

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	COMBATING CHILD LABOR IN THE CARPET INDUSTRY IN PAKISTAN, PHASES 1 & 2
REGION/COUNTRY	ASIA/Pakistan
PROJECT DURATION	April 1, 1999 – September 30, 2007
FISCAL YEAR & FUNDING LEVEL	Phase 1: FY 1998 & FY 1999: USD 2,055,146; Phase 2: FY 2002: USD 3,500,000
PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED	In the province of Punjab alone, over 100,000 child weavers (of whom nearly 60% are girls) are estimated to be working in the carpet industry. The children work on average 6-10 hours per day and lack opportunities for education, while their daily earnings of 5-20 rupees (10-40 cents US) are often paid to their parents. Child weavers also face a variety of work-related health hazards, including muscular-skeletal disorders, respiratory ailments, joint deformities, and sleep disorders, as well as corporal punishment.
RESULTS	Phases 1 & 2 of the project together withdrew 23,955 children and prevented 5,180 children from work in the carpet industry. Target geographic areas included Gujranwala, Sheikhpura, Hafizabad, Toba Tek Singh, Faisalabad, and Multan districts in the province of Punjab.

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PROJECT OBJECTIVES

Phase 1: Contribute to the total elimination of child labor in the carpet industry in Pakistan.

Intermediate Objectives included:

- Reduce child labor in the carpet sector in Sheikhpura and Gujranwala through workplace monitoring and the provision of education alternatives to children withdrawn from child labor; and
- Establish and implement a plan for the expansion of the program into the rest of Punjab.

Phase 2: Contribute to the total elimination of child labor in the carpet industry in Pakistan.

Intermediate objectives included:

- Reduce child labor in the carpet sector in Sheikhpura, Gujranwala, Hafizabad, Multan, Faisalabad and Toba Tek Singh through workplace monitoring and the provision of education alternatives to children withdrawn from child labor;
- Increase stakeholder and partner capacity to combat child labor; and
- Establish and implement a plan for the expansion of the program into the rest of Pakistan.

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES

Phase 1

- Reduced child labor in the carpet sector in Sheikhpura and Gujranwala through workplace monitoring and provision of education alternatives for withdrawn children;
- Provided non-formal education to young siblings and pre-vocational training for children, as well as income generation strategies for adults (specifically mothers); and
- Conducted a survey of child labor in Punjab and established a plan for the expansion of the program in the rest of Punjab Province.

Phase 2

- Reduced child labor in the carpet sector in the target districts through workplace monitoring and provision of education alternatives for withdrawn children; and
- Provided non-formal education to younger siblings and pre-vocational training for older children, as well as income generation strategies for adults (specifically mothers).

GRANTEE

International Labor Organization's International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (ILO-IPEC)

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

Agreement signed between Pakistan Carpet Manufacturing and Export Association (PCMEA) and ILO-IPEC (October 1998) to eliminate child labor below the age of 14 in the carpet industry. Implementing organizations include Sudhaar; Bunyad Literacy Community Council (BLCC); Child Care Foundation (CCF); Idara-e-Taleem-O-Aagahi; First Women Bank; Skill Development Council (SDC). Additional contribution were made by the Pakistan Carpet Manufacturers' and Exporters' Association (PCMEA).

CONTACT INFORMATION

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