

# Child Labour Prevalence Survey



Household and child questionnaires to assess the prevalence of child labour in cocoa-growing communities in Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire

## Overview and Guidance

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## What is the tool?

The survey tool allows to assess the prevalence, intensity, and context of child labour and hazardous child labour in cocoa growing communities in West Africa. The survey tool is composed of two questionnaires, available in both English and French:

- A **household questionnaire** capturing the household's overall socio-economic situation and the household composition
- A **child questionnaire** capturing the child's engagement in economic activities during the past 12 months (or 7 days for some detailed information)

The information collected allows to identify whether children are in child labour or in hazardous child labour according to ILO conventions No. 138 and No. 182. Questions on children's work activities are tailored to the national legislative frameworks for hazardous tasks illegal for children for Ghana in the English version, and for Côte d'Ivoire in the French version.

## How does it work?

In order to assess the prevalence of child labour, it is strongly recommended to directly ask children instead of their parents.<sup>1</sup> The tool should, therefore, be administered as follows:

- The household questionnaire should be administered to the household head (or another senior adult household member)
- The child questionnaire should be administered directly to all children living in the household aged 5-17 years

Both questionnaires contain a core part and optional modules (see Overview of Core and Optional Modules). The core part is designed to assess the prevalence and intensity of child labour in cocoa-growing communities. The optional modules can be added to assess specific subjects, as indicated at the top of each module.

## Why use the tool?

Assessing the prevalence of child labour within a defined population may be required in various contexts:

- **To inform the planning and design of an intervention** based on an assessment of the baseline child labour situation in a population
- **To evaluate the effect of an intervention** addressing child labour, through a baseline & endline or treatment & control group comparison
- **To assess changes to the child labour situation** in a given area over time

## How was the tool developed?

These tools are based on existing good practice and have emerged from ICI's long-standing experience in data collection on child labour in cocoa growing communities. They can be adjusted for use in a wide range of contexts (project baseline and endline surveys, impact evaluations, needs assessments etc.).

## How to use the tool?

The tools should be administered by interviewers who have been trained in child labour concepts and who have received special training in interviewing children as well as in child protection.

## Surveys

Surveys in English and French are available on the [ICI Knowledge Hub](#).

ICI is available to support with further information guidance and training, please contact us: [learning@cocoainitiative.org](mailto:learning@cocoainitiative.org).

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<sup>1</sup> Evidence shows that parents strongly under-report their children's engagement in child labour, see e.g. [Lichand, Guilherme and Wolf, Sharon, Measuring Child Labor: Whom Should Be Asked, and Why It Matters \(June 1, 2022\)](#).

## Overview of Core and Optional Modules

Module	Objective and information covered	Duration (approx.)
<b>Household questionnaire</b>		
<b>Core module:</b> To be administered to the head of household or another responsible adult in the household	To assess the composition of the household with basic demographic characteristics of all household members, the socio-economic status of the household, asset ownership, and farming practices.	60 mins
<b>Optional module:</b> <b><i>Gender equality</i></b>	To measure progress over time, or differences between groups, in terms of the level of women empowerment within the household. To be administered to adult men and women living in the household in order to reveal different perceptions by male and female respondents within the same household.	10 mins
<b>Optional module:</b> <b><i>Knowledge and attitudes towards child protection</i></b>	To measure knowledge on and attitudes towards child protection, and child labour specifically (concise add-on to a comprehensive household questionnaire, covers only a few dimensions of child protection). To be administered to parents, both fathers and mothers, in the household, beyond the respondent to the core part of the survey.	10 mins
<b>Child questionnaire</b>		
<b>Core part:</b> To be administered to all children aged 5-17 years living in the selected household, including biological and non-biological children of adult household members.	To assess the prevalence and intensity of child labour; covers the demographic characteristics of the child, family situation, schooling, participation in work	25-35 mins
<b>Optional module:</b> <b><i>Child wellbeing</i></b> (adapted from the Well-Being Index (WHO-5))	Self-reported measure of children's psychological wellbeing	5 mins
<b>Optional module:</b> <b><i>Injuries and pain resulting from work</i></b>	Can be used to assess health effects of work on children in child labour (in this case, to be administered only to children who have previously reported doing hazardous work or exceeded the maximum number of permitted working hours for their age group); or to assess children's health outcomes independently from their work engagement.	5-10 mins
<b>Optional module:</b> <b><i>Learning outcomes</i></b>	To assess a child's attainment level in reading and arithmetic skills; to be applied in situations where education and learning are of key interest.	15 mins