



ILAB

Bureau of International Labor Affairs



Making trade fair
for U.S. workers
through strong
trade enforcement
of labor commitments.



Unrivalled experience
and impact in
**combating child labor,
forced labor, and
human trafficking**
across the world.



Leadership in
**representing U.S.
interests on labor and
employment issues** in
the G-20, ILO, OECD,
and other forums.

ILAB safeguards dignity at work, both at home and abroad – by strengthening global labor standards, enforcing labor commitments among trading partners, promoting racial and gender equity, and combating international child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking.

The Bureau of International Labor Affairs (ILAB) is the U.S. government's leading voice in strengthening the rights and voices of workers internationally. We promote inclusive economic growth, advance equity at work, and combat abusive labor practices, including child labor and forced labor. Our work reflects the values of the American people as it furthers the interests of our workers and workers around the world.

ILAB negotiates, monitors, and enforces labor provisions in U.S. trade agreements and preference programs, creating a more level playing field for workers and improved laws and enforcement among trading partners.

ILAB is the world's largest funder of projects to improve respect for workers' rights and fight child labor and forced labor, with more than a quarter century of experience overseeing projects in over 95 countries. ILAB's projects have trained 60,000 labor inspectors and helped to reduce child labor by more than 86 million worldwide.

Our unparalleled reporting on child labor and forced labor spurs action to address labor abuses and to stem the flow of goods made with forced labor from entering the United States. ILAB's leadership in bilateral and multilateral labor diplomacy helps to raise global labor standards and build support for policies to advance equitable, sustainable economic growth.



MAKING TRADE FAIR FOR WORKERS

To ensure that the benefits of trade are widely shared and that no country can gain a competitive advantage by failing to protect its workers, ILAB's **Office of Trade and Labor Affairs** negotiates, monitors, and enforces strong labor provisions in U.S. trade agreements and trade preference programs. ILAB combines trade enforcement with targeted technical assistance to strengthen the rule of law, support worker voice, and engage employers to promote compliance with labor commitments.

With this multifaceted approach, ILAB is working to ensure respect for labor rights in trading partners, including Colombia, Guatemala, Vietnam, and Mexico. In Mexico, ILAB is helping to implement the pioneering labor standards of the U.S.-Mexico-Canada Agreement (USMCA), including its Rapid Response Mechanism to support compliance at the firm level with freedom of association and collective bargaining. ILAB is overseeing more than \$80 million in technical assistance in Mexico to support labor justice reform and compliance with the labor provisions of USMCA in autos and other priority sectors. More broadly, ILAB's programs to strengthen worker rights are improving labor law enforcement and empowering workers in key sectors among 50 trading partners, from agriculture in Honduras to garments in Jordan and mica in Madagascar.

ILAB staff engage governments, workers, and employers to improve labor rights among trading partners throughout the world. ILAB's labor attachés, posted in strategic U.S. embassies overseas, have increased ILAB's monitoring and impact in countries including Vietnam, Colombia, and Mexico. Each aspect of this coordinated approach, honed over decades of experience, is vital to ensuring that U.S. trade policy benefits workers in the United States and abroad.

COMBATING CHILD LABOR, FORCED LABOR, AND HUMAN TRAFFICKING



ILAB is a global leader in efforts to combat international child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking. ILAB's **Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking** works with governments, workers, businesses, and others to end these abusive practices. As the world's largest funder of programs to combat child labor and forced labor, we confront this global scourge in many challenging contexts – from cocoa plantations in West Africa to seafood processing plants in Thailand, from sugarcane fields in Mexico to coffee plantations in Colombia.

While recent global estimates indicate that progress to end child labor has stalled, our engagement has made a critical difference in helping reduce the number of child laborers worldwide by 86 million over the past two decades – greater than the entire child population of the United States. ILAB's projects have spanned over 95 countries, where they have directly reached millions of children with educational, training, and other social services and built the capacity of labor inspectors and law enforcement officials.

At the same time, ILAB publishes unparalleled, congressionally mandated reports on child labor, forced labor, and human trafficking that provide recommendations to combat child labor in 131 trade beneficiary countries and identify over 150 goods in more than 75 countries produced by child labor or forced labor as well as 34 products produced by forced child labor in 25 countries. These reports are used widely by governments, businesses, and others to curb abusive practices and keep goods made with forced or trafficked labor out of the U.S. market.

ADVANCING U.S. LABOR AND EMPLOYMENT PRIORITIES



ILAB's **Office of International Relations and Economic Research** leads the representation of U.S. labor and employment priorities at the International Labor Organization (ILO), G-20, G-7, OECD, and other bodies. We advocate for compliance with international labor standards and on issues like occupational safety and health, freedom of association, and gender equity. ILAB works with the world's major economies to promote decent work and to foster an inclusive, sustainable and resilient recovery of labor markets. ILAB couples these efforts with international economic research and effective bilateral diplomacy to help shape policies in key countries and to inform the development of domestic policies and programs to invest in the nation's care economy, build a modern, inclusive workforce, and support a lifetime of worker empowerment in the United States.