

Regional Initiative



**Latin America and the
Caribbean free of child labour**

tive



What is it? How does it work? What has it achieved?

Child labour



is a reality for million of children and adolescents in Latin America and the Caribbean. It leaves a sharp mark on their lives and constitutes a barrier to overcome the persistent inequality in the region. Putting an end to child labour will promote decent work, contribute to poverty reduction and support the construction of equitable and inclusive societies.

Child labour reduction

Data global trends

2008



215
million (13.6%)

Data regional trends



14,1
million (10%)

Hazardous
child labour

9,4
million (6.7%)

2012



168
million (10.6%)
REDUCTION:
47 MILLION (22%)



12,5
million (8.8%)
REDUCTION:
1,6 MILLION
(12.8%)

9,6
million (6.8%)
INCREASE:
200 THOUSAND
(2%)

2016



152
million (9.6%)
REDUCTION:
16 MILLION (9.7%)



10,5
million (7.3%)
REDUCTION:
2 MILLION
(17%)

6,3
million (4.4%)
REDUCTION:
3,3 MILLION
(35%)

Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean free of child labour

What is it?

It is an intergovernmental cooperation platform, with active participation of employers' and workers' organizations that seeks to accelerate the eradication of child labour to declare Latin America and the Caribbean free of child labour in 2025.

In 2014, during the 18th ILO Regional Meeting of the Americas (Lima, Peru), the Declaration on the Establishment of the Regional Initiative was signed.

30
countries

High Level Authority
Made up of Ministers of Labour of the member countries that hold meetings on the RI in regional meetings.

- | | | | |
|-----------------------|----------------------|-------------|-------------------------|
| > Antigua and Barbuda | > Costa Rica | > Haiti | > Saint Lucia |
| > Argentina | > Cuba | > Honduras | > Saint Kitts and Nevis |
| > Bahamas | > Dominican Republic | > Jamaica | > Suriname |
| > Barbados | > Ecuador | > Mexico | > Trinidad & Tobago |
| > Bolivia | > El Salvador | > Nicaragua | > Uruguay |
| > Brazil | > Grenada | > Panama | > Venezuela |
| > Chile | > Guatemala | > Paraguay | |
| > Colombia | > Guyana | > Peru | |

7 representatives of employers' organizations

7 representatives of workers' organizations

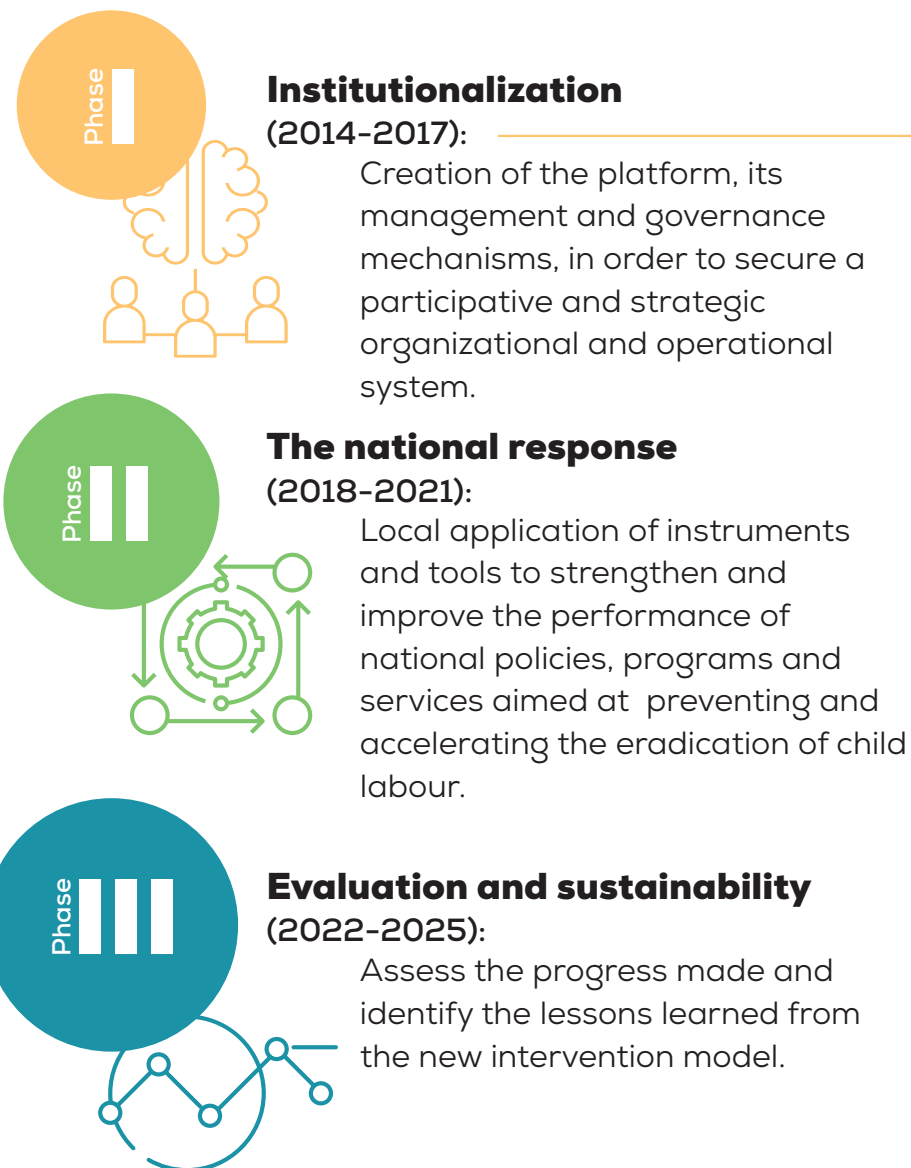
1 Technical Secretariat

Technical Secretariat
In charge of the ILO Regional Office for Latin America and the Caribbean.

Network of Focal Points
Made up of representatives of the member countries and of employers' and workers' organizations.

How does it work?

The action of the Regional Initiative has been foreseen for the period **2014-2025**, in coherence with the deadline and the global priority given by **Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals** relating 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.**"



See: "Keys for innovation" at www.iniciativa2025alc.org/sites/default/files/keys-for-innovation-systematization-RI-summary.pdf

What has it achieved?

Phase I (2014-2017)

Objective:

Institutionalize the platform and its management and governance mechanisms, and define together the priority action themes.

Main results:

- The goal of eradicating child labour has remained a political priority, reflected in a **general reduction** of 17% in child labour and 35% in hazardous child labour between 2012 and 2016.
- South-South and Triangular Cooperation has been strengthened, demonstrating that the region and the social partners have the capacity, knowledge and **experience** to accelerate the rate of eradication of child labour and reach Target 8.7 in 2025.
See: www.iniciativa2025alc.org/acelerar/
- The English-speaking Caribbean countries have been integrated in the RI and a regional **collective voice and vision** against child labour strengthened.
- **The Child Labour Risk Identification Model** (implemented in Argentina, Brazil, Colombia, Mexico and Peru) has been created together with ECLAC to interrupt the trajectory of child labour in vulnerable territories and productive sectors, based on the supply of public services and the promotion of public-private partnerships.
See: www.iniciativa2025alc.org/child-labour-risk-model/
- A working approach adapted to the principles of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development has been achieved: **focused on people**, so as not to leave any country behind and based on alliances, innovation and mutual **cooperation**.
See: www.iniciativa2025alc.org/target8-7

What to focus on?



To reach Target 8.7 in terms of child labour requires that the countries of the region strategically concentrate their efforts on:

- i) rural and fragile areas due to environmental issues, disasters or insecurity;
- ii) exposed productive sectors (agriculture and the services sector);
- iii) population groups at risk (indigenous and Afro-descendant people, adolescents and young people, girls and adolescents women and migrants).



For this, Latin America and the Caribbean needs to:



Strengthen the preventive approach to child labour, prioritizing territories with high and medium levels of risk, and ensure the provision of protection services and economic improvement for families and communities.

See: Methodology of the Child Labour Risk Identification Model.
http://iniciativa2025alc.org/sites/default/files/child-labour-risk-identification-model_RI.pdf

Provide more resources and capacity for child labour withdrawal and protection services, especially those focused on illicit forms of child labour and hazardous work.



Design alternatives to change the work conditions for adolescents, through the preparation for the labour market of adolescents above the minimum age for admission to employment, as well as victims of unacceptable forms of work, offering alternatives for the development of human talent and a decent work trajectory.

Strengthen the effective implementation of national and subnational plans, policies and programs for the prevention and eradication of child labour, providing them with resources proportionate with the magnitude of the problem, improve the coordination with protection services and develop economic and income alternatives for families and communities.



Continue to improve the knowledge base on emerging forms of child labour, especially of hazardous nature, highlighting the particular vulnerability of certain groups such as indigenous and Afro-descendant people, girls and migrants. This will allow designing more effective responses from the public, in partnership with the private sector.



Participate actively and continuously in the action of the Regional Initiative, as a platform capable of boosting the efforts of the constituents of the ILO towards the achievement of Target 8.7 of the SDGs and catalysing actions of other key partners for development.



Continue to measure the effective progress of the countries of the region towards the eradication of child labour, in order to recognize progress and achievements, but also to identify gaps that need to be improved and strengthened to achieve the first generation free of child labour in 2025.

Find resources against child labour HERE:



With the support of:

