SYSTEMS TO PREVENT AND ADDRESS CHILD LABOUR

Workshop on definitions and benchmarks

18 December 2020

Revised to incorporate feedback received during the 17 December workshop.

Workshop 17.12.2020

AGENDA

14.00 Welcome and general introduction

14.10 Presentation of the definitions and benchmarking project and overview of progress so far

14.45 Questions and discussion in plenary

15.20 Wrap-up and reminder of next steps

15.30 Close

WHY THIS PROJECT?

UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights require that states **protect** human rights, corporations **respect** human rights, and victims of rights abuses have access to **remedy**

For salient risks, such as child labour in cocoa, there is increasing recognition of the need for **systems approaches**

Multiple commitments and targets exist in relation to **systems** for child labour prevention, monitoring and remediation in this context

Ghana, 2017-21
National Plan of Action

" A simple **register of all children in child labour** will be generated and kept in the community...
Identified child labourers, will be provided with available **support**...
Local communities have an area based **remediation mechanism** for children in or at risk of CL/WFCL

Côte d'Ivoire, 2019-21
National Plan of Action

" Strengthen and extend **national and sector child labour monitoring systems** to 2080 new communities...
Extend SOSTECI to 25 new départements...
Strengthen SOSTECI in the 8 départements already covered

"100% of households covered by a CLMRS or comparable child labour mitigation strategy and system

DRAFT from proposed joint monitoring framework

"100% of *all cocoa-growing households* covered by effective & sustainable child protection / HRDD systems that prevent and address child labour

ICI 2021-26 strategy

"100% of *households in the direct cocoa supply chain* covered by effective & sustainable child protection / HRDD systems that prevent and address child labor

WCF 2021-25 results framework

AIMS

How can we **ensure alignment** while accepting multiple approaches to child labour risk management?

Can we define benchmarks for **effective** and **sustainable** systems to enable harmonised reporting?

PROCESS

Stakeholder interviews

▼

Workshop to share and discuss preliminary findings

▼

Propose definitions and benchmarks

MAPPING ACTORS AND APPROACHES

INTERVIEW PARTICIPANTS

as of 17 Dec 2020

Governments

UN Organisations

Certifiers

Cocoa & chocolate companies

Member organisations

This exercise is complementary to *CLMRS Effectiveness Review (phase II)*, currently being conducted by ICI. Detailed information shared by 14 CLMRS implementers in Sub-Saharan Africa, has also been taken into account.
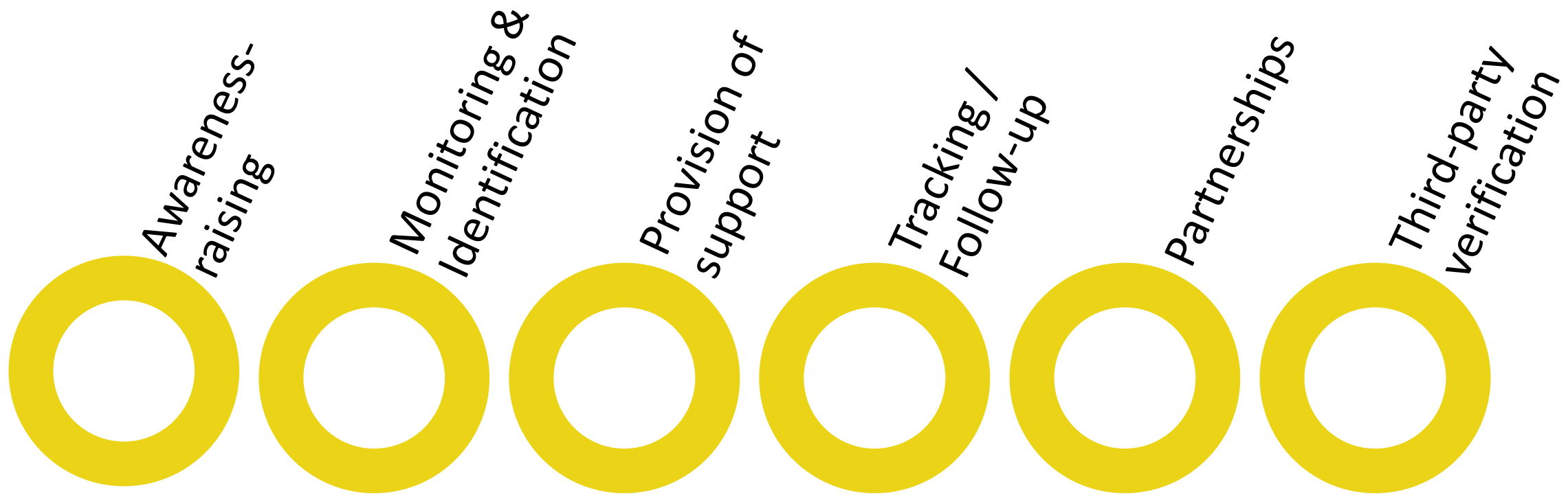
Approaches may use **different names and terms**, but **share many key elements**.
Key variations exist in the <u>level</u> of intervention, the <u>actors</u> involved, and the extent to which systems <u>collect and report data</u>.

SYSTEM ELEMENTS

Awareness-raising

Monitoring & Identification

Provision of support

Tracking / Follow-up

Partnerships

Third-party verification

Awareness-Raising

Awareness raising

Commonalities

Awareness-raising should, at a minimum…

- Be targeted to children, families and community members

- Be conducted by trained individuals

- Define in an accessible way: what is child labour, what are permitted & hazardous activities; provide information about associated risks

- Not be limited to child labour in cocoa

Variations

Content of awareness-raising (some cover additional topics)

Who conducts awareness-raising

Minimum requirements for **training** of individuals

Monitoring & Identification

Monitoring & Identification

Commonalities

Monitoring / identification should, at a minimum…

- Identify children **in** child labour (aligned with ILO definitions/ national legislation); as well as a children **at risk**, based on standard criteria/tools

- Be conducted by trained individuals

- Include direct involvement of children

Variations

Precise definition: hazardous child labour only *or* child labour

Intensity: active monitoring visits *or* reporting mechanism

Where **active monitoring** takes place…
- Actors: **paid** monitors *or* **unpaid** volunteers
- Targeting: **all households** *or* **only at-risk households**
- **Frequency** of active monitoring

Provision of support

Provision of support

Commonalities

Provision of support should, at a minimum...

- Be provided to children **in child labour**, as well as a children **at risk**

- Aim to **improve the situation** of children identified, as well as **prevent** future cases

- Where possible, take a **supportive** approach, rather than punishing families

- Link children to **existing support services**, where available (government services, community, NGO, private)

- Be **recorded** in the monitoring system

Variations

Level of intervention: **child, household, community**

Provision of support: **referral only, direct support**, or combination of **referral and direct support**

Tracking / Follow-up

Tracking / Follow up

Commonalities

Tracking should, at a minimum…

- **Actively follow-up** on children identified and their situation

- Accept that children's situation will not change immediately (ie. time is needed for change to happen)

Variations

Frequency and **duration** of follow up

Actors responsible for follow up

Whether **information is recorded** about children's status at follow up visits

Partnerships

Partnerships

Commonalities

Partnerships should, at a minimum, ensure…

- Use of **national definitions** to define cases of (hazardous) child labour

- Involvement of **community members** or representatives and existence of **feedback loops** at local level

- **Linkage with existing services** for the provision of support

- Feeding of **information** into existing **national systems**

Variations

Roles and responsibilities of different actors in relation to monitoring, follow-up, delivery of assistance and services, data guardianship.

Third-party verification

Third-party verification

Commonalities

Third-party verification of a system and its functioning is considered "nice to have", but not always planned or implemented by participants.

Variations

Some implementers conduct verification of data held by their system, others do not at all.

For those who do conduct verification, we see variations in the **frequency** of verification, the **means** of verification (data analysis/visits), the **sample** examined, and the **verifying body** (certifier/audit company/NGO etc.)

DEFINITIONS
FOR DISCUSSION

CHILD LABOUR <u>MONITORING</u>

"Child labour monitoring is the **active scrutiny** of child labour at the local level"

*"Its principal activities include **regularly repeated direct observations** to identify child labourers and to determine risks to which they are exposed, **referral** of these children to services, **verification** that they have been removed and **tracking** them afterwards to ensure that they have satisfactory alternatives."* (ILO)

Source: ILO, IPEC, Action Against Child Labour: <u>Child Labour Monitoring</u>

WHEN CAN WE SAY A CHILD IS COVERED?

A child can be considered "covered" by a system when the **risk** of child labour has been assessed AND **support** and **follow-up** is available for those identified at risk

→When assessing risk, the *method of risk assessment*, *geographic scope*, *results* and *action taken* should be documented and decisions justified. Actions taken should be proportional to risk.

In contexts with a high risk of child labour (ie. GHA and CIV with 50% child labour prevalence among cocoa households) *household level* risk assessment is preferable to community-level.

WHEN HAS A CASE OF CHILD LABOUR BEEN ADDRESSED?

A child's case has been addressed when he/she has **received** some type of **support**

Support could be provided directly or through referral; it could be material or a service.
NB. Receipt of support <u>does not</u> imply that the child's situation has necessarily improved

WHAT IS AN EFFECTIVE SYSTEM?

The overarching purpose of child labour monitoring systems is to "concretely document that the children's situations have improved." (ILO)*

An effective system to is able to…
- **identify cases** of child labour;
- **provide support** to identified cases;
- **reduce** children's exposure to hazards and improve access to their rights (applies both to children at risk, and children in CL)

In order to determine whether their situation has improved in the long term, children must be tracked/followed-up over time.

*ILO (2005) IPEC, Child labour monitoring factsheet, p1.

WHAT IS A SUSTAINABLE SYSTEM?

A sustainable system has the capacity and resources to **continue to function at the level required** to effectively address child labour risks for as long as they persist

This includes skilled and trained staff, appropriate financial resources, and linkage with other systems and services.

What information needs to be **reported** to ensure that benchmarks are being met?

NEXT STEPS

Timeline

Stakeholder interviews

Start of reporting on joint results frameworks

Nov	Dec	Jan	Feb	Dec
2020		**2021**		**2021**

Workshop to share and discuss preliminary findings

Final proposal of **definitions**, **benchmarks**, and **indicators**