

ELIMINATING CHILD LABOUR IN ZIMBABWE TOBACCO PRODUCTION



According to ILO, Child Labour is work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential, their dignity, and that is harmful to their physical and or mental development.

Working with the Eliminating Child Labour in Tobacco (ECLT) Foundation, TIMB is driving action to eliminate all forms of child labour in tobacco production in Zimbabwe by 2025.

Tobacco producing families can train children to grow tobacco, but children are not to perform all tasks as some are hazardous for them. The most common risks for children working on farms include:

- Handling pesticides & fertilisers
- Carrying heavy loads &
- Using unguarded machines.

To strengthen cross-sectoral collaboration for action to end child labour in the sector the Tobacco Industry Working Group on Child Labour (TWCL) was formed in 2021. The working group works to coordinate, strengthen and leverage action plans on child labour in the Zimbabwe tobacco industry, using the Agricultural Labour Practices (ALP) program as a de facto standard.

TWCL's establishment is a sectoral leadership initiative on child labour, leveraging its common voice to promote standardization, cross-sectoral collaboration and impact focused solutions on child labour.

- ✓ Children belong in school not tobacco fields, invest in suitable labour.
- ✓ Practice sustainable agriculture without child
- ✓ Be aware of, prevent and report all cases of child labour

For more information on the efforts to eliminate child labour in Zimbabwe tobacco production as well as a progress report of the Tobacco Industry Working Group on Child Labour's work are available on the TIMB website www.timb.co.zw

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