



Programme and Results

The underlying causes of child labour are complex. Factors such as an ignorance of hazards, poor education provision, accepted social cultural norms, economic necessity and outright exploitation are all features. Reflecting this complex mix of causes ICI has adopted a comprehensive programme that:

- Works at the national level to ensure appropriate and effective policies are in place;
- Supports capacity building for local partners and institutions;
- Implements a community based programme to change practices;
- Supports social protection for victims of exploitation;
- Shares lessons learned for replication.

ICI has developed a process to **sensitise cocoa farmers** to abusive labour practices and identify how to ensure these practices are brought to an end. The ICI's programme is **community driven**; it is a way for the community to decide its own future. To implement its programme, ICI runs a series of workshops where it trains local NGOs about its programmes and approach. The **NGOs become ICI's Implementing Partners (IPs)** and it is their job to implement the activities in cocoa communities. ICI's programme can be divided into four steps:

1. Dialogue and Sensitisation: IPs talk with members of the community in groups, about child centred development. They raise issues for discussion (e.g. on hazards their children can face while working in the cocoa farms, education, etc.);
2. The Community Action Planning: The community members discuss and decide on the various initiatives that would meet their needs and address child labour (e.g. build a school);
3. Implementation of the Action Plan: Community members implement their action plans with the support of local government and ICI partners (e.g. mobilizing the funds, materials and labour to build the new school);
4. Monitoring and Evaluation: The community forms a committee to make sure the action plans are actually implemented (e.g. the school is effectively built).

In 2004, twenty four Ghanaian communities were targeted for initial Pilot Phase of the programme. The Pilot Phase was completed in early 2007. More IPs are being trained and ICI's activities are now being scaled up. In 2008, ICI works with 5 IPs in Ivory Coast (in **88 communities**) and 7 in Ghana (**154 communities**).

Ghana



Partners

SLS: 10
 HFH: 22

Glori: 10
 CODESULT: 26
 SCMPP: 26
 HACOG: 10
 PDA: 6

Ivory Coast



Partners

CARITAS: 12
 FEMAD: 40

UVPAP: 30
 RENFACP: 6
 MESAD:
 Shelter



Some Key Results and Achievement (Pilot Phase - 24 communities)

- In 21 communities, children are no longer involved in spraying of cocoa;
- 19 communities have taken measures to reduce the load children carry;
- In all communities, parents and guardians have started providing protective clothing for children when they accompany them to the farms;
- 20 communities have taken measures against children breaking pods;
- In 21 communities, the Traditional Labour Cooperation has been revived, thereby allowing children to go to school;
- 21 communities officially requested teachers, 13 were granted;
- 13 communities had employed supporting teachers, paying them directly.

In parallel Sustainable Tree Crops Project (STCP) organised Farmer Field Schools in 7 of the 24 pilot communities. This helps farmers mobilizing funds for their social needs (education of children e.g.).

ICI will continue working with these pilot communities, to ensure a maximum impact of the project.

Some concrete result in a one of the communities where ICI conducts its activities: Sekyere Krobo (Mpochor Wassa East, Western Region, Ghana)

The ICI activities conducted in Sekyere Krobo are part of the community-based program. In Sekyere Krobo, ICI's implementing partner SCMPP (*Support for Community Mobilization Programme/Project*) started sensitization and dialogue activities using a participatory approach in 2005. Activities carried out include community wide meetings, focus group discussions, leadership meetings, definition and implementation of the community Action Plan. In this community, the impact on education and children engaged in child labour activities are the following:

- The community used an **ICI community grant** (950 US\$) to extend **electricity** to the **primary and junior high schools** to facilitate prep attendance in the evening by the school children. This project has led to the **improvement of the BECE results from 22% in 2005 to 81% in 2007**. It has also improved the general academic performance of the pupils in both primary and the junior high schools in the community according to the heads of the two schools.
- The district assembly -after receiving the community action plan- implemented some projects in the community. These projects are **toilet facilities** and a **six classroom block with library, office, store, urinal and a toilet**.
- A **bye law** preventing child labour, WFCL, children selling at night, wake keeping, video watching at night, etc. has been **put in place** and the community members are adhering to it.
- Furthermore, the community facilitators and leaders have capitalized on the existence of **community radio** in the village for sensitization efforts. As a result of this, **children carry loads but according to their age and strength. Also children fetch water a day before spraying is done. So children are not involved in chemical spraying at all.**