



Graduate Women International (GWI)

# WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR

## 12 JUNE 2024

### WHAT IS WORLD DAY AGAINST CHILD LABOUR?

This year's World Day against Child Labour, organized by the International Labour Organisation (ILO) focuses on celebrating the 25th anniversary of the adoption of ILO Convention No. 182. Celebrated annually on 12 June, the observance day calls upon States to join forces and accelerate action to end child labour.



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### THIS YEAR'S THEME: LET'S ACT ON OUR COMMITMENTS: END CHILD LABOUR!

#### WHAT IS CHILD LABOUR?

Defined by the ILO, child labour is **work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential and their dignity**, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children; and/or interferes with their schooling.

#### FAST FACTS/STATS

Nearly half of child labourers were working under **hazardous conditions** in 2020.



Over 1/3 of children in child labour are **out of school**.



Approximately **70%** of child labourers work in agriculture like **farming and livestock herding**.

Source: World Vision, UNICEF

#### ILO CONVENTION NO. 182 ARTICLE 7 ON EDUCATION:



Each Member shall, taking into account the importance of education in eliminating child labour, take effective and time-bound measures to:

Prevent the **engagement of children** in the worst forms of child labour.

**Identify** and reach out to children **at special risk**.

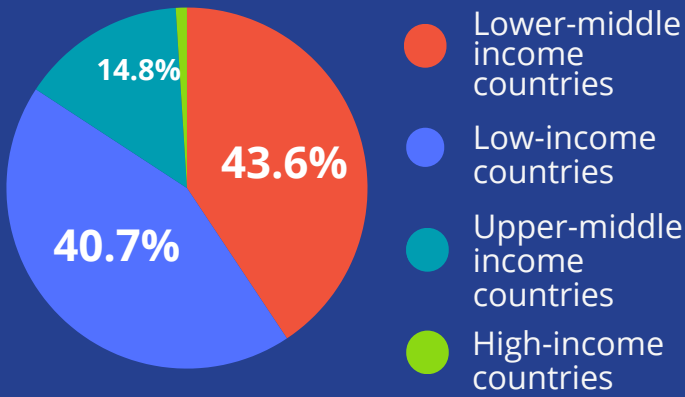
Take account of the **special situation of girls**.

Provide the **necessary and appropriate** direct assistance for the removal of children from the **worst forms of child labour** and for their rehabilitation and **social integration**.

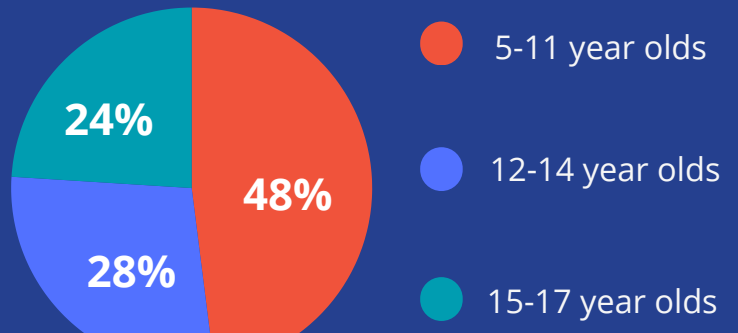
**Ensure access to free basic education**, and, wherever possible and appropriate, vocational training, **for all children** removed from the worst forms of child labour.

Source: ILO

#### MORE THAN HALF OF CHILD LABOUR OCCURS IN MIDDLE-INCOME COUNTRIES



#### AGE DISTRIBUTION OF CHILDREN INVOLVED IN CHILD LABOUR



Source: UNICEF

### THE ILO URGES IMMEDIATE ACTION AS CHILD LABOUR ESTIMATES GROW TO 160 MILLION



**Inclusive social protection** allows families to keep their children in school even in the face of economic hardship. Increased investment in rural development and decent work in agriculture is essential. **We are at a pivotal moment and much depends on how we respond.** This is a time for renewed commitment and energy, to turn the corner and **break the cycle of poverty and child labour.**

—Guy Ryder, former ILO Director-General, current United Nations Under-Secretary-General for Policy



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### GWI INTERESTING READS ABOUT CHILD LABOUR

#### GWI 2024 Press Release

This year's World Day against Child Labour, organized by the International Labour Organisation (ILO), focuses on celebrating the 25th anniversary of the adoption of **ILO Convention No. 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour**. Graduate Women International (GWI), an international organization with a steadfast commitment to **improving women's and girls' rights and access to education**, observes this day to raise awareness about the atrocity of child labour that exists around the world, robbing children of their well-being and future opportunities.

Read IT [HERE](#)

#### GWI 2022 Press Release

Under the theme **“Universal Social Protection to End Child Labour”** Graduate Women International (GWI), together with the International Labour Organization (ILO), call for increased investment in **child-sensitive social protection systems** to protect children from falling prey to forced child labour and remaining in the labour activities in lieu of school. Child labour robs children of their **right to education**, but it also impacts those children who prefer to stay in school by **decreasing motivation and academic achievement**.

READ IT [HERE](#)

### INTERESTING WATCH

#### World Vision USA: World Day Against Child Labour

World Vision highlights the story of a young boy in Afghanistan who has been forced into child labour to provide for his family. In a telling interview, the boy shares his aspirations to attend school and become a teacher, yet he is instead confined to working in unsafe conditions from 6am to 6pm daily. Watch the striking video by **clicking on the icon to the right**.



### ADVOCACY IDEAS



Urge local, national, and international governments to implement **child-sensitive social protection systems**.



**Improve access to quality education** for all children, regardless of gender, by urging local governments to **invest in teacher trainings** and **technology implementation** within schools.



Urge governments to **assist poor families** with programs such as cash transfer and school feeding programs which **enhance employment and education opportunities**.



Utilize international coalitions and organizations to **spread awareness** about child labour and **create feasible solutions** endorsed by both the public and private sector.



Raise level of **international awareness** of child labour by **utilizing social media platforms**.

### SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS (SDGS)

**1 NO POVERTY**



By **alleviating poverty**, the root cause of child labour, families across the world will be able to **engage in sustainable livelihoods**.

**4 QUALITY EDUCATION**



Boosting **social protections** for children and expanding access to education will **create more opportunities** and reduce poverty over time.

**5 GENDER EQUALITY**



Promoting **equal access to education** and opportunities for girls helps **break the ongoing cycle of discrimination** and violence against women.

**8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH**



Promoting decent work with **safe environments, fair compensation, and worker protections** directly mitigates child labor.

Read more about how child labour relates to the SDGs [HERE](#).

GWI thanks Brooke Leggat, GWI Spring Intern, for her valuable contribution to this infographic.

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