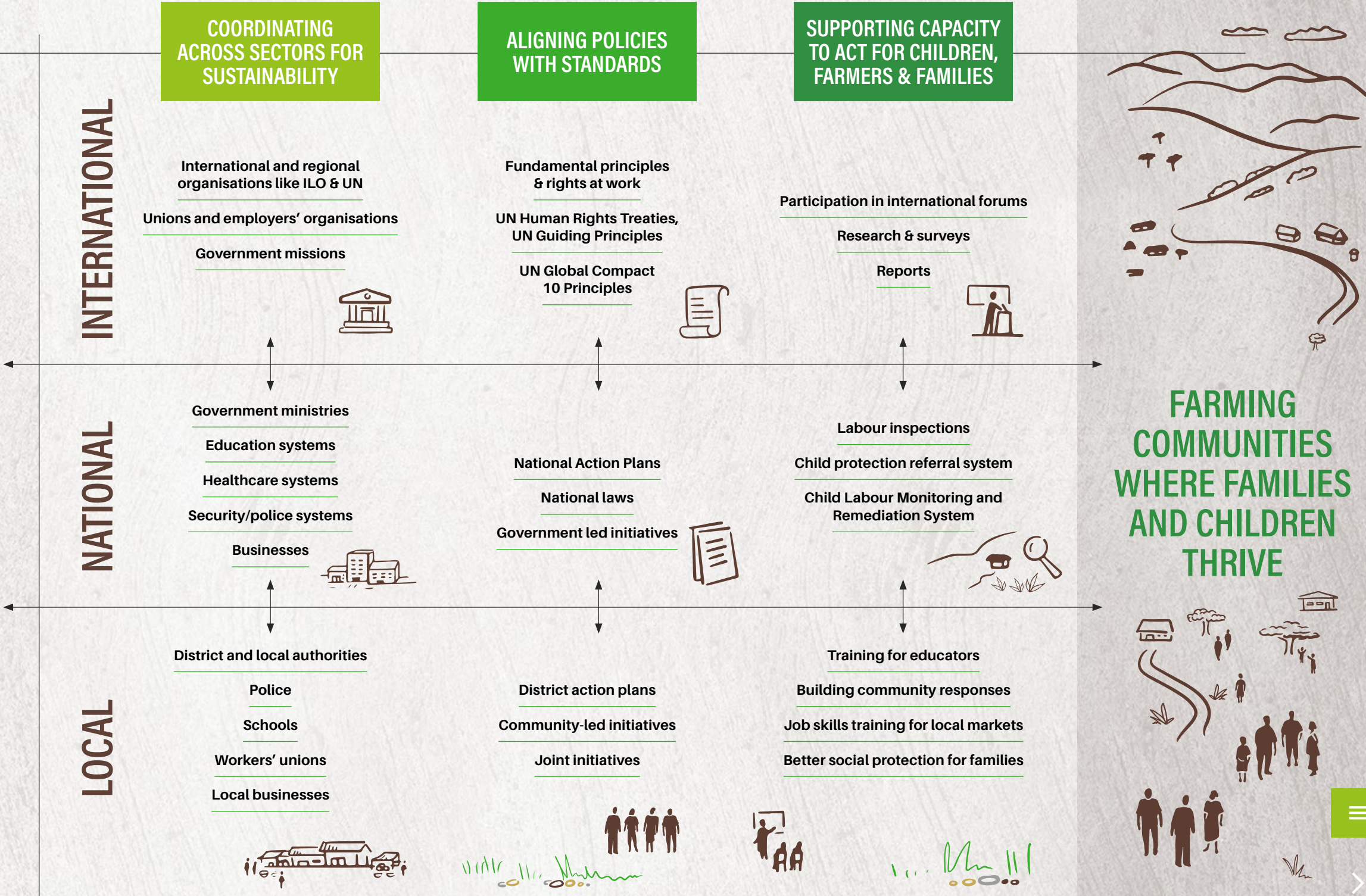
Formal and informal structures as well as functions and capacities which work together to support families and communities to protect children from violence, abuse, neglect, and exploitation.

### PRINCIPLES

- Prevention
- Paramountcy (best interest of the child)
- Partnership
- Protection
- Parental responsibility

### FUNCTIONS

- Provide advice
- Investigate reports
- Refer children and families
- Represent children
- Supervise children
- Receive reports of abuse





# COLLABORATING WITH NATIONAL STAKEHOLDERS

## FOR LONG-LASTING CHANGE

### BUILDING SECTOR-WIDE UNDERSTANDING OF CHILD LABOUR IN ZIMBABWE

Since 2018, ECLT has been supporting national stakeholders to come together to fight child labour in Zimbabwe. The country is Africa’s largest tobacco producer and child labour remains a systemic problem on farms there.

Building off of successful engagement with businesses, government, unions, NGOs, and development partners, ECLT provided technical and financial assistance to the Ministry of Labour, Public Service, and Social Welfare and national social partners to carry out a rigorous study into child labour on tobacco farms across the entire sector.

Led by Zimstat, the national statistical agency, the survey was carried out across 4 regions, collecting data from over 400 farms. The findings help give concrete information on those issues surrounding child labour already identified by stakeholders. Since its completion in 2020, the report has become an engagement tool for commitments and joint actions within tobacco agriculture, as well as across other agricultural crops in Zimbabwe.



### WORKING TOGETHER TO REACH MORE IN UGANDA

In Uganda, ECLT and ECLT Uganda worked closely with the Federation of Uganda Employers (FUE) with a special focus on eliminating child labour within and beyond supply chains. Last year, a rapid assessment on the economic impact of COVID-19 was conducted by the FUE, the National Organisation of Trade Unions (NOTU) and ECLT Uganda jointly. The outcome of the survey will help identify areas where families, farmers, and small business owners need support. As poverty is one of the root cause of child labour, understanding this context helps tailor specific programmes with immediate impact.

A Memorandum of Understanding between the FUE and the tea company McLeod Russel Uganda was established to formalise collaboration in the fight against child labour to create a space for social dialogue and to identify good practices.



“  
FUE, together with ECLT Uganda and NOTU, are pleased to have conducted a rapid assessment of the impact of COVID-19. We recognise that the fallout of the COVID-19 pandemic could push millions more children into child labour. The rapid assessment findings therefore provide the necessary information for the development of appropriate strategies to mitigate the coronavirus economic burden and forge formal partnerships to ‘build back better’.”

Douglas Opio, Executive Director. Federation of Uganda Employers





# DECENT WORK FOR YOUTH

## A MODEL TO FIGHT CHILD LABOUR AND ENCOURAGE ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT



The La Máquina Youth Employment Model™ was launched in Guatemala by the ECLT Foundation as part of its strategy to fight child labour across commodities in agriculture. Guided by the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, and specifically SDG target 8.7, this four-step model is based on the principle that training young people in relevant skills opens doors to job markets and decent work opportunities.

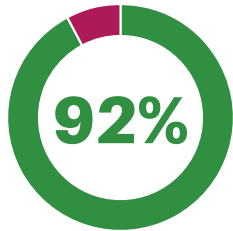


**The La Máquina Youth Employment Model™ is proof that the public-private partnership is important if we want positive impact. Together we work towards eliminating child labour, and the model is a great example of what we can achieve together."**

**Gabriel Aguilera Bolaños,**  
Former Minister of Labour & Social Welfare of Guatemala

Through locally tailored **Vocational Training and Internship Programmes (VTIP)** the model offers young people from rural communities the opportunity to build marketable skills in order to increase their chances of accessing a decent job or continuing their education. The model addresses barriers to youth seeking to enrol in and continue their education, ensuring high completion rates. By improving the employability of youth and addressing existing skills gaps in the job market, **The La Máquina Youth Employment Model™** serves as an economic development strategy for job creation and the eradication of poverty.

### WHAT CHANGED WITH THE LA MÁQUINA MODEL?



Children up to age 18  
**NOT WORKING** in 2020

IN THE PROJECT AREA:



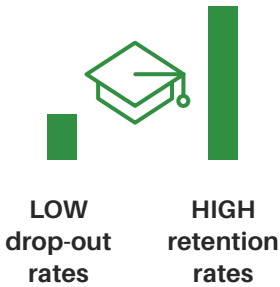
**STUDENTS ENROLLED**  
in the programme in 2020

**97.5%**

**RETENTION RATE**  
in programme  
in 2020

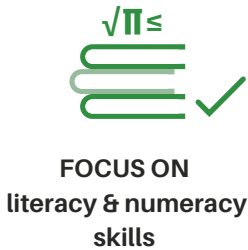


### Improved opportunities for youth



**LOW**  
drop-out  
rates

**HIGH**  
retention  
rates



**FOCUS ON**  
literacy & numeracy  
skills



**INCREASED SKILLS**  
for further education  
& decent work  
opportunities

### How do we bridge the skills gap?

By offering courses:

#### COURSES

- Business & Marketing
- Entrepreneurship
- English & communications
- Computer Science



**INTERNSHIPS  
COMPLETED**  
by 2020

Where did interns go?

#### WORKPLACES

- Ministry of Agriculture
- Caja Rural (rural bank)
- Axioma Business Center
- District Department of Education

### SCALING UP

A how-to guide and other resources have been developed for:

- STATE REPRESENTATIVES
- THE PRIVATE SECTOR
- INTERNATIONAL ORGANISATIONS
- CIVIL SOCIETY
- PRACTITIONERS

who are looking for ways to address existing skills-gaps and employment challenges facing youth living in rural areas.

### FIND OUT MORE

For more information and resources on how this model can help you address skills gaps and employment challenges facing youth living in rural areas visit [www.eclt.org/skills4youth](http://www.eclt.org/skills4youth) or email [advocacy@eclt.org](mailto:advocacy@eclt.org)





# CLOSING KNOWLEDGE GAPS AND PROTECTING CHILDREN

## SOCIAL RETURN ON INVESTMENT

Social Return on Investment enables us to assess the social value of our work through the eyes of the beneficiaries to improve programme design and build far-reaching and sustainable interventions, keeping farmers, families, and children at the heart of what we do. Last year we drew conclusions from the results of six social return on investment studies (SROI) that were conducted in Uganda, Tanzania, and Malawi to streamline the Foundation’s programme approach.



The new programme approach for addressing child labour rests on three pillars:

STRENGTHENING LIVELIHOODS AT HOUSEHOLD LEVEL

SUPPORTING QUALITY EDUCATION, VOCATIONAL AND SKILLS TRAINING AS ALTERNATIVES TO CHILD LABOUR

BUILDING LOCAL CAPACITY



## MAPPING FOR A CHILD LABOUR MONITORING AND REMEDIATION SYSTEM

In Mozambique, ECLT Foundation laid the foundation for a child labour monitoring and remediation system (CLMRS) by completing a mapping study. The mapping study identified the existing child protection systems in the project area, the portfolio of existing actors and services, as well as their capacity gaps. The CLMRS will enable the ECLT-supported project and its participating partners to monitor and remediate cases of child labour in a systematic and sustainable manner.

## BASELINE STUDIES IN MALAWI, UGANDA AND INDONESIA

To better understand the factors that push and pull children to perform hazardous work in agricultural communities, **ECLT completed independent baseline studies in Malawi, Uganda, and Indonesia.** The results of the baseline studies, which were shared with local stakeholders, provide the basis upon which progress towards elimination of child labour in targeted communities will be measured and tracked.





# COUNTRY HIGHLIGHTS

## ECLT IMPACT IN NUMBERS

In this section we take a look at some of the highlights of our work around the world and their contribution to National Action Plans to Eliminate Child Labour as well as the SDGs.

1 NO POVERTY



2 ZERO HUNGER



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



5 GENDER EQUALITY



6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION



SUSTAINABLE  
DEVELOPMENT  
GOALS

8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



10 REDUCED INEQUALITIES



12 RESPONSIBLE CONSUMPTION AND PRODUCTION



15 LIFE ON LAND



16 PEACE AND JUSTICE STRONG INSTITUTIONS



17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS





# FOCUS AREAS

## SUPPORTING EDUCATION IN RURAL AREAS DURING THE PANDEMIC

In Guatemala, the Ministry of Education created an online learning platform for students to continue their education whilst schools were closed due to the pandemic. To support these efforts, ECLT invested in data and internet packages for children at risk of child labour. The project also ran an after-school programme, when the COVID-19 restrictions permitted, to ensure that primary school students could continue to get the support needed to improve their reading, writing, and maths skills.

## DEVELOPING NEW JOB SKILLS FOR YOUTH

The Government of Guatemala suggested initiatives in 2020 should focus on reinforcing job skills for young people, tailored to the local market. Following a consultation with students and communities, ECLT's project identified three main areas for students to be trained on: Baking, Cooking and Hairdressing. 18 students took part in the workshops and developed the technical skills to provide the services or sell the products in which they had received training.

## KEEPING CHILDREN OUT OF CHILD LABOUR AND IN AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

In 2020, teachers in rural communities in Guatemala participated in a virtual course on child labour and the specific learning needs of former child labourers. Participating teachers were eager to adapt the school curricula to welcome and retain students at risk of child labour.



Implementing partners:  
Defensa Niños y Niñas (DNI) Costa Rica



TOP  
NUMBERS

**125** CHILDREN

received 1-on-1 tuition during school closures due to COVID-19.



**60** HOURS

of job skills training were delivered to young people at risk of hazardous child labour



**56** SCHOOL TEACHERS

completed at least one of the modules on the dangers of child labour & teaching children at risk.

SDG  
INDICATORS\*

▶ Number of children aged 5-17 supported with quality education

▶ Number of children aged 14-17 in vocational training

▶ Percentage of children aged 5-7 at risk of child labour



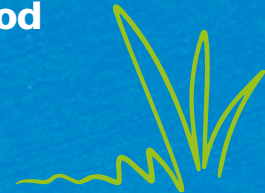
\*Indicators from the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



“

The Internships provide students with possibilities they didn't have before, since the students gain experiences outside their community. Our intern successfully carried out the tasks we gave him and it eased our workload. It has been a very good experience.”

Allan Gaitán and Erica Barrios, Human Resources,  
District Department for Education





# FOCUS AREAS

**Implementing partners:** Jaringan LSM Penghapusan Pekerja Anak (JARAK) in collaboration with subgrantees Lembaga Pengkajian Kemasyarakatan dan Pembangunan (LPKP), Yayasan Tunas Alam Indonesia (SANTAI)

## A UNIQUE PARTNERSHIP TO PUT A STOP TO CHILD LABOUR DISPLACEMENT

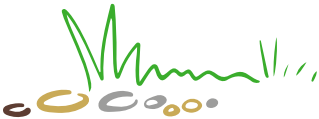
In 2020, the Partnership in Action Against Child Labour in Agriculture (PAACLA), led by the Ministry of National Development Planning (BAPPENAS) and supported by ECLT, continued to bring together the Government, the private sector, and civil society to coordinate and intensify the fight against child labour and put a stop to displacement across sectors.

## DRIVING LOCALLY OWNED DEVELOPMENT

In 2020, the ECLT-supported project KESEMPATAN adopted the child friendly village model to fight child labour in Indonesia. The model was originally a government programme introduced in 2010 to increase the commitment of village government staff, community members and the private sector in the area, mobilize human and financial resources, and implement village level policies to ensure long-term and sustainable impact.

## KEEPING CHILDREN OUT OF CHILD LABOUR AND IN AFTER-SCHOOL CLUBS

The project, in collaboration with the local village governments, established Community Activity Centres in the 12 target villages. These centres offer activities for children from 5-17 years old to prevent them from participating in dangerous work in the fields, and withdraw those already in work.



TOP NUMBERS

**38 PAACLA MEMBERS**  
from government, private industry, and civil society trained on Design, Monitoring & Evaluation for child labour.



**900+ FARMERS & FARM WORKERS**  
trained on child labour regulations in agriculture.



**1,900+ CHILDREN**  
participated in after-school clubs.

NATIONAL ROADMAP INDICATORS\*

- ▶ Participation in tripartite discussions.
- ▶ Development of network at the local level for the action of prevention of child labour.
- ▶ The provision of education & training by the Employers' Association to children who are vulnerable to Child Labour.



\*Roadmap Towards A Child Labour Free Indonesia In 2022



“**PAACLA Indonesia is a strategic and effective way to respond to the challenges of child labour in agriculture and to achieve Child Labour Free Indonesia and the SDGs on elimination of child labour.**”

**Ms. Mahatmi P. Saronto, Director of Manpower and Expansion of Job Opportunities, BAPPENAS**





# FOCUS AREAS

*Implementing partners: CARE Malawi in collaboration with subgrantees MicroLoan Foundation and Rays of Hope*

## A NATIONAL ACTION PLAN FOR CONCRETE & SUSTAINABLE CHANGE

The Government of Malawi officially launched the new National Action Plan on Child Labour (NAP II, 2020 - 2025) in June 2020. To accelerate progress in the elimination of child labour, NAP II takes the best practices identified in the first NAP a step further & focuses on implementation. Through the NAP II, there is now a clear, multi-stakeholder way forward to improve the protection offered to children against child labour and promote decent work throughout Malawi.

## ACCESS TO QUALITY EDUCATION

In 2020, to protect children from entering labour and offer them access to quality education, the ECLT-funded project facilitated the implementation of joint activities with the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology (MoEST). Children are far more likely to stay at school and away from child labour if they have access to appropriate skills development, gender parity, relevant school infrastructure, equipment, school materials, and scholarships.

## DIVERSIFYING RURAL INCOMES FOR FINANCIAL STABILITY

Poverty is a main driver of child labour so providing families with income generation alternatives is key to its eradication. Through Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLA) and other financial inclusion programmes, ECLT's project in Malawi provides families with the skills and financial means to diversify their sources of income so that they do not resort to child labour for additional income generation.

TOP NUMBERS

**400+**  
**TEACHERS**

trained on a life skills curriculum incorporating children's rights.



**100+**  
**SCHOOLS**

assessed for infrastructure improvement.



**660+**  
**EXISTING VSLAS**

benefited from three-day VSLA methodology training.



NATIONAL ACTION PLAN INDICATORS\*

▶ Number of teachers trained on child rights including the evils of child labour.



▶ Capacities of schools to take in withdrawn children assessed.



▶ Number of households in income-generating activities including Village Savings and Loans Associations.

\* Indicators from the National Action Plan on Child Labour (NAP II, 2020 - 2025)



“

**Fiji commends Malawi for the various legislative amendments to further the promotion and protection of human rights, and the adoption of policy frameworks and human rights related action plans such as the National Action Plan on Child Labour Elimination.”**

The State of Fiji at Malawi's Universal Periodic Review of the Human Rights Council in 2020, where 6 other States also welcomed the NAP II





# FOCUS AREAS

## ACCESS TO CLEAN DRINKING WATER FOR IMPROVED HEALTH, BETTER YIELDS, AND SAFETY

With the support and advice of district authorities, ECLT supported the construction of five boreholes. This intervention resulted in three major breakthroughs in the area: better hygiene, a reduction in water-borne diseases, and the protection of community members (especially children) who previously risked their lives walking long distances to fetch water.

## BUILDING SMALLHOLDER FARMER RESILIENCY

To help rural communities and help farmers get back on their feet, ECLT supported iDE's scheme: the Farmer Resilience and Rebuilding Initiative (FRRI). FRRI aims to improve farmer family livelihoods through technical farming & business skills training. Local trainers work with community members to learn about land preparation, sowing, fertilisation, and pest and disease control. Building farmer resilience is increasingly critical as the world faces new crises like COVID-19.

## WORKING TOGETHER FOR LONG-LASTING SOLUTIONS

In 2018, the ECLT Foundation joined together with the Government of Mozambique in a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) to create a platform to combat child labour and strengthen children's rights. Over a 3-year period, the MoU is focusing on removing children from child labour, community education and training increasing awareness and communication, institutional capacity-building and revising legal frameworks. By supporting the Government and taking a holistic approach against child labour, ECLT helps to ensure that progress made for children, farmers, and families in Mozambique is both systemic and sustainable.

*Implementing partners: iDE Mozambique in collaboration with subgrantee Fundação Apoio Amigo (FAA)*

TOP NUMBERS

**4,400+**  
**CHILDREN**  
can now access clean drinking water.



**230+**  
**PARTICIPANTS**  
engaged in 9 different savings groups.



**280**  
**SMALLHOLDER FARMERS**  
participated in technical farming and business skills, improving their profit margin by 44%.



SDG INDICATORS\*

► Proportion of population using safely managed drinking water services.

► Number of VSLA members.

► Number of farmers accessing trainings/initiatives (financial/economic empowerment, insurances, food security).



\*Indicators from the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs)



“

I was without access to funding, plans nor ideas on how to progress. I was involved in drugs, and hopeless for my family. In 2020, I managed to buy 50 kgs of fertilizer thanks to the VSLA group, now my harvest will be the best.”

João Goliate, smallholder farmer and father





# FOCUS AREAS

Implementing partners: Tabora Development Foundation Trust (TDFT) in collaboration with Tanzania Association of Women Leaders in Agriculture and Environment (TAWLAE)

## INDEPENDENT ASSESSMENT FOR PROGRESS

In 2020, an independent expert carried out an assessment of ECLT’s Umoja project which came to an end. The evaluation found that household incomes significantly increased through VSLAs; Model Farm graduates have had improved yields, and the job skills programme has provided new employment and income generation opportunities for participants. The findings will inform the sustainable exit phase of the project.

## A SUSTAINABLE EXIT PHASE

Building from the findings of the assessment, ECLT will be working with TDFT and TAWLAE to enhance sustainability and implement an exit strategy. Launched in early 2021, the Rural Enterprise Support to Eliminate Child Labour in Tanzania (RESET) project aims to strengthen livelihoods, provide vocational and skills trainings for young people, and build local capacity.

## SUPPORT FOR IMPLEMENTATION OF NATIONAL STRATEGY ON CHILD LABOUR

As part of its ongoing commitment to the National Strategy for the elimination of child labour in Tanzania in 2020, ECLT held training workshops for Ministry and Crop Board officials on the integration of the Child Labour Code of Practice with the Agriculture Sector Development Plan and the National Child Labour Strategy.

TOP NUMBERS

**10,000+**  
**COMMUNITY MEMBERS**  
attended awareness-raising events on child labour (independent evaluation, 2020).

**180+**  
**YOUNG PEOPLE**  
graduated from job skills training (independent evaluation, 2020).

**660+**  
**CHILDREN & PARENTS**  
participated in literacy and numeracy boost classes (independent evaluation, 2020).

NATIONAL STRATEGY INDICATORS\*

- ▶ Increase the proportion of household members reached with child labour messages.
- ▶ Children aged 15-17 years in hazardous work access economic skills.
- ▶ Number of farmers accessing trainings/initiatives (financial/ economic empowerment, insurances, food security).

\*The Tanzania National Strategy on Elimination of Child Labour 2018 – 2022



“

The ECLT supported training workshops with the officials of the Crop Boards in 2020 have ensured continuing policy alignment and integration around the Code of Practice, towards achieving a more systemic approach in addressing child labour across agriculture and other sectors in Tanzania.”

Mr. Edmund Zani, coffee board,  
and Mr. Dotto Mwalembé, tobacco board





# FOCUS AREAS

Implementing partners: Uganda Women’s Effort to Save Orphans (UWESO) in collaboration with the ECLT Affiliate Office

## SUPPORTING POLICY DEVELOPMENT AT NATIONAL AND DISTRICT LEVEL

In 2020, the Government of Uganda adapted the National Action Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour 2020/21 – 2024/25 (NAP II) to the new challenges posed by COVID-19. The ECLT Affiliate Office in Uganda, and other key stakeholders, supported the integration of COVID-19 implications on child labour into the plan, which is for launch in 2021. ECLT Uganda also collaborated with the Hoima and Kikuube District Technical Working Groups on the development of the District Action Plans on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

## KEEPING CHILDREN IN SCHOOL AND OUT OF CHILD LABOUR

Working in consultation with schools, communities, caregivers, and children, ECLT’s project in Uganda identified children at risk of child labour and supplied them with school materials. For children who were previously involved in child labour the project also supported them to access psychosocial support to facilitate their journey back into school, and/or job skills training. Girls were also provided with hygiene materials to keep them in education all year round.

## STRENGTHENING HOUSEHOLDS’ LIVELIHOODS

In 2020, over 3,200 caregivers accessed savings and loans support in Hoima and Kikuube districts. During the last year, the project team focused their efforts on sustainability for the VSLA groups by linking the groups with formal financial institutions, and a further 72 groups became eligible to apply for Government poverty alleviation programmes.



TOP NUMBERS

800+

STUDENTS were provided with scholastic materials to support school attendance.



100+

FORMER CHILD LABOURERS aged 15-17 years old accessed psychosocial support to facilitate their journey through secondary education.



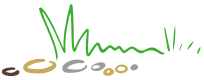
110+

NEW VSLAS were formed and trained in savings and loans methodology.



NATIONAL ACTION PLAN INDICATORS\*

► Quality of learning environment.



► Number of children withdrawn, rehabilitated, and integrated into their communities.

► Number of Income Generating Groups formed.



“

The NAP provides a framework for the prevention, withdrawal, rehabilitation, and integration of children from child labour. The successful implementation will require a multi-sectoral approach, building synergies, effective reporting and documentation, mainstreaming, innovation, participation and commitment by all stakeholders, supportive policy, legal and regulatory framework.”

Mr. Frank Tumwebaze, Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development

\* Uganda National Action Plan for Elimination of Child Labour 2020/2021 – 2024/2025





2020

BALANCE SHEET (USD)

ASSETS

Treasury	4,163,628
Debtors	552,243
Non-Current Assets	104,460

TOTAL	4,820,331
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LIABILITIES & CAPITAL

Short Term

Payables	351,701
Provision for Future Project	3,680,000
Accrued Expenses & Deferred Income	147,280

SUB TOTAL	641,350
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Capital & Reserve Funds

Foundation Capital	53,144
Additional Capital Contributions	127,546
Brought Forward as at 1.1.2018	452,576
Result of Exercise	8,085

SUB TOTAL	641,350
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TOTAL	4,820,331
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INCOME & EXPENDITURE (USD)

INCOME

Donor contributions	4,163,628
Bank interest and other receipts	552,243

TOTAL INCOME	5,741,975
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EXPENSES

Programme

In-Country Programmes	3,017,551
Global Advocacy and Research	1,053,582
TOTAL PROGRAMME EXPENSES	4,071,133

Administration	1,150,942
Financial Adjustments	511,815

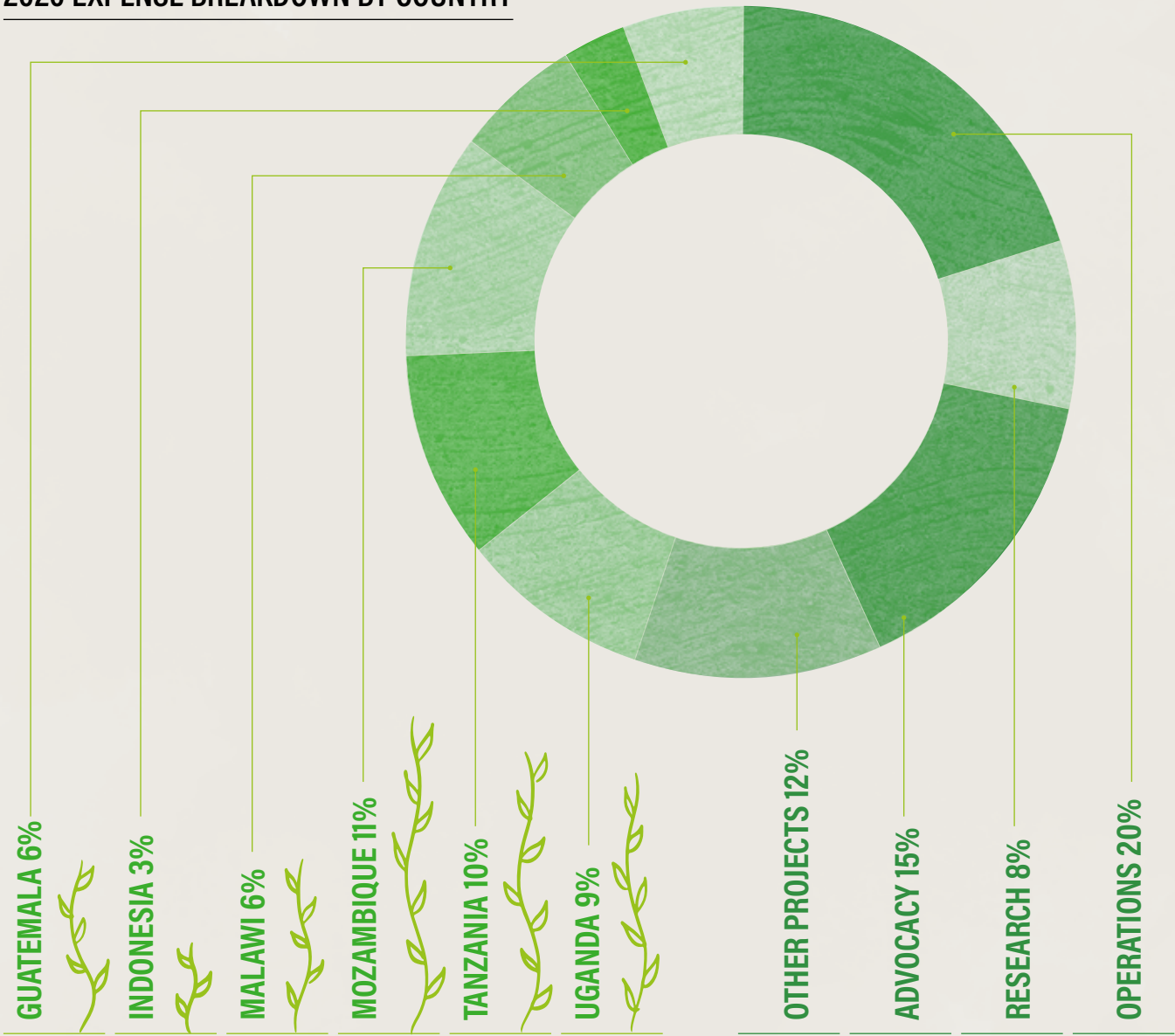
TOTAL EXPENSES	5,733,890
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SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	8,085
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Extraordinary Income	0
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NET RESULT FOR THE YEAR	8,085
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2020 EXPENSE BREAKDOWN BY COUNTRY





ECLT STAFF MEMBERS

- Karima Jambulatova**  
Executive Director
- Barbara Herentrey**  
HR and Administration Manager
- Gosha Stehlé**  
HR and Administration Officer
- Franck Archinard**  
Finance Manager
- Irena Manola**  
Finance & Executive Officer
- Innocent Mugwagwa**  
Senior Programme Manager
- Stéphanie Garde**  
Programme Manager
- Roi Fernández-Agudo**  
Programme Officer
- Nicholas McCoy**  
Director of Advocacy, Partnership and Engagement
- Laura Collier**  
Communication & Engagement Manager
- Cleo Wright**  
Advocacy & Communications Coordinator

NON-EXECUTIVE ADVISORS

International Labour Organization  
designated technical advisor  
Benjamin Smith

BOARD MEMBERS

- Mike Ligon**  
ECLT President  
Universal Corporation
- Elaine McKay**  
ECLT Vice President  
Japan Tobacco International and  
Japan Tobacco Inc.
- Simon Green**  
ECLT Treasurer (until November)  
Alliance One International, Inc.
- Michiel Reerink**  
ECLT Treasurer (from November)  
Alliance One International, Inc.
- Mauro Gonzalez**  
Philip Morris International
- Surinder Sond**  
Imperial Brands, PLC
- Mercedes Vazquez**  
International Tobacco Growers  
Association
- Matthew Wilde**  
Contraf-Nicotex-Tobacco GMBH
- Jennie Galbraith**  
British American Tobacco  
Holdings
- Emmett Harrison**  
Swedish Match
- Itsanne Fokkema**  
Hail & Cotton Inc
- Glyn Morgan**  
Premium Tobacco
- Mette Valentin**  
Scandinavian Tobacco Group
- Simon Steyne**  
Independent Expert



IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

- Guatemala**  
  
Defensa Niños y Niñas (DNI),  
Costa Rica
- Indonesia**  
  
Jaringan LSM Penghapusan  
Pekerja Anak (JARAK)  
  
Lembaga Pengkajian  
Kemasyarakatan dan  
Pembangunan (LPKP)  
  
Yayasan Tunas Alam Indonesia  
(SANTAI)
- Malawi**  
  
CARE Malawi  
MicroLoan Foundation  
Rays of Hope
- Mozambique**  
  
iDE Mozambique  
Fundação Apoio Amigo (FAA)
- Tanzania**  
  
Tabora Development Foundation  
Trust (TDFT)  
  
Tanzania Association of Women  
Leaders in Agriculture and  
Environment (TAWLAE)
- Uganda**  
  
Uganda Women’s Effort to Save  
Orphans (UWESO) in collaboration  
with ECLT Affiliate Office

EXTERNAL EVALUATORS

RSK Environment  
Envoy Partnerships

EXTERNAL AUDITORS

RSM Audit Switzerland SA





## ECLT Foundation

The ECLT Foundation is committed to collaborative solutions for children and their families that combat the root causes of child labour in communities where tobacco is grown.

We advocate for strong policies, share best practices to multiply our impact, and engage rural families so they can benefit from farming while ensuring that their children are healthy, educated, and encouraged to reach their full potential.

A better life for **children,**  
**farmers,** and **families**

[www.eclt.org](http://www.eclt.org)

