



ALLIANCE

Pathfinder Country

**Launch, National Consultation and Strategic
Planning Workshop**

REPORT

Abuja, Nigeria

[9 MAY 2019]

1. BACKGROUND

The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, universally adopted by all 193 UN Member States, calls for *“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”* (Sustainable Development Goals (SDG), Target 8.7). The achievement of SDG 8.7 and the scale of the challenge demands urgent and coordinated global action leveraging expertise across a wide range of stakeholders.

Alliance 8.7 is an inclusive global partnership that provides strategic coordination of the diverse stakeholders with an interest in achieving Target 8.7. Alliance 8.7 provides a platform for governments, workers’ and employers’ organizations, UN agencies, regional organizations, partners for development, the private sector, civil society organizations, academia, experts, the media and other actors supporting the aims of SDG 8.7, to come together to share information, best practices, lessons learned and to demonstrate progress. The Alliance focuses on accelerating timelines, conducting research, driving innovation, and maximizing the impact of resources. It engages partners in a coordinated manner to avoid duplication of efforts and to channel funding towards proven practices for replication and scale while ensuring continued focus on root causes and sustainable policy change. It was formally launched in New York on September 21, 2017. It is chaired at the global level by Australia and Argentina is the vice chair. The ILO acts as the Secretariat. Alliance 8.7 is further coordinated through its four Action Groups which drive research, advocacy and implementation efforts: Supply Chain, Conflict and Humanitarian settings, Migration, and Rule of Law and Governance.

At the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour held in Buenos Aires in November 2017, the Government of Nigeria made a commitment to join Alliance 8.7 as a Pathfinder Country. The Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment formally confirmed this commitment in a letter to ILO dated May 21, 2018. As a “Pathfinder Country”, Nigeria is willing to try new approaches from which others can learn and to accelerate efforts commensurate with the urgent timeframes. By highlighting the leadership of these countries and helping them to succeed, Alliance 8.7 will spur others to act. More so, Nigeria’s participation as a Pathfinder Country is well-received, given its position as Africa’s most populous nation and its efforts towards Target 8.7.

To operationalize this commitment, the Government of Nigeria, through the support of ILO, established a Technical Committee, appointed the Permanent Secretary to the Ministry of Labour and Employment as Mr. Alliance, to lead Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria, and organized its launch and national consultation which was held on the 9th of May 2019 at the NAF conference center, Abuja Nigeria. Mr. Alliance represents the Federal Minister of Labour and Employment as the Chair of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria. The United Nations Office on Drugs, and Crime (UNODC) Country Office in Nigeria as co-chair while the ILO Country Office for Nigeria serves as the Secretariat in collaboration with the Child Labour Unit of the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment.

1a. Objectives

The objectives of the National Consultation Workshop were to:

- Develop a common understanding among stakeholders about Alliance 8.7 and what it means to be a “Pathfinder Country”;
- Review and assess the progress made by Nigeria to combat child labour, forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking, including existing national action plans and policies;
- Identify specific pilot interventions that Alliance 8.7 stakeholders in Nigeria can implement in the short term; and
- Secure renewed commitments from stakeholders to continue to collaborate and coordinate to effectively operationalize the Alliance.

1b. Expected Outcomes

The key expected outcomes of the workshop were:

- Participants will have a clear understanding of Alliance 8.7 and renew their commitment to accelerate efforts to combat child labour, forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking;
- Participants will identify priority actions that are needed to achieve SDG 8.7 in Nigeria and develop a roadmap for the operationalization of the Alliance at country level; and
- Participants will agree to pool their efforts and resources to implement a concrete short-term pilot intervention, which will be followed up and coordinated by Mr. Alliance 8.7

1c. Participants

A total number of 250 participants were present at the launch comprising senior government officials from the Ministries, Departments and agencies; representatives of UN agencies, international organizations and CSOs; representatives from employers' and workers' organizations, and the journalists.



Participants
Attendance list.pdf

2. OPENING AND LAUNCH OF ALLIANCE 8.7 IN NIGERIA

The Alliance 8.7 launch was graciously attended by High Level Officials of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Social partners, donors, embassies, UN agencies, International organizations, Non-Governmental organizations, Ministries, Departments and Agencies and the press. The Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, represented by the Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Prof. Stephen Ocheni, launched Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria. The meeting commenced with the introduction of dignitaries, these were: The representatives of: Minister of Labour and Employment (the Permanent Secretary, Mr Williams Alo), the Permanent Secretary (the Director Inspectorate, Dauda Ajuwon), UN Resident Coordinator (Oliver Stolpe, UNODC Country Rep), United State Department Of Labour (Honore Tchcu.), NECA(Adenike Ajala), and Nigerian Labour Congress (Maureen Oniya), The Country Director of ILO, Mr Dennis Zulu, The Secretary General of the Trade Union Congress, and 1st Ms Alliance, Ms Ibukun Odusote (the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Environment). Other dignitaries specially recognized included the SOS National Director, representative of IOM.

2a. Remarks and Good will messages.

- The Minister of Labour and Employment, represented by Mr. William Alo, welcomed the over 200 participants to the national consultation and launch of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria. He summarized the efforts Nigeria had made at addressing the scourge of child labour and human trafficking and appreciated the ILO and US Department of Labour and other agencies or donors for their partnership. Underscoring the importance of addressing child labour, forced labour and human trafficking as key challenges in achieving SDGs, the Minister, emphasized that it was a collective responsibility by all stakeholders, hence the importance of Alliance 8.7. Furthermore, he asserted that '*Our children should be in school and not at work*' and promised that the Ministry of Labour and Employment will continue in its efforts towards addressing the elimination of forced labour and child labour in Nigeria.
- Director of ILO Abuja country office, Dennis Zulu, reminded participants of the importance of the occasion stating that it was also strategic as this year marks the centenary celebration of the ILO globally and 60 years in Africa and in Nigeria. The Director stated that the achievement of SDG 8.7 requires integrated thinking, coordinated actions, effective policy making and efficient use of resources which underscores the importance of Alliance 8.7. He said Alliance 8.7 is intended to realize

extraordinary and ground-breaking ways of bringing multiple actors together for concerted and focused actions to help Nigeria achieve the goal and targets set forth in SDG 8 and other related SDGs. He enumerated the various interventions of the ILO in the elimination of child labour and human trafficking and affirmed that at the heart of ILO's various intervention is the Decent Work Agenda. The ILO has supported the Nigeria Government to develop the Decent work Country Programme which looks at job creation, rights at work, social protection and social dialogue, with gender equality as a crosscutting objective. He thanked the Vice President, the Minister, UN resident coordinator, other UN agencies for their participation and the EU for supporting the launch through the FMM West Africa project. In closing, He appreciated members of the Alliance 8.7. Technical Committee led by Mr Alliance 8.7, for their dogged commitment to the establishment of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria and launch and reassured participants of ILO continuous commitment to working together with all stakeholders for the sustainable achievement of the SDG 8 and particularly supporting Alliance 8.7 in the country.

- The UN Resident Coordinator, Represented by UNODC Country Rep, Oliver Stolpe, discussed the global reports on forced labour, human trafficking and child labour and highlighted that the increased reporting of victims and arrest of traffickers could be as a result of increased capacity to identify victims and/or an increased number of trafficked victims. He stated that Nigeria is a source, transit, and destination country for women and children subjected to child/forced labor and sex trafficking, and a source country for men subjected to forced labor. He called upon practitioners to identify the different and often complex contexts and realities in which sexual exploitation takes place in order to respond to victims' physical, psychological, social and economic needs. He emphasized the need for dedicated training for practitioners and was optimistic that the universal support for the SDGs is likely to generate a new momentum to end slavery, trafficking, forced labour and child labour. the current United Nations Sustainable Development Partnership Framework (UNSDPF) with the Government of Nigeria hinged on the principles of the UN system in Nigeria "Delivering as One" (DaO) approach. He finally thanked the UN agencies who had supported the Alliance 8.7 initiative in Nigeria, ILO, UNODC and IOM for 'Delivering as One'.
- Representative of NECA, Adenike Adebayo-Ajala, appreciated Nigeria's ability to key into international instruments in addressing social issues - like child rights, human trafficking, forced child labour, etc. She highlighted codes of conduct that guide employment of children and the accompanying rights, promoting child employer protection laws, she asserted that NECA has made sure that the child labour laws are practiced in the sense that children are not employed on any form of occupation within the Organized Private Sector.
- Representative of the Nigeria Labour Congress (NLC) in her goodwill message mentioned that despite all efforts to keep children out of any form of occupation, they still populate the manufacturing industries as well as other sectors. She pointed out that innovations must be made to implement the Alliance 8.7. She also stated that counterpart funding should be included in the alliance to make it work, for instance, policies that attack the minimum wage implementation e.g. tax and increase in petroleum products should not be made to work, otherwise poverty, child labour, etc. will be on the increased.
- Representative of Trade Union Congress (TUC), Bobbi Kaigama observed that minimum wage should remove the threshold that hinders employee claim of rights. He believes that minimum wage must protect human dignity and not the economy of the bourgeois or the privileged few. He also noted that after the launch of Alliance of 8.7, there is need to employ the spirit of Alliance 8.7 in its implementation. He also said that the Alliance technical committee should develop communication plan using the media in elaborating the successes and challenges. He rounded up by craving the indulgence of Federal Government to ensure the spirit of Alliance 8.7 is rooted in our laws and character, such that child labour, forced labour, human trafficking can be eschewed in our system.
- The representative of USDOL, Honore Tchcu, commended ILO for this launch and assured that US Department of Labour is proud to be part of Nigeria's effort in addressing these social menaces. He pointed out that the department has partnered with ECOWAS on a couple of areas around forced child

labour, sub regional level of US also supported ECOWAS technical department to engage on these issues.

2b. Presentation on Alliance 8.7 by Mr Jean-Marie Kagabo and Emmanuel Igbinosun.

The presentation was in form of questions and answer. The Duet discussed the SDGs with focus on Alliance 8.7; highlighted global estimates on forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour in all its forms and pointed out the opportunities and benefits of Alliance 8.7. The presentation stated the four objectives of the Alliance namely: Accelerating and Coordinating Action; Conducting Research and Sharing Knowledge; Driving Innovation and Increasing and Leveraging Resources. It was stated that Alliance 8.7 has over 200 partners at the global level, comprising of Governments, Representatives of employers' organizations (and businesses through business networks), Representatives of workers' organizations, International Civil Society Organizations, UN and Int. Organizations (IOM, UNICEF, OHCHR, FAO, UNHCR, OHCHR, OECD), Regional Organizations (OSCE, African Union...), Research Institutions (e.g. UN University and partners). The presentation recognized that Nigeria has indicated interest to be a pathfinder country, identified a focal point, and organized the strategic workshop and stated the following steps required to achieve **the Alliance, these are:** Identify priority actions, set up coordination structure, mobilize necessary resources, collect data, intensify technical support and share practices.

2c. Poetry Presentation by Kola Falade (Pari Olodo). The poet captured the dangers of human trafficking and forced labour by the ravaged social and economic backwardness of Africa. He illustrated the effect of child labour on the child in his poetry. It was indeed an amazing and emotional poem that captivated the audience. It was a poem that revealed the true African situation of child labour from the perspective of the child.

2d. Key note address and Launch of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria by The Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo, represented by the Minister of State for Labour and Employment, Prof. Stephen Ocheni.

The Vice President expressed delight to be part of the National Consultation and Launch of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria and that Nigeria was proud of the opportunity to demonstrate its unreserved determination to achieve Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): the elimination of forced labor, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labor in all its forms. He informed participants that Nigeria has worked tirelessly towards achieving the SDGs after its adoption in 2015 and that Nigeria's initiative to participate as a Pathfinder Country of Alliance 8.7 was just the latest example of these efforts. He enumerated the various achievements made in the elimination of the afore listed menaces, but however agreed that despite the achievements and best intentions, Nigeria still had a long way to go. 43% of Nigerian children between the ages of 5-11 are engaged in economic activities, according to the National Bureau of Statistics (NBS) 2017 Survey. Also many children are exploited as child labourers and are exposed to hazardous situations such as child trafficking, sex work, drug peddling and hawking.

He embraced the spirit of Alliance 8.7 and encouraged all stakeholders present at the meeting to do same. He further stated that the presence of various key stakeholders at the launch was a testament of the importance of achieving Target 8.7 and to the partnerships that are necessary to make it happen. He stated that each partner has a role to play in the Alliance, as policy-makers, program implementers, advocates, employers, trade unionists, educators, community leaders, researchers, journalists and many others and appealed that all partners bring their wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise to bear on the elimination of child labour, forced labour and trafficking in persons in the interest of Nigeria.

He finally reassured participants that the Government of Nigeria will explore new ways to improve data gathering and data sharing to ensure full transparency on these issues. He commended the efforts of Mr

Alliance and the Technical Committee in organizing the event and pledged the full support of the Federal Government. He then formally declared the National Consultation and launch of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria opened.

3. NATIONAL CONSULTATION

This session was coordinated by Alliance 8.7 Technical Committee. This session provided an overview of the current status and structure of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria and identified the priority actions, outcomes and outputs for the Alliance 8.7 action plan. Each of the groups was led by a moderator and rapporteur. A presentation was made by Dr Agatha Kolawole, on the status of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria. In her presentation, she stated that the country has indicated its interest to be a pathfinder country, appointed the Permanent Secretary as the lead of Alliance 8.7; established a National Technical Committee and identified six priority actions which are: supply chains, migration, Humanitarian settings and conflict, Rule of law and Governance, Sexual exploitation and Rural Development. Brief presentations were made by the lead agencies on each of the various action groups (thematic papers are annexed to this report). Out of the six action groups, three have been identified as expedient for Nigeria. These are: Supply Chain, Conflict and Humanitarian setting and Migration.

3b. GROUP WORK: After the thematic paper presentations, participants were divided into thematic groups to identify the various outcomes and outputs to be achieved by the action groups. Below is the result of the group work.

- SUPPLY CHAIN.

OUTCOME	OUTPUT
1.) National compliance to existing codes of conduct and standards of procedures	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National Policy on Child Labour and National Action Plan (NAP) on the Elimination of child labour reviewed and adopted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National codes of conduct and standards of procedures, based on global best practices reviewed or developed and adopted
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • National statistics on rate of child labour in existence
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Certification of products from cocoa and mining supply chains
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Monitoring framework on child labour supply chain strengthened
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Capacity of stakeholders strengthened to respond to the elimination of child labour in supply chains (Strengthening the regulatory bodies and law enforcement agencies to ensure compliance of labour laws and Strengthening social dialogue between stakeholders)
2.) Enhanced Child Labour prevention and treatment mechanisms by providing livelihood support to	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Alternative Livelihood supports to parents of victims of child labour provided • Vocational training/ skills acquisitions provided to child labour victims in 50 LGAs
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educational support services provided to victims of child labour in 50 LGAs.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Emergency school enrolment programmes in 100 communities where child labour is endemic undertaken.

victims of Child Labour and their parents.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity of Child Labour Unit and Labour Inspectors in the area of identification and withdrawal of Child labour victims strengthened.
3.) Building effective institutional arrangement for awareness creation and mass mobilization against child labour	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Joint sensitization workshop between workers and Employers of labour in the Supply Chains. Development of IEC Materials to Educate the masses on the danger of Child Labour in Supply Chains
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> 100, Local Governments Steering Committees on Child Labour and 100 Communities Steering Committees on child labour established.
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Referral Center established by building a Child Labour Information Management Portal using case management approach.

- MIGRATION

OUTCOME	OUTPUT
1) Improved policy, coordination and cooperation structures amongst state and non-state actors at all levels on migration and irregular migration that occurs inter-alia through Trafficking In Persons (TIP) and Smuggling of Migrants (SOM)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen normative guidance to advance the implementation of global instruments by members states such as 'the UNTOC¹ and the protocols on Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants; the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration. Coordination structures at federal and state levels are strengthened to prevent TIP/SOM, protect victims and provide sustainable rehabilitation and reintegration support. Referral mechanisms for vulnerable returnees is strengthened in line with the NRM and guideline for the protection and assistance of trafficked victims.
2) State and non-state actors provide enhanced victim centered and gender sensitive rehabilitation and reintegration support to Victims of Trafficking and other vulnerable returnees exposed to violence, exploitation and abuse.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Capacity of stakeholders strengthened to provide comprehensive assistance and care at all levels. Improve coordination of services and referral mechanisms to support and assist VOTs and returnees in line with the Guidelines on National Referral Mechanism for the Protection and Assistance of Trafficked Victims (NRM).
3) Enhance legal and criminal justice response for preventing and combating trafficking in persons and countering smuggling of migrants	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthen capacity of judges, prosecutors, law enforcement, border guards, front line officers, etc. on investigation, prosecution, adjudication of TiP and SoM as well as on victim and witness protection; Improve and facilitate regional and international cooperation on mutual legal assistance, extradition, formal and informal cooperation between the judiciary and law enforcement agencies
4) Migrants, potential migrants, and the larger community are able to make safe and informed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Awareness raising efforts are implemented at grassroots level to prevent TiP, SoM and promote safe and regular migration pathways.

¹ United Nations Convention Against Transnational Organised Crime

knowledge-based decisions on migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Enhanced evidence-base data on migration, TiP and SoM, is available to guide future intervention efforts.
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• CONFLICT AND HUMANITARIAN SETTING

OUTCOME	OUTPUT
1) Social safety nets in conflict and disaster affected communities enhanced	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Reduction of human trafficking, child labour and abuse in 50 endemic local government areas. Basic school enrollment and retention strengthened in 50 endemic local government areas <i>(extension of school feeding programs to camp schools in conflict and humanitarian settings)</i>
2) Community mediation and peacebuilding process enhanced in 50 endemic local government areas	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Strengthening capacity of the peacebuilding structures in the 50 endemic local government areas De-radicalization and reintegration of children associated with armed forces and armed groups (CAAFAG)
3) Strengthening public private partnerships to rebuild community infrastructure	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Resuscitation of community life, and infrastructure (water, roads, market, power)
4) Strengthening engagement with major counter terrorism, conflict, humanitarian and disaster stakeholders	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Collaboration and coordination and service delivery strengthened.

4. Follow-up Activities

Mr. Alliance will coordinate the technical Committee members to develop an Action plan for Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria based on the identified outcomes and outputs stated above. The final Action plan will be presented to Members of Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria and available resources be identified The Committee shall also develop a communication strategy for Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria which will also be validated by members. The Federal Ministry of Labour, The Technical Committee and the ILO as its secretariat will provide ongoing assistance.

The report will also be shared with the Minister of Foreign Affairs to be presented at the Alliance 8.7 Side Event at the 2019 ECOSOC Review in New York in July 2019. Mr. Alliance and technical team may also be present at the ECOSOC meeting.

5. CONTACTS

For further information, please contact:

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Annex 1:

AGENDA

Time	Activity	
8:30	Registration	
10:00	Opening <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Welcome remarks by the Minister of Labour and employment - Remarks by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Director of the ILO Abuja Office • UN Resident Coordinator • Representative of the Employers Association • Representative of the Workers Association - Good will message by: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • EU • America Embassy 	
10.30	Presentation on Alliance 8.7	ILO FUNDAMENTALS (Geneva)
10.50	Key note Address on Nigeria's response to achieving SDG 8.7.	The Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo
11.20	Pledge to Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria	Led by the Vice President of the Federal Republic of Nigeria, Prof. Yemi Osinbajo
11.30	Group Photograph Tea/Coffee Break	All
12.00	Presentations on Thematic areas and discussion on the two-priority action.	Lead of the Action Groups
13.00	Working Groups on the two priority actions and source of funding for Alliance 8.7 in the country.	Facilitated by Lead of the 2 prioritized Action Group
14.00	Lunch	All
15.00	Plenary session on priority actions Selection of concrete short-term pilot intervention	
16:00	Closing Ceremony	

Annex 2. Thematic papers

THEMATIC PAPER ON SUPPLY CHAINS

The supply chain process represents the transformation of raw materials, natural resources and any other components into finished products to be delivered to customers. It is the flow of all information, products, materials and funds between the different stages of creating and selling a product. Every step in the process, including creating a good or service, manufacturing it, transporting it to a place of sale and selling it, is part of a company's supply chain.

Within the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 8 on decent work and economic growth, and specifically Target 8.7, commits the world to ending forced labour, human trafficking, modern slavery and child labour in all its forms. Although Nigeria has made modest progress in recent times, there are still many gaps and challenges which require the concerted efforts of all stakeholders if this objective will be achieved. Child labour, forced labour and trafficking in persons exist in Nigeria and can be found in almost all stages of supply chains in agriculture, mining, construction, manufacturing, retailing, service provision and even in households and in the streets. Nigeria has a high number of economically active children, as well as those involved in the worst forms of child labour, and hazardous work. International Labour Organization (ILO) estimates that about 25 percent of Nigeria's 80 million children under the age of 14 are engaged in economic activities. About half of this population are children exploited as child labourers and working in hazardous situations, such as victims of child trafficking, domestic work, sex work, drug peddling and hawking.

Challenges

The field report on the development of the Federal Government's List of Hazardous Child Labour in Nigeria (2014) indicated that children are exploited as child labourers in the industries such as agriculture, mining, domestic, construction, transport etc. Some of the children working in these sectors are victims of either trafficking, or forced or bonded labour, and are subjected to both national and international flows, mostly within the ECOWAS region.

Agriculture: In the agricultural sector, children are engaged in various activities throughout the supply chain including crop production, forestry activities, the primary processing of agricultural products as well as the use and maintenance of machinery, equipment, appliances, tools, and agricultural installations, including any process, storage, operation or transportation in an agricultural undertaking, which are directly related to agricultural production.²

Table 1: Summary of risk assessment findings in the agricultural sector from the Hazardous Child Labour List 2014

Sub-type	Daily tasks & activities carried out	Hazards	Health impacts	Local vulnerability	Impact Mitigation ³
Agriculture (e.g. Cocoa farming)	Land preparation - land clearing; felling & chopping of trees; burning; de-stumping; pegs cutting; lining; soil tilling & pegging	Thorns; bending; long hours; insects and animals; biological toxins; smoke and exposures; exposure to extreme weather	Back and muscle injury; lacerations; blisters; exhaustion; infections; respiratory disorders and injuries from insects and animal bites (with occasional	Long distance trekking to the farm Use of dilapidated vehicles/trucks for log conveyance Use of locally fabricated unsafe tools Smoke inhalation	Use of local means of transportation – bicycles, donkeys Enlightenment and training Collaboration with relevant agencies at the community level to increase enlightenment and prohibit use of dilapidated vehicles

² ILO Safety and Health in Agriculture Convention No. 184, 2001

³ Impact mitigation as used in the context of this table refers to suggested mitigation measures/guidelines that can be adopted at the community/local levels pending the onset of prohibition and other regulatory actions (and they are by no means exhaustive)

		conditions; dust; accidental falling trees	fatality from snake bites)		Involvement of local research institutes in development of ergonomically friendly tools Discouragement of bush burning
Planting preparation of seedlings; carrying of seedlings; planting of seedlings;	- of of of	Heavy loads; bending; long hours; awkward postures; exposure to soil pathogens; animals; exposure to extreme weather conditions	Joint and bone deformities; blistered hands and feet; laceration; back injury; muscle injury; sunstroke and other heat stress disorders	Cultural / traditional practices – encourage lifting of heavy loads on the head, back and shoulder	Break cultural mindset through enlightenment through town hall meetings, women organisations, FBOs, cultural associations, age grade systems, market days – prepare advocacy materials Encourage to find alternative safe practices
Farm maintenance & weeding; thinning; sanitation & pruning; water spraying; spraying/application of pesticides; fertilizer application	- &	Toxic chemicals; bending; long hours; insects and animals; heavy loads, exposure to parasites and micro-organisms; exposure to extreme weather conditions; sharp tools	Rashes and other forms of dermatitis; allergic reactions; breathing difficulties; eye irritations; chemical poisoning; liver damage; nerve and neurological disorders; cancers; reproductive health disorders such as male and female infertility; Sunstroke and other heat stresses; back and muscular injury; blistered hands and feet; respiratory disorders	Level of literacy & low level/lack of technical expertise Wrong or non-labelling of chemical containers – non translated Lack of safety information Uncontrolled regulation of sale of toxic chemicals No training for local application Weaponizing of dangerous chemicals for vengeance e.g. chemical attacks	Translation of chemical safety information into the various languages and dialects Proper orientation of regulatory agencies, applicators and users at the community level Training of local communities conducted in their local dialects Use of posters, billboards. mass media Ensure proper regulation of sale of toxic synthetic or natural chemical agents.
Harvesting – plucking/heaping of products e.g. cocoa; gathering; pod breaking; scooping of cocoa beans; fermentation	-	Falling objects; slippery surfaces; sharp objects and tools; insects (bees); odour	Cuts and lacerations; fatal or non-fatal injuries, including broken bones, skull fractures and head injuries	Snake, scorpion, bee and reptile attacks Long bending hours Heavy lifting	Use of suitable PPEs (protective goggles. safety boots Availability of anti-venoms against prevalent snake, scorpion etc attacks Break cultural mindset through enlightenment

					through town hall meetings, women organizations, FBOs, cultural associations, age grade systems, market days – prepare advocacy materials Encourage to find alternative safe practices
	Post-harvest - carrying of farm products e.g. cocoa (beans to drying area; drying & sorting of beans; carrying of dry beans to sale; bagging	Thorns; bending; long hours; insects and animals; biological toxins; sharp tools and objects; and exposures to extreme weather conditions.	Back and muscle injury; lacerations; blisters; exhaustion; sunstroke; puncture wounds and other heat stresses	Long distance trekking to the farm Use of dilapidated vehicles/trucks	Use of local means of transportation – bicycles, donkeys Enlightenment and training Collaboration with relevant agencies at the community level to increase enlightenment and prohibit use of dilapidated vehicles Involvement of local research institutes in development of ergonomically friendly tools

Mines and Quarries: In Nigeria, many children work on quarry and mining sites. Their involvement is prevalent in artisanal or small scale mining which mainly involves individuals, groups, families, or cooperatives with minimal or no mechanization, often in the informal sector.⁴ The Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project (SMMRP) Report observed that the age group involved in quarrying activities was 11-15 years⁵ with a predominant male distribution. The majority of the children were observed to be involved in various activities such as digging; breaking; chiseling; heating; cracking; crushing; hammering; excavating and carrying of rocks, stones, stone dust and sands. Hence, they are exposed significantly to the inherent hazards of the process.

Construction industry: This industry is widespread across the country, especially in suburban communities of rapidly expanding cities. Children working in the construction industry are primarily involved in the tasks of brick making, and carrying and stacking bricks and other construction materials. This involvement in some instances is combined with school attendance, often accounting for between 3-4 hours after school and longer during weekends and holiday periods, with the introduction of children into this sector observed to begin as early as 8 years old.

Transport: The presence of children in this sector is visibly prevalent across all states and regions in Nigeria. The involvement of children in this sector often occurs at an early age when they are vulnerable to unhealthy influences and peer pressure. The gender distribution of the observed children is skewed towards boys, with girls typically providing ancillary services such as the sale of food and alcoholic drinks. Their hours of involvement span 6-8 hours in a day, often for 6 – 7 days in a week and often comprising odd hours of the day such as early mornings and late nights.

Interventions

The Government of Nigeria has created an enabling environment for the fight against child labour through the ratification and adoption of some international conventions related to the elimination of child labour, and the development of National Laws and policies. In addition to the existing National Laws, in 2012, the Federal Executive

⁴ Report of a technical study on child labour in artisanal and small scale mining in Nigeria for Sustainable Management of Mineral Resources Project (SMMRP), 2011

⁵ The forms of mining covered within the scope of the Hazardous list survey are granite mining (quarrying), and artisanal mining (gold and other heavy metals) in Umuoghara community in Ebonyi state (South-East Nigeria).

Council approved the National Policy on Child Labour and its Plan of Action and, with the support of the ILO ECOWAS II project, a comprehensive list of hazardous work in which children are not to be engaged was developed and validated in 2013.

Table 2: Anti-Child Labour Legislation in Nigeria

National	International
Nigerian Constitution 1999	ILO Convention for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour 182 (1999)
Labour Act 1974[Cap 198 LFN 1990]	ILO Convention 138 on Minimum Age
Child Rights Act/Law 2003	ILO Convention 29 on Forced Labour
NAPTIP Act 2015	ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Work
Immigration Act, Cap 171 LFN	Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography (2000)
	UN Convention on the Rights of the Child 1989
	African Charter on Human and People's Rights (1981) and its Protocol relating to the Rights of Women (2002)

Table 3: Laws and Regulations related to Child Labour

STANDARD	Related Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Section 59(1) of the Labour Act; Sections 28 and 29 of the Child's Right Act (55, 56)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Section 59(6) of the Labour Act; Sections 28 and 29 of the Child's Right Act (55, 56)
Prohibition of Forced Labour	Sections 13, 22, 24, and 25 of the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act; Sections 28 and 30 of the Child's Right Act (56, 57)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Section 13 of the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act; and Section 30 of the Child's Right Act (56, 57)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Sections 13–17 of the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act; Sections 30 and 32 of the Child's Right Act (56, 57)
Prohibition of the involvement of Children in Illicit Activities	Section 19 of the Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act; Sections 25 and 30 of the Child's Right Act (56, 57)
Minimum Age for Voluntary Military Recruitment	Section 28 of the Armed Forces Act; Section 34 of the Child's Right Act (56, 58)

Table 4: Child Labour AGENCIES AND COMMITTEES in Nigeria – Responsibilities

Agencies/Committees	Role
Ministry of Labour and Employment (FMOLE)	Enforce federal child labour policy and laws. Deploy labour inspectors across 36 state labour offices and the federal capital territory to investigate all labour law violations, including those related to child labour.
National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons and other related matters (NAPTIP)	Enforce laws against human trafficking and exploitative labour. Investigate anti-human trafficking cases and prosecute any offences under the anti-human trafficking law. Protect victims of human trafficking and reunite trafficked children with their families. NAPTIP collaborates with the Ministry for Women Affairs and NGOs, especially the Network of CSOs against trafficking in persons, child labour and abuse (NACTAL), to provide protection

	services to victims of child trafficking. In 2010, NAPTIP signed an MOU with NACTAL as the focal network for NAPTIP's engagement with CSOs.
Nigeria Police	Established Juvenile and Anti-trafficking units that enforce all laws prohibiting forced child labour and commercial sexual exploitation. Support MOLP and collaborate with NAPTIP on anti-trafficking enforcement.(14)
Nigeria Immigration Service	Constitute an anti-human trafficking unit within the NIS. Collaborate with NAPTIP to enforce laws against child trafficking.
Ministry for Women Affairs	The Ministry for Women Affairs has the oversight function over child-related issues in the nation.
National Steering Committee on Child Labour (NSCCL)	The NSC provides policy guidelines to the Nigerian Government and coordinates efforts toward the elimination of child labour. The Child Labour Unit at the Federal Ministry of Labour and Employment is the secretariat for the committee, while the FMOLE serves as the chair. Members of the committee include all the Employers' associations, Workers' associations, trade unions, and Ministries, Departments and Agencies with a mandate relevant to the elimination of child labour such as: Ministry of Women's Affairs and Social Development, Ministries of Mining and Metal Production, Agriculture, Foreign Affairs, and Education, along with NAPTIP, NACTAL and the National Bureau of Statistics.. ILO and UNICEF provide technical support to the Committee.
State Steering Committee on Child Labour	Like its national counterpart, the State Steering Committee coordinates the implementation of the State Action Plan on child labour and other actions involved in the elimination of child labour. The SSC plays a lead role in advocacy for the elimination of child labour; facilitates the development, monitoring, evaluation and periodic review of each State's Plan of Action (SPA) to ensure the achievement of targets set under the SPA; reviews and endorses Action Programmes aimed at addressing child labour in the state; facilitates the development and review of States' Child Labour Progress Reports; makes recommendations for State social policy planning and submits reports to the NSCCL on child labour activities in the state. Only two states, namely Oyo and Ogun, have SPAs on child labour.

PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

Tackling child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking in supply chains requires concerted efforts on all fronts. There must be united efforts between government, institutions and individual entities in line with ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (the MNE Declaration), which calls for all enterprises to obey national laws and contribute to the attainment of all fundamental principles and rights at work and eliminate modern slavery including child labour in its worst forms.

It is therefore crucial that at industry level, companies and especially buyers, first tier suppliers and retailers create zero tolerance for child labour as a means of production. Businesses must strengthen governance, compliance and transparency standards in their supply chains and suppliers' bases. Alternatively, business can collaborate with the authorities and assist labour inspectors to take labour inspection services to these supply chains and bases. They should also join initiatives that seek to address social issues like poverty and inadequate access to education which are considered the root causes of child labour and forced labour in supply chains.

Social dialogue has been and continues to be crucial to sustainable progress. Employers' organizations should engage in efforts to end this menace in supply chains by providing advice and guidance to their members on how to address the problem. Trade unions also should promote safe and healthy working conditions by mainstreaming child labour, forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking concerns in collective bargaining agreements with enterprises.

BACKGROUND THEMATIC PAPER ON RULE OF LAW AND GOVERNANCE

Within Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) No. 8 of the 2030 Agenda, which encompasses decent work and economic growth, Target 8.7 commits the world to ending forced labour, human trafficking and modern slavery by 2030, and child labour in all forms by 2025. Good governance and the rule of law at the local, state and national levels are instrumental to achieving this target and fulfilling the mandate of Alliance 8.7. A genuine commitment to these principles requires governments to hold accountable corrupt and exploitative labour agents, production facility owners and managers who

violate labour laws or commit trafficking offences, as well as state officials who collude with such actors. Without effective rule of law and accountability, impunity prevails and its impact is hardest on the most vulnerable and furthest behind.

Despite the efforts so far made by the Government of Nigeria, children in Nigeria still engage in the worst forms of child labour, including in quarrying granite and gravel, commercial sexual exploitation and armed conflict. Within Africa, Nigeria is the largest single source of trafficked women to Europe and the Middle East according to ILO estimates. In view of these mentioned challenges and much more, there is a need for the Government to develop a strengthened and concrete short term roadmap to actualize Alliance 8.7 in Nigeria, with cognizance of the fact that 168 million children worldwide are still engaged in child labour with about half in hazardous work and other worst forms of work, and that an estimated 21 million people are engaged in forced labour, more than half of whom are women and girls including 5.5 million children. The Government needs to put in place immediate and effective measures to tackle this menace with a view to its prevention and eradication.

Legal and Policy Frameworks

The Nigerian Government has made significant efforts towards strengthening the legal and policy framework and the enabling environment for the achievement of Target 8.7. The Government has developed a National Policy on Child Labour (2014), a National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour (2013-2017) and the Hazardous Child Labour List (2013). The Child Rights Act (2003) is another important legal document, which imposes specific duties and obligations on government, parents and other authorities, organizations and bodies relating to the well-being of children. The Government has also specifically addressed the issue of human trafficking by enacting the amended Trafficking in Persons (Prohibition) Enforcement and Administration Act (2015).

However, effective enforcement of these laws remains difficult. For example, the anti-trafficking law is reportedly ineffective in many parts of the country due to insufficient resources to address the increasing number of cases, lack of familiarity among judges with the new amendments, and general inefficiency and corruption within the judicial system.⁶ It is no secret that widespread and pervasive corruption affects all levels of government and the security forces in Nigeria. In order to uphold the rule of law as a constitutional concept which stipulates that everything must be done in accordance with the law, the Nigerian Government needs to ensure that there is fairness and equality in the implementation of laws that are put in place to actualize Alliance 8.7. Government officials at all levels need to be more sensitized about the positive effect of good governance; this is more so, as Nigeria is participating as a Pathfinder Country of Alliance 8.7. Consequently, whenever situations of child labour, forced labour, human trafficking or modern slavery arise, the Government needs to rise up to the challenge of promptly prosecuting offenders to serve as a deterrent to others. In addition, there is need for consistent review and reform of existing laws, policies and enforcement mechanisms in order to make effective progress towards achieving SDG 8.7.

Access to Justice and the Right to Effective Remedies

Access to justice is an integral part of ensuring good governance and the rule of law. It empowers people to claim their fundamental rights and entitlements and to count on the full protection of the law. In order to accelerate progress towards Target 8.7, it will be important to focus on the needs of victims and witnesses of labour and trafficking offences, especially women, children and vulnerable groups. This is particularly critical in the Northeast of Nigeria, where internally displaced people (IDPs) in camps, settlements, and host communities are reportedly subjected to forced labour and sexual exploitation by militant insurgents and by state security personnel.

The Government, in partnership with civil society, must take steps to enable people to access justice and to extend and improve services provided at community level, such as the use of mobile courts, informal dispute resolution mechanisms and other cost-effective approaches, in line with international human rights standards. In addition, there is a need to ensure full judicial independence and transparency, and to make institutions more inclusive, accountable and effective even in remote areas.

The Role of Institutions

Institutions such as the National Human Rights Commission need to be adequately empowered to monitor the extent to which government laws and policies are in compliance with international human rights norms and standards as they

⁶United States Department of State, 2018 Trafficking in Persons Report - Nigeria, June 2018.

relate to actualizing Target 8.7 in Nigeria. As part of its mandate of promoting, protecting and enforcing human rights in Nigeria, the Commission monitors how laws are put in place by the legislature, and whether they are fairly implemented.

The Nigerian Government has taken some steps to strengthen institutions; for example, the budget of the National Agency for the Prohibition of Trafficking in Persons (NAPTIP) increased by 86% in 2017⁷. Nevertheless, many institutions are under significant pressure and lack sufficient resources given the scale of the problem and the need for more proactive efforts in order to achieve Target 8.7. Further action is required to increase the accessibility and responsiveness of justice and security institutions, and to strengthen their capacity to tackle organized crime and bring perpetrators to justice. Standards of governance must also improve.

THEMATIC PAPER ON MIGRATION

The vast majority of States have ratified international instruments reflecting the principle that all persons, including all migrants irrespective of their migration status, are entitled to have their human rights respected, protected, and fulfilled. Yet there are too many instances in which migrants are subject to abuse, exploitation, discrimination, and other severe human rights violations. This in large part is due not to the absence of international instruments, but the lack of the effective implementation of those instruments and appropriate international cooperation.

The eradication of forced labour, ending of modern slavery and human trafficking and securing the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and fulfilment of rights at work are intrinsically linked to migration issues, especially the protection of migrants' rights and promotion of their wellbeing. A migrant is considered "any person who is moving or has moved across an international border or within a State away from his/her habitual place of residence, regardless of (1) the person's legal status; (2) whether the movement is voluntary or involuntary; (3) what the causes for the movement are; or (4) what the length of the stay is (IOM). None of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), and especially 8.7, can be met without national and worldwide success in achieving justice for the significant percentage of the world's 258 million migrants, and over 68 million internally displaced persons (UNHCR, 2018), migrant workers, trafficked children and those entrapped in forced labour and other exploitations. The agenda's robust and ambitious dream, 'leave no one behind,' cannot be fulfilled without its realization for all populations.

CHALLENGES

Over 150 million of the world's 258 million international migrants are labour migrants. While a significant number of this population engages in dignified labour, an equally substantial number of others are marginalized, exploited and abused on the account of their migratory status. The most vulnerable of this population are children below the age of 18. The situation is worse for unaccompanied or separated migrant children, and more so those at risk or in crisis. The migrant children population is estimated at 30 million. This excludes refugee children (10 million) and internally displaced children (17 million) (UNICEF, December 2018). The drivers behind migration are complex and multi-faceted, but avenues for safe and regular migration are limited. Without legal avenues, migrants may turn to irregular and unsafe migration routes, often with the help of smugglers who deceive migrants about costs, risks, transportation methods, routes, and conditions of travel.

The Palermo Protocol, contrary to earlier human rights oriented instruments, was accompanied by a strong emphasis on criminal justice responses to TIP. While the criminal justice approach has helped drive a legislative change at national level, the eradication of TIP requires a much greater focus on social justice issues, such as discrimination and inequality, labour migration opportunities, and conscientious consumerism (IOM). Migrants are human beings and entitled to all human rights, regardless of status. In most cases, lack of access to regular migration channels, legislation and policies that do not respect, protect and fulfil the rights of migrants lead them to depend on alternative routes through which they run the risk of human rights abuses, including trafficking, forced labour, smuggling of persons, child labour, recruitment and the use of children in armed conflicts, sexual violence, and interruption and obstruction of their rights to education, health, family environment, and development.

INTERVENTIONS

Nigeria continues to experience high internal and external migration due to the size of its population, economic climate, as well as its porous borders. It is a major country of origin, transit and destination in terms of global migration.

⁷United States Department of State, 2018 Trafficking in Persons Report - Nigeria, June 2018.

The Government of Nigeria has recognized the importance of migration management and formally adopted a National Policy on Migration in 2015, and other sectoral policies. The Policy and its implementation plan provide a legal framework for monitoring and regulating internal and international migration, and proper collection and dissemination of migration data by all relevant stakeholders. The policy also addresses issues related to diaspora mobilization, border management, decent treatment of migrants, internally displaced persons, asylum seekers and the role of civil society in migration management, in order to ensure a more efficient management of migration in Nigeria, in recognition of the quantum of migration for employment purposes, as well as the need to combat unfair labour practices associated with this, the Government of Nigeria also adopted a National Policy on Labour Migration, which entrenches the principles of fair labour practices and decent work for all into the overall national migration management framework.

PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

Building on the SDGs and recognizing all existing international, regional and national legal and humanitarian instruments, the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular migration (GCM) identified the eradication of all forms of forced labour, child labour and ending of modern slavery and human trafficking as one of its key objectives in seeking global commitment to ensuring a better management of international migration. Within its guiding principles, the Compact “upholds the principle of the best interests of the child at all times, as a primary consideration in all situations concerning children in the context of international migration, including unaccompanied and separated children” (GCM, 2018). Following the GCM emphasis on creating and strengthening international cooperation and partnership, the platform provided by Alliance 8.7 is a welcomed initiative necessary for the urgent need for collaboration and coordination that will leverage expertise across a wide range of stakeholders. Recognizing there are many trafficked and non-trafficked migrants who experience violence, exploitation, and abuse, a comprehensive approach to migrant vulnerability is rooted in the belief that the human rights of all persons, including migrants, should be upheld and promoted and that all migrants who are vulnerable, regardless of their membership in any specific category or if they hold any specific status, should be afforded the protection and assistance services that they require. Respect for human rights, the physical, mental and social well-being of the individual and his or her community, and the sustainability of actions through institutional capacity development and partnerships should be at the center of all efforts (IOM).

This inclusive partnership in the context of the issues addressed by SDG 8.7, must ensure that:

- The need to prevent trafficking in persons is not used as an ideological cover to justify increased border restrictions and other anti-migration initiatives, including gendered restrictions on women’s as well as children migration.
- While the implementation of the Protocols against human trafficking and the smuggling of migrants should take seriously the criminalisation of the act and prosecution of the actors, due attention must be given to providing adequate resources and energy to the restitution of the rights of trafficked persons, and other vulnerable migrants exposed to violence and abuse, as well as needs-based and victim centred protection approaches.
- The need to design and implement sustainable reintegration programs that support vulnerable migrants, such as victims of trafficking and unaccompanied or separated children, regardless of their sex.
- The need to ensure and sustain comprehensive support systems to address mental health and psychosocial needs of migrants and host communities, in educational, cultural, community, religious and primary health care settings.
- All migration-related international, regional and national instruments and policies concerning the areas covered in the above target 8.7 are enforced.
- Local indicators responding to national perspectives of migration especially in the case of 8.7 are established to aid effective monitoring, and review of the implementation.

PRIORITY ACTIONS

- Support coordination and cooperation amongst state and non-state actors working in the field of migration through the development and operationalization of relevant policies, standards and legislation, including the Global Compact for Safe, Orderly and Regular Migration (GCM).
- Provide capacity building assistance to state and non-state actors to enhance their efficiency and effectiveness in the identification, delivery and referral of needs-based and victim-centred support to migrants, including those exposed to violence, exploitation and abuse.

- Provide technical support to enhance bilateral and regional cooperation with countries of transit and destination, including enhancing family tracing, family evaluation and mediation, and the organization of the safe, dignified, and voluntary return of a migrant, including Underaged and Separated Migrant Children.
- Support the development of community-based awareness raising approaches targeting relevant state actors including policy makers and government at all levels, aimed at supporting positive behaviour change for the prevention of human trafficking and exploitation.
- Enhance border and identity management capacities to benefit African intraregional mobility and contribute to safe and regular migration, including through enhancing regular labour migration pathways.
- Improving the evidence-base on migration and collection of high-quality data, including reporting on migration governance, SDG and GCM indicators.

THEMATIC PAPER RURAL DEVELOPMENT

INTRODUCTION

Rural Development is the process of improving the quality of life and economic well-being of people living in rural areas, often relatively isolated and sparsely populated areas.

According to FAO the number of child labourers in Agriculture increased substantially from 98 Million to 108 Million since 2012 after a decade of continuous decline. Prolong conflicts and climate related disasters followed by forced migration have pushed hundreds of thousands of children into child labour.

Related studies⁸ documented that poverty in Nigeria is essentially a rural phenomenon as most of the impoverished people (about 70 per cent) live in rural areas where they derive their livelihood from farming. According to ILO (2006), seventy-five per cent of the 1.1 billion poor with less than one dollar per day live in rural areas and depend directly or indirectly on agriculture for their livelihoods.

1. EFFORTS MADE BY GOVERNMENT/ACHIEVEMENT

The Federal Government of Nigeria is making efforts through the Federal Ministry of Agriculture to establish schemes and project towards improving the Lives of rural dwellers. This is to discourage engaging children labourers to work in farms and plantations which are detrimental to their moral, social and economic development. Such Schemes/Projects includes: The Livelihood Improvement Family Enterprise (LIFE), Agro-Processing, Agricultural Productivity Enhancement and Livelihood Improvement Support, (APPEALS), YEAP, Training on aquaculture, poultry, garri making etc, rural electrification, bore holes and subsidized farming implements.

I. LIFE

The Livelihood Improvement Family Enterprise (LIFE) is a programme of the Federal Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development Nigeria designed in response to the limited readily available options for the “disadvantaged” (youth and women) in the rural and suburban communities to improve their means of livelihood help them to live decent lives. LIFE promotes community-based on-farm and off-farm business activities along key agricultural value chain as a mechanism for job and wealth creation amongst unemployed youth and women in aforementioned households.

A full programme on sensitization and awareness creation has been developed and operational. Using the instrument, field visits were carried out in the rural communities of Niger, Benue, Nassarawa, Kogi, Kano, Kebbi, Jigawa, Kano, Katsina, Taraba, Bauchi, Borno, Gombe, Ogun, Ondo, Oyo, Lagos, Anambra, Ebonyi, Enugu, Imo, Akwa-Ibom, Edo, Delta, Bayelsa states and the FCT amongst others.

II. APPEALS

Appeals stand for Agro-Processing, Agricultural Productivity Enhancement and Livelihood Improvement Support, a Federal Government of Nigeria FGN-World Bank Assisted programme.

The development objective of the APPEALS Project for Nigeria is to enhance agricultural productivity of small and medium scale farmers and improve value addition along priority value chains in the participating states.

III. MAINSTREAMING RURAL DWELLERS INTO THE NATIONAL ECONOMIC RECOVERY AND GROWTH PLAN IN NIGERIA

⁸ Etim et al. (2009); Etim and Udofia (2013)

A council Memo was recently sent to the Federal Executive Council (FEC): The memorandum informed Council on the need to mainstream the rural dwellers agribusiness into the National Economic Recovery and Growth Plan [NEGRP] in order to empower people in the rural areas. The memo highlighted the enormous natural and human resources potentials in Nigeria which could be harnessed for national economic recovery and growth if agribusiness is developed within the context of rural dwellers capacities. LIFE aimed at real GDP growth over the plan period of 2017 – 2020.

The memo stated prospective agribusiness entrepreneurs would need to overcome the challenges of 'insufficient entrepreneurship and business management skills', 'constrained access to land', 'difficulty in accessing funding' 'insufficient market information', 'difficulty in accessing affordable equipment.

2. CHALLENGES

- i. The main cause of child labour in family-based agriculture is persistent poverty in rural areas. In Nigeria, farmers in rural areas make use of their children to work in their farms thereby reducing cost of hiring external labourers. Hence, child labour taking place in family-based subsistence agriculture has been largely neglected, as it was considered as normal practice to engage children in the farms.
International and national legislations and policies have been implemented, trying to address especially the worst forms of child labour in plantations or cocoa farms (ILO). However, tackling this issue is an urgent, yet complicated challenge for three reasons:
 - Firstly, family-based agriculture is mainly informal and rarely covered by national labour legislation (FAO, 2013:12).
 - Secondly, child labour in family-based agriculture is mostly invisible because of frequently remote workplaces and blurred boundaries between workplace and household (FAO, 2013:12).
 - Thirdly, ignorance of the parents of the negative effects of child labour and lack of alternative form of livelihood.
- ii. Child labour is mostly invisible in contrast to work on bigger plantations or in factories. In Nigeria, many parents rely on the work of their children due to their economic situation but are not always aware of the negative effects specific agricultural tasks have for their children.
- iii. While agricultural projects can have an influence on reducing the hazards that working children are exposed to in agriculture, activities of agricultural projects can also lead to more labour demand in the project area, which might be compensated with child labour.
- iv. Mechanised farming that could have been use as an alternatives to the conventional method is unaffordable to the rural farmers hence they make use of their children's' labour to reduce cost.

3. RECOMMENDATIONS / WAY FORWARD

- I. .
- II. **Awareness rising:** Awareness raising amongst project staff and smallholder farmers concerning the harmful effects of child labour on children's development can be integrated into trainings.
- III. **Integrating child labour considerations into planning, monitoring and evaluation (P, M&E):** The integration of child labour considerations into P, M&E enables agricultural projects to determine at an early stage the extent of their impacts on child labour and whether preventive and corrective actions are required. Furthermore, considering child labour Promoting positive impacts concerns in M&E systems allows the identification and dissemination of good practices in order to respond to child labour in agriculture.
- IV. **Reducing hazards:** Agricultural projects should ensure that their activities do not lead to children undertaking hazardous work. This is of high relevance when supporting smallholder farmers with agricultural inputs such as fertilisers or pesticides, or agricultural tools and machinery.
- V. Activities that contribute to the reduction of child labour in agriculture should be disseminated and up-scaled.
- VI. **Considering children when designing trainings:** Training modules directly addressing children (e.g. Junior Farmer Field Schools) should be adopted to provide children and youths with skills for their future employment.
- VII. **Mechanised farming system should be made available to rural farmers;** the equipment to be used shall be leased to them at subsidised, instalments payment at affordable prices.
- VIII. Youth and Women empowerment programme of the Federal Government should be intensified to discourage the use of children as labourers. Thus child Labour in the rural arrears would be reduced to the barest minimum

- IX. The Ministries of Agriculture at Federal State and Local Government levels should support the integration of child labour considerations into national policies and strategies for rural development. As an approach to eliminate child labour in agriculture, it will also promote efforts to boost the incomes of rural families to have the means to send their children to schools.
- X. .
- XI. The International legal framework on child labour and others as contained in the constitution of the Federal Republic of Nigeria should be adhered to. Infringement should attract sanctions accordingly.
 - The ILO Minimum Age Convention No. 138 (1973 & 182 (1999), the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) etc.

THEMATIC PAPER ON CONFLICT AND HUMANITARIAN SETTINGS

The Nigerian Government's commitment to join the Alliance 8.7 as a pathfinder country could not have come at a more significant time than when the country is dealing with protracted emergency and humanitarian situations, especially in the North-East where insurgency and counter-insurgency activities have displaced 1.8 million people, out of which 57% alone are children according to UNICEF Nigeria. Children's education is grossly affected with school life trailed by cases of attacks leading to death of students, kidnapping/abductions, relocation of schools to safe areas, or total shutdown. A number of women, children, youth, and the elderly have also fled from their homes while others have been abducted or killed. Out of 2.2 million internally displaced women and girls in the Nigerian North-East (States of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe) communities, only 867,862 were reached with humanitarian services, according to the National Protection Sector Working Group.

CHALLENGES

Child Labour Exploitation

According to a recent study, out of 15 million working children (7.2 million girls; 7.8 million boys) in Nigeria the number of victims in the North-East alone was estimated at 6.5 million children.⁹ Two million of these are employed in the worst forms of child labor, with the North-East currently providing a disproportionately large pool of vulnerable population of children in Almajiri, children associated with armed conflict and armed groups in emergency due to the insurgency, and over-crowded IDP camps; street begging, street hawking, head loading and truck pushing in fairly easy-to-reach areas affected by the conflict.

Human Trafficking

The 2018 commemoration of World Day Against Human Trafficking themed "Human Trafficking: Boundaries of Uncertainties" drew stakeholders' and experts' attention to hundreds of young adventurous Nigerians who cross the Sahara Desert and the Mediterranean Sea in search of imaginary greener pastures in Europe. Likewise, the 2018 UNODC Global report on Trafficking in Persons noted that globally, countries are detecting and reporting more victims, and are convicting more traffickers. This could be the result of increased capacity to identify victims and/or an increased number of trafficked victims. In 2018 alone, according to NAPTIP's DG, Dame Julie Okah Doni, the Federal Government evacuated 2000 Nigerian migrants, the majority of them trafficked victims trapped in exploitative camps and sub-human living conditions in Libya. Relatedly, a case study has revealed that a number of Nigerian children rescued by the ICRC in other parts of Africa originated from North-East Nigeria.

Insurgency and Armed Conflict

The country is dealing with two critical issues of armed conflict arising from the Boko Haram terrorists' insurgency, predominantly in the northeast States of Adamawa, Borno and Yobe, with the presence of sixteen or more humanitarian actors. This has resulted in increases in severe contemporary forms of slavery, ranging from child labour in its worst forms, including rampant recruitment of child soldiers by terrorists and purportedly the Civilian Joint Task Force (JTF); rising incidences of forced labour, gender based violence especially sexual exploitation; an increasing wave of human trafficking and irregular migration, especially youth, women and children; all of which have escalated in their alarming and worst forms; rampant planting of land mines and other improvised explosive devices (IED) on farmlands, markets and school pathways, due to the insurgence. The protection of 2.2 million children and adolescents in the NE of Nigeria remains compromised partly due to the complex and severity of the protracted conflict and exposure to violence, abuse and exploitation including human trafficking; and, the worst and most hazardous forms of child labour.¹⁰

⁹ Source: NBS 2006

¹⁰ Source: Data gathered by the UNICEF and UNFPA Nigeria in collaboration with State and non-State actors

Herder/Farmer Crisis

The Federal Government is facing challenges in curbing herder/farmer clashes in the predominantly agrarian communities of the country's middle belt States. The surge of attacks and counter-attacks has exacted heavy humanitarian and economic tolls, with at least 1,500 people dead, many more wounded and about 300,000 displaced between September 2017 and June 2018. Many of the displaced are taking refuge in already over-crowded IDP camps, where girls and women are vulnerable to desperate survival mechanisms involving survival sexual exploitation. Children's education has also been badly hurt.

Climate Change

The effects of climate change surfaced in the severe flooding of communities in some States of the Federation, impacting almost 2 million men, women, children and youth among other vulnerable groups, while disrupting schooling, farming, commercial and other socio-economic activities. Out of these, 561,442 people were internally displaced and 351,236 are in need of immediate humanitarian assistance.¹¹ Access to affected communities and limited materials constraints remain major challenges for relief response efforts.

INTERVENTIONS

In its efforts to guarantee the protection rights of IDPs in line with global Partnership and Humanitarian Principles and approach in Emergency, the Nigerian government, in collaboration with the global Humanitarian Coordination Team (HCT) and other agencies, is implementing a robust and coordinated rolling work plan, scaling up actions to year 2021.

Working Groups

The government has set up Working Groups which the Alliance 8.7 team can effectively, and, within its thematic areas of response, leverage on to rollout relevant humanitarian interventions targeted at protecting, empowering and returning victims among other vulnerable groups to normal life. Presently, the Protection Sector Working Group has two sub-working groups. These are the Child Protection Sub-Working Group (CP SWG), co-chaired by the Ministry of Women Affairs' Child Development Department at Federal and State Levels; UNICEF; and, the Gender Based Violence Sub-Working Group (GBV SWG), co-chaired by the Ministry's Women and Gender Department and the UNFPA. As an essential part of their ToR, the two Working Groups among others WGs are open to collaboration with agencies who have operational relevance in conflict and humanitarian action in emergencies.

Data Gathering and Dissemination

The importance of demographic data for monitoring and evaluating any development agenda cannot be overemphasized, as data disaggregation enables us to differentiate levels of achieving Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) across all populations. Current data gathering tools include the Displacement Tracking Matrix (DTM), supported by the European Commission's Humanitarian Aid and Civil Protection Department and USAID, a systematic enquiry into the magnitude and pattern of displacement in Nigeria, and the Emergency Tracking Tool (ETT), which tracks and provide up-to-date information on sudden displacement and other population movements.

Humanitarian Measures

These measures – implemented by the National and States Emergency Management Agencies, global humanitarian team, and relevant/viable community based Civil Society actors in the affected States, reinforces victims' protection support and assistance in order to eliminate socio-economic vulnerability and exploitation arising from the displacement. This includes improvements in malnutrition screening and food supply; providing water, sanitation and hygiene (WASH) facilities; distribution of dignity kits to female flood victims; providing medical care, economic empowerment and training on GBV and SEA; enabling the health sector to rapidly assess and identify victims' health needs; ensuring access to emergency and transitional shelters to IDPs and returnees; implementing resilience-building activities in displaced communities; implementing cash-for-work related activities aimed at providing emergency employment to displaced persons; and providing livelihood skills training.

Ratification of the UNESCO's Safe School Declaration (SSD)

Following the extensive and high-level country advocacy and series of engagement with the Nigerian Government through the Federal Ministry of Education, the Nigerian Army and other relevant institutions, by the Education in Emergency Working Group (EiEWG), on March 20, 2019, the Federal Executive Council approved Nigeria's Ratification of the Safe School Declaration (SSD), committing the country to the implementation and reporting on all that the country

¹¹ Source: NEMA. As of 9th October, 2018, 103 Local Government Areas (LGAs) across 12 States of the Federation (Benue, Nassarawa, Kogi, Niger, Taraba, Zamfara, Jigawa, Ebonyi, Anambra, Delta, Rivers and Bayelsa) have been impacted by severe flooding, with an estimated 1,921,026 people affected.

is doing to protect education and educational structures and facilities, including pupils and students, from attacks in Emergency, Conflict and Humanitarian Situations.

PROPOSED WAY FORWARD

In the context of the three Multi Year Humanitarian Response Plan (MYHRP 2019-2021) and the “New Way of Working” strategy, Nigeria, through the robust engagement of the SDG Alliance 8.7 Technical Working Group, is well positioned to promote transition to recovery and development in stabilized areas affected by conflict and humanitarian situations. The SDG Alliance 8.7 will need to synergize with the relevant conflict and humanitarian sector partners to implement the following activities and outcomes:

- Partner with the Humanitarian Shelter Sector in carrying out further needs assessment in return areas, pursuant to the 2019–2022 Multi-Year Humanitarian Response Plan (MYHRP).
- Engage with the Nigeria’s North-East major counter-terrorism Stakeholders in and off the field to rescue, profile, shelter, rehabilitate, counsel and reintegrate Children Associated with Armed Forces and Armed Group (CAAFAG) back to normal community and family life.
- Ensure that the CAAFAG and youth are no longer available for illicit recruitment as fighters and under-age community watchers/peace-keepers, and do not relapse to addiction to drugs and narcotics and re-radicalization.
- Engage with the relevant sectors of the Humanitarian Country Team (HCT), and ensure that children, women, youth and the physically challenged with special needs, facing conflict and humanitarian risks are capacitated with requisite knowledge and access to Integrated Case Management services and referrals to specialized services.
- Conduct capacity training on the rights and protection of IDPs, refugees, migrants among other categories of vulnerable groups in conflict and humanitarian settings, to enhance their basic rights to minimum standards of humanitarian assistance and services.
- Provide monitored cash payments to participating households on a bi-monthly basis (including an unconditional base transfer and additional amounts conditional on nutrition needs and health check-ups and children’s school attendance).
- Support the construction of boreholes, provision of electricity generators and distribution of water guards to accelerate livelihood recovery efforts in IDP Camps, host communities and other accessible areas of conflicts and humanitarian settings, in collaboration with the WASH Sector WG, community leaders and LGAs authorities.
- Engage with School-Based Management Committees (SBMCs) to support and monitor renovation of selected schools and temporary learning centers in IDP camps, the distribution of educational materials, and data collection on the out-of-school children situation.

In essence, the SDG Alliance 8.7 thematic areas of intervention provide a number of opportunities for Nigeria’s roadmap to the implementation of humanitarian/development/peace nexus, including the Government plans and commitments to global and regional frameworks such as the Sustainable Development Goals; the UNESCO Safe School Declaration (SSD); the Paris Agreement on Climate Change; and the Grand Bargain. With respect for humanitarian principles and better coordination of variety of global and national humanitarian actors on and off the field, responses to conflict and humanitarian situations can be undertaken in a way that will contribute to achieving the SDGs 8.7 in Nigeria.