

In 2016, Angola made a moderate advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Government drafted a new Penal Code that contains prohibitions on the commercial sexual exploitation of children. The Government also deployed 50 officials to increase birth registration in rural municipalities. However, children in Angola engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. The gap between the compulsory education age and minimum age for work leaves children ages 12 and 13 vulnerable to the worst forms of child labor. There are not enough labor inspectors to provide sufficient coverage of the workforce. In addition, social programs do not target all sectors in which children work.



## I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Children in Angola engage in the worst forms of child labor, including in commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor.(1-4) Table 1 provides key indicators on children’s work and education in Angola.

**Table 1. Statistics on Children’s Work and Education**

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5 to 14	25.7 (694,458)
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	65.4
Combining Work and School (%)	7 to 14	22.1
Primary Completion Rate (%)		49.7

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2011, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2016.(5)

Source for all other data: Understanding Children’s Work Project’s analysis of statistics from Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2, 2001.(6)

Based on a review of available information, Table 2 provides an overview of children’s work by sector and activity.

**Table 2. Overview of Children’s Work by Sector and Activity**

Sector/Industry	Activity
Agriculture	Farming, including plowing, planting, and picking tomatoes, harvesting vegetables, and the production of rice (1, 4, 7-10)
	Fishing, activities unknown (4)
	Cattle herding (7)
	Production of charcoal (4)
Industry	Artisanal diamond mining (2, 3, 7)
	Mining coal (1)
	Construction, including making and transporting bricks (1, 3, 4, 11)
Services	Street work, including vending, car washing, begging, shoe shining, and transporting heavy loads (1, 4, 9, 10)
	Domestic work (4)
Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor‡	Commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (3, 4)
	Forced labor, including in agriculture, construction, artisanal diamond mining, and domestic work, each sometimes as a result of human trafficking (3, 10, 12)
	Use in illicit activities, including the sale and transport of drugs, and moving illicit goods across the border of Angola and Namibia (3, 4)

‡ Child labor understood as the worst forms of child labor *per se* under Article 3(a)–(c) of ILO C. 182.

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Undocumented Congolese migrant children enter Angola for work in diamond-mining districts and experience conditions of forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation in mining camps.(3, 7) Girls as young as age 12 are trafficked from Kasai Occidental in the Democratic Republic of the Congo to Angola for forced labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Angolan boys are taken to Namibia and forced to herd cattle.(3)

The Government permitted children to attend school without birth registration, but only up to the fourth grade.(4) Many families face difficulty in paying informal school fees, and many schools do not have enough classroom space for all children.(4, 13)

## II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Angola has ratified all key international conventions concerning child labor (Table 3).

**Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor**

Convention	Ratification
 ILO C. 138, Minimum Age	✓
ILO C. 182, Worst Forms of Child Labor	✓
 UN CRC	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on Armed Conflict	✓
UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography	✓
 Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons	✓

The Government has established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 4). However, gaps exist in Angola's legal framework to adequately protect children from child labor.

**Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor**

Standard	Meets International Standards: Yes/No	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	14	Article 254 of the Labor Law (14)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Articles 3(21) and 256 of the Labor Law (14)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	Yes		Article 256 of the Labor Law; Joint Executive Decree No. 171/10 (14, 15)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Articles 18, 19, and 23 of the Money Laundering Law (16)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Articles 19 and 23 of the Money Laundering Law (16)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	No		Articles 19, 22, and 23 of the Money Laundering Law (16)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Articles 4 and 7 of the Drug Trafficking Law (17)
Minimum Age for Military Recruitment			
State Compulsory	Yes	20	Article 2 of the Military Service Law (18)
State Voluntary	Yes	18	Article 11 of the Military Service Law (18)
Non-state Compulsory	No		
Compulsory Education Age	No	12 <sup>‡</sup>	Articles 8 and 17 of the Basic Law of the Education System (19)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 7 of the Basic Law of the Education System (19)

<sup>‡</sup> Age calculated based on available information (19, 20)

In 2016, the Government continued the process of revising the Penal Code, which began in 2004. The 2016 draft contains prohibitions on the commercial sexual exploitation of children.(21, 22) However, laws related to commercial sexual exploitation are

not sufficient, as using, procuring, and offering of a child for the production of pornography and pornographic performances are not criminally prohibited.(16)

The hazardous work list, established by Joint Executive Decree No. 171/10, prohibits 57 activities for minors, including fireworks production, animal slaughter, leather production, paper making, and pornography; however, the types of hazardous work prohibited for children do not include diamond mining, an area of work in which there is evidence of work conducted underground.(15)

Ending compulsory education at age 12 leaves children ages 12 and 13 vulnerable to child labor because they are not required to attend school but are also not legally permitted to work.(19, 20) In addition, this age conflicts with the National Development Plan (2013–2017), which sets the compulsory education age at 14.(23)

### III. ENFORCEMENT OF LAWS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor, including its worst forms (Table 5). However, gaps in labor law and criminal law enforcement remain and some enforcement information is not available.

**Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement**

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Public Administration, Labor, and Social Security (MAPTSS)	Enforce laws against child labor. Fine employers or send cases to the Ministry of Interior for further investigation and to the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights for prosecution.(24) Employ labor inspectors in all 18 provinces to carry out inspections and joint operations with social service providers.(25)
National Children's Institute (INAC)	Receive complaints about cases of child exploitation, including child labor. Conduct inspections and respond to reports of child labor.(24)
National Police, Border Police, and Immigration Services	Enforce criminal laws and conduct operations and investigations related to the worst forms of child labor.(7)
Ministry of Justice and Human Rights	Investigate and prosecute the worst forms of child labor cases.(24)

#### *Labor Law Enforcement*

In 2016, labor law enforcement agencies in Angola took actions to combat child labor, including its worst forms (Table 6).

**Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor**

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2015	2016
Labor Inspectorate Funding	Unknown (8)	Unknown (26)
Number of Labor Inspectors	187 (8)	153 (26)
Inspectorate Authorized to Assess Penalties	Yes (8)	Yes (25)
Training for Labor Inspectors		
Initial Training for New Employees	Yes (8)	Yes (26)
Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor	Unknown (27)	Yes (26)
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (8)	Yes (26)
Number of Labor Inspections	7,147 (8)	5,261 (26)
Number Conducted at Worksite	Unknown	Unknown
Number Conducted by Desk Reviews	Unknown	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	Unknown	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	Unknown	Unknown
Number of Penalties Imposed that Were Collected	Unknown	Unknown
Routine Inspections Conducted	Yes (8)	Yes (26)
Routine Inspections Targeted	Yes (8)	Yes (26)
Unannounced Inspections Permitted	Yes (8)	Yes (25)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted	Yes (8)	Yes (26)

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**Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor (cont)**

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2015	2016
Complaint Mechanism Exists	Yes (8)	Yes (26)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services	Yes (8)	Yes (26)

The number of labor inspectors is insufficient for the size of Angola's workforce, which includes over 10.8 million workers. According to the ILO's recommendation of 1 inspector for every 40,000 workers in less developed economies, Angola should employ approximately 271 labor inspectors.(8, 28-30) In 2016, inspectors conducted 369 unannounced inspections in the industrial and construction sectors.(26)

Inspectors from the Ministry of Public Administration, Labor, and Social Security (MAPTSS) work with the National Children's Institute (INAC) and the Ministry of Assistance and Social Reintegration (MINARS) to ensure that child labor victims receive the appropriate social services.(24)

### *Criminal Law Enforcement*

In 2016, criminal law enforcement agencies in Angola took actions to combat the worst forms of child labor (Table 7).

**Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2015	2016
Training for Investigators		
Initial Training for New Employees	Yes (8)	Unknown
Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	N/A	N/A
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (8, 31)	Yes (32)
Number of Investigations	Unknown	2 (32)
Number of Violations Found	44 (31)	Unknown (26)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	2 (31)	4 (32)
Number of Convictions	Unknown (8)	Unknown (26)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (8)	Yes (26)

In 2016, the Government conducted two investigations of the commercial sexual exploitation of children and initiated four prosecutions of the worst forms of child labor, one of which involved children exploited for labor on farms.(32)

The National Police and Immigration Services refer victims of the worst forms of child labor to INAC and MINARS to receive social services.(31, 33)

## IV. COORDINATION OF GOVERNMENT EFFORTS ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Although the Government has established the Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons, research found no evidence of mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor, including all its worst forms (Table 8).

**Table 8. Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor**

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons	Coordinate enforcement efforts on human trafficking, including child trafficking for labor and commercial sexual exploitation. Led by the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights.(34)
National Council for Children	Coordinate the Government's efforts on children's issues, including the worst forms of child labor. Led by the Ministry of Assistance and Social Reintegration (MINARS), comprises 17 ministries and related organizations.(7)
MINARS	Ensure coordination among various government agencies related to social welfare and victim protection.(7) A network of institutions and shelters protect children from abusive, exploitative, and dangerous situations.(35)
INAC	Coordinate child protection services. Work with MINARS to provide shelter and help reintegrate children found in child labor situations with their families.(24)

## V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established policies related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 9).

**Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor<sup>‡</sup>**

Policy	Description
National Strategy to Prevent and Combat Violence Against Children	Guides the Government's efforts to address violence against children, including physical and psychological violence, child labor, child trafficking, and sexual abuse. Developed by INAC under the Eleven Commitments for Angolan Children policy.(36, 37)
Plan of Action and Intervention Against the Sexual and Commercial Exploitation of Children	Aims to protect and defend the rights of child victims of sexual and economic exploitation, including rehabilitation.(38)

<sup>‡</sup> The Government has other policies which may have addressed child labor issues or had an impact on child labor.(23)

Research was unable to determine whether activities were undertaken to implement the Plan of Action and Intervention Against the Sexual and Commercial Exploitation of Children during the reporting period.

## VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2016, the Government funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms (Table 10).

**Table 10. Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor<sup>†</sup>**

Program	Description
Social Protection Programs <sup>†</sup>	INAC-implemented national network of child support centers that offer legal and psychological assistance, meals, and basic education to crime victims, including child trafficking victims.(3, 31) MINARS, the Ministry of Family and Women's Affairs, and the Organization of Angolan Women operate 52 children's shelters.(3)
Microcredit Project <sup>†</sup>	MAPTSS program that provides cash assistance to parents so that their children do not need to work.(7)
Birth Registration and Justice for Children <sup>†</sup>	Government-run program that makes birth registration free for all Angolan citizens. Aims to expand birth registration coverage of all children from 56 to 80 percent by the end of 2017.(39) During the reporting period, UNICEF supported the Government to train and deploy 50 officials to municipalities in which it is most difficult to deliver birth registration services.(40)
UNICEF Country Program (2015–2019)	UNICEF program, in coordination with the Government, that is designed to plan and implement education and child protection-focused interventions.(41) Collaborates with MINARS, INAC, and NGOs to run a child helpline in Luanda province.(13)
National Institutes of Job and Professional Training <sup>†</sup>	Government-funded program of 555 centers that provides professional training for youth so that they have skills to enter the formal labor market.(7, 42)
Mobile Schools and Free Meals for Children <sup>†</sup>	Ministry of Education program that provides education in mobile schools to migrant children who work with their parents in cattle herding. Specifically targets children at the highest risk of involvement in child labor in southern Angola.(7) Supports some mobile schools with kitchens, which facilitate the free school meals program.(7, 24, 43) Research was unable to determine whether the Government restarted the free school meals program after it was halted in the beginning of 2016.(22)

<sup>†</sup> Program is funded by the Government of Angola.

<sup>‡</sup> The Government had other social programs that may have included the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms.(44)

During the reporting period, the Government conducted human trafficking awareness raising campaigns at local universities and on the radio and television.(32) Although Angola has programs that target child labor, the scope of these programs is insufficient to fully address the extent of the problem. Furthermore, research did not identify programs that target children engaged in certain worst forms of child labor, such as commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor.

## VII. SUGGESTED GOVERNMENT ACTIONS TO ELIMINATE THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor, including its worst forms, in Angola (Table 11).

**Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, Including its Worst Forms**

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Ensure that the legal framework protects children from exploitation in child pornography and pornographic performances.	2014 – 2016
	Ensure that the law prohibits hazardous occupations or activities for children in all relevant sectors in Angola, including diamond mining.	2011 – 2016
	Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the recruitment of children under 18 by non-state armed groups.	2016
	Increase the compulsory education age to 14 to be consistent with the National Development Plan and the minimum age for work.	2009 – 2016
Enforcement	Publish information regarding the labor inspectorate's funding, the number of labor inspections conducted at worksites and by desk review, child labor violations found, and penalties imposed and collected, as well as training for new criminal investigators, the number of violations found, and convictions achieved.	2011 – 2016
	Strengthen the labor inspection system by increasing the number of labor inspectors in order to provide sufficient coverage of the workforce.	2009 – 2016
Coordination	Establish coordinating mechanisms to combat child labor, including in all its worst forms.	2016
Government Policies	Ensure that the Plan of Action and Intervention Against the Sexual and Commercial Exploitation of Children is effectively implemented.	2014 – 2016
Social Programs	Develop and expand existing social programs to ensure that all children have access to education and are not restricted by informal fees, lack of birth certificates, and lack of classroom space. Ensure the continuation of the free school meals program.	2013 – 2016
	Institute programs that target children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor, and expand existing programs to address the scope of the child labor problem.	2010 – 2016

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