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## PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

Reporting period  
January 2010 – December 2010

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Rome  
December 2010



## ANNUAL PROGRAMME PROGRESS REPORT

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## BACKGROUND

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1. The Understanding Children's Work (UCW) programme is an inter-agency research cooperation initiative involving the International Labour Organisation (ILO), UNICEF and the World Bank. Financed by contributions from Finland, Italy, Norway, Sweden, US Department of Labour and by core agency resources, the UCW Programme Secretariat is based in Rome at Centre for International Studies on Economic Growth (CEIS), University of Rome (Tor Vergata) and the ILO Office for Italy and San Marino in Rome.
2. This progress report covers major programme developments during the reporting period from January to December 2010.<sup>1</sup> Following this introduction, Section 2 examines developments and areas of progress under each of the five core programme components. Section 3 looks at programme governance and management issues.
3. The Medium Term Strategic Framework document<sup>2</sup> approved during the previous reporting period sees the Programme's central strategic role as remaining within the research realm. Foremost in this context is support to policy-oriented research and to the development of tools needed to undertake this research. The inter-agency report developed for *The Hague Global Child Labour Conference 2010* was one particularly important example of the Programme's research and strategic role during the reporting period.
4. Four strategic roles are seen as being particularly relevant in support of agency efforts against child labour:
  - (i) *Providing analytical and research support to policy and programme design in child labour and related policy areas.* This approach is increasingly being implemented, for example, by linking research activities more closely and to the country programmes of the three agencies, by establishing links with Education and Labour Market sectors within the World Bank and with the Education section at UNICEF headquarters. UCW also has a key role to play in conducting original research in policy areas where important knowledge gaps persist, and in using this research for promoting policy dialogue. Research supporting efforts towards the MDGs will be particularly important in the lead up to the 2015 target date.
  - (ii) *Promoting country-level research cooperation and policy dialogue:* Recent UCW experience in a range of countries has underscored the valuable role UCW can play in initiating a process of research cooperation and policy dialogue between the agencies and local partners. Aligning UCW research more closely with agency programmes at the country level also ensures the operational relevance of research results. UCW provides an inter-agency platform that would not exist otherwise for shared analysis of the child labour situation a given country, and provides a starting point for coordinated inter-agency responses to it. Country-level research also informs national policy on child labour; in both Senegal and Rwanda during the reporting period, for example, UCW research was integrated into draft national plans of action for eliminating child labour.

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<sup>1</sup> This and future progress reports cover the 12-month calendar year for consistency with budgetary reporting.

<sup>2</sup> Looking forward: medium-term strategic framework for the UCW project, UCW, Rome, May 2009.

(iii) *Identifying effective policy approaches and assessing policy impact:* Research efforts across all Programme components is directed towards identifying policy approaches for effectively addressing child labour. In addition, increased attention is being placed on directly evaluating the effectiveness of child labour policies and programmes already in place, an area in which robust empirical evidence remains very limited. Through a combination of research tools development, targeted field research, capacity building and research dissemination, the UCW Programme contributes to building and spreading knowledge on the impact of specific programme interventions on child labor and on ways to measure such impact.

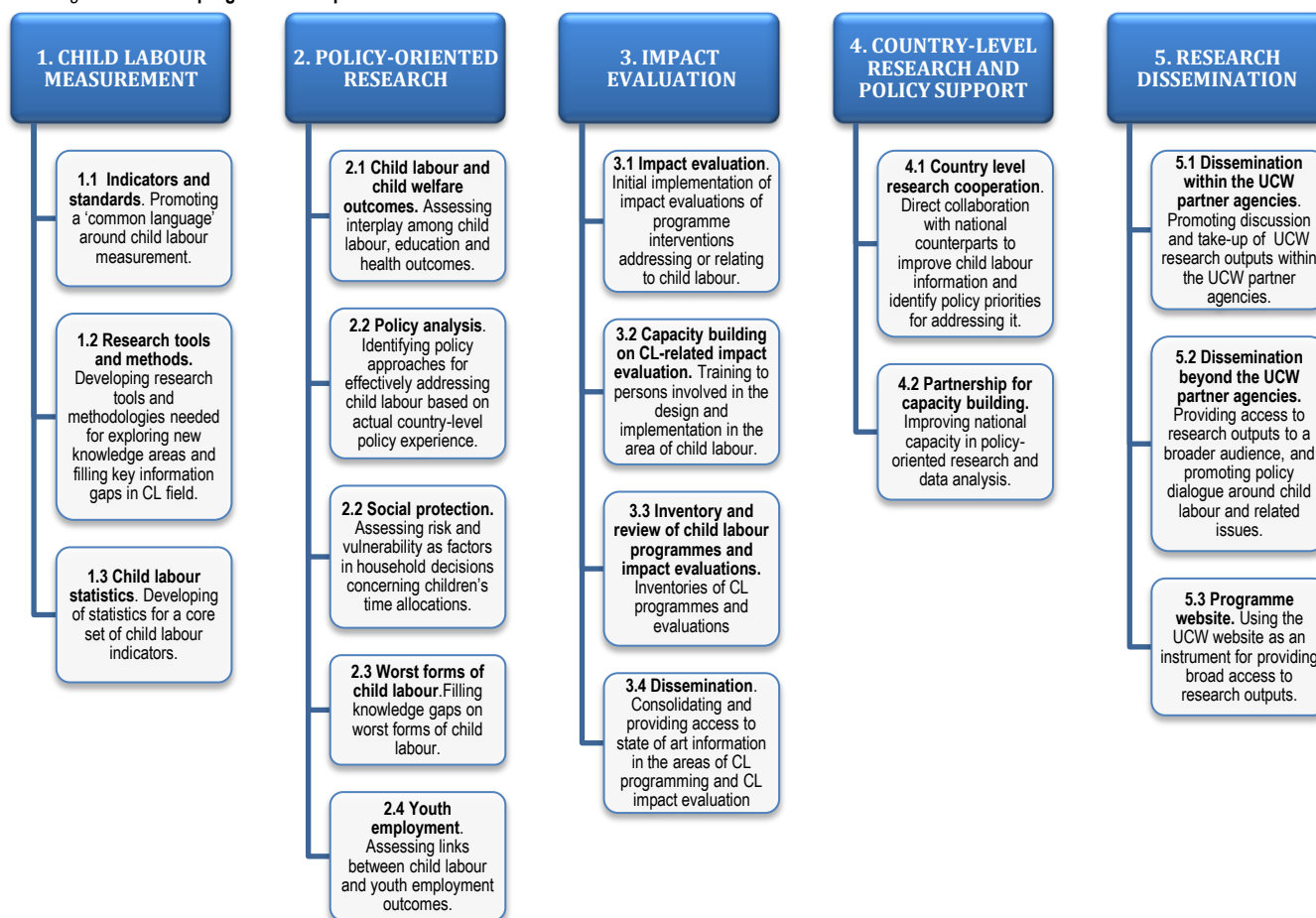
(iv) *Acting as a platform for inter-agency dialogue:* By helping to facilitate information and experience exchange, UCW contributes to broader efforts towards strengthened inter-agency dialogue in the area of child labour. Numerous specific fora are provided by the Programme to facilitate this dialogue, including thematic technical panels, country-level UCW working groups, Focal Points and Steering Committee meetings, and inter-agency information seminars and workshops.

5. The Programme also plays a growing role as a clearinghouse for CL research, as a promoter of new research, and as a forum for broader policy discussion in the area of child labour. In these efforts, a distinction is drawn between “dissemination” (i.e., getting research products to as wide an audience as possible) and “mainstreaming” (i.e., actual take-up and operationalisation of research in policies, agency programmes, etc.). Programme activities focus on the former with the objective of achieving the latter.

## REVIEW OF PROGRESS DURING THE REPORTING PERIOD

6. Table 1 shows the logical framework under which UCW activities were undertaken during the reporting period. It reflects the Addendum to UCW medium-term strategic framework agreed to by the UCW Steering Committee during 2010.<sup>3</sup> For each sub-component, a brief description is also provided. UCW activities in the reporting period are discussed in more detail in the section below.

Figure 1. UCW programme components



7. UCW programme efforts in initial part of the reporting period centred on the preparation of an inter-agency report for the global conference on child labour scheduled that took place in The Hague in May 2010<sup>4</sup> (see also discussion under Programme Component 2). The report represented a further collaborative effort on the part of the three UCW partner agencies to build knowledge relating to child labour. It was a technical, “outward-looking” study complementing to a separate report by the ILO Director General also presented at the conference. The report made use of advances in child labour research achieved through UCW and other

<sup>3</sup> The Addendum included a number of minor changes to the MTSF Programme logframe aimed at simplifying Programme reporting and at bringing the logframe more closely in line with the actual Programme workplan. The changes relate only to the sub-component level, and consist primarily of consolidations of the more detailed sub-components contained in the original MTSF logframe.

<sup>4</sup> The official conference title was as follows: *The Hague Global Child Labour Conference 2010. Towards a world without child labour: Mapping the road to 2016.*

efforts to restate the case for placing child labour at the forefront of national development agendas. It illustrated that child labour constitutes not only a serious rights violation, but also can slow progress towards a range of development goals.

8. Significant progress in implementing the 52-month (September 2008-December 2012), United States Department of Labor (USDOL)-funded multi-bilateral project on impact evaluation was another important milestone during the reporting period.<sup>5</sup> Initial delays encountered in operationalising the project were largely overcome during the reporting period, and efforts are moving ahead in implementing two of the three planned impact evaluations (see component 3). The impact evaluation project, implemented in conjunction with ILO-IPEC and World Bank, is aimed at providing robust empirical evidence relating to what works in efforts against child labour.

9. UCW country-level research activities constituted an important part of the overall UCW research agenda during the reporting period. Countries concerned included Cameroon, Bangladesh, Mali, Rwanda, Senegal and Zambia. Research cooperation with counterparts centres on the development of inter-agency reports on the child labour situation in specific national contexts. The reports consider the economic as well as the socio-cultural causes of child labour and follow a cross-sectoral approach, especially in the identification of determinants and in assessing their policy implications. They provide a common basis for action against child labour.

10. It is envisaged that future country-level research cooperation will place greater emphasis on development of country-specific policy appraisals for responding to child labour. This is in response to calls from several governments for reports that go beyond outlining general strategies to include a more detailed discussion of specific actions against child labour and the resources required to implement them. In this context, and in an important example of mainstreaming UCW research into government policy, UCW provided input to and feedback on the draft Rwandan national plan of action (NPA) for the eliminating of child labour during the reporting period, at the request of the Ministry of Labour. In another important example of mainstreaming, many of the recommendations emerging from the inter-agency report on child labour in Senegal were incorporated into the country's draft NPA for eliminating child labour.

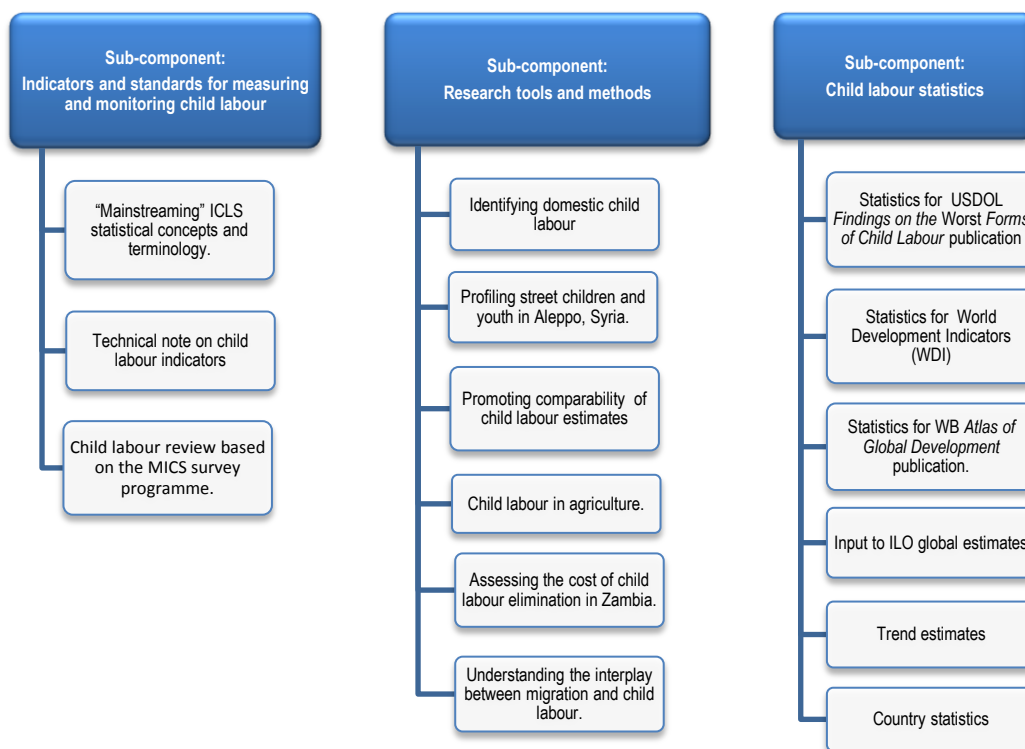
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<sup>5</sup> For further information, see the project document: ILO-IPEC, *Building the knowledge base on the design and implementation of impact evaluation of child labour interventions*. Multi-bilateral Programme of Technical Cooperation, (25 September 2008).

## Child labour measurement (*Programme component 01*)

11. The *Child labour measurement* component is aimed at improving the technical tools used to measure, monitor and analyse child labour. It involves three broad activity areas: indicators/standards development; development of new research tools and methods; and child labour statistics, as depicted in Table 2 below.

Figure 2. Child labour measurement : implementation activities



### 12. Indicators and standards for measuring and monitoring child labour.

Efforts during the reporting period centred on promoting a ‘common language’ around child labour measurement, based on the resolution on child labour statistics adopted at the 18<sup>th</sup> International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) (Geneva, 24 November–5 December 2008).<sup>6</sup> As reported previously, the resolution is a milestone for child labour measurement, providing a first-ever set of global standards for translating the international legal standards on child labour into statistical terms.

- “*Mainstreaming*” ICLS statistical concepts and terminology. UCW continued to integrate the statistical concepts and terminology contained in the new ICLS resolution into its research activities. A particular emphasis is being placed on introducing the ICLS terminology in country-level inter-agency reports on child labour (see programme component 04), and through this process, on introducing the new terminology and concepts to counterparts in

<sup>6</sup> For further details, see: Resolution II, Resolution Concerning Statistics of Child Labour, as cited in: International Labour Organization, *Report of the Conference, 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians, Geneva, 24 November–5 December 2008. Resolution II. Rpt. ICLS/18/2008/IV/FINAL*, International Labour Organisation, Geneva, 2009.

national statistical offices. The ICLS statistical standards are also being integrated into UCW counterpart training. UCW is also in the process of changing the language used in its website to reflect the new ICLS terminology.

- *Technical note on child labour indicators.* An updated technical note was finalised describing the core set of CL indicators used in the UCW Country Statistics based on the ICLS terminology. The indicators developed provide at least partial answers to the following key questions: (a) What is child labour?; (b) How widespread is it?; (c) What are its characteristics?; (d) How damaging is it for the child's health and education?; and (e) Which household, local or national characteristics make it more likely that a child will work? The technical note, and the Country Statistics described by it, also form part of broader Programme efforts to promote the use standard CL indicators for monitoring progress against CL within and across countries.
- *Child labour review based on the MICS survey programme.* A MICS-based review of child labour was finalized during the reporting period.<sup>7</sup> The paper draws on MICS datasets to provide a review of child labour in the countries where the survey program has been implemented. The unique standardised nature of the MICS questionnaire and datasets facilitates comparison of child labour across countries. Child labour information is available for the 2000 and 2005/06 rounds of the survey programme, also permitting an assessment of how levels of child labour have changed between reference years. The paper also looks at the MICS survey instruments, and how it might be strengthened as a tool for child labour measurement and analysis.

13. **Research tools and methods.** This sub-component addresses the research process itself, providing technical support to the development of research tools and methodologies needed for exploring new knowledge areas and filling key information gaps in the child labour field.

- *Identifying domestic child labour.* Work was completed on a study of the measurement of domestic child labour (DCL).<sup>8</sup> The study looks at how standard household survey instruments for measuring child labour can also be used in measuring the subset of child labourers working in domestic service. With specific reference to household surveys conducted in Paraguay, Uganda and Venezuela, different measures of DCL are constructed on the basis of three broad categories of questions. In the first two question categories, involvement in domestic child labour is reported explicitly in response to questions concerning relationship with household head or concerning industry/occupation and employment status. These categories of questions therefore permit the direct measurement of DCL. In the third category of questions, involvement in DCL is inferred through questions on domestic chores and relationship to household head. This category of questions yields an indirect measure of DCL, and can be useful for capturing the hidden portion of the DCL population, i.e., those cases disguised as fostering or as involvement household chores. The study indicates that the latter group – those in disguised DCL – constitute an important proportion of the overall DCL population.
- *Profiling street children and youth in Aleppo, Syria.* Work has begun with the

<sup>7</sup> S. Lyon, F. Rosati, Child labour: a review based on data from the MICS survey programme, UCW, working paper, Rome, September 2010

<sup>8</sup> UCW, 2010. *Towards the effective measurement of child domestic workers: building estimates using standard household survey instruments.* UCW working paper, Rome.

Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI) and the municipality of Aleppo in developing a methodology for profiling street children and young people in Aleppo. The research effort, being undertaken within the framework of the DGF partnership,<sup>9</sup> will build on the research tool developed for the UCW-supported studies of children involved in begging in Dakar and Cairo reported in the previous progress reports. Actual implementation has been postponed to 2011 due to funding issues.

- *Promoting comparability of child labour estimates.* A survey comparison study was finalised during the reporting period and posted on the programme website.<sup>10</sup> As reported previously, the study responds to concerns about comparability arising from recent child labour survey results in a number of countries and, concomitantly, to concerns about the reliability of these results as guides for policy and assessing progress. One implication of the study results is the need for much greater degree of standardisation in the questions on child labour in the used in various surveys instruments to collect information on the child labour phenomenon. The study is now being developed into an article for submission to an academic journal.
- *Child labour in agriculture.* A new research effort aimed at improving statistical information on child labour in the agricultural sector was begun during the reporting period. The vast majority of child workers worldwide are found in the agriculture sector. Yet despite their numbers and the often hazardous nature their work, children working in agriculture have received surprisingly little research attention. Aggregate estimates of children in agriculture are available for most countries, but far fewer countries have detailed information on the agriculture sub-sectors where children work, the modalities of children's farm work, the specific tasks performed by child farm workers, the hazards they face, or the impact of farm work. These and other information gaps hamper advocacy efforts aimed at drawing attention to the issue of children's agricultural work, and impede the development of informed policy responses to it. The research effort is intended as the start of a research process for addressing these information gaps. Starting with a detailed inventory of the statistical information on agricultural child labour contained in standard household surveys, the research will look at what available data tells us about the nature and extent of children's agriculture work, and about policy options for addressing it. The study will also look at outstanding research priorities relating to child labour in agriculture, and recommend research tools for addressing them. Discussions are underway with FAO concerning possible partnership in implementing the research.
- *Assessing the cost of child labour elimination in Zambia.* Building on the

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<sup>9</sup> The UCW partnership with IYF, AUDI and YEN in the framework of the World Bank's DGF partnership, aims at building and disseminate evidence on youth employment outcomes and what works to improve them. The partnership currently works primarily in Africa and the Middle East. Short-term outputs include: Studies on youth employment issues and policies to inform policy-makers; Impact evaluations of partner-supported youth training programs; tools and workshops to promote effective monitoring and evaluation for youth training programs; support for local government programs serving disadvantaged youth in the Middle East; and dissemination events to promote evidence-based policy dialogue on youth employment issues. The longer term outcomes are a broader evidence base for youth training programs through better evaluation, and improvements in the design of youth employment policies and programs.

<sup>10</sup> L. Guarcello, Kovrova, F. Rosati, S. Lyon, M. Manacorda, *Towards consistency in child labour measurement: assessing the comparability of estimates generated by different survey instruments.* UCW, Rome, June 2010

research tool developed for the Interagency Report for Cambodia, *Vol. II*,<sup>11</sup> reported in the previous progress report, work has begun with Zambian counterparts on development of a replicable methodology for assessing the resource implications of meeting the national commitment to eliminating child labour. The study will constitute Volume II of the Inter-Agency Report on child labour in the country (see also programme component 04). It will specifically assess the economic costs over a nine-year period of ensuring three key preconditions to child labour elimination: that poor families are provided a minimum degree of social protection; that poor families receive some form of compensation for the direct and indirect costs associated with schooling; and that education of sufficient quality is available as an alternative to child labour. The study will also assess the economic costs associated with a package of special, targeted measures aimed at removing children from worst forms of child labour (see also programme component 04).

- *Understanding the interplay between migration and child labour.* Cooperation began during the reporting period with the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre in developing a research methodology for understanding how migration can affect the nature and extent of children's involvement in child labour. A detailed inventory of statistical information on child labour and migration from common household survey instruments was completed as a first step in this research process.<sup>12</sup> The survey reviewed a total of 186 nationally representative surveys, of which 119 surveys were identified as including information on migration and child labour (see also programme component 2).

14. **Child labour statistics.** This sub-component involves the development of statistics for a core set of child labour indicators. It supports broader efforts to reconcile different country-level estimates of child labour, and to analyse child labour trends within and across countries. The sub-component exploits the programme's unique access to a wide range of child labour datasets, both from the three agencies and from direct partnerships with national statistical offices. The UCW survey database currently contains over 200 datasets for 94 developing countries; in 67 of these countries, data are available for more than one point in time.

- *Statistics for USDOL:* Cooperation continued with USDOL in the development of child labour indicators for more than 50 countries for use in USDOL publications and reference materials. The UCW statistics were utilised on the USDOL publication *2005, 2006, 2007 and 2008 editions of the global USDOL Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour* publication.
- *Statistics for World Development Indicators (WDI):* In a related effort, UCW is continuing the collaboration with the World Bank in the development of child labour statistics for inclusion in the annual *World Development Indicators* publication and software. Work was completed during the reporting period on child labour indicators for use in the 2010 edition of *World Development Indicators*, building on a similar effort undertaken for the 2006-2009 editions. The 2010 WDI edition includes an entire page dedicated to child labour trends in Brazil, offering an important opportunity for

<sup>11</sup> UCW, *Towards eliminating the worst forms of child labour in Cambodia by 2016: an assessment of resource requirements (Volume II)*, UCW, Rome, May 2009

<sup>12</sup> Brilli, Ylenia, May 2010. *Child and Adolescent Migration for Work in Developing Countries Quantitative Information on Child Labour Migrations*. UCW Project, draft note.

disseminating child labour statistics produced by the programme.

- *Statistics for Atlas of Global Development (World Bank)*: In a related effort, UCW is continuing the collaboration with the World Bank in the development of statistics for inclusion in the annual *Atlas of Global Development*. Work was completed during the reporting period for use in the 2010 edition.
- *Input to ILO global estimates*. In a third effort relating to child labour statistics, UCW provided technical support to ILO-IPEC in the development of new global child labour estimates in more than 30 countries. The new estimates were released in the ILO global report in conjunction with The Hague Global Child Labour Conference 2010.<sup>13</sup>
- *Trend estimates*: Country statistics are increasingly available for more than one point in time, making possible the analysis of country-level trends in child labour. Trends estimates are therefore now included in most inter-agency reports on child labour (e.g. Bangladesh, Brazil, Mongolia, and Senegal see component 04).<sup>14</sup> Trend estimates have also been produced as part of an overview of child labour in countries of the Latin America and Caribbean region<sup>15</sup> and in a report on child labour in Andhra Pradesh<sup>16</sup> finalised during the reporting period. A detailed analysis of child labour trends in Brazil was undertaken as a part of a broader case study of the Brazilian experience in reducing child labour (see programme component 02).<sup>17</sup>
- *Country statistics*: UCW Country Statistics on core child labour indicators, described in previous Progress Reports, continued to be developed and expanded during the reporting period, and incorporated in various UCW research products. The interactive map on the UCW homepage ([www.ucw-project.org](http://www.ucw-project.org)) provides users with quick access to the child labour statistics for each country. The updated technical note will be posted to the Programme website describing the core indicators used in the Country Statistics (see above).<sup>18</sup>

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<sup>13</sup> ILO, 2010. *Accelerating action against child labour*. Global Report under the follow-up to the ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. International Labour Conference, 99th Session 2010, Report I (B), International Labour Office Geneva, ISBN 978-92-2-121873-9.

<sup>14</sup> Blanco F., *Trabajo infantil en Venezuela: 1998-2007*. UCW 2009

<sup>15</sup> Trends estimates have been produced for: Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, and Venezuela. *Tendencias del trabajo infantil en el marco del agenda emisferica para la promocion del trabajo decente*, UCW-ILO/IPEC Sub-regional office for Central America upcoming

<sup>16</sup> Guarcello, L., Lyon, S., Manacorda, M., Rosati, F., *Children's work in Andhra Pradesh: Trends and determinants*, UCW, February 2010

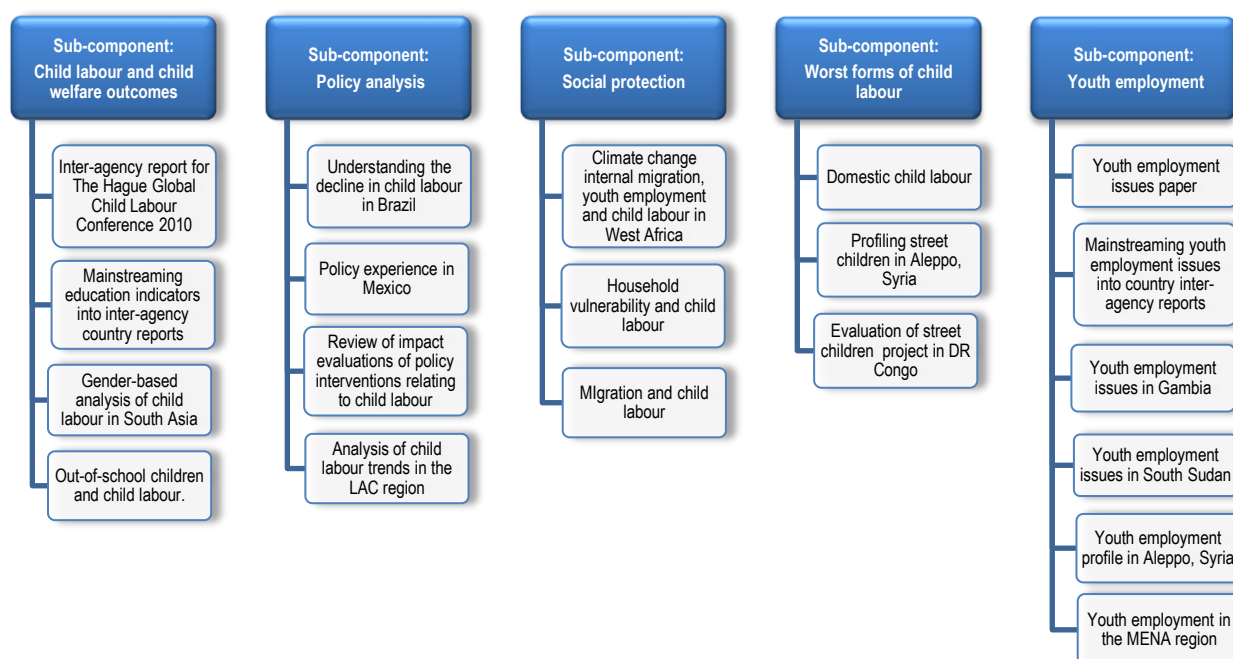
<sup>17</sup> UCW, *Building on success in reducing child labour: Drawing policy lessons from the Brazilian experience*, UCW, Rome, upcoming

<sup>18</sup> UCW, *Child labour indicators used by the UCW project: an explanatory note*. Rome, May 2008 ([www.ucw-project.org](http://www.ucw-project.org)).

## Policy-oriented research (*Programme component 02*)

15. The *Policy-oriented research* component is the core research element of the UCW programme. It focuses on research in policy areas where important knowledge gaps persist, and in using this research for promoting policy dialogue. It contributes to broader agency efforts towards the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by examining in detail how child labour affects, and is affected by, the various economic and social issues that the MDGs target. Research under this component reflects the importance of the MDGs as a common programming reference point for the three partner agencies, and the importance of child labour as a constraint to achieving the MDGs.

Figure 3. Policy oriented research: implementation activities



16. **Child welfare outcomes.** The sub-component places particular emphasis on the interplay between child labour and child welfare outcomes, on the other. Development of the first-ever inter-agency report<sup>19</sup> for the global conference on child labour scheduled that took place in The Hague in May 2010<sup>20</sup> was a particular focus within this subcomponent during the reporting period. Bringing together the most recent empirical research in areas related to the UCW mandate, the inter-agency report addresses the characteristics of child labour in the world, country-specific child labour situations and trends, why child labour matters from a national development perspective, and the policy and programmatic priorities for the three agencies in addressing it in the period to 2016 (see Panel 1).

<sup>19</sup> UCW, 2010. *Joining forces against child labour: inter-agency report for The Hague Global Child Labour Conference of 2010*. Geneva: ILO, 2010.

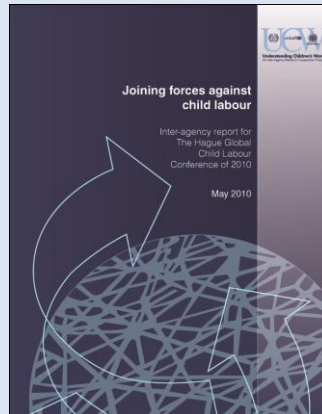
<sup>20</sup> The official conference title was as follows: *The Hague Global Child Labour Conference 2010. Towards a world without child labour: Mapping the road to 2016*.

**Panel 1. Inter-agency report on child labour for The Hague Global Child Labour Conference 2010**

The reporting period saw the release of a first-ever inter-agency global report on child labour for The Hague Global Child Labour Conference 2010.

The report presents evidence of country-specific child labour situations and trends, of reasons why child labour matters from a child rights and national development perspective, and of the policies holding greatest potential for combating it. It also identifies areas where information gaps constitute an impediment to policy formulation.

The report highlights the close linkages between child labour and



Child labour is also associated with greater difficulties in entering and remaining in school, and learning effectively in the classroom. The educational and developmental toll associated with child labour, in turn, makes it much less likely that children are able to successfully transition to gainful employment upon entering adulthood.

These adverse consequences of child labour not only constitute serious violations of the rights of the children concerned, but also have broader consequences for national development. Children who grow up compromised educationally and

broader development objectives, and the consequent need to address child labour as an important component of national development strategies. It also illustrates the wide array of factors contributing to child labour, and the resulting importance of a broad, integrated policy response to it.

Finally, the report underscores the importance of concerted action by international development agencies in support of Government efforts in the fight against child labour. International development agencies have a support role to play both in the development of integrated national strategies against child labour, and in the implementation of such strategies, in accordance with the relative strengths of each agency.

Four over-arching messages emerge from the report that are of relevance to the efforts of the international community against child labour.

(1) Despite progress, there is a need to scale up efforts against child labour, particularly in Sub-Saharan Africa. Although the most recent ILO global estimates suggest that overall progress against child labour continues, country-specific evidence tells us that behind global and regional averages there are many countries where progress has stagnated or is even negative, and where accelerated action is therefore needed. Some of the countries looked at in this report in Sub-Saharan Africa, for example, experienced significant rises in child labour rates in recent years. There are also important pockets of stagnated progress within many countries; indigenous children, and children affected by HIV and/or AIDS, for example, often lag significantly behind national progress in reducing child labour.

(2) Child labour has a very high human cost and important implications for the achievement of broader national development goals. Evidence presented in Part II of the report underscores that the conditions faced by children in the workplace can seriously jeopardize their immediate health and safety, as well as their health status later in life. This is particularly the case for the large number of children in hazardous work.

developmentally by early involvement in work will be in a poor position to contribute to their country's growth as adults.

(3) There is a need for a comprehensive policy response to child labour built on an adequate legal foundation. Progress in expanding the knowledge base on child labour has also improved understanding of the complexity of the phenomenon and of the consequent need for a comprehensive response. For too long, child labour has been seen as an isolated issue. But, in reality, it is a phenomenon that cuts across policy boundaries – schooling, health care, labour market conditions, enforcement of core labour standards and legislation, social protection, basic services access, income distribution, social norms, cultural practices, inter alia; all can play a role.

Consequently, child labour requires a policy response that is cross-sectoral in nature and that involves actors both inside and outside government. There is a need to “mainstream” child labour concerns into overall national development agendas and plans, including poverty reduction efforts, and into decisions concerning budgetary resource allocations. There is also a need for governments to collaborate more closely with social partners in the area of child labour. Employers’ and workers’ organizations have a critical role to play in mobilizing civil society and businesses in the fight against child labour.

(4) Remaining barriers to understanding child labour impede policy formulation. A lack of information is not an excuse for inaction. But at the same time, continuing to build the knowledge base on child labour is indispensable to refining policy responses and to ensuring that resources are targeted to where they are most needed. The ILO, UNICEF and the World Bank have an important role to play in this area, building on the policy-oriented research already undertaken under the umbrella of the UCW programme, as well as on agency-specific research programmes. Inter-agency research collaboration is also important in building a shared vision of child labour and common strategies for addressing it.

- *Mainstreaming education indicators into inter-agency reports on child labour.* The education indicator set identified in a UCW study reported in the previous progress report,<sup>21</sup> was used to strengthen the analysis of links between child labour and education in inter-agency country reports (see component 04). The 2008 study identified a number of education indicators available from common household surveys that can be used in measuring the educational impact of child labour.
- *Gender-based analysis of child labour in South Asia:* Research reported previously on the gender dimensions of the child labour phenomenon in Bangladesh and India<sup>22</sup> was extended to Pakistan during the current reporting period, in collaboration with the Pakistani National Statistical Office and the ILO-Sub-Regional Office for South Asia in New Delhi. The study addresses what types of work activities are more common among girls, and the extent to which girls' work experience differs from that of boys. It encompasses not only girls and boys at work in economic activity, but also those performing household chores in their own homes. Initial study results underscored that children performing household chores are predominantly girls, a fact frequently overlooked in child labour statistics and in analyses of child labour. This can result in gender biases both in the understanding of child labour and in policies addressing it.
- *Out-of-school children.* Discussions took place with UNICEF and UNESCO Institute of Statistics (UIS) during the reporting period on a new research initiative looking at out-of-school children and child labour. The research will take place within the broader UNICEF/UIS Global Out-of-School Children Initiative. It is envisaged that initial UCW cooperation will focus on the development of a comprehensive statistical profile of child labourers and out-of-school children, as an essential starting point for the design of effective policy strategies for achieving the goals of EFA and child labour elimination. The statistical profile will be designed to provide not only robust estimates of how many child labourers and out-of-school children there are, but also detailed information on who they are, on where they live, on what they do and on the characteristics of the households and communities they belong to. The profile will also include information on what previous schooling experience child labourers and out-of-school children possess, in order to provide an idea of second chance learning needs. The research initiative provides an important opportunity to expand research cooperation with UNESCO in the field of education.

17. **Policy analysis.** This sub-component is directed towards identifying policy approaches for effectively addressing child labour based on actual country-level policy experience.

- *Understanding the decline in child labour in Brazil.* The case study of the Brazilian experience in reducing child labour, reported previously,<sup>23</sup> is expected to be launched at a national seminar during the last quarter of 2010. The study addresses whether the fall in child labour been primarily driven by policy, and, if so, which policies have been most influential. It also addresses

<sup>21</sup> Kovrova I., *Measuring the educational impact of child labour: indicators available from common household survey instruments* (draft). UCW Working Paper series, Rome, May 2008.

<sup>22</sup> UCW, *Child labour in Bangladesh and India. A preliminary gender based analysis.* UCW Working Paper series, Rome, April 2009.

<sup>23</sup> UCW, *Building on success in reducing child labour: Drawing policy lessons from the Brazilian experience.* UCW, Rome, upcoming.

the extent to which the reduction in child labour is the product of broader changes in the macro-economy and labour market. It takes up these questions with using household survey datasets covering the period during which the sharp decline in child labour occurred. It presents econometric evidence aimed at identifying the causal links between changes in child labour, on the one hand, and changes in the economic and social policy environment, on the other.

- *Policy experience in Mexico.* There are also plans for a similar study aimed at drawing policy lessons from the fall in child labour in Mexico. Consultations with the Mexican Government are currently ongoing, but implementation has been postponed due to funding issues.
- *Review of impact evaluations of policy interventions relating to child labour.* A detailed inventory was completed during the reporting period of statistical impact evaluations containing child labour as one of the outcome variables (see programme component 03). A draft issues paper was developed on the basis of the inventory examining which policy approaches appear most relevant to efforts against child labour. The paper looks in particular at results from evaluations of policies relating to social protection, youth employment and education.
- *Analysis of child labour trends in Latin America and the Caribbean (LAC) region.* Work was completed on a study of child labour trends in LAC region<sup>24</sup> and an accompanying set of 15 country briefs.<sup>25</sup> The study represents part of a broader effort to improve understanding of how child labour is changing over time in the region, and to ensure that policies relating to child labour adequately reflect these changes. It assesses factors contributing to success against child labour in specific countries and their implications for policy poorer-performing countries. Covering a total of 15 LAC countries, the study presents descriptive on trends in the size and composition (i.e., age, sex, ethnicity and residence) of child labour, in the structure and characteristics of child labour (i.e., sector, modality and intensity), and in the general activity patterns of children (i.e., involvement employment, involvement in schooling, involvement in both, involvement in neither). The study fed into the Report of the ILO Director-General on the Decent Work Decade in the Americas (2006-2015).<sup>26</sup>

**18. Social protection.** This sub-component looks more closely at the extent to which risk and vulnerability factors are relevant for household decisions concerning children's school attendance and labour supply. It also looks more systematically at the related issue of vulnerability to child labour, i.e., at key child labour risk factors and numbers of child affected by these risks. Analysis in these areas is seen as critical to effectively incorporating child labour issues in the design of broader social protection and long-term preventive policies.

- *Climate change, internal migration, youth employment and child labour in West Africa – overview report.* Work neared completion on a study of the

<sup>24</sup> UCW, *Trends in children's employment and child labour in the Latin America and Caribbean region: Regional overview.* Rome, June 2010.

<sup>25</sup> UCW, *Trends in children's employment and child labour in the Latin America and Caribbean region.* Country Reports for Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela. Rome, June 2010.

<sup>26</sup> *The Decent Work Decade in the Americas, 2006–15 Agenda for the Hemisphere: Initial assessment and perspectives.* Report of the Director-General, International Labour Office, 2010.

consequences of internal migration in West Africa.<sup>27</sup> While the problem of internal migration –prompted by climate change and other factors – is increasingly capturing the attention of policy makers, there is little systematic evidence on its social impact and the policy interventions it calls for. This is especially true for the impact of internal migration on children and youth. The study is aimed helping to address this evidence gap. Using household survey datasets and other information sources from three countries – Burkina Faso, Mali, and Senegal – the study looks in particular at the impact of migration on the social circumstances of affected children and young people. The identification of the main determinants of young migrants’ vulnerability allows the study to assess whether migrants need targeted interventions and, and if so, the nature of these interventions. The study also identifies and prioritises key information gaps, so that feasible strategies of dealing with them can be developed.

- *Climate change, internal migration, youth employment and child labour – country briefs.* Three study country briefs (for Mali,<sup>28</sup> Burkina Faso<sup>29</sup> and Senegal<sup>30</sup>), reported previously, were finalised as part of the broader study of internal migration in West Africa. The country briefs aim at beginning to fill the information gap on the social impact of internal migration on children and youth in the three countries. They present a range of descriptive evidence on child and youth migration its links with child labour, education and youth employment outcomes.
- *Household vulnerability and child labour.* The paper aims at analyzing the impact of risk and shocks on child labour bringing the current debate within a household optimization model. In this way the empirical evidence on the impact of shocks and to a lesser extent risk on child labour will be analyzed within an analytical theoretical framework. An empirical analysis for Indonesia will help to assess the empirical and policy relevance of the theoretical model. A first draft was completed during the reporting period.
- *Understanding the interplay between migration and child labour.* Cooperation began during the reporting period with the UNICEF Innocenti Research Centre on research examining how migration can affect the nature and extent of children’s involvement in child labour. A detailed inventory of statistical information on child labour and migration from common household survey instruments was completed as a first step in this research process.<sup>31</sup> The survey reviewed a total of 186 nationally representative surveys, of which 119 surveys were identified as including information on migration and child labour. The inventory will form the basis of a concept paper addressing two groups of children affected by migration – those left behind by their migrant parents and those migrating themselves, with or without their families. For the first group, the benefits of remittances and the negative psychological effects of parental absence can have opposing influences on children’s

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<sup>27</sup> UCW, *Comprendre les changements climatiques, les migrations, le travail des enfants et l’emploi des jeunes. Etude de cas du Burkina Faso, du Mali et du Sénégal.* Draft working paper, September 2010.

<sup>28</sup> *Migration and its impact on children and youth in Mali: country brief.* UCW, draft, February 2009.

<sup>29</sup> *Migration and its impact on children and youth in Burkina Faso: country brief.* UCW, draft, February 2009.

<sup>30</sup> *Migration and its impact on children and youth in Senegal: country brief.* UCW, draft, February 2009.

<sup>31</sup> Brilli, Ylenia, May 2010. *Child and Adolescent Migration for Work in Developing Countries Quantitative Information on Child Labour Migrations.* UCW Project, draft note.

schooling and work. For those migrating with their families, improvements in well-being often only come after a difficult process of transition and integration, during which children in particular can suffer. Children migrating alone are especially vulnerable to child labour and constitute an urgent policy priority.

19. **Worst forms of child labour.** This sub-component helps fill data gaps on worst forms of child labour, many of which lie beyond the reach of household surveys and other common data collection methodologies.

- *Domestic child labour.* Work was completed on a study of the measurement of domestic child labour, as discussed under component 01 above.<sup>32</sup>
- *Profiling street children in Aleppo, Syria.* Work began with the Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI) and the municipality of Aleppo in developing a methodology for profiling street children and youth in Aleppo, as discussed under component 01 above. The research effort, being undertaken within the framework of the DGF partnership,<sup>33</sup> will build on the research tool developed for the UCW-supported studies of children involved in begging in Dakar and Cairo reported in the previous progress reports.
- *Evaluation of street children project in DR Congo.* Work began on development of the impact evaluation component of a World Bank project targeting street children in Kinshasa, DR Congo, as discussed in component 03 below.

20. **Youth employment.** This sub-component examines links between child labour and youth employment outcomes. It looks at child labour (and low human capital accumulation) as a factor in labour market outcomes, as well as at the reverse phenomenon, i.e., poor future labour market prospects limiting household investment in children's human capital. The inclusion of this link among UCW activities is reflected in a change of the UCW Country reports, that focuses on both child labour and youth employment issues in most of the countries. The following activities were undertaken during the reporting period:

- *Youth employment issues paper.* Discussions took place relating to an issues paper on youth employment. The issues paper will examine trends of youth joblessness, sector, and type of job obtained by youth aged 15 to 24 years in countries in Africa, MENA, and LAC for which data are available. The study will examine the role of competing explanations in explaining differences in levels and trends in youth joblessness, including but not limited to: educational attainment, economic development, urbanization, and labor regulations. Actual development of the issues paper was postponed as a result of need to reallocate staff time to development of The Hague report

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<sup>32</sup> UCW, 2010. *Towards the effective measurement of child domestic workers: building estimates using standard household survey instruments.* UCW working paper, Rome.

<sup>33</sup> The UCW partnership with IYF, AUDI and YEN in the framework of the World Bank's DGF partnership, aims at building and disseminate evidence on youth employment outcomes and what works to improve them. The partnership currently works primarily in Africa and the Middle East. Short-term outputs include: Studies on youth employment issues and policies to inform policy-makers; Impact evaluations of partner-supported youth training programs; tools and workshops to promote effective monitoring and evaluation for youth training programs; support for local government programs serving disadvantaged youth in the Middle East; and dissemination events to promote evidence-based policy dialogue on youth employment issues. The longer term outcomes are a broader evidence base for youth training programs through better evaluation, and improvements in the design of youth employment policies and programs.

- *Mainstreaming youth employment issues into country inter-agency reports.* Youth employment issues were taken up during the reporting period within the context of inter-agency reports in Senegal<sup>34</sup>, Rwanda<sup>35</sup>, Cameroon<sup>36</sup>, and Indonesia.<sup>37</sup>
- *Youth employment in Gambia.* UCW collaborated with the World Bank in developing a report on youth employment in Gambia.<sup>38</sup> The report, jointly conducted by the Ministries of Basic and Secondary Education and Trade, looks specifically at how youth employment outcomes in the country can be improved through better training and skills development. The report was presented in a workshop organized by the Ministry of Trade and Development (Banjul, June 2010) to disseminate the findings of the youth employment and skills development study. The workshop was also an opportunity for stakeholders to validate the research findings and recommendations. The report was finalized in the last quarter of 2010.
- *Youth employment issues in South Sudan.* UCW provided support within the DGF partnership to World Bank Africa Section in analyzing the baseline data from the 2008 Fifth Population and Housing Census 2008 data for South Sudan relating to the labour market with special attention to the situation of youth employment and child labor. The UCW report, completed in draft form in October 2010, will feed into the labor market component of the World Bank poverty assessment for South Sudan.
- *Youth employment profile in Aleppo, Syria.* Work began with the Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI) and the municipality of Aleppo in developing a methodology for profiling street children and youth in Aleppo, as discussed below and under component 01.
- *Youth employment in MENA region.* Cooperation began with the World Bank MENA Region (Human Development Group Middle East and North Africa) and the Arab Urban Development Institute (AUDI) on research concerning how child labour can hinder the successful transition of adolescent and young adults to working life. The study will look at evidence of linkages between child labour and youth employment in the opposite direction, i.e., how poor employment prospects, low returns to human capital investments and difficult labour market transitions may serve as a disincentive for parents to invest in their children's schooling, and lead them instead to send their children to work prematurely. The paper will also briefly address the growing role of migration in influencing both child labour and youth employment outcomes. In many MENA countries, high rates of rural to urban migration are disrupting extended family support mechanisms and adding to the social vulnerability of children and young people, particularly during the initial period of transition and adjustment to new environs.

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<sup>34</sup> Comprendre le travail des enfants et l'emploi des jeunes au Sénégal, UCW, February 2010

<sup>35</sup> Understanding children's work and youth employment outcomes in Rwanda, UCW, November 2010.

<sup>36</sup> Comprendre le travail des enfants au Cameroun, UCW, December 2010.

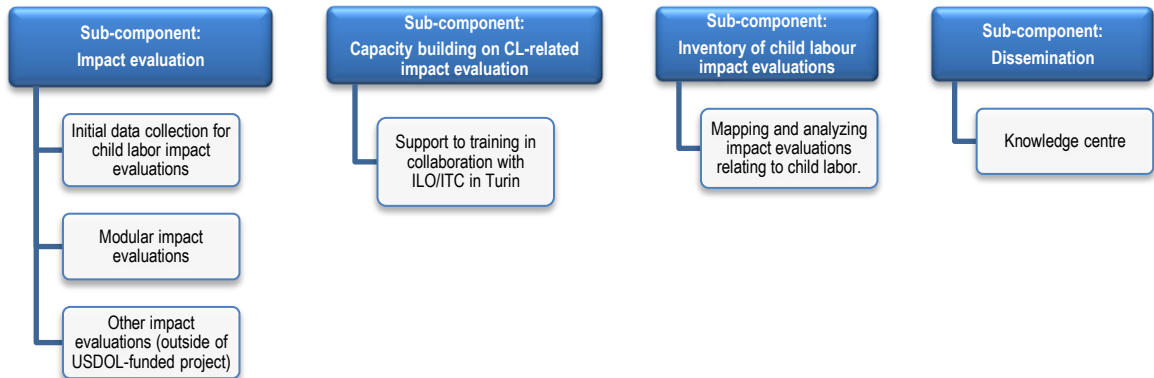
<sup>37</sup> Understanding children's work and youth employment outcomes in Indonesia, UCW, draft

<sup>38</sup> World Bank, 2010. *Youth skills development and employment study: improving youth employment outcomes through enhanced skills development in The Gambia.* Working draft, July 2010.

## Impact evaluation (Programme component 03)

21. The *Impact evaluation* component forms part of a broader effort to develop a better understanding of the relative effectiveness of different programmatic approaches to child labour elimination. It focuses on the quantitative evaluation of the impact of specific projects, and therefore is distinct from the broader policy assessments and analyses undertaken as part of Programme component 2.

Figure 4. Impact evaluation: implementation activities



22. The Impact evaluation component centres on the 52-month (September 2008-December 2012) impact evaluation project funded by USDOL.<sup>39</sup> The reporting period saw important further progress in terms of implementation of the USDOL-funded project. The IPEC and World Bank projects to be included in the child labor impact evaluations were selected, and work on the development of the IE components of the projects was begun. The first and second projects for inclusion in the modular evaluation exercise were also selected and discussions with the counterparts initiated. Development of the user interface for the web-based knowledge centre reached an advanced stage, and the initial test version of the centre is envisaged as going live in the first quarter of 2011. The on-going process of mapping and analysing impact evaluations of relevance to child labor continued during the reporting period. Progress in the Impact evaluation component during the reporting period – both within and outside of the USDOL-funded project – is discussed in further detail below.

23. **Child labour impact evaluations.** This sub-component involves initial implementation of impact evaluations of programme interventions directly addressing child labour. It constitutes the first of an envisaged two-stage research effort, and focuses on impact evaluation design and initial data collection. This sub-component is directed towards not only generating initial data, but also, and even more importantly, at establishing replicable “protocols” and standardised instruments for the type of child labour programmes to be targeted by the evaluation exercise.

- *Initial data collection for child labor impact evaluations.* Efforts during the reporting period resulted in the identification of two of the envisaged three projects (those of IPEC and the World Bank) to be included in the impact

<sup>39</sup> For further information, see the project document: ILO-IPEC, *Building the knowledge base on the design and implementation of impact evaluation of child labour interventions*. Multi-bilateral Programme of Technical Cooperation, (25 September 2008).

evaluation exercise. The IPEC project selected is entitled “Eliminating Child Labor through Economic Empowerment and Social Inclusion”, a four-year, \$9-10 million “second generation” child labor project that will advance efforts to eliminate the worst, and eventually all, forms of child labor in El Salvador within the next decade. It is envisaged that the impact evaluation will focus on the impact of the youth training element of the broader project. Initial stakeholder consultations on the project and the IE component took place during September 2010; the consultations were preceded by a meeting in Geneva in July 2010 during which project design and impact evaluation aspects were discussed with UCW, IPEC DED and ILO representatives from El Salvador. Technical details of the evaluation were also subject of the Technical Advisory Group (TAG) meeting held in October 2010. A request for a budget revision was also made to permit additional evaluations in Ghana and Côte d’Ivoire.

The World Bank project selected targets street children in Kinshasa, DR Congo. The project will run from 2011 to 2015 and has a total budget of \$10 million. Work in developing the impact evaluation component of the project is already underway, and were subject of discussions between the World Bank and UCW in October 2010. The contents of the IE component was also taken up at a preparatory Technical Advisory Group meeting held October 2010 in Washington.

- *Modular impact evaluations.* This element of the USDOL-funded project supports integrating child labor modules into planned impact evaluations by other organizations on programs in relevant social policy areas. Discussions during the reporting period indicated strong interest in the modular evaluations element, allowing for important progress in terms of implementation. A range of candidate evaluations for inclusion in the modular evaluation exercise were identified,<sup>40</sup> and from this long-list two projects were selected for the modular evaluation.

The first project relates to *rural electrification in Bangladesh*. The selected modular evaluation will address the impact of providing basic services on rates of child labor. The evaluation in this case will involve analysis of an existing IE dataset from a completed evaluation survey, meaning that it will be undertaken within a limited timeframe and at minimal cost. The survey was carried out in 2005 and included a detailed questionnaire for household units with and without electricity. The questionnaire included information on children’s employment, but data on this variable has not yet been analyzed. A technical expert will be recruited to undertake the evaluation, in close conjunction with IPEC, World Bank DED and World Bank HDNSP, and led by UCW. Data analysis began in the last quarter of 2010. The possibility of expanding the study to include a similar effort in

<sup>40</sup> Including: (1) Basic Education Development Program (Yemen); Bolsa Familia (Brazil); (2) Conditional Cash Transfers (South Africa); (3) Infrastructure Services Project (Malawi); (4) Karnataka Panchayats Strengthening Project (India); Irrigation and Drainage Project (Ethiopia); (5) Child Support Program (Pakistan); (6) School Finance Project (Ghana); (7) Second Education Sector Development Project (CCT Pilot for Orphans and Vulnerable Children in School) (Lesotho); (8) Second Education Development Project (Lao PDR); (9) Second Social Action Fund (Tanzania); Northeast Microfinance Development Project (Brazil); (10) Kecamatan Development Program (Indonesia); (11) Impact Evaluation of a School-Based Management Program (Mexico); (12) Northern Uganda Social Action Fund (Uganda); (13) A Randomized Experiment to Try and Get Microenterprises to Hire Workers through Wage Subsidies, Savings Incentives, and Business Training (Sri Lanka); (14) School projects (Senegal); (15) Social Protection Project (El Salvador); (16) Bhopal Land Titling program (India); (17) Social Protection Sector Adjustment Loan and Social Protection Technical Assistance Project (Chile); and (18) Rural Electrification (Bangladesh).

India is currently being discussed.

The second project selected is the *Nicaragua Result Based Initiative (RBI)* pilot. Discussion was initiated with the WB task team leader to collaborate in the follow-up survey to evaluate the impact of the program on child labour.

- *Other impact evaluations* (outside the framework of the 52-month USDOL-funded project). Within the DGF partnership, efforts involved (i) technical support to the WB Kenya team in designing the survey and the impact evaluation of the Kenya Youth Empowerment Project (KYEP), and (ii) technical support to the International Youth Foundation (IYF) in designing the impact evaluation of the IYF employability project in Kenya. Discussion also began during the reporting period on collaboration in conducting an impact evaluation of the Youth Employment Network (YEN)-led youth employment project in Liberia (Training programme for women). The impact evaluation in Liberia will help build evidence about the efficacy of small grants to youth-led organizations.

**24. Capacity building on CL-related impact evaluation.** This sub-component will involve training to project staff charged with the design and implementation of the projects targeted in the impact evaluation exercise as well as to other groups involved in the CL-relating programming. Training efforts will aim at providing trainees with the general conceptual, theoretical and methodological underpinnings required for measuring the impact of programmes on child labour outcomes. It will place particular emphasis on ways to integrate impact evaluation considerations into programme logic models and log frames, i.e., on matching programme objectives, with programme activities, inputs, outputs, and, ultimately, with intended short- and long-term outcomes. Support was extended to one initial training event undertaken in collaboration with ITC/ILO Turin; other training activities have been postponed due to a reallocation of funds within the USDOL-funded project.

**25. Inventory and review of child labour programmes and impact evaluations.** This sub-component consists of inventories of CL programmes and impact evaluations. The inventory exercise brings together the range of existing impact evaluations in areas relating to CL, their specific objectives and the precise methods used in undertaking them.

- *Mapping and analyzing impact evaluations relating to child labour.* Substantial efforts were undertaken during the report period in collecting, mapping and analyzing a broad range of impact evaluations of potential relevance to child labor. The on-going process of gathering, mapping and analyzing impact evaluations covers the main sources of information on impact evaluation, including the World Bank Development Impact Evaluation Initiative (DIME) database,<sup>41</sup> the Poverty Action Lab,<sup>42</sup> the Social Science Research Network, SSRN<sup>43</sup>, Network of Networks for Impact Evaluation

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<sup>41</sup> The Development Impact Evaluation (DIME) initiative is a Bank-wide collaborative effort involving thematic networks, regional units and the research group under the guidance of the World Bank's Chief Economist.  
<http://web.worldbank.org/WBSITE/EXTERNAL/EXTDEC/EXTDEVI/PEVA/0,,menuPK:3998281~pagePK:64168427~piPK:64168435~theSitePK:3998212,00.html> It provides access to impact evaluations of World Bank-supported interventions and impact evaluations undertaken by World Bank staff over the past few years, as well as others from a variety of other academic and development institutions.

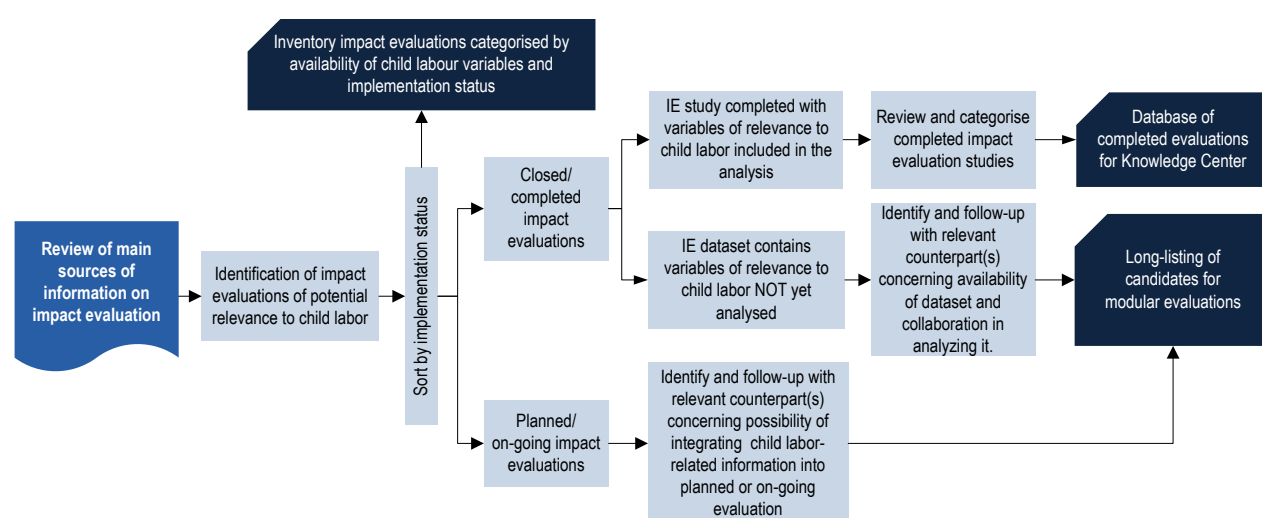
<sup>42</sup> <http://www.povertyactionlab.org/methodology/what-evaluation/program-evaluations-impact-evaluations>

<sup>43</sup> [http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/JELJOUR\\_Results.cfm?form\\_name=journalbrowse&journal\\_id=1156916](http://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/JELJOUR_Results.cfm?form_name=journalbrowse&journal_id=1156916)

(NONIE)<sup>44</sup> and the International Initiative for Impact evaluation (3IE).<sup>45</sup> Beyond these databases, evaluations of potential relevance are identified through extensive person-to-persons with World Bank task managers and other evaluation practitioners. The mapping process builds on the initial impact evaluation inventory conducted by UCW in 2009.<sup>46</sup>

The process underlying the mapping and analysis of impact evaluations consisted of a number of sequential steps, as also depicted in Figure 2. Each step involved both contacts with counterparts and in-depth reviews of relevant documentation (including, concept notes of the project, questionnaires for data collection, working papers, published paper, and any other material useful for the aim of the MBP), making the process time-consuming and human resource intensive.

Figure 5. Review and analysis of impact evaluations: the process



**26. Dissemination.** This sub-component is aimed at consolidating and providing access to state of the art information in the areas of CL programming and CL impact evaluation, primarily through establishment of a web-based knowledge center.

- *Knowledge centre.* Discussions during the reporting period pointed to the important potential of the knowledge center, and the process of information-gathering and networking that underlies it. The collection of information on impact evaluations is fundamental not only to the knowledge center itself, but also in identifying evaluations for inclusion in the modular evaluation component of the project. The knowledge center is seen as an increasingly important component of the overall USDOL-funded project. It will serve as a “hub” for information both on statistical impact evaluation (IE) methods (i.e., experimental and quasi-experimental evaluation design, survey instruments, sampling procedures, fieldwork, econometric techniques, etc.) and on impact evaluation results (i.e., what is the observed statistical impact of child labor

<sup>44</sup> <http://www.worldbank.org/ieg/nonie/index.html>

<sup>45</sup> <http://www.3ieimpact.org/openwindow/>

<sup>46</sup> Paruzzolo S. *Mapping evaluated policies relating to child labour prevention and protection*. UCW Working Paper, Washington, December 2007.

and child labor related programs).

Figure 6. Knowledge centre user interface mock-up



www.ucw-project.org/knowledgecentre

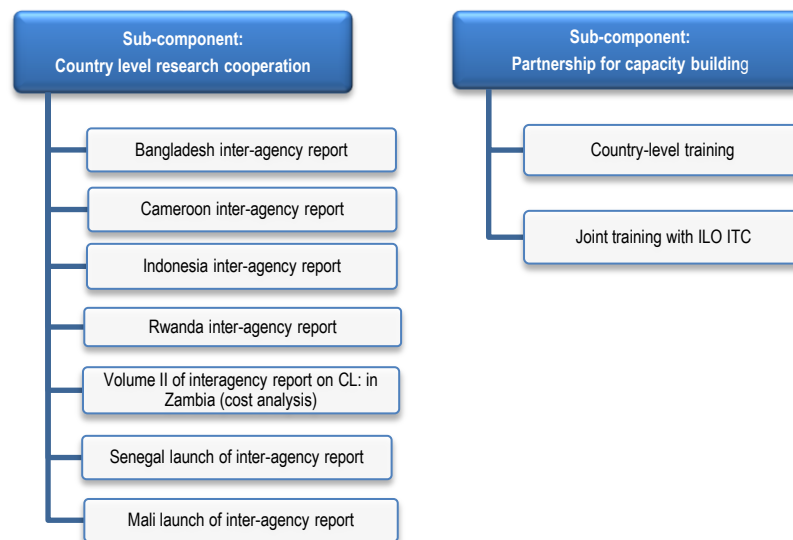
www.ucw-project.org/knowledgecentre/inventory

Building on the concept frame for the knowledge center completed during the previous reporting period, and on the on-going process of mapping and analyzing impact evaluations relating to child labor, work on the user interface for the website reached an advanced stage during the reporting period. A mock-up of the user interface was completed (see Figure 6), and work began on developing mock-up into actual html-based website user interface. The process of collecting documents for the center is already underway; documentation relating to a large number of quantitative impact evaluations of relevance to child labor have been collected.

## Country-level research and policy support (*Programme component 04*)

27. Country research activities involve direct collaboration with national counterparts to improve information on child labour, and provide a framework for improved inter-agency cooperation against child labour at the field level. Research outputs help inform and provide impetus to the development of policies addressing child labour.

Figure 7. Country level research and capacity building: implementation activities

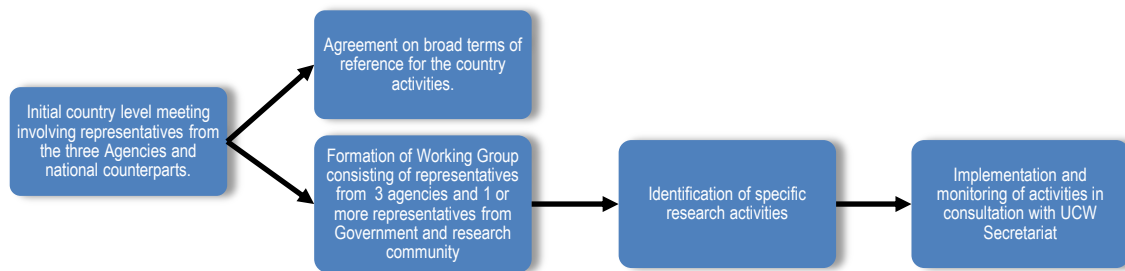


28. **Country-level research cooperation.** Research partnerships with counterparts at the country-level continued in a number of national contexts the reporting period.

- *Bangladesh:* An inter-agency report on child labour in Bangladesh was completed during the reporting period, building on the field mission and the inventory of local policies relating to child labour that took place during the previous reporting period. The report provides an overview of the child labour phenomenon in Bangladesh— its extent and nature, its trends, its determinants, and its consequences on education. The report also addresses the national responses to child labour, and policy options for its elimination. The report launch is tentatively scheduled for the first quarter of 2011.
- *Cameroon.* Cooperation began during the reporting period on development of an inter-agency report in Cameroon. The report will look at both child labour and youth employment outcomes, and at the linkages between the issues. A representative from the ILO office in Cameroon met with a UCW Programme researcher in September 2010 to discuss the broad operational parameters and data requirements for proceeding with the report development.
- *Indonesia.* Discussions took place with World Bank (headquarters and country office) as well as with ILO headquarters and country office concerning the scope and operational parameters for an inter-agency report in Indonesia. Development of the report was postponed due to delays in data availability and due to need to reallocate staff time to development of The Hague report.

**Figure 8. Country-level research process**

The process through which country-level programme activities are developed and implemented is designed to ensure maximum interagency cooperation and consultation. An initial country-level meeting involving representatives from the three agencies and national counterparts is first held in order to reach agreement on the broad terms of reference for the country activities and to agree on the make-up of a country-level programme Working Group.



The Working Groups, which typically consist of representatives from the three agencies and one or more representatives from Government, then act to identify and support the implementation of specific research activities, within the overall terms of reference. The representatives of the Working Group also act to ensure the research results are “mainstreamed” into the agency programmes and projects at the field level.

- *Rwanda.* A preliminary draft of the inter-agency report for Rwanda was completed during the reporting period. The report addresses both child labour and youth employment issues. This report also presents policy priorities for accelerating progress in the fight against child labour in Rwanda, drawing on empirical evidence concerning its causes and on lessons learnt from past policy efforts. In an important example of mainstreaming, UCW was requested by the Rwandan Ministry of Labour during the reporting period to provide inputs and to feedback on the draft Rwandan national programme of action for the elimination of child labour.
- *Zambia: Assessing the cost of child labour elimination.* Work has begun with Zambian counterparts on assessing the resource implications of meeting the national commitment to eliminating child labour. The study will comprise Volume II of the Inter-Agency Report on child labour in the country. Specifically, the study will assess the economic costs over a nine-year period of ensuring three key preconditions to child labour elimination: that poor families are provided a minimum degree of social protection; that poor families receive some form of compensation for the direct and indirect costs associated with schooling; and that education of sufficient quality is available as an alternative to child labour. The study will also assess the economic costs associated with a package of special, targeted measures aimed at removing children from worst forms of child labour. The Volume II report fits within broader efforts to accelerate progress against child labour in the period leading up to the 2016 target date set by the Global Action Plan, endorsed by the ILO, to eliminate the worst forms of child labour.
- *Senegal:* The inter-agency report, described in the previous progress reports, was officially launched in the first quarter of 2010. The report covers both the child (7-14 year-old) and youth (15-24 year-old) populations, and examines

the role of child labour and youth labour force status as contributors to the social vulnerability of these two population groups.<sup>47</sup>

- *Mali*: The inter-agency report, described in previous progress reports, was formally presented to the Prime Minister in early 2010.<sup>48</sup> The report was developed jointly by the Government and the agencies and, as such, it provides an important common basis for action in addressing child labour and youth employment issues in the country.

29. **Partnership for capacity building.** UCW continued to support efforts to improve national capacity in data collection and analysis. This is in response to the field experience indicating that there is a considerable need for strengthening within national statistical offices and other government bodies in data collection and processing, data analysis, and in disseminating child labour data in a form accessible to a variety of secondary users. Planned training activities in Cameroon, Indonesia, Rwanda and Sri Lanka were postponed as a result of the need to reallocate staff time to the development of The Hague report.

- *Country counterpart training (Rome)*: A training session was organised by UCW in Rome (Oct. 2010) for representatives from the Senegal Ministry of Youth and the Senegal Central Statistical Office. The training focused on climate change and its link with child labour and youth employment.
- *Joint training with ILO International Training Centre (ITC) in Turin*: A joint training event took place with ITC during the reporting period, building on the UCW-ITC partnership begun in 2007. The joint training effort combined UCW resource materials and research expertise in child labour and related fields with ITC's experience in designing and implementing high-level in-service training programmes. The training, held in June 2010, focussed on analysing data on child labour and youth employment.

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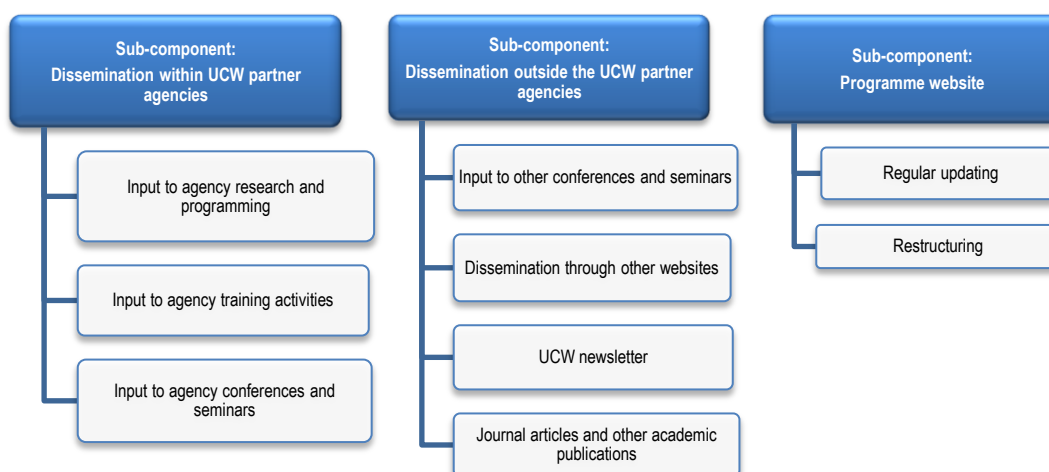
<sup>47</sup> UCW, *Comprendre le travail des enfants et l'emploi des jeunes au Sénégal*, UCW, upcoming

<sup>48</sup> UCW, *Comprendre le Travail des Enfants au Mali*, UCW Inter-agency Report, upcoming.

## Research dissemination (*Programme component 05*)

30. The *Research dissemination* component is aimed at providing access to research outputs to as wide an audience as possible, both inside and outside the UCW partner agencies, to help promote take-up in policy and programme development.

Figure 9. Programme progress in component on mainstreaming and dissemination



31. **Dissemination within UCW partner agencies.** A number of activities were undertaken to disseminate research outputs within the partner agencies, as part of a broader effort to “mainstream” and operationalise UCW research in agency programmes.

- *Input to agency research and programming efforts.* UCW research was used as an input to a number of agency research and programming efforts during the reporting period. UCW research inputs were used by the World Bank in developing a report on youth employment in Gambia.<sup>49</sup> A UCW report on child labour trends in the LAC region<sup>50</sup> and an accompanying set of 15 country briefs<sup>51</sup> were utilised to inform the ILO Director-General Report on the Decent Work Decade in the Americas, 2006–15.<sup>52</sup> UCW also provided technical support and statistics for use in the ILO global CL estimates, WB World Development Indicators and the WB Atlas of Global Development publication. UCW provided input to the ILO-UNICEF consultation on enhancing cooperation for combating child labour in South Asia.<sup>53</sup>
- *Input to agency training activities.* UCW supported the World Bank Labor Market Policy Core Course, held in Washington DC, April 2010.

<sup>49</sup> World Bank, 2010. *Youth skills development and employment study: improving youth employment outcomes through enhanced skills development in The Gambia*. Working draft, July 2010.

<sup>50</sup> UCW, *Trends in children’s employment and child labour in the Latin America and Caribbean region: Regional overview*. Rome, June 2010.

<sup>51</sup> UCW, *Trends in children’s employment and child labour in the Latin America and Caribbean region*. Country Reports for Argentina, Bolivia, Brazil, Colombia, Dominican Republic, Ecuador, El Salvador, Guatemala, Honduras, Mexico, Nicaragua, Panama, Paraguay, Peru and Venezuela. Rome, June 2010.

<sup>52</sup> *The Decent Work Decade in the Americas, 2006–15 Agenda for the Hemisphere: Initial assessment and perspectives*. Report of the Director-General, International Labour Office, 2010.

<sup>53</sup> ILO and UNICEF, *Enhancing Cooperation for Combating Child Labour in South Asia, Summary Report of the Joint ILO-UNICEF Consultation*. New Delhi, India, 9 November 2009.

- *Input to agency seminars and conferences.* UCW research was used to help inform a number of agency dissemination events. Most important in this context was The Hague Global Conference on Child Labour (The Hague, May 2010), where the UCW inter-agency report *Joining Forces Against Child Labour*<sup>54</sup> was discussed as part of the conference proceedings (see Panel 2). Other agency events to which UCW provided inputs included the World Bank's Annual Bank Conference on Development Economics (ABCDE) (Stockholm, 31 May -2 June 20), the World Day Against Child Labour event organised by FAO and ILO Rome (Rome, 12 June 10), the ILO-FAO Meeting *International Partnership for Cooperation on Child Labour in Agriculture* (Rome, July 2010), the World Bank's International Conference *Poverty and Social Inclusion in the Western Balkans* (Brussels, 13 Dec. 10).

**Panel 2. Towards a world without child labour – Mapping the road to 2016** (10-11 May 2010, The Hague, The Netherlands)

The year 2010 marks 10 years after the coming into force of ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL), the most widely-ratified international labour convention, and it is 6 years ahead of the global target of eliminating the WFCL.



The conference also provided opportunities for countries, workers' organizations, employers' organizations, NGOs and other parties to showcase their good practices and lessons learnt in the fight against the worst forms of child labour.

While the global movement has achieved much progress in reducing the incidence of child labour, efforts must be stepped up if we are to deliver the commitment of a world free of the worst forms of child labour by 2016. In order to meet that challenge, the Dutch Ministry of Social Affairs and Employment, in close collaboration with the ILO (and in cooperation with UNICEF and the World Bank), organized a global conference on child labour for The Hague (The Netherlands) on 10 and 11 May 2010.

Five thematic sessions - on political awareness, financing needs, policy integration, tripartite action and a 'focus on Africa' - offered even more occasions for all participants to discuss the challenges and opportunities at hand and to learn from each other's experience.

The conference objectives were:

- to achieve rapidly universal ratification of ILO Conventions Nos. 138 and 182;
- to deliver the commitment to take immediate and effective measures to end the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency; and
- to agree on significantly intensified efforts to reach the 2016 goal laid down in the Global Action Plan.

Child labour is not a phenomenon that can be dealt with in isolation, it is both a cause and consequence of poverty and low levels of social welfare. The conference aimed to mainstream the issue of child labour into the development debate, involving a wide array of prominent global actors involved in the broader development field.

The conference also featured a discussion of the interagency report (by the ILO, UNICEF and the World Bank (through UCW)) on child labour and development. Based on empirical research, the report discusses the impact of child labour from a national development perspective, and the policy and programmatic priorities for addressing it in the years up to 2016.

The event featured the launching of the ILO Global Report for 2010 (on child labour). The report presents new global statistics and an analysis of child labour trends, helping us evaluate progress to date, pointing out areas in which we have succeeded and signaling areas where more work is especially needed.

The global economic crisis threatens progress made on the elimination of child labour. The impact of the crisis on child labour, and the opportunities that the recovery process may provide were also discussed at the conference.

**32. Dissemination outside the UCW partner agencies.** UCW was also involved in numerous efforts during the reporting period aimed at disseminating UCW research to an audience beyond the three partner agencies.

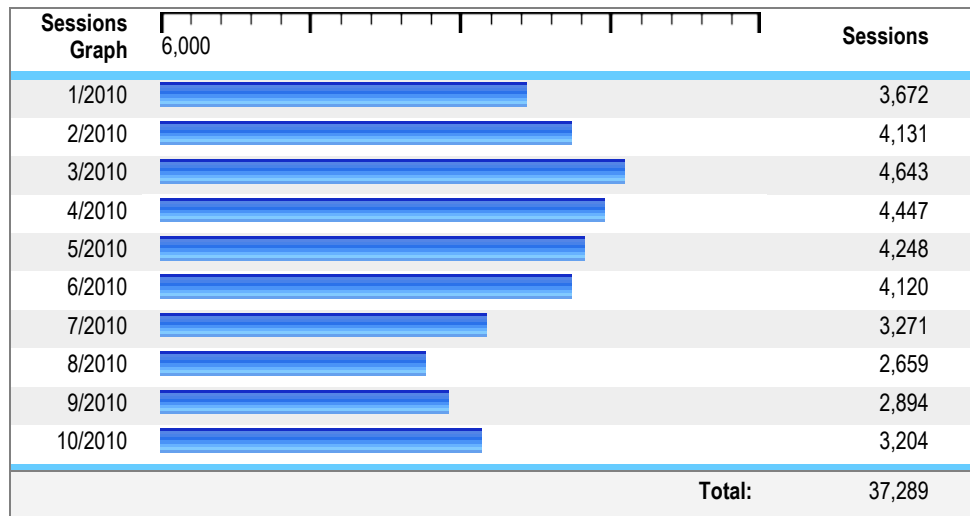
- *Input to other seminars and conferences.* UCW provided inputs to and participated in the following seminars and conferences during the reporting period.
  - (a) Migration and Economic Development: Insights from original data collection and fieldworks, Workshop (Florence, Centro Studi Luca D'Agliano, February 2010).

<sup>54</sup> UCW, 2010. *Joining forces against child labour: inter-agency report for The Hague Global Child Labour Conference of 2010*. Geneva: ILO, 2010.

- (b) National consultation ‘Climate change, internal migration and youth employment in Senegal’(Dakar, March 2010)
  - (c) Technical workshop ‘Comprendre le travail des enfants et l’emploi des jeunes au Sénégal’ (Dakar, March 2010)
  - (d) Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Trafficking (OCFT - USDOL) workshop (Apr. 10);
  - (e) Child Labour in Fisheries and Aquaculture, FAO Workshop in collaboration with ILO (Rome, April 2010)
  - (f) Using Livelihoods Approaches to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor, US Department of Labor (USDOL) Seminar, (June 2010)
  - (g) World Day Against Child Labour, Press conference organized by the Italian Ministry of Foreign Affairs (Rome, June 2010)
  - (h) Global Initiative on out of school children, UNICEF-UIS Workshop (Istanbul, July 2010)
  - (i) The IYF Partner Network @ 20 and Beyond, Global Partner Meeting (Washington, Oct. 2010)
  - (j) Understanding Children’s Work Brown Bag Seminar, CIDA (Ottawa, Oct. 2010)
  - (k) Expanding opportunities for the marginalized through skills development, Meeting of experts for the 2012 Education for All Global Monitoring Report (Bonn, Nov. 2010)
  - (l) Children and Youth in MENA region: Towards Unleashing their Potentials, International Conference organized by AUDI (Lebanon, December 2010)
  - (m) Summit on the Global Agenda, World Economic Forum (Dubai, December 2010)
- *UCW newsletter.* The quarterly programme newsletter was continued (Issues 10-11-12-13). The newsletter mailing list now includes 110 individuals and five organisations (WB, ILO, IREWOC, CRIN, and Development Gateway). UCW also regularly contributed to the IYF newsletter.
  - *Dissemination through other websites.* UCW continued to partner with relevant web-based information portals, including the Child Right Information Network (CRIN), the Development Gateway and Research Papers in Economics (RePEC), to circulate research outputs. The material posted on these websites has been regularly updated. Working papers downloaded from RePEC remained stable during the reference period, after having doubled during the period 2008-2009.
  - *Journal articles and other academic publications.* The UCW paper “Child work and water access in Yemen” was published in the journal *Orient*. A chapter on child labour was contributed to the book *Work and Employment Relation in the XXI Century* (Edward Elgar Publishing, upcoming).
33. **Programme website.** The UCW website was regularly updated with new research products and features during the current reporting period as part of broader efforts to disseminate research to as wide an audience as possible. Usage statistics (1 Jan. – 31 Oct. 2010) underscore the effectiveness of the website as vehicle for disseminating UCW research outputs. In the reporting period, 37,289

unique sessions<sup>55</sup> were registered (Figure 2) and a total of 12,421 files were downloaded.

Figure 10. Website sessions, January- November 2010



34. Usage figures, however, reflect a decline in website traffic compared to the previous year. A decision was taken to revamp the website in light of its importance as a vehicle for disseminating UCW research outputs and in response to the decline in usage. The interface will be substantially restructured, updated and reorganised in order to improve navigation and access to research outputs. The initial stage of the restructuring will be completed in the first quarter of 2011. As reported under Component 03, a new section will also be added to serve as a 'hub' for information both on statistical impact evaluation (IE) methods and on impact evaluation results.

<sup>55</sup> A 'Session' is defined as a series of clicks on your site by an individual visitor during a specific period of time. A Session is initiated when the visitor arrives at your site, and it ends when the browser is closed or there is a period of inactivity.

## PROGRAMME GOVERNANCE

35. The Programme governance is based on the three levels of governance developed at the Programme's inception – Steering Committee (SC), Focal Points (FPs) and UCW Secretariat – as depicted in Table 1 below. In simplest terms, the Secretariat's core function is providing research support to the programming (and other work) of the agencies, and core function of the Focal Points and Steering Committee is ensuring that the Secretariat is fulfilling this role as effectively as possible.

**Table 2. Programme governance structure for 2009-2014 planning period**

Level	Responsibility	Membership	Meeting frequency
Steering committee (SC)	Establishment and oversight of the Programme's overall strategic direction and goals. Approves detailed 12 month work plans	Senior management representative, one from each agency, plus Programme coordinator as an <i>ex-officio</i> member.	1 per year
Focal points (FP)	Develop and provide liaison with agency, approve 12 month work plans for submission to SC, coordinate within agency and provide substantial technical input to Programme	Technical expert/manager, one from each agency, plus Programme Coordinator (PC).	Formal – 2 per year. Frequent informal contacts with Programme Coordinator
UCW secretariat	Develop detailed ongoing 12 month work plans for approval of FP; manage implementation of workplans	Programme Coordinator, researchers and support staff	NA

36. The Programme Secretariat manages the implementation of the 12-month detailed workplans. These workplans will be developed by the secretariat on the basis of the current Programme strategic framework document, the strategic directions determined by the steering committee, and with the substantial input and involvement of the focal points. Each Steering Committee meeting is presented with a report on activities carried out in the previous 12 months in relation to the agreed workplan, and reviews a revised 12-month workplan for the subsequent period. While the secretariat is responsible for implementing the Programme workplan, any major changes are discussed and approved by the Focal Points.

37. National counterparts have a key role as collaborative partners in the implementation of UCW research activities at the country level. They also provide critical input to identify capacity building needs in the country and when possible, assist in implementation of other regions' capacity building exercises. In addition, experts from regions and countries across the world participate in data analysis and in the development and testing of measurement methods.

38. Programme monitoring is based on a series of detailed rolling workplans, indicating specific implementation activities and time-bound milestones for each, developed on the basis of the current strategic framework document. The workplan is updated by the Programme secretariat on a regular basis. Detailed reviews of progress in workplan implementation take place in conjunction with the formal Programme focal points meetings. Comprehensive progress reports are produced annually by the Programme Secretariat in collaboration with the Focal Points. These are provided to the Steering Committee for review at their yearly meetings. After review by the Steering Committee, the reports are sent to donors and disseminated within the three agencies as well as to other partners.

39. As agreed at the September 2008 Programme Focal Points meeting, the Medium-Term Strategic Framework document constitutes the core reference

document for the Programme over the medium term, in lieu of a formal Programme memorandum of understanding or signed Programme agreement.