



Alliance 8.7 Supply Chain Action Group

Strategic Workshop

21 June 2017, Berlin, Germany

Concept Note

Overview

The vast majority of child and forced labour occurs in the private economy. Some 21 million people are in forced labour, and 5.5 million of them are children. Forced labour generates some USD 150 billion annually in private profits.¹ In a 2012 survey, the ILO estimated that 22 per cent of people in forced labour are victims of forced sexual exploitation, and 68 per cent are victims of forced labour exploitation, for example in agriculture, construction, domestic work or manufacturing. The Asia-Pacific region accounts for by far the largest number of forced labourers – almost 12 million (56 per cent) of the global total – whereas countries of Central, South-Eastern and Eastern Europe (non-EU) and the Commonwealth of Independent States (CIS) have the highest prevalence rate with 4.2 victims per 1,000 inhabitants.²

Victims of forced labour in economic activities in sectors such as domestic work, agriculture and other economic activities, generate an estimated US\$51 billion in profits per year. Of those, the profits from forced labour in agriculture, including forestry and fishing, are estimated to be US\$9 billion per year. Profits for other economic activities are estimated at US\$34 billion per year, encompassing construction, manufacturing, mining and utilities.³

There are 168 million child labourers, 85 million of whom are in hazardous work, likely to jeopardize their health, safety or morals. 59% of child labour is in agriculture, and agriculture-based enterprises and supply chains are at particular risk.⁴ Child labour that occurs in mining and construction is almost always hazardous.⁵

Mostly unpaid, family labour, child labour in supply chains is a sign of weak supply chain management and low productivity, and it poses a significant threat to the sustainability of the enterprises concerned.

The Committee on Decent Work in Global Supply Chains of the 2016 International Labour Conference found that while global supply chains can be an “engine of development”,

¹ Profits and poverty: the economics of forced labour / Geneva: ILO, 2014

² ILO global estimate of forced labour: results and methodology / International Labour Office- Geneva: ILO, 2012

³ *ibid*

⁴ Marking progress against child labour : Global estimates and trends 2000-2012 / Geneva: ILO, 2013

⁵ Children in Hazardous Work: what we know, what we need to do / Geneva: ILO, 2011

promoting technology transfer, new production practices and a way for enterprises to move into higher value added activities, bringing increased productivity, skills development and enhanced competitiveness, failures at all levels within global supply chains have contributed to decent work deficits, and the presence of child labour and forced labour in some global supply chains is acute in the lower segments of the chain.⁶

In addition, child labour and forced labour in supply chains producing for domestic markets is a significant problem.

Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals of Agenda 2030 calls on States *"to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms"*. Alliance 8.7 was launched in September 2016 as a global partnership initiative of governments, employers' and workers' organizations, international organizations, civil society organizations and other potential partners, seeking to help States achieve Target 8.7. Its establishment has been informed by a series of regional consultations.

A Global Coordination Group is being set up to guide the efforts of the Alliance, which pursues four overarching goals:

1. Accelerating action towards compliance with the target
2. Conducting research and sharing knowledge
3. Driving innovation
4. Increasing and leveraging resources

Because achieving Target 8.7 also means ensuring that supply chains are free from forced labour and child labour, during a strategy workshop at Wilton Park in the UK in February 2017, Alliance 8.7 members decided to establish a Supply Chain Action Group.

The Supply Chain Action Group is developing a strategic work plan to guide its efforts over the next five years, starting with the identification of deliverables for the IV Global Conference on Child Labour in Argentina, in November 2017. The work of the Supply Chain Action Group will be guided by the principles enshrined in the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the ILO's Tripartite Declaration Principles on Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, particularly as they concern child labour and forced labour.

At the Wilton Park workshop, the Supply Chain Action Group emphasized the importance of not duplicating efforts and noted that Alliance 8.7 is not a policy-making, standard setting or supervisory body. Members agreed to work on further mapping and learning, the production of best practice guidelines for employers and other stakeholders, linked to existing ones (e.g. those developed by OSCE and ASEAN), to serve as a "clearing house" on data, information and best practice, and to develop a calendar of upcoming events for engagement, amongst others.

⁶ ILO Reports of the Committee on Decent Work in Global Supply Chains: Resolution and conclusions submitted for adoption by the Conference, International Labour Conference, 2016

To make further progress on the work of the Supply Chain Action Group, currently chaired by the ILO in close coordination with the International Employers' Organization (IOE) and the International Trade Union Confederation (ITUC), it is proposed to hold a strategic workshop in Berlin in June. This convening will bring together a diverse range of partners critical to achieving Target 8.7 in the area of supply chains. The workshop will be hosted by the German Ministry for Labour and Social Affairs and will also receive financial support from the Dutch Government and the US Department of Labor.

The ILO, the tripartite UN agency where governments and workers' and employers' organisations participate on an equal basis to address issues related to the world of work, is leading the supply chain group.

Participants in the workshop will include governments, employers' and workers' organizations, international organizations, civil society organizations, academic and other researchers, individual experts, and other potential partners.

In addition to the Supply Chain Action Group, other Alliance 8.7 Action Groups have been established in the following areas:

- Conflict and humanitarian settings
- Rule of law and governance
- Migration
- Rural economy
- Commercial sexual exploitation

Workshop objectives

The strategic, one day workshop has the following objectives:

- Gather inputs for the development of a work plan for the Alliance 8.7 Supply Chain Action Group, based on a mapping of existing initiatives.
- Agree on the modalities for implementing the Action Group work plan.
- Discuss the monitoring of the Action Group work plan, including Key Performance Indicators.



Alliance 8.7 Supply Chain Action Group STRATEGIC WORKSHOP FINAL AGENDA 21 June 2017

Steigenberger Hotel am Kanzleramt - Ella-Trebe-Straße 5 - 10557 Berlin, Germany

Workshop organized by the Secretariat for Alliance 8.7, currently held by the International Labour Organization (ILO), with the financial support of the Government of the Netherlands and the United States Department of Labor.

09:00 – 09:30	Registration
09:30 – 10:00	<p>Opening session: Welcome and introduction</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Susanne Hoffmann, Director-General, European and International Employment and Social Policies, Federal Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs (BMAS), Germany • Claudia Menne, Head, Section, Confederation of German Trade Unions (DGB), Germany • Paul Noll, The Confederation of German Employers' Associations (BDA), Germany <p><i>Moderator:</i> Dr. Annette Niederfranke, Director ILO Representation in Germany</p>
10:00 – 10:30	<p>Update and overview of Alliance 8.7</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Beate Andrees, Chief, FUNDAMENTALS Branch, ILO <p><i>Followed by brief Q&A</i></p>
10:30 – 11:00	The current landscape on child labour and forced labour in supply chains: a review of an initial scoping, with inputs from participants
11:00– 11:30	Coffee break / Networking
11:30 – 13:00	<p>Four parallel working groups will provide inputs for the development of the Action Group's work plan:</p> <p>Working Group 1 KNOWLEDGE GAPS AND RESEARCH</p> <p>Presentation: Initial considerations regarding methodologies to estimate child labour and forced labour in supply chains by Furio Rosati, ILO</p> <p>Facilitator: Annie Ven Wezel, The Netherlands Trade Union Confederation</p> <p>Rapporteur: Conny Olde Olthof, Government of the Netherlands</p> <p>Discussion Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What are the major gaps in the knowledge base regarding forced and child labour in supply chains? What qualitative and quantitative information is needed to support accelerated progress in tackling them? 2) What should be the methodology for quantifying the prevalence of child labour and forced labour in supply chains?

	<p>3) What current research initiatives should Alliance 8.7 support or coordinate with? How can the Action Group promote joint research initiatives and improved coordination?</p> <p>Working Group 2 CAPACITY BUILDING AND TOOLS</p> <p>Facilitator: Ecem Pirlar, International Organization of Employers Rapporteur: <i>TBD</i></p> <p>Discussion Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) To more effectively address forced and child labour in supply chains, what capacity strengthening measures are required? For governments? Workers' and employers' organizations? Enterprises? Communities? 2) Are existing capacity building tools sufficient (i.e. they only need to be used more widely)? Or are new tools/methodologies/approaches required? How can the Action Group contribute to their development? <p>Working Group 3 PRIORITY COUNTRIES AND SUPPLY CHAINS</p> <p>Facilitator: Cindy Berman, Ethical Trade Initiative Rapporteur: Victoria Giulietti, Union Industrial Argentina</p> <p>Discussion Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) What criteria should be used to prioritize countries for direct action? How can the Action Group intervene most effectively? 2) What criteria should be used to identify specific supply chains for attention and action? 3) What modalities can the Action Group use for direct action? <p>Working Group 4 ADVOCACY AND PARTNERSHIP</p> <p>Facilitator: Thomas Wissing, ILO Rapporteur: Ruth Pojman, Organization for Security and Cooperation in Europe</p> <p>Discussion Questions:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1) How can the Action Group most effectively advocate for the goals of Alliance 8.7, and accelerated progress in eliminating forced and child labour in supply chains? 2) What are the key opportunities and upcoming events/processes? 3) Who should be the target of advocacy efforts? 4) How can learnings from business networks (such as the Child Labour Platform and Business Network on Forced Labour) most effectively feed into the work of the Action Group? 5) How can the Action Group stimulate innovative partnerships? How can it strengthen existing ones?
13:00 – 14:30	Lunch break
14:30 – 15:45	Group Work continues, each group to also focus on key performance indicators
15:45 – 16:00	Coffee break / Networking
16:00 – 17:30	Plenary session: Conclusions of working groups (reporting back), next steps
17:30 – 18:00	Follow-up commitments and closing ceremony