

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	COMBATING EXPLOITIVE CHILD LABOR THROUGH EDUCATION IN EGYPT
REGION/COUNTRY	MENA/Egypt
PROJECT DURATION	September 30, 2006 – June 30, 2011
FISCAL YEAR & FUNDING LEVEL	FY 2006: USD 5,090,000 FY 2010: USD 500,000
PROBLEM ADDRESSED	The 2005 Egypt Health and Demographic Survey indicated that approximately 7 percent of Egyptian children (almost 1 million) ages 5 to 14 were working. In rural areas, children often work in agriculture, and have been observed working long hours, without precautions for work with toxic pesticides. In urban areas, child labor is found in the informal sector including leather tanneries, pottery kilns, glassworks, metal and copper workshops, battery and carpentry shops, auto repair workshops, construction sites, and textile factories.
RESULTS	The project withdrew 4,895 children and prevented 7,319 children from the worst forms of child labor in Sohag, Assiut, Beni Sweif, and with a pilot expansion project in Sharqiyah. In addition, 2,081 of their mothers received income generation training and support to address household poverty as a root cause of child labor.
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	Contributed to the elimination of exploitive child labor in Egypt. Intermediate objectives achieved: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Provided effective formal and non-formal education programs to children at risk of and engaged in exploitive child labor;• Strengthened awareness and capacity of national and local government institutions, civil society, and communities to address child labor and education issues; and• Improved national, regional, and local capacity to perform data collection and monitor and assess child labor.
SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Expanded and enhanced formal and non-formal education, including transitional and vocational education, and apprenticeship programs for targeted children;• Established new community and Girls Education Initiative schools in targeted governorates;• Offered incentives and economic support such as take home food rations for households, school

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feeding for students, and business training to mothers of working and at-risk children to reduce barriers to education;

- Provided technical support, advocacy, and capacity- building initiatives to governmental institutions and NGOs to improve policies and legislation, including the National Strategy for the Elimination of Child Labor in Egypt, and ensured their effective enforcement;
- Provided support to governmental institutions to build a comprehensive database on child labor, monitor trends, and improve the inspection process to assess the conditions of working children; and
- Provided training to the labor inspection unit in order to enhance local capacity to identify and refer children at risk of exploitive labor.
- Conducted an extensive study on child labor in agriculture in Egypt to better understand the circumstances underlying the decision to send children to work in agriculture, the work conditions the children endure, and the potential risks the face.

GRANTEE

United Nations World Food Program (WFP)

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS

UNICEF, ILO, non-governmental organizations, and community-based organizations.

CONTACT INFORMATION

Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor, and Human Trafficking (OCFT)
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