

# Multi-Stakeholder Meeting

## Priorities and Modalities for Strengthened Collaboration in Child Protection and Quality Education for the Elimination of Child Labour in Cocoa

Accra, 15 November 2019

### Summary overview

More than 60 experts, thought leaders and policymakers from the Governments of Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire, United Nations organisations, the cocoa and chocolate industry, and civil society met in Accra on November 15<sup>th</sup> to discuss the potential Public Private Partnership to address child labour in cocoa growing communities.

The meeting was introduced by Nick Weatherill, Executive Director of ICI who stressed the importance of national coordination, the overall aim of taking successful interventions to scale through a systems approach, and the importance of defining roles and responsibilities in that context. He explained the purpose of the working sessions to feed into the development of a Framework for Action for a potential new Public Private Partnership against child labour in cocoa.

Dr Martin N'Guetia, representative of the government of Côte d'Ivoire, reminded participants of the background with the imminent conclusion of the Harkin-Engel Protocol's Framework of Action at the end of 2020 and a growing regulatory environment in the EU. He stressed the need to take stock of achievements and challenges experienced to-date, and to define new ways for strengthened, better coordinated and more effective public-private collaboration so as to reach greater impact based on priorities defined by the governments in their National Action Plans.

Francesco D'Ovidio, ILO-Geneva, reiterated the importance of national leadership, legal frameworks, trust and social dialogue, decent work, the mandate of UN organisations, and the role of innovation. He stressed that to ensure sustainability, it will be particularly important to strengthen existing national systems.

Virginie Mahin, of Mondelez (representing industry), stressed the industry commitment to strengthened collaboration, the fundamental role of governments, as well as the corporate responsibility to exercise due diligence.

Anne-Claire Dufay, UNICEF-Ghana, explained that not enough progress had been made, hence the need to move towards a systems approach, giving primacy to the leadership of government in order to ensure the sustainability of all efforts.

The Honourable Minister Baffour-Awuah, representative of the government of Ghana, reminded participants of the engagement that had already taken place since September, with several meetings of the PPP partners taking place in Accra and Washington DC. He announced that Ghana will join Alliance 8.7, to Eradicate Forced Labour, Modern Slavery, Human Trafficking and Child Labour, as a pathfinder country. He urged participants to move from talking into action as rapidly as possible. He reiterated the commitment of Ghana, stressed the importance of increasing farmers' income to tackle the root-cause of child labour, highlighted some of the challenges around defining and measuring child labour, and reiterated the need for scaling up as well as for coordination and transparency.



## Meeting Objectives:

- Inform the prioritization of interventions related to Child Protection and Quality Education, based on activities identified through previous PPP workshops and working group meetings.
- Initiate the collective work of 4 out of 8 of the envisaged technical workstreams tasked to develop the PPP framework for action.
- Broaden stakeholder consultation in the selected thematic areas.
- Deepen relationships among different stakeholders.
- Build a shared understanding of what it will take to deepen collaborative impact, including addressing priority gaps and needs, working towards scale, and recognising the capacities, roles and responsibilities of different stakeholders.

## Process:

Working in four groups, participants were encouraged to focus on country-specific issues related to Child Protection and Quality Education. Content and context experts opened each group, bringing important specificity and urgency to the discussion. Participants then reviewed the priority interventions identified to date; looked at the urgency of these interventions in response to current needs and gaps; identified potential priority activities; and discussed the feasibility of scaling up such interventions across cocoa growing areas. To deliver these interventions, participants explored the capacities among different stakeholder groups that could be reinforced or built upon.

## Outcomes:

Participants in all four groups noted the absence of a detailed mapping of needs, gaps, coverage and capacities, and requested that this be addressed as a priority. The need for robust information management, coordination and clear leadership equally emerged as a cross-cutting concern. Participants also noted that there is a need to define and harmonise terminology and concepts used by different stakeholders to ensure a common understanding.

Within each thematic area, the groups identified the following priorities:

#### Child Protection - Ghana:

- Reinforcement of **coordination** and information-sharing, including **among public and private child protection systems at all levels, community to national** (e.g. strengthened referral systems; information sharing between GCLMS and corporate monitoring and remediation efforts).
- Expansion of **national social protection mechanisms**, such as LEAP, school feeding and national health insurance, alongside localised efforts to increase agricultural productivity and promote financial inclusion. Improve access to information within communities so that families are aware of the different services available to them.
- Strengthen the **skills and capacity of social work actors**, including government social workers, but also other actors from civil society who fulfil complementary functions, and building the systems for coordination among these public and private arenas.

#### Quality Education - Ghana:

- Targeted improvements to **school infrastructure**, particularly at kindergarten and primary level: construction of learning spaces in communities with the most constrained access to education; renovation of existing school infrastructure, including sanitation facilities, canteens, electricity, and teacher residences.
- **Teacher training** and continuing professional development to improve teacher retention and motivation and drive improved learning outcomes for children.
- Improved access to **Technical and Vocational Training** for older children, aligned with market needs and opportunities in rural communities. Explore linkages with agribusiness and add mentoring for Technical and Vocational Training graduates to address current skills gaps.
- Participants also discussed the provision of equipment for classrooms, and school feeding among their priority activities.

#### Child Protection - Côte d'Ivoire:

- At the system level, priorities included identifying the reach of existing government, **industry and civil society child protection systems**; analysing their respective capacities and roles; defining a common response protocol to better harmonise their ways of working; and ensuring **information management and coordination**.
- At response level, priorities included **birth registration**; increasing the reach of **awareness-raising** and capacity-building activities; **identification** of at-risk children, households and communities; scaling up **response, remediation and referral** activities for at-risk children.

#### Quality Education - Côte d'Ivoire:

- **School infrastructure** at pre-school, primary and secondary level, based on a reliable mapping of existing school infrastructure and educational needs. Strengthened coordination between municipal and regional levels and increased technical oversight of construction projects by DSPS.
- **Training** and ongoing professional development for **teachers** and volunteer teachers. Explore options for distance learning to extend reach and reduce costs.
- Reintegration of out of school children into the education system through **bridging classes**, ensuring collaboration with ministry of education.
- **Technical and Vocational Training** opportunities tailored to the markets in rural areas, within the framework of a new national vocational training plan for rural youth.
- Among their priority activities, participants also discussed the need for school feeding, canteens, and the importance of girls' education.



## General observations

- Results were broadly aligned with those from previous prioritisation exercises, both in the September PPP workshops and subsequent PPP working group meetings, reinforcing some of the priorities previously identified through a broader consultative process.
- To ensure a rapid and effective scale-up, the importance of building on existing (government, industry, community, civil society) systems and efforts was recognised, with great potential recognised in simply ensuring better coordination, synergy and harmonisation between them.
- Some participants who had not been part of the PPP development process to-date but who will be part of the PPP Technical Workstreams appreciated the chance to learn more about the potential PPP and feed into the process of prioritisation.

## Next Steps

Moving forward with the development of the PPP, the results summarised in this document will be shared with the relevant Technical Workstreams, who will need to look in more detail at:

1. The analysis of needs and gaps in relation to the mapping of interventions, capacities, and existing roles of various systems
2. Evidence of the impact of these interventions on reducing child labour and supporting the realisation of other child rights.
3. The identification of ways to strengthen those existing capacities to take them to scale, including by reinforcing their synergies and complementarity, looking at roles and responsibilities of different actors.
4. The definition of corresponding funding requirements and possible funding and implementation modalities

## Group participants

### Child Protection – Ghana

*Facilitator: Ruth Rhoades Allen*

Abena Anobea Asare	Dr Rita Owusu Amankwaah	Hilary Kodji Saki
Abubakarr Afful	Elizabeth Akambobireh	Jeff King
Anaëlle Evans	Emma Ofori Agyemang	Joha Braimah
Antoine Deliege	Emmanuel Kwame Mensah	Johnson Addison
Barimah Akwasi Amankwaah	Emmanuel Opoku	Joshua Adjotey
Bright Appiah	Esther Ofori Agyemang	Lisa Salma Abubakar
Christian Anang	Florence Ayisi Quartey	Louisa Asigri Telly
Christian Mawusi	Francis Ahiamata	Louisa Oduro-Frimpong
Claes Hamilton	Frank Asanoh	Richard Longhurst
Darrell High	Frank Asante	Virginie Mahin
Dorcas Owusua	Frank Yeboah Asuamah	

### Child Protection - Côte d'Ivoire

*Facilitator: Olivier Laboulle*

Andres Tschannen	Inge Jacobs	Euphrasie Aka
Benjamin Walker	Isabelle Adam Jacques Billy	Miranda Armstrong
Camille Abou	Kwadjo Essediaba Mally	Yann Wyss
Didier Lath	Martial Kouakou	
Dr N'Guettia Martin	Matthias Lange	

### Quality Education - Ghana

*Facilitator: Earl Ankrah*

Abene Anobea Asare	Fadi Alidu	Pamela Schreier
Akwasi Addai Boahene	Freeman Gyebi	Paul Ntim
Andrews Addoquaye Tagoe	Hannah Okyere	Prince Gymafi
Andrews Asuanah	Irene Ofosu-Ennin	Samuel Thompson
Andrews Obed Asamoah	Kunera Moore	Sarah Arthur
Catherine Appiah Pinkrah	Matilda N. Broni	Tawiah Agyarko Kwarteng
Christopher Nkrumah	Mike Arthur	Veronica Dzeagu
Daniel Nyarko	Olivier Zwolsman	Yaa Peprah

### Quality Education – Côte d'Ivoire

*Facilitator: Mil Niepold*

Bill Egbe	Katie Bird	Sabina Vigani
Billie Elmqvist Thurén	Konan Amany Mbalo Ndiaye	Sonia Molinari
Emmanuelle Rosset	Mme Niamien Epse Kone	
Euphrasie Aka	Olivier Ohoux	
Hili Baba	Roselyne Kandel	