



ETHIOPIA

**Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder Country
National Strategic Planning Workshop**

ALLIANCE



Workshop Report

**Intercontinental Hotel
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
20 December 2019**

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Acronyms

AU	African Union
CETU	Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Unions
EEC	Ethiopian Employers' Confederation
EIEC	Ethiopian Industry Employers' Confederation
FDRE	Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia
HE	His/Her Excellency
IGAD	Intergovernmental Authority on Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
MoLSA	Ministry of Labour & Social Affairs
SDG	Sustainable Development Goals
UN	United Nations
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
WFCL	Worst Forms of Child Labour

1. BACKGROUND

In October 2019, the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia (FDRE) formally expressed its commitment to join Alliance 8.7 as a Pathfinder Country. This voluntary act signalled Ethiopia's willingness to take the lead and devote extra effort towards achieving Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs): *To take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.*

In furtherance of this commitment, Ethiopia's Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Her Excellency (H.E.) Dr. Ergoge Tesfaye, appointed Mr. Fekadu Gebru Senbete, Director of the Harmonious Industrial Relation Directorate at the Ministry of Labour & Social Affairs (MoLSA), as the Focal Point and Chair of Alliance 8.7 in Ethiopia ("Mr. Alliance"). Taking up this mandate, Mr. Alliance convened a committee of key stakeholders to organize the **National Strategic Planning Workshop and Launch of Alliance 8.7 in Ethiopia.**

The objective of the workshop was to bring together all stakeholders working towards achieving SDG 8.7 in Ethiopia in order to strengthen collaboration, assess the country's progress, and develop a workplan for action. More specifically, the workshop aimed to achieve the following goals:

- ✓ Develop a common understanding among stakeholders about Alliance 8.7 and what it means to be a "Pathfinder Country";
- ✓ Review and assess the progress made by Ethiopia to combat child labour and forced labour, including existing national action plans and policies;
- ✓ Develop action plans for interventions that Alliance 8.7 stakeholders in Ethiopia can implement in the short-term; and
- ✓ Secure renewed commitments from stakeholders to continue to collaborate and coordinate to effectively operationalize the Alliance.

2. EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The Alliance 8.7 National Strategic Workshop was held at the Intercontinental Hotel, Addis Ababa, on December 20, 2019. At 10:00am, the Master of Ceremonies, Mr. Ebba Tesfaye, delivered a warm introduction and announced the arrival of the guests of honour. He provided a brief summary of the problem encapsulated in SDG 8.7 and how this led to the launch of Alliance 8.7 at the global level in 2016. He also explained the concept of Pathfinder Countries and congratulated the Ethiopian government on its decision to become a Pathfinder.

This introduction was followed by a series of opening remarks delivered by representatives and dignitaries from various organizations, culminating in the official opening speech of the H.E Mr. Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister, FDRE. After the speeches, participants listened to a detailed presentation on Alliance 8.7, and then recessed for a tea break and group photo. Mr. Alliance then presented Ethiopia's challenges and progress made towards SDG 8.7 and moderated a question-and-answer session. Subsequently, lunch was served, and the Minister of Labour and Social Affairs took this opportunity to hold a press conference which was attended by several media organizations.



Figure 1: Press Conference

During the afternoon session, participants divided into three working groups – Migration, Rule of Law and Governance, and Supply Chains – to identify priority actions and strategize on the coordination and mobilization of resources. The concluding plenary session provided an opportunity to discuss the results of the group discussions before the delivery of closing remarks.

3. INTRODUCTORY REMARKS

2.1 Remarks by Mr. Getahun Hussein (Eng.), President, Ethiopian Employers' Confederation

Mr. Hussein described the Ethiopian Employers' Confederation (EEC) as the primary organization tasked with safeguarding the interests of employers in the course of labour relations. It is the voice of employers and is focused on creating a favourable work environment in Ethiopia. He noted that the EEC has conducted research on child labour exploitation and has provided awareness-raising training to employers and other stakeholders. He also highlighted the importance of Alliance 8.7 to the EEC and expressed his organization's commitment to work hand-in-hand with MoLSA to implement Alliance 8.7 and achieve SDG 8.7.

2.2 Remarks by Mr. Tadelle Yimer, President, Ethiopian Industry Employers' Confederation

Mr. Yimer explained the mandate of the Ethiopian Industry Employers' Union (EIEC) and some of the challenges associated with carrying out the effective implementation of its mission. He informed the participants that the Intergovernmental Authority on Development (IGAD) has decided to establish the headquarters of the East African Industry Employers' Union in Addis Ababa. He presented the achievements of the EIEC over the past year and reaffirmed his organization's commitment to work together with the government for the implementation of Alliance 8.7.

2.3 Remarks by Mr. Kassahun Follo, President, Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Unions

Mr. Follo presented the achievements of the Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Unions (CETU) over the past couple of years. He described CETU as the national voice of the working community, defending workers' rights and interests including providing protection to child labour victims. He highlighted some of the root causes of child labour, including poverty and overpopulation, and noted that CETU has drafted a policy and formed regional committees to address child labour, and has provided training to government representatives and trade unions. Mr. Follo praised the FDRE for joining Alliance 8.7 as a Pathfinder Country and pledged that CETU will cooperate with the MoLSA, employers and other civil society organizations in order to achieve the 2030 Agenda and specifically SDG 8.7.

2.4 Remarks by the United Nations Resident Coordinator

Ms. Bettina Maas, Country Representative of the United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA) in Ethiopia, delivered remarks on behalf of the United Nations (UN) Resident Coordinator. Ms. Maas commended the FDRE for its commitment to joining Alliance 8.7 as a Pathfinder Country. She recalled that Ethiopia participated in the 2017 voluntary national review of the



Figure 2: Ms. Bettina Maas, UNFPA Country Representative

High-Level Political Forum on the SDGs and emphasized the importance of a participatory approach to development cooperation. She suggested that a collective effort is needed for the proper implementation of the 2030 SDG Agenda and affirmed that the UN Country Team in Ethiopia is dedicated to working together with the FDRE for the realization of this important initiative. She closed her remarks with the following quote from UN Secretary General Antonio

Guterres: “Bridging the gaps, bridging the divides, restoring confidence by bringing people together around common goals, unity is our path. Our future depends on it.”

2.5 Remarks by H.E. Mr. Frédéric Bontems, Ambassador of France to Ethiopia

A representative of the French Embassy in Ethiopia delivered welcoming remarks on the behalf of H.E. Mr. Frédéric Bontems, Ambassador of France to Ethiopia and Representative of France to the African Union. He reminded participants that France took up the position of Global Chair of Alliance 8.7 in July 2019, and he congratulated Ethiopia for joining the Alliance as a Pathfinder Country and demonstrating its commitment to eliminate child labour and forced labour. He announced that, on November 12, 2019, France expressed its intention to become a Pathfinder Country as well. He noted that the elimination of child labour and forced labour is a long-term challenge and stressed the importance of the gender perspective, noting that 70% of forced labour victims are women and girls. He affirmed France’s support for the workshop and called on the stakeholders to do everything in their power to achieve tangible results towards the elimination of child labour and forced labour.

2.6 Welcoming Remarks by H. E. Dr. Ergoge Tesfaye, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia



Figure 3: H.E. Dr. Ergoge Tesfaye, Minister of Labour and Social Affairs

H.E. Dr. Ergoge Tesfaye extended her thanks to all who chose to be part of this important Alliance 8.7 Launch Ceremony. She stressed that Ethiopia’s response to this call to action is loud and clear. Ethiopia shares the ambitious vision of Alliance 8.7 and welcomes the unique opportunity to be a leading member of this inclusive global partnership, and to set an example that will inspire similar efforts across Africa and around the world. She noted that the government is working tirelessly to accelerate the

implementation of the 2030 SDG Agenda, and Ethiopia's membership as a Pathfinder Country is an opportunity to collectively mobilize resources and work with all stakeholders to realize this Agenda. She reminded participants that the government has made remarkable strides in the reduction of child labour and has developed national action plans on child labour and on migration and smuggling. The Minister remarked that the spirit of Alliance 8.7 is coordination across different sectors, and all stakeholders must commit to the mobilization of resources and expertise for the effective implementation of the Alliance in Ethiopia. She urged every stakeholder to bring their wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise to bear on this issue in the interest of the nation.

A copy of the full speech has been provided at Annex 2.

2.7 Opening Remarks by H.E. Mr. Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

On the behalf of the government of the FDRE, H.E. Mr. Mekonnen, expressed his pride at this opportunity to demonstrate an unreserved commitment to achieving the SDGs and particularly Target 8.7. He commended the International Labour Organization (ILO) for its efforts in mobilizing support for the implementation of SDG 8.7, and France for championing and leading the Alliance.



Figure 4: H.E. Mr. Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister, Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia

He reaffirmed that his government is committed to achieving SDG8.7 and other related SDGs and noted that Ethiopia is working to ensure that no one is left behind and to inspire other countries in African and beyond. He urged all stakeholders to seize this moment and work collectively with dignity and humanity to bring about a world

free of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour in all its forms. At the end of his remarks, he declared the workshop to be officially opened.

A copy of the full speech has been provided at Annex 3.

4. PRESENTATIONS

3.1 Presentation on Alliance 8.7

At 11:00 am, Mr. Jean-Marie Kagabo, ILO Regional Coordinator for Africa, delivered the first presentation. He provided background information on the challenges that inspired the creation of Alliance 8.7, including highlighting some of the results of the ILO's Global Estimates on Child Labour and Forced Labour. He noted that there are 150 million children in child labour globally and half of them are in Africa. Moreover, 50 million people live in modern slavery and 25 million in forced labour. Collective effort is needed to tackle child labour, forced labour and human trafficking and to improve coordination in the response. He explained the purpose of Alliance 8.7 as an inclusive global partnership that focuses on accelerating action, conducting research, sharing knowledge, driving innovation and leveraging resources towards achieving SDG 8.7.

Mr. Kagabo described the global partnership structure of Alliance 8.7, including the current Chair (France) and previous Chairs (Australia and Brazil) with the ILO as the current secretariat, and the various Action Groups.

He noted that Ethiopia is the 17th country to join the Alliance as a Pathfinder Country and to commit to accelerating efforts to eliminate child labour and forced labour. He also noted that the African Union (AU) is an Alliance 8.7 Pathfinder and



Figure 5: Mr. Jean-Marie Kagabo, ILO Regional Coordinator for Africa

Ethiopia's efforts are contributing to the AU's regional and continental action plans on child labour, forced labour, human trafficking and modern slavery. Finally, Mr. Kagabo emphasized the challenges and opportunities that joining Alliance 8.7 as a Pathfinder will bring to Ethiopia, such as resource mobilization, access to existing research and increase attention at the global level.

A copy of the Alliance 8.7 PowerPoint presentation has been provided at Annex 4.

3.2 Presentation on Ethiopia's challenges and progress towards SDG 8.7

After a short tea break and group photo, Mr. Alliance presented some reflections on Ethiopia's challenges and priorities in the context of SDG 8.7. He began with a general overview of Ethiopia's current economic and social landscape and emphasized the country's achievements in poverty reduction. He has also presented data related to child labour in Ethiopia and the challenges faced in the effort to reduce child labour, such as limited access to education and the impact of climate change. He indicated that the Amhara region has the highest prevalence rate of child labour in Ethiopia, followed by Afar and Tigray respectively, while the lowest rate is found in Addis Ababa followed by Diredawa. He presented some of the reasons for the high rate of child labour in Ethiopia, such as children helping with household chores at home, supporting family businesses, and the insistence by parents that their children will learn new skills by engaging in child labour.

In addition, Mr. Alliance discussed forced and irregular migration in Ethiopia, highlighting the main routes and destinations of many irregular migrants from Ethiopia. He also explained that, because there is little productive work available to youth in rural areas, they tend to migrate to urban areas in search of better and decent work. He pointed to MoLSA's achievements in capacity building, strengthening legislation and raising awareness to address child labour and human trafficking.

A summary of Mr. Alliance's statement has been provided at Annex 5.

The two presentations were followed by a question-and-answer session. The presenters and participants discussed the challenges of lack of coordination and duplication of efforts; the

exploitation of children by relatives and close family members; the importance of mainstreaming child labour into stakeholder institutions, programs and budgets; and the need for accountability among stakeholders.

5. STRATEGIC PLANNING EXERCISE

After the lunch break, the participants separated into working groups to discuss and develop action plans on three thematic areas: Migration, Rule of Law and Governance, and Supply Chains.

These discussions were driven by the following list of guiding questions:

1. Considering the current situation of Ethiopia, do you think these plans are achievable with in the deadline?
2. How do we ensure coordination and collaboration of sectors to make this into reality?
3. How is the Alliance going to tackle the coordination problems to avoid duplication of efforts?
4. How is the cross-border issue dealt to ensure cross border collaboration in the case of supply issue?

The groups were tasked with formulating action plans setting out challenges and short-term and long-term interventions. Some of these action plans have been provided at Annex 6.

6. PLENARY SESSION

The participants reconvened to watch a short video highlighting key factors that could affect the effective planning and implementation of Alliance 8.7. Afterwards, the three groups presented their findings and recommendations for action on migration, rule of law and governance and supply chain groups. Their presentations are summarized in the following tables:

THEMATIC AREA	CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED	POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
Migration	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Economic poverty as a main cause of migration • Assuming the destination is bright as a pulling factor 	Short-term interventions: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Establishing an inter-regional joint forum • Community-based awareness creation platforms

THEMATIC AREA	CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED	POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Perception of migration as the only means - not looking at opportunities at home • Ambition for a better life • The fact that the majority of migrants are between the ages of 12-18 • Security problems: around borders and in the host country • Joining criminal acts, terrorist groups • Repatriated migrants – psychologically victimized, trauma continues • Absence of national migration policy • Women and children are highly vulnerable groups • Lack of legal advisors in destination countries • Lack of a legal channel for migration • Absence of training and certification before departure • Low payment 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community care coalition- child abuse, migration • Shortening the bureaucracy for regular migration <p>Long-term interventions:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inclusion of the issue in school curriculum • Working on job creation and innovation from the western blocks • Empowering the country’s economic development • The responsible body must be clearly defined • Providing clear information about the destination country • Working on migration governance • Developing a communication strategy • Coordination and cooperation • National ID, Vital Registration • Improving data systems
Supply Chains	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • The two major challenges raised by the group members were in the construction and agricultural sectors • The issue of poverty was also raised as a challenge 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Higher official engagement is needed to mitigate these challenges • Different clusters have to be formed • Current action plans relating to law enforcement need to be implemented • The private sector should consider child labour as illegal and commit their businesses accordingly

THEMATIC AREA	CHALLENGES IDENTIFIED	POSSIBLE SOLUTIONS
Law and Governance	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Current labour laws do not address the informal economy, where child labour is most prevalent • Labour laws are fragmented; some laws are not known to pertinent officials who deal with the child labour • Penalties for non-compliance do not have a deterrent effect • Existing capacity of labour inspection is limited 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Corporate Social Responsibility systems should be in place and implemented • The issues of human trafficking, worst forms of child labour (WFCL) and forced labour need to be incorporated in the legal framework • Building the capacity of labour inspectors • Awareness creation on human trafficking, WFCL and forced labour has be designed and incorporated to achieve the necessary impact • With regard to law enforcement, the judiciary must give due attention to safeguarding children from forced labour manipulation and child labour • Law enforcement organs, especially the police and other security forces, have to include and address in their structures the issue of child rights • The basic principle of access to free and universal education for all children in the country has be maintained • Due attention must give to the issue of human trafficking by the nation’s policy makers and implementers

7. CLOSING REMARKS

6.1 Remarks from the African Union

The AU Representative commended Ethiopia’s active participation at the recent Conference of AU Ministers of Labour, during which the member states adopted the AU’s Draft Ten Year Action Plan on Eradication of Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in Africa (2020-2030). He noted that the AU and the UN have long had a combined strategic approach, and SDG 8.7 is built into the 10 Year Action Plan. This combined strategic

approach also includes joint implementation and monitoring evaluation of the respective policies from these two organizations.

He noted that now is the time for member states to implement the Ten Year Action Plan and reminded the participants to align their plans with the AU framework. He noted the need for the continent to identify what it has in common regarding this. He noted that the commissioner is committed to supporting the effort with the ILO, which is a key strategic partner for this planning portion. He urged all stakeholders to work together and assist other states to go through the process of joining the Alliance.

6.2 Closing Remarks from Mr. Alliance 8.7

In his closing remarks, Mr. Alliance emphasized two take-away messages: first, he encouraged participants to mobilize the resources by themselves, and use all of the resources and expertise at their disposal before looking to others. Secondly, all stakeholders and government must commit their time and energy to support the initiative. He noted that the organization of the workshop took a lot of time and energy and thanked all of the partners who contributed to the coordination of the process, including the representatives from MoLSA and the Master of Ceremonies. He thanked all of the participants for attending and reminded them, that the commitment they showed during this workshop must be maintained, as all are responsible for taking this initiative forward.

Annexes

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- Migration Action Plan

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- Supply Chain Action Plan

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Provisional Program of Work For National Strategic Planning Workshop

December 20, 2019, 9:00-17:00

**INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL
ADDIS ABABA, ETHIOPIA**

TIME	ACTIVITY and Responsible body	Facilitator	Remark
8:30-9:00 AM	Registration	M.O.L.S.A	Coffee/ Tea ser.
9:00-9:10 9:10-9:20 9:20-9:30 9:30-9:40 9:40-9:50 9:50-10:00 10:00-10:15	1. Opening Ceremony <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Welcoming Remark by H/E Dr. Ergogie Tesfaye Minister, Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs • Mr. Getahun Hussen (Eng) President of Ethiopian Employers Confederation • Mr. Tadele Yimer President Ethiopian Industry Employers Confederation • Mr. Kassahun Follo President of Confederation of Ethiopian Trade Union • Mr. Steven Were Omamo UN Resident Coordinator's Remarks • H/E Amb. Frederic Bontems, Rep. Global Alliance 8.7 Chairman • Opening Statement made by H/E Mr. Demeke Mekonnen, Deputy Prime Minister of the Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia. 	Master of Ceremonies (MC)	
10:15-11:00	2. Presentation on the SDG8 Target 8.7 and the Alliance 8.7 by Mr. Jean-Marie Kagabo ILO specialist and Fekadu Gebru Director, Harmonious Industrial Relation Directorate (Mr. Alliance)	MC, M.O.L.S.A	

11:00-12:00	3. Plenary Discussion		
12:00-12:10	4. GROUP PHOTO	Media community	
12:10-12:25	5. Press Release	Tripartite	
12:25-13:45	LUNCH BREAK		
13:45-15:00	6. Working Group sessions to identify priority actions and the coordination and mobilization of resources	PARTICIPANTS	
15:00-15:20	COFFEE/TEA/BREAK		
15:20-16:00	7. Plenary session on priority actions / selection of concrete short-term pilot intervention	PARTICIPANTS/ MOLSA	
16:00-16:15	8. Closing Remark	H/E Dr. Ergogie Tesfaye, Minister, M.O.L.S.A	



WELCOMING REMARKS

BY

**H.E. Dr. ERGOGIE TESFAYE, MINISTER OF LABOR
AND SOCIAL AFFAIRS OF THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLIC OF ETHIOPIA**

AT

**ALLIANCE 8.7 PATHFINDER COUNTRY NATIONAL STRATEGIC
PLANNING WORKSHOP**

20 DECEMBER 2019

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, ADDIS ABBA

His Excellency Demeke Mekonnen Deputy Prime Minister of EFDRE

Your Excellences, Heads of Regional Government,

Honourable Ministers,

Honourable Ambassador of France

Distinguished members of the diplomatic community and UN agencies

Distinguished Development partners,

Representatives of employers and workers, Representatives of civil society,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Good morning and thank you all for being here. It is an exceptional honour and a pleasure to welcome everyone to this National Strategic Planning Workshop and the official launch of Alliance 8.7 in Ethiopia.

Since 2015, when Ethiopia joined with other UN Member States to adopt the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development, our government has worked tirelessly towards achieving these ambitious goals and targets.

These efforts, and specifically Ethiopia's initiative to participate as a Pathfinder Country of Alliance 8.7, have brought us here today.

Alliance 8.7 is a global platform for collaboration between stakeholders at all levels to accelerate efforts to achieve Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals: the eradication of forced labour, the ending of modern slavery and human trafficking, and the elimination child labour in all its forms by 2030. Pathfinder Countries are the pioneers and frontrunners of

Alliance 8.7, those who have decided to act quickly and pull resources together to ensure that we achieve Target 8.7.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Ethiopia's response to this call to action is loud and clear. We share the ambitious vision of Alliance 8.7 and we welcome the unique opportunity to be a leading member of this inclusive global partnership, and to set an example that will inspire similar efforts across Africa and around the world.

Our government has already made significant strides in combatting child labour and forced labour across the country. We have ratified the principal UN and ILO Conventions, including the Convention on the Rights of the Child, the Convention Against Transnational Organized Crime and its Trafficking in Persons Protocol, Convention 138 on the Minimum Age for employment and Convention 182 on the elimination Worst Forms of Child Labour.

We have also developed a National Plan of Action for Children with the reduction of child labour as a major component. Moreover, our government has established a National Council Against Human Trafficking and Smuggling, a Federal Taskforce on Countering Migrant Smuggling and Trafficking in Persons, and a National Plan of Action against Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants.

Despite our achievements and best intentions, we know that there is still a long road ahead. According to the 2015 National Child Labour Survey,

43% of Ethiopian children between the ages of 5-17 are engaged in child labour. The trafficking and exploitation of Ethiopians and migrants from neighbouring countries for forced labour also remains a serious problem and a big challenge.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Tackling this problem requires coordinated effort on all fronts. All stakeholders, including every level of government, must be involved. This is exactly the spirit of Alliance 8.7 and this is why we are gathered today. The objective of this workshop is to strengthen collaboration across all sectors working towards achieving Target 8.7 in Ethiopia, to assess our country's progress, to identify priorities and challenges, and to develop a work plan for action.

Our work must also extend far beyond the activities of today. We must all commit to pooling our efforts and mobilizing resources in order to implement concrete short and long-term interventions in accordance with our national priorities.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your presence here is a testament both to the importance of achieving Target 8.7 and to the partnerships that are necessary to make it happen. Each one of you and each organization that you represent has a role to play in this Alliance, as policy makers, program implementers, advocates, employers, trade unionists, educators, community leaders, researchers,

journalists and many others. I urge you to bring your wealth of knowledge, experience and expertise to bear on this issue in the interest of our nation.

Finally, I would like to thank the Focal Point of Alliance 8.7 in Ethiopia, Mr Jean Marie from ILO and the members of the organizing committee who have worked attentively to ensure the success of this workshop. I sincerely congratulate everyone who has been involved in the preparations for this important occasion.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

Thank you again for your presence here today and for your efforts towards the fulfilment of Target 8.7 in Ethiopia. I look forward to the ideas and actions that will result from this dialogue.

It is now my honour and privilege to invite His Excellency the Deputy Prime Minister to deliver his opening remarks and officially launch this workshop.



OPENING SPEECH

MADE BY

**H.E. DEMEKE MEKONNEN, DEPUTY PRIME
MINISTER, THE FEDERAL DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF
ETHIOPIA**

AT

**ALLIANCE 8.7 PATHFINDER COUNTRY NATIONAL STRATEGIC
PLANNING WORKSHOP**

20 DECEMBER 2019

INTERCONTINENTAL HOTEL, ADDIS ABBA

Honourable Heads of Regional Government,

Honourable Ministers,

Honourable Ambassador of France

Distinguished members of the diplomatic community and UN agencies

Distinguished development partners,

Representatives of employers and workers, Representatives of civil society,

Ladies and Gentlemen,

I am delighted to be here today on this promising occasion of the National Strategic Planning Workshop and Launch of Alliance 8.7 in the Federal Democratic republic of Ethiopia.

I would like to begin by expressing my gratitude to international labour organization (ILO) for their continued guidance and support towards the Ethiopian Government in ensuring that we meet our commitment as pathfinder country in SDG alliance 8.7 and for supporting today's gathering. My special appreciation and regards should also goes to the Government of France which is represented here with us by honourable Ambassador who took the Chairmanship of the Global partnership of alliance 8.7 and who have been championing this agenda.

On behalf of the government of Ethiopia, we are very proud of this opportunity to demonstrate our unreserved commitment to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals, and particularly Target 8.7: the

elimination of forced labor, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labor in all its forms.

Ladies and Gentlemen

We need this approach to continuously review plans and programs to accelerate the action to eliminate child labour, forced labour and modern slavery from our societies. we must ensure that we give the best possible care and protection to our children's as they are the future. The task ahead requires a multi sectorial approach and working together. I am grateful to see many stakeholders today to work together on our common goals. And I commend you your work in this area.

Our commitment in this regard is closely interlinked with the ongoing efforts to achieve the objective and targets of the African Union's Agenda 2063. The first Ten Year Implementation Plan (2013-2023) of the 2063 Agenda calls for the elimination of all forms of child labour on the continent, and this has resulted in the development of a Ten Year Action Plan on the Eradication of Child Labour, Forced Labour, Modern Slavery and Human Trafficking in Africa (2020-2030). This is also consistent with the prohibition on child labour in the AU Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

At the heart of the 2063 and 2030 Agendas is a promise to leave no one behind. Accordingly, I wish to assure all stakeholders of the support of the Government of Ethiopia for the Alliance 8.7 partnership and for this event. I stand here committed to doing my best to make Ethiopia a leader in the fight against child labour and forced labour. As a Pathfinder Country,


Ethiopia is setting an example that will inspire efforts towards achieving Target 8.7 across Africa and around the world.

I am particularly grateful for the leadership of Her Excellency the Honourable Minister of Labour and Social Affairs in making this event possible. I also commend the efforts of the organizing committee, and particularly the Focal Point of Alliance 8.7. His mission is important to Ethiopia and Ethiopians, and he has the full weight of the Federal Government behind him.

Ladies and Gentlemen,

The launch of Alliance 8.7 is a clear demonstration of our resolve as a nation to achieve Target 8.7 and to achieve it speedily. Let us seize this moment and recommit ourselves to bringing about a world free of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour in all its forms.

I thank you for your attention and I declare the workshop as officially opened.



ALLIANCE

**JOINING FORCES
GLOBALLY TO END
FORCED LABOUR,
MODERN SLAVERY,
HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AND CHILD LABOUR**

Alliance 8.7

*Pathfinder Country
National Strategic Workshop*

*Addis Ababa, Ethiopia
20 December 2019*

1

1

PRESENTATION OUTLINE

1. SDG 8.7: Global & Local Challenges
2. Alliance 8.7
 - What is it?
 - How does it work?
 - How can it address these challenges?
3. Pathfinder Countries: From Global Commitment to National and Local Action
4. Questions and Answers, Comments and Concerns

2

2




3



4

Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.

TARGET 8.7




5

5

The Global Challenge


152 MILLION CHILDREN IN CHILD LABOUR



88M boys
64M girls

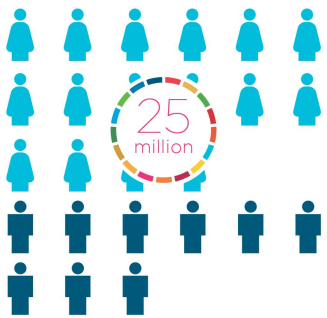
Source: ILO

40 million



25 MILLION PEOPLE IN FORCED LABOUR

There are 16 million females and 9 million males in forced labour, of which 4.3 million are children.



Source: ILO, WWF, IOM

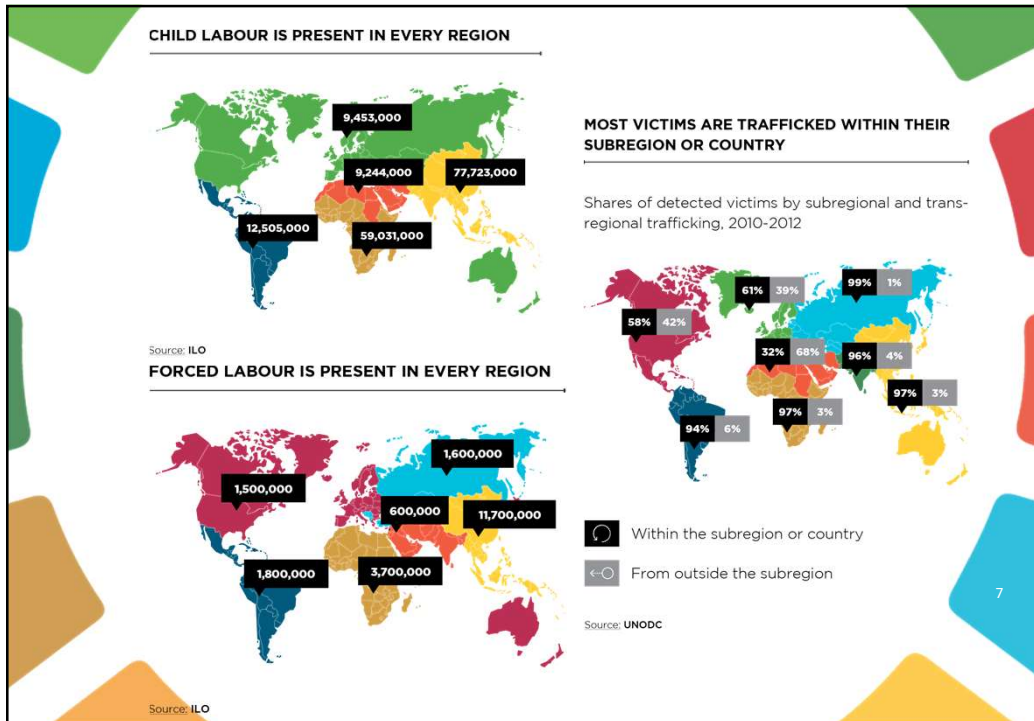
METRICS

40 million people were victims of modern slavery. This includes:

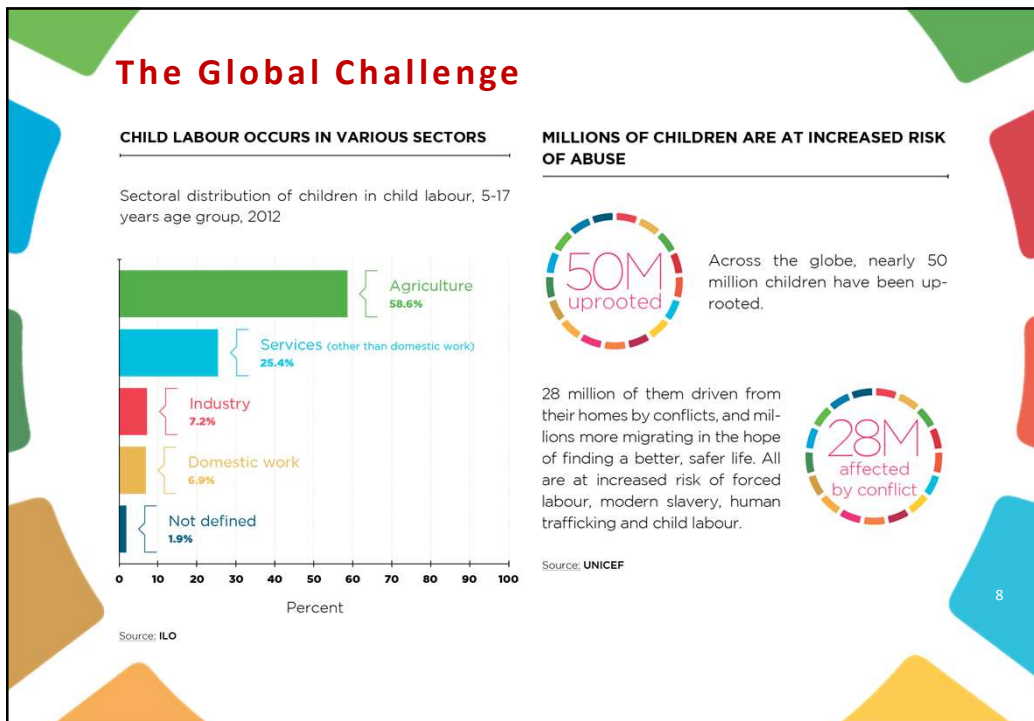
- 25 million people in forced labour
- 15 million people in forced marriage

6

6

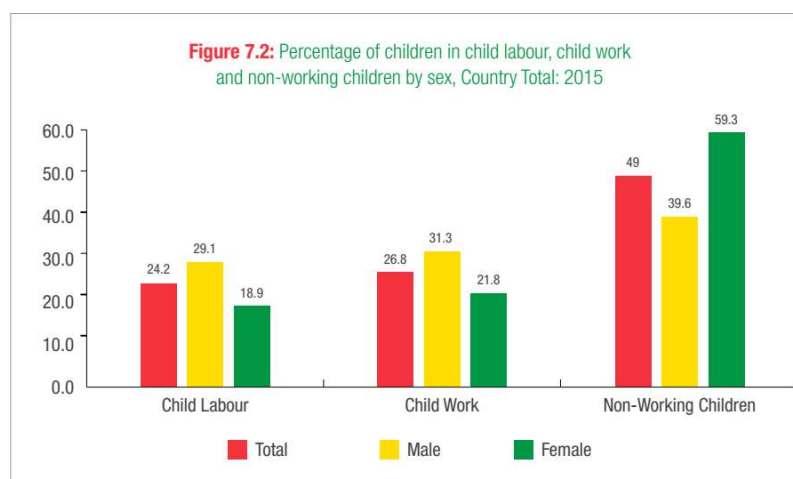


7



8

Local Challenges – Child Labour



Source: Ethiopia National Child Labour Survey, 2015 (CSA/ILO)

9

Local Challenges – Child Labour

Table 7.14: Number and percentage of children in child labour, working children not in child labour by region, Country Total: 2015

Region	Child Labour			No. of working children	Total children
	N	% of total children	% of working children		
Tigray	580,909	26.8	52.8	1,100,877	2,168,356
Afar	225,848	31.7	61.1	369,606	712,326
Amhara	2,710,345	31.3	48.9	5,544,948	8,658,915
Oromiya	4,186,298	27.7	51.0	8,209,467	15,091,991
Somali	293,563	28.1	63.9	459,600	1,045,743
Benshangul Gumuz	89,737	21.1	41.8	214,750	425,966
SNNP	896,899	11.7	30.0	2,985,187	7,648,683
Gambella	8,642	5.1	20.2	42,742	170,572
Harari	8,364	8.7	29.4	28,451	96,179
Addis Ababa	41,893	3.7	60.3	69,450	1,133,275
Dire Dawa	8,913	4.9	45.4	19,612	180,731
Total	9,051,411	24.2	47.5	1,9044,690	37,332,737

Source: Ethiopia National Child Labour Survey, 2015 (CSA/ILO)

10

Local Challenges – Child Labour

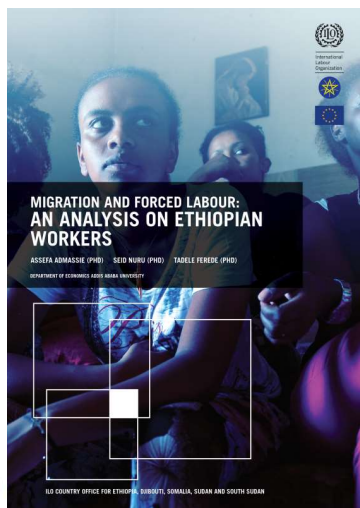
Table 8.2.: School attendance rate of children in hazardous work, children in child labour other than hazardous work and working children not in child labour, by sex, age groups, and area of residence, Country Total: 2015

		Hazardous work		Child labour		Working children		Non-working children	
		N	%	N	%	N	%	N	%
TOTAL									
Male	5-11 years	1,091,160	41.0	2,812,728	50.0	2,812,728	50.0	3,102,710	52.9
	12-13 years	656,060	62.1	1,762,149	72.7	1,762,149	72.7	712,185	86.3
	14-17 years	896,329	51.5	896,329	51.5	2,345,213	62.8	892,598	86.6
	Total	2,643,550	48.4	5,471,207	55.9	6,920,090	58.7	4,707,494	61.0
Female	5-11 years	682,862	45.9	1,858,474	52.6	1,858,474	52.6	3,869,847	55.7
	12-13 years	488,052	70.4	1,178,307	75.6	1,178,307	75.6	1,305,547	85.8
	14-17 years	576,851	54.0	576,851	54.0	1,388,871	64.0	1,651,379	78.7
	Total	1,747,765	53.8	3,613,632	58.7	4,425,652	61.0	6,826,773	64.6
Total	5-11 years	1,774,022	42.7	4,671,203	51.0	4,671,203	51.0	6,972,557	54.4
	12-13 years	1,144,112	65.4	2,940,456	73.8	2,940,456	73.8	2,017,732	85.9
	14-17 years	1,473,180	52.5	1,473,180	52.5	3,734,083	63.2	2,543,977	81.3
	Total	4,391,314	50.4	9,084,838	57.0	11,345,742	59.6	11,534,267	63.1

Source: Ethiopia National Child Labour Survey, 2015 (CSA/ILO)

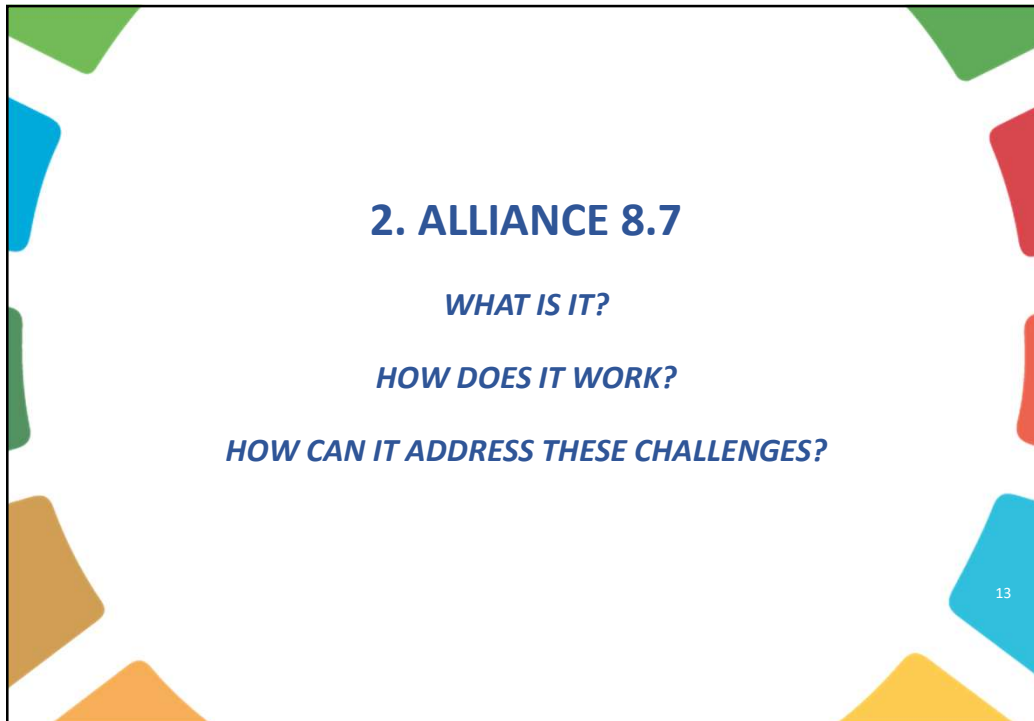
11

Local Challenges – Forced Labour

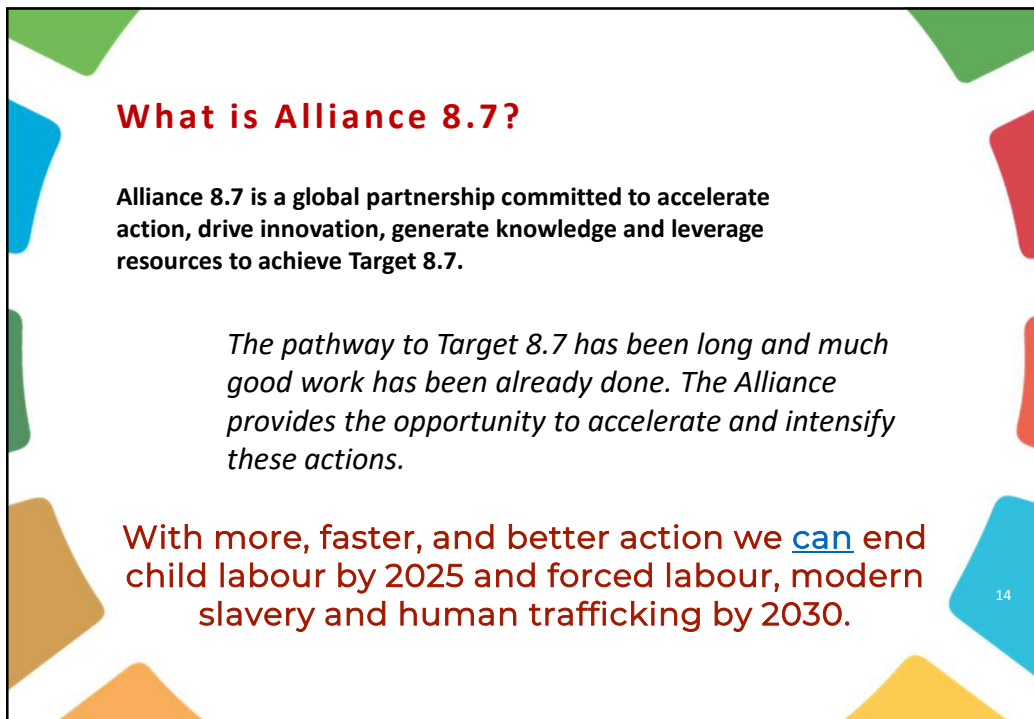


- Ethiopia is an important origin, transit and destination for irregular migration flows in the Horn of Africa.
- The 2013 ban on migration to the Middle East led to an increase in the number of migrants using irregular means to cross borders.
- According to a 2017 ILO/MOLSA study, over 58% of returnee migrants were working in forced labour.
- Forced labour is more common for female migrants, migrants from the Amhara region, and those employed in rural areas.

12



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14

What does this mean in practice?

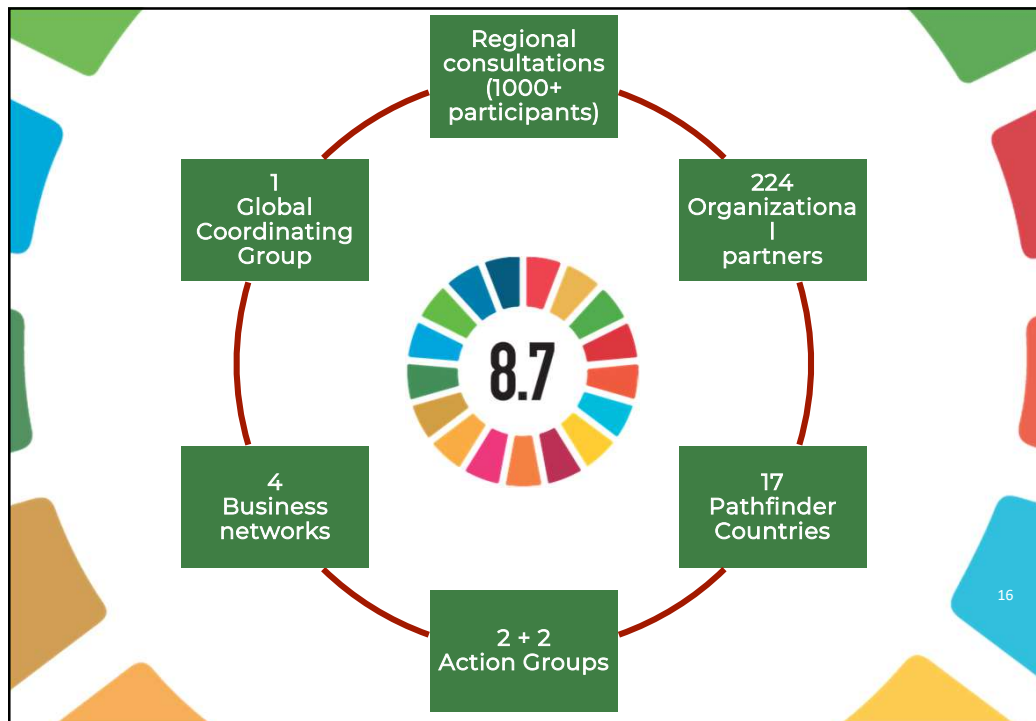
Alliance 8.7 is a **catalyst**. If we work together, pooling knowledge, skills, experience and resources, we will see a step change in the impact of our efforts.

How is the Alliance doing this?



15

15



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16

Who participates?

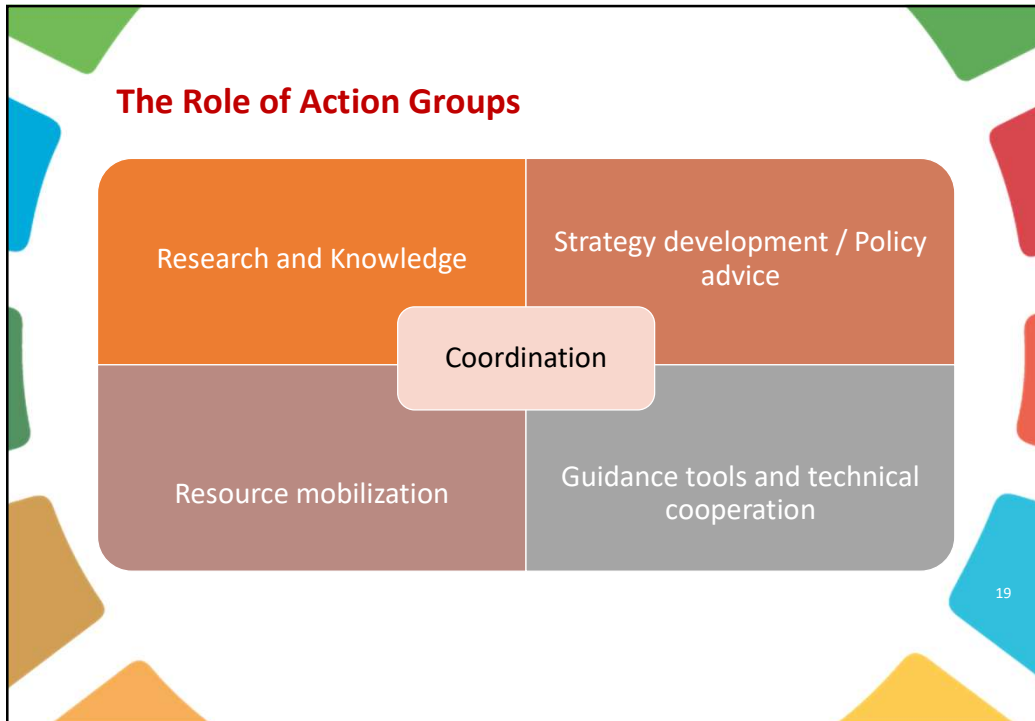
- ❖ Governments (Chair: France, Deputy: Argentina)
- ❖ Representatives of employers' organizations (and companies through business networks)
- ❖ Representatives of workers' organizations / affected groups
- ❖ International Civil Society Organizations
- ❖ UN and Int. Organizations (IOM, UNICEF, OHCHR, FAO, UNHCR, UNODC, UNDP, UNWomen, OECD, ...)
- ❖ Regional Organizations (OSCE, ICMPD, African Union, Bali Process, Regional Initiative Latin America and Caribbean Free of Child Labour)
- ❖ Research Institutions (e.g. UN University and partners)

17

Operational Structure

- ❖ Global Coordinating Group
- ❖ Action Groups
 - ❖ Humanitarian Crisis and Conflict (UNICEF);
 - ❖ Supply Chains (ILO);
 - ❖ Migration (IOM);
 - ❖ Rule of Law and Governance (OHCHR)
 - ❖ Rural Development
 - ❖ Commercial Sexual Exploitation
- ❖ Country Coordination Groups
- ❖ Secretariat (ILO)
- ❖ Child Labour Platform / Business Network on Forced Labour

18



19



20



21




22

Pathfinder Countries

Expressed interest	Strategic planning workshops
1. Albania	1. Albania
2. Chile	2. Chile
3. Ethiopia	3. Ethiopia
4. Fiji	4. Fiji
5. Guatemala	5. Madagascar
6. Madagascar	6. Mauritania
7. Malawi	7. Mexico
8. Mauritania	8. Nepal
9. México	9. Nigeria
10. Marruecos	10. Peru
11. Nepal	11. Tunisia
12. Nigeria	12. Uganda
13. Perú	13. Vietnam
14. Sri Lanka	
15. Tunisia	
16. Uganda	
17. Vietnam	

23



ALLIANCE

**JOINING FORCES
GLOBALLY TO END
FORCED LABOUR,
MODERN SLAVERY,
HUMAN TRAFFICKING
AND CHILD LABOUR**

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24

LEADING THE WAY TO ACHIEVE TARGET 8.7: REFLECTING ON ETHIOPIA'S CHALLENGES AND PRIORITIES

COUNTRY OVERVIEW

With about 109 million people (2018), Ethiopia is the second **most populous nation in Africa** after Nigeria, and the **fastest growing economy in the region**. However, it is also **one of the poorest**, with a per capita income of \$790. Ethiopia aims to reach lower-middle-income status by 2025.

Ethiopia's economy experienced strong, broad-based growth averaging 9.9% a year from 2007/08 to 2017/18, compared to a regional average of 5.4%. Higher economic growth brought with it positive trends in poverty reduction in both urban and rural areas.

There have been tremendous **expansion in access to social services** such as education, health, water and sanitation as well as infrastructure including roads, railways, telecom and power generation among others. Access to universal primary education reached 100 percent, health coverage 98 percent, access to potable water 65 percent, life expectancy reached 64.6 years and others. Ethiopia has achieved some of the MDGs well ahead of the 2015 timeline and the latest assessment on the MDGs indicated that six of the eight MDGs are either achieved or on track to be achieved by 2015. This robust economic and social performance helped to reduce the level of poverty. As a result the **incidence of poverty markedly declined from 45.5 percent in 2000 to 23.5 percent in 2016**. Income inequality measured by Gini coefficient remains low and stable over the past two decades at around 30 percent.¹

Such achievements in reduction of poverty are attributed to the **pro-poor development policies** and strategies in rural and urban areas. These include the agricultural development strategy that aims at commercializing and improving the productivity of smallholder agriculture and the industrial development strategy that focuses on promoting the development of competitive micro and small scale enterprises. In addition, expansion of medium and large scale private sector investments, the social sector development programs, the various infrastructure development programs, the food security program, as well as the various urban development programs have been instrumental in the progress made so far in poverty reduction.²

Yet, despite these substantial achievements, the country faces numerous development challenges, including high death and disease rates, limited access to education, and lack of food security with climate changes expected to exacerbate these development stressors.

Challenges

- The **share of the youth population (15-29 years of age) has reached 30 percent** and the share of the working age population is currently 55.4 percent, with more than half belonging to the youth group. The share of children under 15 years of age is 40 percent, as a result, the age dependency ratio remains high at 82 percent. Among the prominent features of the demographic change in Ethiopia are youth bulge and high labor force participation. The phase of demographic transition Ethiopia is in is where the middle of the pyramid, basically the working age group, is high. The working age population has been increasing on average by 1.6

¹ Poverty and economic growth in Ethiopia, (1995/96-2015/2016). Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, 2019

² Poverty and economic growth in Ethiopia, (1995/96-2015/2016). Federal Democratic Republic of Ethiopia, 2019

million people every year in the past decade. The share of the youth population has been increasing steadily.

The increase in share of the working age group and the number of new labour market entrants have an overall impact of reducing the age dependency ratio, however, the **actual benefit to the economy is realized only through the level of quality jobs created**. One of the main challenges of population growth is creating adequate demand for labour to absorb the growth in supply. In the absence of adequate demand the workforce is obliged to be unemployed or underemployed.

- In Ethiopia, large share of the workforce, including the youth, is engaged in **low productivity sectors** such as small holder agriculture and informal services. Due to the high fertility in the rural areas and stagnation in the agriculture sector, the youth is fleeing to urban areas only to end up in the informal services sector. The unemployment and underemployment in urban areas is being aggravated by impacts of climate change and stagnation in the agriculture sector. In addition, as a result of slow structural transformation, the job structure has not changed, majority of employment is still in the agriculture sector followed by informal service sector.
- The **population as a whole is vulnerable to climate impacts**, particularly the large portion that depends on rain-fed agricultural and pastoral activities. The country is also vulnerable to desertification, drought, and flooding, which are each expected to have a negative impact on livestock, farmland, and overall nutrition. Furthermore, changes to water resources will affect agriculture, human health, and hydropower electricity production. Other sectors of concern include changes to forest and biodiversity resources and public health, as climate changes may cause a greater prevalence of diarrhea and vector-borne diseases such as malaria.
- The confluence of rapid urban expansion, ongoing conflict over land and resources and high levels of vulnerability to ongoing drought and seasonal floods continue to generate numerous new displacements every year.

About **2.9 million new displacements associated with conflict were recorded in 2018**, the highest figure recorded worldwide.³

- Ethiopia hosts the second largest refugee population in Africa, sheltering **905,831 registered refugees and asylum seekers, out of which more than half are children**.⁴ Addressing the needs of such large number of people represent a serious challenge for the Government. Progress is underway on the inclusion of refugees within the national systems of Ethiopia. The central idea is to ensure more cost effective investments in national systems that will also benefit host communities through the expansion of quality services. In 2019, Ethiopia passed a law that allows refugees to obtain work permits and other legal documents. Refugees can now work legally, formally register births and marriages and access financial services such as bank accounts. These historic changes will help refugees integrate fully into and contribute to their local communities.⁵

³ Internal displacement monitoring centre : <http://www.internal-displacement.org/countries/ethiopia>

⁴ UNHCR, 2019.

⁵ UNHCR: <https://www.unrefugees.org/news/ethiopia-refugee-crisis-explained/>

CHILD LABOUR⁶

In line with the national legislation, children in child labour are all persons aged 5 to 17 years who were engaged in one or more of the following activities: i) hazardous work; ii) working and not attending school; iii) working but not as unpaid family workers nor self-employed.

According to the 2015 National Child Labour Survey:

- **more than 9 million** children aged 5 – 17 were engaged in child labour
- child labour prevalence **increases with age**: 22.0 per cent for children aged 5 to 11 years, 32.5 per cent for those aged 12 to 13 years and 34.3 per cent for 14 to 17 year olds
- child labour is **higher in rural than in urban areas** (27.5% and 9.4% respectively)
- there are substantial **regional differences**. The regions of Amhara and Afar have the highest prevalence rate of child labour (33.3 per cent of its child population and 31.7 per cent respectively), followed by the Somali, Oromiya and Tigray regions (28.1 per cent, 27.7 per cent and 26.8 per cent, respectively). It is important to notice that the Oromiya region accounted for the largest population of children engaged in child labour, with 4,186,298 individuals. The lowest child labour rate was recorded in the Addis Ababa City Administration (3.7 per cent of 1,133,274), followed by the Dire Dawa region (4.9 per cent of 180,731).
- The main reasons for working cited by children are to help their household enterprise/family business (63%), to increase family income (28%) and to learn new skills (3%)
- Data confirm that children from wealthier households tend to work less. Households in possession of housing units and agricultural farm tools with children in child labour are in a higher percentile than households with children not in child labour. Households with children engaged in child labour had higher rates of indebtedness.
- Social and gender norms are a key driver of child labour patterns, with an expectation for boys to contribute to economic activities⁷
- **Child labour hampers children's education**: large numbers of child labourers do not attend school, while those who combine work with schooling are often unable to fully profit from the education on offer.
- **Child labour and trafficking**: According to the U.S. Trafficking in Persons Report 2019, traffickers often deceive parents of children living in rural areas into sending their children to major cities to work as domestic workers. The traffickers promise families that the children will go to school and receive wages for their work, thereby enabling them to send money home.

FORCED LABOUR AND TRAFFICKING⁸

Ethiopia faces challenges in terms of forced labour, irregular migration and related issues. It is a **country of origin, transit and destination for irregular migration flows in the horn of Africa**. The majority of Ethiopian irregular migrants are directed to the Middle East (mainly to Saudi Arabia and other Gulf States via Somalia, Djibouti and Yemen), while significant number of other migrants head

⁶ Except where otherwise indicated, source: Ethiopia National Child Labour Survey 2015 / International Labour Office, Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work Branch (FUNDAMENTALS); Central Statistical Agency (CSA). – Addis Ababa: ILO, 2018.

⁷ National Situation Analysis of Children and Women in Ethiopia. UNICEF and Ministry of Finance, 2019

⁸ Except where otherwise indicated, source: Migration and forced labour : an analysis on Ethiopian workers / Assefa Admassie, Seid Nuru, Tadele Ferede ; International Labour Organization, ILO Country Office for Ethiopia, Djibouti, Somalia, Sudan and South Sudan. – Addis Ababa: ILO, 2017.

**Presented by Mr. Alliance at the Alliance 8.7 National Strategic Planning Workshop
Addis Ababa, Ethiopia**

southwards (to South Africa) and westwards to Europe (via Sudan, Libya and the Central Mediterranean route).

The proportion of **female migrants** (54.2 percent) is higher than male migrants (45.8 percent) and the majority comes from **rural areas**. The poorest are not those more likely to migrate, as very poor people are not able to cover the cost of migration.

Male migrants are more vulnerable to forced labour than females. Additional **vulnerability** factors include the low level of education, the illegal mechanisms of migration, the possession of short-term work permit, borrowing, and the absence of special training. It also appears that a large share of returnee migrants from Amhara were in forced labour.

Respondents who undertook migration for work purposes exhibit a higher incidence of forced labour. 41.3 per cent of respondents who borrowed money to finance their travel found themselves in a situation of forced labour

ACTION PLAN ON MIGRATION

List of potential short and long-term solutions or interventions to tackle the vulnerability of migrants to human trafficking, forced labour/child labour and modern slavery

Rapporteur: Chanyalew Tafessework

No	Challenges	Short term intervention	Long term intervention
1	No comprehensive policy in Migration that safeguard migrant citizens	Inter-regional joint forum for migration	Education system (add the issue of migration into high curriculum)
2	Migration is taken as a culture in some society	Strengthen system – legal system and law enforcement	Job creation and innovation within a country
3	Unequal pay of Ethiopian migrant workers in destination countries, especially Middle East countries.	Strengthen community care structures – use family-based approaches	Enhance the observative capacity of our economy to the emerging labour force.
4	Lengthy process of the legal migration channel and people tend to use the illegal channel to shorten their stay.	Training for migrants and effective life skill training for returning	In place clear demarcation of mandates among different sectors and government offices
5	Less Departure training given to migrants	Government has to shorten the lengthy process of the government system in the legal route	Establish an ongoing awareness creation to at risk population on the cons and pros of legal and illegal migration.
6	Less coordination of stakeholders and less information and data dissemination	Ensure availability of safehouses for sheltering and psychosocial support of returning migrants.	Migration governance

7	Less coordination and collaboration with destination countries		Data and information accessibility
10	Improper use of youth revolving fund		Vital registration, National Identity card
11	Government employees (like police, teacher, Health extension workers, Agricultural extension workers)		
13	Government officials sending their children to use illegal migration		
14	Coordination and collaboration needed between departing and exit regions within the country.		
15	Less commitment by people in leadership positions		
16	Domestic payment of factory workers in the industrial park is lower than ordinary job outside.		
17	Absence of National ID card which make difficult to track migrants		
18	Poor data management system and absence of data protection law.		
19	Many returning migrants suffer from mental health problems and physical trauma		

ACTION PLAN ON SUPPLY CHAINS

List of Potential short and long-term solutions or interventions to tackle the vulnerability of people to human trafficking, forced labour/child labour and modern slavery in supply chains

General issues: Poverty and food insecurity, informal sector, lack of decent jobs (working conditions and low wages), low skills and cultural beliefs about labour

Challenging sectors:

- Agriculture (small holder farmers, private farms (sesame, coffee growing, fishing, horticulture, cattle herding)
- Construction
- Transportation (loading and unloading)
- Mining (gold mining, metal workshops, precious stones)
- Garment (traditional weaving and footwear)
- Service sector (hotel and tourism, SMEs)

Challenges:

- Weak coordination among the different ministries (CL and FL are cross cutting issues)
- Lack of follow up, monitoring of the implementation and accountability of actors
- MOLSA has labour inspectors go only formal sector, not in informal sector. Lack of capacity of labour inspections
- Some industrial parks and MNEs have no decent work (gender violence), no minimum wage, social dialogue, and social protection. 1156/2019 Proclamation, the minimum wage is not yet established.
- Lack of human, financial resources and technical support from development partners
- Low awareness about CL, FL and HT at all levels
- WFCL NAP is not implemented
- No referral systems for child labour and forced labour

Long-term Intervention:

Prime Minister to continue advocating and advise all line ministries and regions about the issues. Top leadership involvement is needed.

Short-term intervention:

Institutionalization of political will

- Institutionalization of child labour, forced labour issues starting from Prime-Minister Office (Have focal points and referral points responsible for reporting and coordinating)
- High time to include CL and FL into Ten years Perspective Plan/Roadmap as cross cutting issues (which is currently being developed and soon will be discussed with development partners).

Enforcement

- Initiate the implementation the NAP on Child Labour in depth
- Law enforcement of CL and FL – Labour Proclamation
- Conventions
- Policies

Research

- More research on child labour and forced labour together with National Statistical Office and Academia
- Data and Action oriented research for certain sectors and themes

Awareness raising and advocacy

- High level awareness raising (media, Parliamentarians)
- Raising awareness of public (grass roots levels for government, households, schools, associations, families etc.)

Capacity building

- Capacity building to implement the cross-cutting issues (CL, FL) and national programmes on CL and FL
- Training of MOLSA labour inspectorate
- Strengthen community child labour monitoring systems (CCCs)
- Sharing of good practices about referral systems between the regions
- Improve school retention (focus on schools, school feeding etc.)

- Governments need to do more to mitigate the socio-economic pressures facing individuals, workers and their families, which in turn limit options for survival and sustainable livelihoods and heighten vulnerability to child labour, forced labour and human trafficking (access to finance, microfinancing, micro-insurance, cooperatives)

Private sector role

- Businesses to have CL and FL free products and services
- Governments can leverage their regulatory authority to ensure business respect for human rights in their supply chains, including through legislation requiring companies to carry out due diligence for responsible business conduct and have CSR policies in place
- Giving recognition and incentives for businesses free from CL and FL

Resource mobilization

- Increase the allocation of resources and finance by government and development partner