

ANNUAL
REPORT
2021

WORK:



NO CHILD'S
BUSINESS

JOINING FORCES TO
SCALE UP ACTION
AGAINST CHILD LABOUR



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LIST OF ABBREVIATIONS

CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CLFZ	Child Labour Free Zone
CRBP	Children's Rights and Business Principles
CPC	Child Protection Committees
IATI	International Aid Transparency Initiative
ILO	International Labour Organisation
KPIs	Key Programme Indicators
L&A	Lobby and Advocacy
L&L	Linking and Learning
MEAL	Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning
MVO	<i>Maatschappelijk Verantwoord Ondernemen</i> (Responsible Business Conduct)
OECD	Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
RBC	Responsible Business Conduct
RVO/FBK	<i>Rijksdienst voor Ondernemend Nederland/Fonds Bestrijding Kinderarbeid</i>
SCI	Save the Children International (=Save the Children Country Offices)
SCNL	Save the Children Netherlands
SME	Small and medium-sized enterprises
SYNADEEPCI	<i>Syndicat National des Enseignants d'Education Permanente (Côte d'Ivoire)</i>
ToC	Theory of Change
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations International Children's Emergency Fund
VSLAs	Village Savings and Loans Associations
WNCB	Work: No Child's Business

GENERAL INFORMATION

NAME OF THE PROGRAMME:

Work: No Child's Business

NAME LEAD:

Hivos

ALLIANCE PARTNERS:

Stop Child Labour Coalition
Save the Children Netherlands
UNICEF Netherlands

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34,995,822 EUR

START DATE:

1 July 2019

END DATE:

30 June 2024

PROGRAMME PERIOD IN MONTHS:

5 years (60 months)

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The WNCB Alliance consists of Save the Children Netherlands, UNICEF Netherlands and the Stop Child Labour Coalition, in close collaboration with partner organisations and country offices in India, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Mali, Uganda and Vietnam. The programme aims to ensure that children and youth are free from child labour and enjoy their rights to quality education and (future) decent work.

To achieve this goal, we work according to a Theory of Change with four strategic pathways:

1. Child empowerment and community-based approach
2. Lobby, Advocacy and System strengthening in partner countries
3. Supply chain approach
4. Lobby and Advocacy at international level

In 2021 we see, through the analysis of 98 harvested outcomes in the six countries, significant results for Pathways 1, 2 and 3. Generally, the engagement with local and national governments and with the private sector businesses is a longer and more complex process in which the awareness-raising activities and campaigns of the WNCB partner organisations are crucial. We expect that during

the remaining years of the programme there will be more involvement of government and private sector actors. Concerning Pathway 4, we have made progress on engaging the Dutch national government and we have initiated engaging the EU government. For 2022 we expect further lobby and advocacy activities and results towards national and EU governments in support of our overall objective and in support of the WNCB countries.

In 2021 the COVID-19 pandemic continued to impact the living standards of children, families and communities. We therefore see an emphasis on child empowerment and local community engagement and emergency responses due to the pandemic. In some countries (Jordan, Ivory Coast, Mali) the pandemic had only a minor impact on planned activities, and partners were able to catch up with some of the delayed activities. While in other countries (Vietnam, Uganda, India) the ongoing pandemic and strict measures caused tremendous impacts on societies as well as significant delays and disruptions to programme implementation at the community level. Other challenges have been the regime change in Mali and the climate change, food insecurity and safety issues in Uganda.



School youth / vocational training (Nascent Uganda)

Despite the contextual challenges mentioned above, in general the countries managed to implement the majority of the planned activities. This produced the following results:

Our programme in India is co-ordinated by SCL partner Arisa and implemented in Bihar, Delhi/ NCR and Rajasthan. We have eight partners in the above regions: AIPTF, ICCSPL, Save the children, MV Foundation, Fakirana Sister's Society, Nav Jagriti, Aravali and Arisa. Amongst other things, we have strengthened Panchayats - village councils - and local governments to address and prevent child labour, and have advocated for schools to re-open. We also successfully supported many children to gain access to or sustain their education.

In Ivory Coast our Alliance partners UNICEF, Save the Children and EI/SYNADEEPCI have formed a strong partnership where comparative advantages are explored. The geographic programme locations encompass 291,913 community members. 5,213 children have been targeted directly with child protection services and child rights messages, and by increasing access to education.

In Jordan in 2021 we reached out to 3,715 community members directly, of whom 1,918 are children. In addition, 60 government officers and 19 child protection committee (CPC) members were engaged in our programme. The Jordan programme is implemented by UNICEF and Save the Children, in collaboration with ROWAD al-Khair and the Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD).

The WNCB programme in Mali is co-ordinated by Stop Child Labour and implemented in 20 communities in the Segou region and in the Sikasso region where children mostly work in gold mines and agriculture. In 2021 the programme reached 4,390 community members (parents, adolescents, teachers, civil servant, religious leaders, and women's groups members) and 1,228 children were assisted through direct services.

Our programme in Uganda is co-ordinated by SCL partner Hivos and is being implemented in the region of Busia by SCL partner EWAD and in the region of Karamoja by Save the Children along with SCL partners UNATU and Nascent. Altogether 22,579 people live within the wider catchment area of child protection services that are being influenced at district and parish level, and 5,557 have been reached through direct and indirect services.

Our programme in Vietnam is a partnership between UNICEF, Save the Children and the (Vietnamese) Centre for Child Rights and Business. In 2021 we reached 2,422 children and 2,200 government officers, parents, and teachers through trainings and services.

The country programmes are being supported by technical working groups.

The WG on Lobby and Advocacy and Responsible Business Conduct (WG LA/RBC) achieved results in engaging national and international governments and the private sector. These outcomes were achieved in close collaboration with the Communications Working Group.

During 2021, the Gender Equality Working Group (GEWG) mostly focused on the rollout and implementation of the Alliance Gender Analysis (GA), including development of context-specific ToR and the recruitment process for competent consultants' teams in all countries. Other relevant work focused on the ongoing gender mainstreaming through evaluation and reporting and close collaboration with the Education WG.

The pandemic and its consequences meant that the crucial role of quality education gained priority in the discourse on eradicating child labour. The Education Working Group mobilised the country education focal points and engaged for example ILO to actively explore the connection between quality education and child labour.

The Research Working Group implemented a shift of the workgroup approach to ensure more localised research. Two research proposals have been initiated: one on gold mining in Mali and one on children in home-based working in the textile industry in India.

The working group on Child Rights and Business Principles (CRBP) has gone through a strategic shift towards more country support and the sharing of knowledge and exchange of experiences. A particular theme of interest was the artisanal gold mining in Ivory Coast, Mali and Uganda, for which country workshops will be organised in 2022.

Through the MEAL tools and protocols, the programme has achieved a shift from awareness-raising to norms and behaviour change in planning of activities. In addition, country partners are aware of KPI data and use this information to plan towards

specific quantitative targets and more coherence between their strategic pathways.

Four key learning questions for 2021 have guided the activities in the countries and focused on opportunities and conditions for scaling up, the continued need to bring children back to school, conditions for and ways to achieve economic empowerment, and how behavioural change can be brought about. The countries generated many activities and lessons learned on the basis of these questions, which demonstrate the added value of the programme's multi-stakeholder approach as well as the need for further research and exploration, for example concerning income-generating activities, cash transfers, etc.

The approved budget for 2021 was €9,678,707. This amount included the unspent balances from the previous periods. In 2021 the total programme expenditure was €7,584,134. This is a budget utilisation of 78% of the approved budget for 2021. The abovementioned contextual challenges were the main reason for this under-expenditure, and the main unspent component of the budget is the 'for-all' budget lines. We have taken adequate measures and foresee that from 2022 these 'for-all' budget lines will be used by the countries for effective programme implementation.

Through an analysis of the programme's sustainability, we see that the continuous engagement of stakeholders and partnership-building activities have strengthened current systems, institutions, policies and procedures at national and local level to meet the community's needs. Economic empowerment in combination with the community-based approaches increase the likelihood that children will be out of work and enjoy their right to education. Environmental sustainability is reflected in the effects of climate change as floods and droughts have become a mainstream issue. The programme has seen a high degree of ownership by local communities and national parties, and a high degree of community participation in planning, implementation and tracking of progress, thus increasing social sustainability.

2021 will also go down in history as a year that put a hold on daily life around the globe. Our partners in the WNCB partner countries have been facing the impact of the pandemic's consequences each and every day. We have seen a second and even third wave in many countries, and although we still don't know what the final effects of the pandemic will be, we do know that the world has never experienced a crisis like this one. One that has disrupted the lives of families and impacted the future of millions of children.

We lost dear and close friends in our programme due to COVID-19. We remember Robert Gunsinze from UNATU in Uganda. Robert, a passionate education unionist who has been a Stop Child Labour partner for many years, died of COVID-19 in the prime of his life. We also remember dedicated child rights activists in India and teachers in all countries who died because they were exposed to COVID-19. Our hearts go out to staff in all countries who lost family members, colleagues, and acquaintances during the pandemic.

INTRODUCTION

In 2021 we implemented the activities as per the annual plans to support children and families. We developed strategies to address the challenges of the COVID-19 pandemic that continued to impact our work, as well as the political unrest and insecurity issues in Uganda and Mali. Through different alternative learning activities, such as bridge schooling and home learning centres, children were able to maintain a certain rhythm of learning and personal growth during lockdown measures and school closures. This was an important element for the recovery period when schools opened again and children were able to return to class. To support parents and caretakers as they worked to overcome the economic challenges and reduction in their livelihoods, WNCB partners established Village Loans and Savings Associations in Uganda and Ivory Coast and added income-generating activities such as agricultural and livestock activities in India, revolving funds in Mali, aid packages in Vietnam, and direct cash transfers in Jordan and Ivory Coast.

In several WNCB partner countries we collaborated with national governments to develop more robust policy frameworks focused on the prevention of and responses to child labour. In both Jordan and Vietnam, the collaboration has yielded results in the form of the adoption of a new national policy framework with specific measures for preventing and responding to child labour in the next five years. In Uganda, WNCB partners played an active role in the development of the National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour (NAP) and participated in the launch of the NAP (for which WNCB partners had successfully advocated in 2020). We have implemented campaigns in Uganda, Mali, Vietnam and Jordan to raise awareness and change existing norms around child labour by engaging both the communities and the private sector, ensuring that children return to school as well as achieving increased commitment from companies with regard to preventing and eliminating child labour. For example, through awareness-raising campaigns and personal contact, 55 hotel owners in India signed a declaration and took an oath (put up boards in their hotels) to not employ child labourers in their hotels. In Vietnam we see that two factories have developed new policies on the

management of young workers (aged from 15 to 17) for the prevention of child labour and ensuring the compliance of their lower-tiered suppliers.

The engagement of the Dutch government has shown promising results with Minister De Bruin of Foreign Trade and Development committing to work on due diligence legislation, and we will demand additional effort in 2022 from the EU. The activities in light of the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour have strengthened the programme's lobby results and we will continue our lobby activities in the leadup to the Global Conference of Child Labour (GCCL), to be held in South Africa in May 2022.

This annual report is divided into four sections. The first chapter provides an overview of contextual challenges and opportunities in the countries, including the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic. A summary of findings is included, describing activities and harvested outcomes as well as relevant financial information. The second chapter focuses on an overview of our work and achievements in outcomes in the six partner countries, while the third chapter provides an overview of the activities and outcomes of the WNCB working groups. In the fourth and final chapter we provide a further analysis of our learning and the results achieved, with a specific focus on the cross-cutting components of the programme, such as linking, learning, sustainability, and gender. This chapter closes with our general conclusion on the status of our programme.

Unfortunately COVID-19 prevented us meeting many people face to face, but we were nonetheless able to see the strength of our partners and staff. We want to thank all of them. For solving problems and finding alternatives with creativity and flexibility when the pandemic upended everything. We are proud to see the achievements made to support the children and their families in a structural and constructive way. We are determined to continue to work together and to fight to get all children out of work and into school.

1. ADDRESSING CHILD LABOUR WITH PERSEVERANCE AND DEDICATION

In 2021 we saw all partners continue working to protect children and their families with tireless effort and dedication. In all countries, at times implementation was challenged by restrictions and lockdowns resulting from the COVID pandemic. In some countries challenges arose from political tension and strikes (Mali) and insecurity and drought/food shortages (Uganda).

We very much appreciate the continued commitment and adaptive capacities of our partners as they endeavour to reach the most vulnerable families and offer adequate responses to meet their urgent needs. In doing so, they take responsibility for the communities in our intervention areas that are hit hard by the pandemic and other crises. Moreover, in all countries our partners came up with creative and effective ways of organising and enabling educational activities during school closures.

These activities aimed to keep children engaged in learning and protect them from harm outside of school, such as child labour, sexual exploitation, child marriage and teenage pregnancy, all which increased due to hardship. These activities have been a precondition for bridging the gap to more long-term solutions and structural development, and for children to keep up with their schooling and stay safe. In the meantime, partners managed to implement large parts of the plans as envisioned and remained focused on protecting children from entering the workforce and ensuring they returned to school as soon as possible.

Our combined approach, of direct emergency response and maintaining the long-term vision, has enabled partners to prevent families and children experiencing further deprivation and helped them to keep the plans on track as much as possible.

Motivational centre in Busia (Ewad Uganda)



We aim to learn more about this approach through a programme-wide Linking and Learning agenda, through which we explore the progress of the key learning questions for 2021. This, together with the harvested outcomes, provides us with insights into country- and programme-wide priorities as well as overall programme opportunities for improvement and effectiveness.

1.1 PROGRAMME RISKS AND THE IMPACT OF THE PANDEMIC

Our in-country partners showed great resilience in overcoming most of the challenges that negatively impacted our programme implementation. Several more significant challenges are addressed here briefly. Our partner organisations in all our countries indicate that the pandemic has had a huge impact on their programmes. COVID-19 still impacts the living standards of children, families and communities. For this reason, in this chapter we provide a comprehensive overview of the pandemic's effects on our programme. More specific explanations are given in the country paragraphs in chapter two.

Regime Change in Mali

In Mali we faced a regime change, political unrest, and strikes across all sectors. As ECOWAS does not support the regime change, international financial and economic sanctions were imposed upon Mali and the national administrative structures at local level were replaced. Our programme partners had to adapt to a new government and put risk management measures in place to ensure continuation of the programme. These measures were mainly focused on the continuity of education and addressing the increased risks due to the political insecurity.

Climate Change, Food Insecurity and Safety in Uganda

Our programme partners in Uganda in particular report an increasing number of safety and security issues. Alongside the pandemic, Eastern Africa is faced with climate change issues such as droughts and floods. As a result, the communities themselves are facing food insecurity. Cattle raids are increasing in Karamoja and some villages were forced to relocate. The combination of these factors has led to safety and security issues for implementation of the activities in the Karamoja region. In addition, the communities themselves are facing increased food insecurity.

Impact of COVID-19

As reported in 2020 and as reflected in our annual plans, the root causes of child labour have worsened as COVID-19 significantly and directly affects families' income, increasing the risk that children in poor households will engage in child labour. Also, as schools were still closed - in some countries this has gone on for two years so far - the risks of school dropout increased.

Regarding the activities planned for 2021, divergent trends can be identified. In some countries - Jordan, Ivory Coast and Mali - the pandemic had only a minor impact on planned activities, and partners were even able to catch up on some of the delayed activities. However, in other countries - Vietnam, Uganda and India - the ongoing pandemic and strict measures had tremendous impacts on society and caused significant delays and disruptions to programme implementation at the community level. Several awareness-raising and capacity-building activities were cancelled or postponed until 2022 as they required in-person participation. In response, the WNCB partners set up innovative strategies and collaborations to continue to address child labour and to meet the increased demand for services. These included a focus on the strict application of preventive measures, the purchase and provision of kits to combat COVID-19 at gatherings, economic support provided to vulnerable families, women's groups and grassroots community organisations to cover daily expenses in order to combat abusive exploitation of children and to encourage their enrolment and retention in the school system. The WNCB partners adjusted the training materials and capacity-building programmes to be more adaptive to flexible working modalities, including online training materials for smartphones and informative radio shows/courses.

The table below gives an overview of how COVID-19 affected each country differently in 2021. The first rows provide a general overview of country-specific government responses such as required school and workplace closures, restrictions on gatherings and stay-at-home mandates. The government responses are followed by an explanation of how our country partners experienced the pandemic and how the implementation of our programme was affected.

2021	INDIA	IVORY COAST	JORDAN	MALI	UGANDA	VIETNAM
GOVERNMENT RESPONSE						
School closure	Required closing all levels --> some levels	No measures	Required closing all levels --> No measures	Required closing all levels --> No measures	Required closing some levels --> all levels	Required closing all levels
Workplace closing	Required closing some sectors/ all but essential --> no measures	No measures	Required closing some sectors --> Recommend closing	Required closing some sectors	Required closing some sectors	Required closing some sectors
Restriction on gatherings	Restrictions on gatherings of 10 or fewer people --> of 11-100 people	No restrictions	Restrictions on gatherings of 11-100 people --> of 101-1000 people	Restrictions on gatherings of 11-100 people	Restrictions on gatherings of 101-1000 people	Restrictions on gatherings of 11-100 people
Stay at home requirement	Required with exceptions	Staying at home recommended	Required with exceptions --> No Measure	No measures	Required with exceptions	Required with exceptions
COVID wave experiences among our partners	In the second wave there was a severe crisis due to a lack of hospital beds, oxygen and other support. Colleagues in our partner organisations suffered illness and lost loved ones; this had a very big impact on everyone	Unlike previous years, the COVID-19 pandemic affected the WNCB programme less	COVID-19 continued to affect the lives of families and children	Vulnerable families, women's groups and grassroots community organisations needed economic support for daily expenses to combat abusive exploitation of children and to encourage school enrolments	Livelihoods were affected as many parents/ caregivers lost their income. Children returned to child labour and girls were forcibly married off, contributing to an increase of child mothers and teenage pregnancies	Ho Chi Minh City and Dong Thap were severely affected; many families struggled to make ends meet.
School closures in our target regions	Schools were mainly closed. In Q4 schools gradually reopened (the higher grades first, followed by the primary schools). 'Learning loss' was evident among children going to school	Schools reopened in 2021	Schools and vocational training centres remained closed until September, a longer period than expected	Alongside COVID-19 restrictions, the security crisis forced some schools to close. Our partner's successful advocacy efforts kept schools in our target area open	Schools closed at short notice, causing severe disruption. This mostly affected children from the poorest families, as they had no access to e-learning	Children had to switch to online learning; this affected disadvantaged children with limited access to e-learning and lacking parental support
Lockdown affecting overall implementation	Partners adjusted parts of their work to fit the present context. Some activities were delayed, while a few were postponed. Many partners also assisted with providing COVID relief to the people in their intervention areas	In 2021, the COVID-19 outbreak had very little impact on implementation	School/ training centre closures delayed referrals to education services. Vocational trainings and startup kits were replaced by cash assistance. Despite the restrictions, our partners were able to implement most activities as planned	Innovative strategies were developed and our partners focused on preventive measures. Capacity-building activities were delayed. Economic support was provided to those most vulnerable	Partners adjusted the planned activities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic, for example the Home Learning components were integrated to keep children learning as schools were closed for about two years due to COVID-19	The strict measures of the 'zero-COVID' strategy caused significant delays. Due to the lockdown, community engagement was restricted and government engagement was affected as their staff were occupied with the COVID-19 response

Government response source: Oxford COVID-19 Government Response Tracker (OxCGRT), 2022.

Schools often remained closed for a longer period due to COVID-19, resulting in an increase in child labour and affecting the students' and parents' attitudes towards education. In some cases children had to switch to online learning, which disproportionately affected disadvantaged children. In response, WNCB employed several strategies to ensure that children were motivated to continue learning. These included the establishment of remedial centres and home learning aid to target the most vulnerable children. Additionally, direct cash transfers were provided to reduce the financial burden associated with purchasing virtual learning equipment and to maintain daily supplies. This contributed to the prevention of school dropouts.

The pandemic affected livelihoods as many parents and caregivers lost their jobs and businesses. The protection concerns regarding children who were orphaned/semi-orphaned due to COVID-19 were identified and addressed. At the same time, there needs to be special attention for issues involved with gender-based domestic violence, child marriage and teenage pregnancy, as these problems have increased in the last two years due to COVID-19.

As the capacities of (local) government shifted to developing COVID-strategies, the development of local policies and by-laws on child labour was often delayed. WNCB partners supported governments by supplying materials for home learning and

COVID prevention. The provision of workshops and training courses to businesses switched to an online or hybrid mode. Training manuals and capacity-building programmes were redesigned to reflect the changes to flexible working modalities. On a positive note, additional collaborations with governments and members of child protection boards emerged to address the impact of COVID-19. These gave access to more children through joint monitoring and outreach activities, as well as the timely identification and selection of beneficiaries as part of local authorities' COVID response by local authorities.

1.2 PROGRESS OF OUR WORK PLANS IN 2021

We have a bottom-up and consensus-based approach in which our partner countries implement country-specific annual plans that are appropriate and address the needs of each country. These plans are thus a country-specific interpretation of our Theory of Change and it has therefore been difficult to provide a comprehensive comparison of specific activities and outputs. The WNCB annual plan for 2021 includes a list of activities and outputs for each country. The overview below provides a summary of the extent to which these planned outputs were achieved across the programme. More specific insights in the deviations per country are given in chapter two.

WORK PACKAGES	ACHIEVED	NOT FULLY ACHIEVED	DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN
Child Empowerment through supportive communities			The activities related to addressing the knowledge and perceptions on children's rights and protection and helping them to organise themselves to address children's vulnerability became more challenging due to the impact of COVID-19 and governmental restrictions. This impact was particularly notable in India and Vietnam, which led to alternative online approaches and postponement of the planned activities in these countries. In Uganda, changes were made to activities because more sustainable approaches were considered. In Jordan, the high demand for services led to an increase in the number of activities organised.
Economic support			Most countries were able to successfully implement activities related to equipping vulnerable families with knowledge and tools to improve their livelihoods and to prevent child labour. In Vietnam and Jordan, additional activities such as cash assistance and direct livelihood support were organised to contribute to families' income and preventing children dropping out of school and entering child labour. In Uganda, support for farming activities was postponed until the next planting season in 2022.

Improving access to quality education			In India, Uganda and Vietnam in particular, school closures due to COVID-19 impacted the planned activities aimed at improving access to quality education. This led to a focus on alternative activities such as home study centres, the facilitation of online learning, promoting the reopening of schools, safe schools and remedial classes. Vocational training turned out to be more successful than expected in Uganda and was therefore scaled up. In addition, the 'Centres d'Animation Pédagogique' in Mali reached more students than originally planned.
Strengthening child protection systems			The pandemic increased the need for child protection systems, so additional activities were organised. The WNCB partners provided more support to children directly at risk due to COVID-19; for example, additional case management services were provided, protective equipment was handed out, and disadvantaged households were linked to government schemes for COVID relief. Unfortunately, some activities had to be postponed as social distancing and school closures put restraints on the implementation.
National government engagement			In most countries (India, Ivory Coast and Uganda) the activities planned under Pathway 2 were achieved. In Mali, delays in data collection meant that activities were postponed until 2022. In Vietnam, staff changes at stakeholders and COVID-19 restrictions caused delays and triggered a need for alternative collaborations. In India, governments' continuous engagement resulted in opportunities to successfully implement more activities than planned.
Private sector engagement			In most countries (Mali, Jordan, India, Ivory Coast and Uganda) the activities planned in Pathway 3 were successfully implemented. In Vietnam, the planned forums on CRBP and private sector engagements were postponed due to COVID-19. As with the activities planned in India, COVID-19 limited opportunities to engage with the private sector. However, different private sector stakeholders in the natural stone sector and more informal sectors were engaged in the programme. The partners in India were able to set up an additional activity in collaboration with a consultant. In Mali, additional efforts were made to ensure the continuation of private sector engagement, building on previous achievements

India Ivory Coast Jordan Mali Uganda Vietnam

1.3 ADAPTIVE MANAGEMENT THROUGH OUTCOME HARVESTING IN PARTNER COUNTRIES

Within the WNCB programme, we assess performance from the perspective of effectiveness rather than focusing on the implementation of our workplans alone. As we work in a partnership with multiple partners per programme, it is important to learn from each other and remain agile to contextual developments. Furthermore, we aim to innovate our approaches to enable us to scale up the way we work and set standards for stakeholders to continue our work once our programmes come to an end.

The Outcome Harvesting technique in the WNCB programme

The Outcome Harvesting technique allows us to learn if and why our implementation strategies are effective. The technique encourages stakeholders to discuss their relevance in relation to other stakeholders, in order to identify how the root causes of child labour are being tackled. Outcome Harvesting is particularly suitable for assessing social change interventions or innovation and development work. Furthermore, we use Outcome Harvesting to track and structure changes in the behaviour of social actors we are aiming to

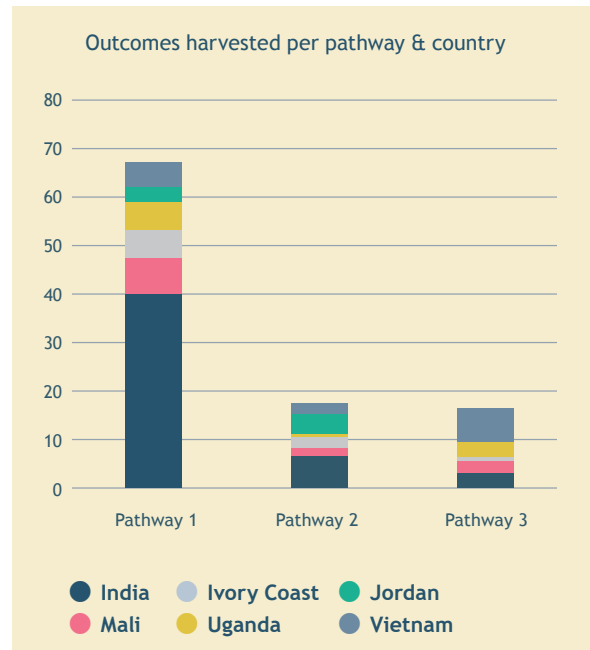
influence through our intervention. The technique has been effectively adopted as a monitoring tool in this reporting phase to assess our ToC. Our ToC combines the **supply chain approach** with an **area-based approach** and/or strengthening of **child protection systems** and **lobby and advocacy (L&A)** at local, national and international level.

The programme's Theory of Change contains four 'strategic pathways':

- 1) Child empowerment and community-based approach: *empower children, communities, and families to prevent and address child labour;*
- 2) Lobby, Advocacy and System strengthening in partner countries: *local and national authorities to enforce relevant laws and to implement relevant policies and social services;*
- 3) Supply chain approach: *work with the private sector to create responsible companies in (inter) national supply chains;*
- 4) Lobby and Advocacy at international level: *EU/ Dutch government and international/multilateral organisations to act in support of the elimination of child labour and fulfil their duty to protect.*

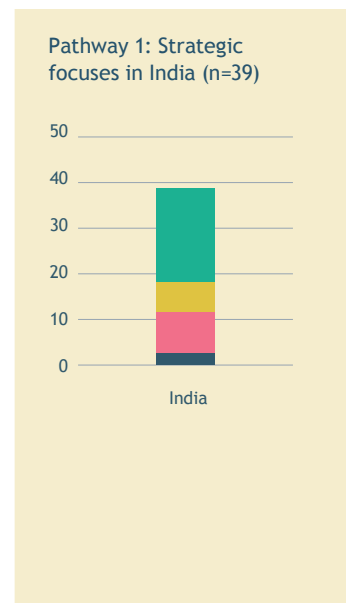
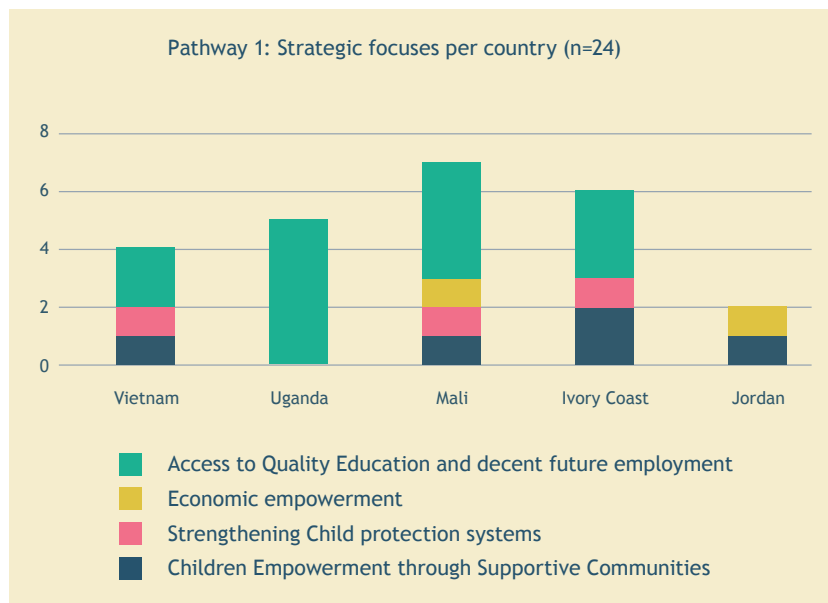
Outcomes Harvested in all Partner Countries

In 2021 we harvested 98 outcomes in our six partner countries. In India alone a total of 48 outcomes have been documented. The largest number of outcomes that have been harvested relate to Strategic Pathway 1 of our Theory of Change, and most countries also managed to achieve outcomes within Strategic Pathways 2 and 3. All outcomes reported to us by our partner countries have been visualised in chart no 1,2,3 and 4.

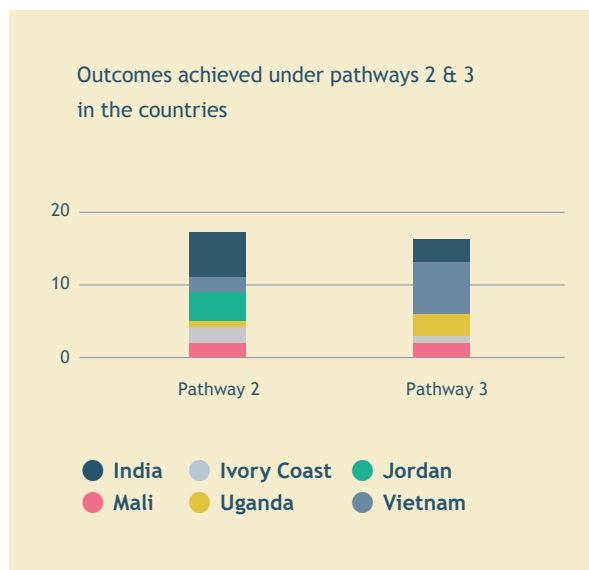


The largest number of outcomes in our partner countries have been achieved under Strategic Pathway 1. In the previous paragraph we identified four work packages through which we contribute to the achievement of outcomes under this pathway. These are: access to quality education and decent future employment, economic empowerment, strengthening child protection systems, and child empowerment through supportive communities.

In the graphs we see the number of identified outcomes for Pathway 1 in our partner countries and the different work package countries. Due to the large number of outcomes generated in India, we have created a separate graph to demonstrate how the India team has generated results for Pathway 1.



In Vietnam, Uganda, Mali, Ivory Coast and India, a significant number of outcomes have been reported in relation to our efforts to bring children back to school, for example by training teachers in child-friendly teaching methods to improve the quality of education (all countries), creating child-friendly spaces and motivational centres as well as massive back-to-school campaigns (Uganda), promoting education through vocational training (Vietnam) and the establishment of bridging classes and reintegration of students into formal schools (Ivory Coast), as well as awareness-raising campaigns for parents and caretakers (Mali).



Through active government engagement, the programme has generated significant changes to authorities' behaviour and political agendas. In the remaining years of the WNCB country programmes, we expect that the results of this government engagement will increasingly lead to political and legal frameworks in support of the fight against child labour. Both local and national governments are engaged. For example, the government of Rajasthan (India) has included a child-labour-free clause in supply chains, local authorities have made formal commitments to children's access to and retention in school (Mali), the National Action Plan to provide measures against child labour (Vietnam), and the development of bye-laws on child labour (Jordan and Uganda).

The outcomes in Pathway 3 indicating changes of behaviour for the private sector and supply chain actors also demonstrate that awareness-raising activities and campaigns do indeed lead to increasing involvement and changes to business practices that contribute to a decrease in child

labour in the countries. The engagement of businesses and companies has yielded results such as the increased productivity practices of cocoa farmers in Ivory Coast that increase children's opportunities to access education, the development of management policies for young factory workers (Vietnam), and a gold and marble mining company's innovative code of conduct to combat child labour (Uganda).

Besides the focus on community activities (Pathway 1 of our ToC), another reason for fewer outcomes in Pathways 2 and 3 is that generally the engagement with local and national governments and with private sector businesses is a longer process in which the WNCB partners' awareness-raising activities and campaigns are crucial. We expect that the remaining years of the programme will see increased involvement by government and private sector actors, who will increasingly join us in our fight against child labour.

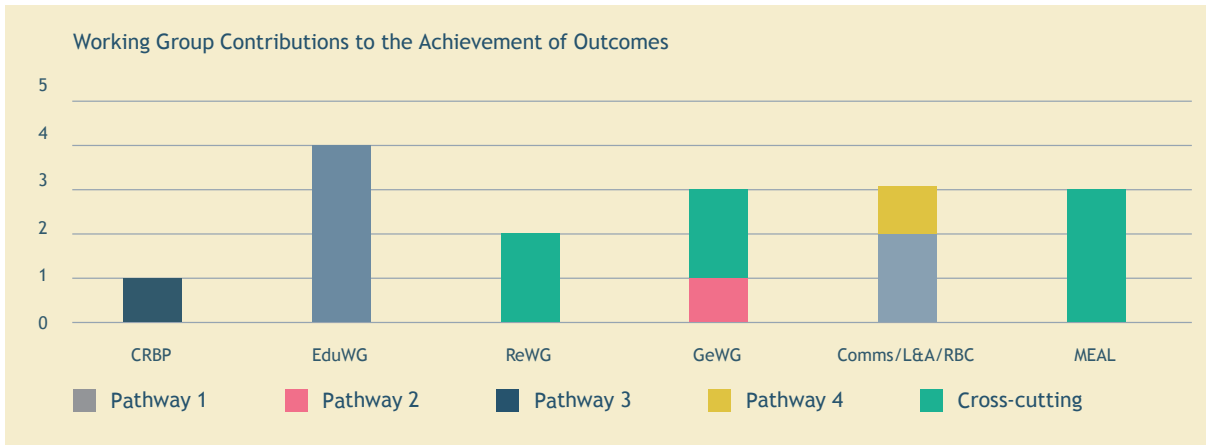
Outcomes Harvested by Working Groups

Alliance partners also contribute to programme outcomes through seven working groups and together they reported an additional 16 outcomes.

Working groups are a collaboration of all partners. As we work bottom-up and consensus based, their sphere of control is limited and it is useful to assess to what extent they are effective to influence our project approaches, and how they are contributing to the implementation of our strategic pathways. Harvested outcomes by working groups can either directly contribute to the achievement of the long term and planned outcomes of **strategic pathway 3 and 4**. Other outcomes can be seen as a form of **capacity building** and **programmatic support** to learn and innovate existing approaches.



School children (Save the Children Vietnam)



Strategic pathway 1 has been supported by the education working group which has reported 4 outcomes. Strategic pathway 2 has been supported by the GeWG which has reported 1 outcome. Strategic pathway 3 has been brought further forward by the CRBP working group (1 outcome) and the Communications and L&A working groups (2 outcomes). The L&A working group also reports 1 outcome as part of strategic pathway 4. The GeWG, MEAL and ReWG working groups all report outcomes that are cross cutting to the strategic pathways.

1.4 WNCB ALLIANCE PARTNERS PERSPECTIVES

Save the Children

Save the Children (SC) Country Offices, operational in all six WNCB countries, have largely managed to implement the activities as per the annual plans for 2021, with a focus on strengthening community-based child protection systems, improving the economic situation of households with children in child labour and/or at risk of child labour, and supporting children and youth to re-enter school/education or to participate in vocational training programmes and/or transferable life skills programmes. SC has engaged the private sector actors in all six WNCB countries.

Save the Children Netherlands (SCNL) has closely collaborated with the SC country offices and provided technical guidance, for example through exchange/learning calls on thematic areas and through 1:1 monitoring/support calls discussing programme progress and identifying opportunities, bottlenecks and solutions. Specifically, COs are encouraged and supported to utilise Save the Children's Common Approaches (evidence-based methods to address specific challenges), for example on child protection, safe schools, and life

skills for success, as part of their interventions in the WNCB programme. Three COs (India, Jordan, Vietnam) were unable to fully implement the original 2021 annual plan due to COVID-19 outbreaks and restrictions; support has been provided to the COs in identifying alternative activities aimed at child labour prevention, including cash transfers to vulnerable households, personal protection equipment (PPE) and food security, and specific support for children to enable them to access online education.

Besides close collaboration with SC Country Offices, SCNL is leading two thematic WGs (Lobby/Advocacy & Responsible Business Conduct + Gender Equality) and is an active participant in the other thematic WGs. SCNL co-ordinated the 'SenseMaker' baseline exercise in 2021 as well as the research initiative with Wageningen University on 'Advancing research in CSO partnerships. Localisation as a way forward'. In 2021, staff turnover was a challenge that affected SCNL as well as some SC country offices. The position of Lead of the L&A WG was vacant from June-Dec 2021, as recruitment for this position took longer than originally anticipated. During this period, interim staffing was provided by SCNL. However, these staff were not available to WNCB full-time, so it was necessary to prioritise certain activities in the L&A+RBC WG annual plan. The new, full-time Lead of the L&A+RBC WG, based at SCNL, started in January 2022. In all cases where a staff member left, a temporary replacement was appointed immediately, while the recruitment process for long-term replacement was underway. By the end of 2021, all positions with staff turnover had been filled by new staff. However, the staff turnover led to a temporary loss of capacity and momentum in some areas of work and meant that not all ambitions for 2021 could be fully realised. In 2022 extra attention will be paid to ensuring robust

interim arrangements and quick recruitment in the event of additional staff turnover.

SCL Coalition

In 2021, the partners of the Stop Child Labour coalition contributed their experience to the WNCB programme in India, Ivory Coast, Mali, and Uganda. The expertise on the ground with regard to community mobilisation and empowerment is one of the strengths of SCL. Linking child labour with education and focusing efforts on involving teachers, children, parents, school management committees and parent-teacher associations in the actions against child labour is key. All stakeholders are involved, including community leaders, government officials and local businesses. The on-the-ground efforts are combined with advocacy at regional, national and international level, so that regulations, legislation and practices also support the community-based work. At the same time, the dialogue with businesses at the international level in order to address child labour and human rights risks in their supply chains provides further support for the work.

Further progress was made in the collaboration between partners in 2021, which led to a better understanding of each other's work and strengths. In general, the on-the-ground knowledge and expertise of the Stop Child Labour coalition partners is now more recognised by the other in-country partners. SCL members are engaged in different activities relating to stopping child labour outside the WNCB programme, e.g. in several of the Dutch IRBC Covenants, RVO programmes and CLFZ with non-WNCB funding. Furthermore, SCL is often invited to webinars, meetings, etc to provide practical examples of how a community-based approach and a supply chain approach work. Our knowledge and lessons learned from the previous SCL programmes and current WNCB involvements feed into related activities outside WNCB, and in turn our experiences in other programmes and initiatives feed into our WNCB work.

UNICEF

In 2021, UNICEF Netherlands (UNICEF NL) continued to contribute to the WNCB Programme by taking an active role in the Alliance Co-ordination Team and various working groups, and by providing support to the implementing partners in Ivory Coast, Jordan, Vietnam and Mali. As in previous years, UNICEF NL led the CRBP Working Group as well as the joint programming in Ivory Coast, Jordan and

Vietnam. At country level, UNICEF NL strengthened its co-ordination through the dedicated in-country leads and regular co-ordination meetings with all partners involved.

In terms of programme management, 2021 was a challenging year for UNICEF NL due to an internal reorganisation which led to temporary understaffing and personnel changes. To mitigate the issue of understaffing, UNICEF NL was forced to restructure its co-ordination tasks and to ask Save the Children to temporarily take over the country lead role for Jordan. In December 2021 a structural solution was found to the issue of understaffing following the appointment of a new Programme Manager, which enabled UNICEF NL to resume and centralise all its co-ordination tasks. This resulted in improved programme management and increased efficiency. The CRBP Working Group faced a similar challenge. Throughout 2021, the working group was significantly affected by changes in staff. All three members that started at the beginning of 2021 had left by the end of the year, while in the last two quarters of 2021, the working group operated with just two members rather than three. In response, the working group decided to adjust its activities and focus on a few key tracks which allowed for an ongoing information exchange.

As part of its co-ordination role, UNICEF NL provided special support to the monitoring and reporting process throughout the year as well as for the planning exercise. This resulted in an ambitious plan for the various working groups and each of its programme countries, taking into account delays and necessary changes to plans resulting from the COVID-19 pandemic. Additionally, significant efforts were invested in the stocktaking exercise halfway through the year, which provided the Alliance with a clear overview of the implementation status as well the (expected) expenditures in 2021. Furthermore, special attention was given to the usage of additional funding via the for-all budget. Each programme country received clear guidance and support, which helped the countries to come up with a draft list of additional activities to be implemented in 2022 and beyond.

1.5 NOTES TO THE FINANCIAL REPORT 2021

The approved budget for 2021 was € 9.678.707,-.¹ This amount included the unspent balances from the previous periods. In 2021 the total programme expenditure was €7.584.134,-. This is a budget utilization of 78% of the approved budget for 2021.²

1. The approved budget for 2021 included the estimated over- under expenditures at the time of budget preparations in October 2020. At that time the final figures were not available as the books were to be closed in Q1 2021.

2. After closing the books in Q1 2021, the final balances were known. The actual over-under expenditure for the year were higher than initially budgeted for. To keep the reconciliation with the approved budget, we have included an extra column to show the over- under expenditures that were not available at the time of budget preparations. The actual vs budget comparison has been made between the approved budget and the actuals.

Preliminary figures country budgets 2021

ACTIVITIES	TOTAL BUDGET 2021	TOTAL ACTUALS 2021	BUDGET VS ACTUAL%
COUNTRY PROGRAMMES			
Uganda	€ 838.954	€ 638.633	76%
Jordan	€ 928.086	€ 763.371	82%
India	€ 1.494.040	€ 1.346.163	90%
Vietnam	€ 1.262.438	€ 949.035	75%
Mali	€ 1.025.316	€ 909.523	89%
Ivory Coast	€ 1.267.781	€ 1.311.412	103%
Coordination Education unions	€ 76.493	€ 20.508	27%
Total Country programmes 2021	€ 6.893.109	€ 5.938.646	86%

1.5.1 EXPENDITURES

With a budget of € 6.893.109, - the country budgets is the largest component of the overall budget for 2021. From this amount we have managed to spend € 5.938.646 which is 86% of the total country budgets. This is an increase of more than 30% in comparison to the previous periods. Although 2021 was still a challenging year, we believe that the structures put in place and the mitigation measures identified have been effective and contributed to more uninterrupted programme implementation. Ivory Coast, India, Mali, Jordan have spent 103%, 90%, 89% and 82%, respectively. Uganda 76% and Vietnam 75%. The lowest expenditure at the country budget level is to be seen in the coordination of education unions. Not all education activities could take place as planned. In Mali, this was caused by a long series of strikes, insecurity, especially in the San area, the COVID pandemic and political tensions. In India and in Uganda, this was caused by closure of all elementary schools throughout the year because of the COVID pandemic.

India, Jordan and Vietnam have spent part of their budget on COVID response next to the planned activities. These activities were in line with the objectives of the programme. Ivory Coast and Uganda are on track with the expenditures and in some cases have slightly exceeded the budget.

The budget for the programme management in the Netherlands is for dedicated staff working on the programme and has been spent completely.

The main unspent component of the budget is the "for all" budget lines. The unspent balance on this budget lines show an amount of € 1.090.341, - These budget lines are managed by the lead party Hivos and the Alliance partners can request funding from these lines. Due to the COVID pandemic and the implementation of the delayed activities in 2021, these budget lines have not been fully used. The Programme Management Unit (PMU) together with ACT have decided on some measures to utilize these budget lines in 2022. From 2022 onwards a large portion of these budget lines have been allocated to the countries to make sure a smooth transferring process of the funds. Also, the process of requesting funding from these lines are simplified and made more efficient to enable the partners to access this funding faster. Therefore, we foresee that also the "for all" budget lines will be spent in the coming years.

It should be noted that this narrative is based on the preliminary figures for 2021. The audit will be carried out in August. The audit report will confirm the final figures.

1.5.2 BUDGET BREAKDOWN

The report for 2021 has been submitted and approved on an activity basis within three strategic pathways. The total analysis has been made on the amount spent per strategic pathway and how it relates to the progress of the work packages towards our long-term objectives.

Overall, we see that most funds in the countries have been spent on strategic pathway 1 (67%). This means that within our programme, most expenditures are spent on activities through which we reach communities directly including children, families, and teachers. Within this strategic pathway we also collaborate with, and strengthen local private sector players, by engaging them in our activities for (future) decent work for children and young adults.

21% of the funds are directed towards activities within strategic pathway 2 which aim to influence local and national child-rights based laws and policies, and through which we work in coherence with government stakeholders to strengthening child protection systems. 12% of the funds are spent on

activities that fall under strategic pathway 3 and that are implemented to increase corporate social responsibility at local level and/or within specific targeted sectors.

In general, building trust and engaging with governments and the private sector takes more time but is less cost intensive. However, especially in times of the COVID crisis it was not always easy to fully engage Governments. Nonetheless, relations with governments and the private sector have been further established and/or strengthened and more intense engagements with these actors can take place now.

Activities of the education unions are mentioned separately as part of the country budget as they are managed by Education International and taking place in different countries (Uganda, Mali, Ivory Coast and India). Education unions in these countries directly interact at the community/school level and at the national level to influence child protection and education policies. They do not interact with the private sector as that is outside their mandate and taken up by other partners.

Budget vs Expenditures Pathways

	COUNTRIES	EXPENDITURES	PATHWAY 1	PATHWAY 2	PATHWAY 3
1.1	Uganda	€ 638,634	62%	20%	18%
1.2	Jordan	€ 763,371	74%	10%	16%
1.3	India	€ 1,346,162	65%	28%	7%
1.4	Vietnam	€ 949,036	56%	20%	24%
1.5	Mali	€ 909,523	60%	26%	14%
1.6	Ivory Coast	€ 1,311,412	79%	17%	5%
1.7	Education unions	€ 20,508	50%	50%	0%
	TOTAL	€ 5,938,646	64%	24%	12%

2. WNCB PARTNER COUNTRIES

Our programme is implemented in six countries by 32 implementing partners. The following chapter provides insight in the activities that have been implemented within the countries through strategic pathways 1,2 and 3. In this chapter we also provide more detailed information on the challenges per country. We provide detailed information on how we deviated from our initial annual country plan.

As part of the annual reporting phase, the programme partners identified and discussed the

changes that they observed in the communities. Each country paragraph therefore provides a list of the most significant outcomes that have been reported by the country. Due to the large numbers of outcomes (49) that have been reported in India, our partners in India selected the most significant outcomes to report. In our programme outcomes are statements of relevant changes for children, within communities and/or any social actor that has been engaged and that plays a role in tackling the root causes of child labour

PARTNER COUNTRIES	PARTNERS BASED IN THE NETHERLANDS	COUNTRY OFFICES AND PARTNERS
Mali	Stop Child Labour (Stichting Kinderpostzegels) (lead) Save the Children UNICEF	ENDA Mali (lead) Save the Children Mali Office SNEC GRAADECOM UNICEF Mali Country Office
Ivory Coast	UNICEF (lead) Save the Children Stop Child Labour (AOB/Education International)	UNICEF Ivory Coast Office (lead) AEJT CI ANADER DRENET SYNADEEPCI Save the Children Ivory Coast
Jordan	UNICEF (lead) Save the Children	UNICEF Jordan office (lead) Save the Children Jordan Office JOHUD Social Support Centre ROWAD
India	Stop Child Labour (Arisa) (lead) Save the Children	ICCSPL/ICCO India (lead) Save the Children India Office Fakirana Sisters Society MV Foundation Nav Jagriti AIPTF Arisa Manjari
Uganda	Stop Child Labour (Hivos) (lead) Save the Children	Hivos Uganda (lead) NASCENT EWAD UNATU Save the Children Uganda
Vietnam	UNICEF NL (lead) Save the Children Netherlands	UNICEF Vietnam office (lead) Save the Children Vietnam The Centre for Child Rights and Business

2.1 INDIA

Our programme in India is led by SCL coalition partners Arisa and ICCSPL. We work in collaboration with 10 implementing partners. These partners implement in three geographical areas, namely in Bihar, Delhi/NCR and Rajasthan. All our implementing partners have unique experiences and expertise, both within specific sectors and through collaborations with specific types of stakeholders. An overview of our activities in the target regions can be found below.

Region	Partners
National level	AIPTF ICCSPL
Bihar	Save the children MV Foundation Fakirana Sister's Society ICCSPL Nav Jagriti AIPTF
Delhi/NCR	Save the Children AIPTF Arisa ICCSPL
Rajasthan	Manjari AIPTF Aravali Arisa Save the Children

2.1.1 PATHWAY 1

Strengthening Child Protection Systems

The local child protection systems in our programme districts were further strengthened. In Delhi, 349 children were linked to social protection schemes and we set up five child protection committees. In Bihar, 183 families were linked to social protection schemes and field mobilisers were able to identify 191 potential cases of child marriage. 34 of these have already successfully been prevented and 30 are still being followed up. Two farmers' committees were formed to keep children away from agricultural labour. Additionally, a petition was submitted to the local labour department on the need to withdraw children from work. This activated officials to get several children out of child labour. Notably, this indicates a change of norms in the community in favour of ending child labour, followed up by a proactive response from local governmental bodies towards addressing and preventing child labour and strengthening child protection systems. In

our efforts in India, we were also supported by Panchayat - village council - representatives and local government officials. Our partners therefore supported the inclusion of women in the Panchayat. By strengthening women's empowerment, in 2021 some 55 women contested the Panchayat Ray Institution election in our intervention area in Bihar and 17 of them became members. This emphasised the responsibility of all stakeholders.

We started dialogues with parents, caregivers, and children on the negative impact of child labour and gave positive reinforcement to beneficial norms such as the long-term benefits of education (especially for girls) and supported child protection and social services for vulnerable children and their families. The dialogues changed community attitudes towards children's education. This had several positive impacts; parents now strongly believe that their children will have better lives through education and are willing to go the extra mile to educate them. Members of self-help groups in particular have noted the link between education and child rights. As a result, their leaders have refused to extend loans to members who wish to marry off their underage daughters. In addition, more mothers are willing to educate their daughters beyond high school. And finally, youth in many Panchayats have taken the lead in addressing the issues of child marriage and trafficking.

Our partners increased awareness through research activities and by publishing the Status of Child Labour and Legal Entitlements of Workers in Major Sectors in Rajasthan report, which received widespread media coverage. Furthermore, child



Family working in garment sector in Delhi (India)

labour issues were reported extensively through a media scholarship. More than 40 stories were published, highlighting child rights violations, the engagement of children in domestic household chores, migration for labour, and the impact that school closures for two years of the pandemic have had on children.

Improving Access to Quality Education

At the national level, we reviewed the National Policy on Education of 2020 from a child's perspective and analysed how all children in intervention areas receive quality education. On the district level, in Bihar our partners tracked the educational status of 64,005 children aged from 6 to 14 and 21,151 children aged from 15 to 18. Collaboratively, our partners, child protection officers and community support groups supported the enrolment of over 6,019 children in school. This was realised through extensive tracking, motivation camps, and awareness-raising activities on creating safe and inclusive schools. Furthermore, our partners advocated for the safe reopening of schools after the pandemic; this yielded positive results. The awareness-raising activities and advocacy for reopening schools also took place in Rajasthan and Delhi. This supported the education of over 1,000 children (academic grades 1-8) during the school closures in Rajasthan. In Delhi, 307 children were enrolled in schools with the support of our partners and 935 children received education kits (comprising books, worksheets, stationery etc.). In addition, young adults (aged 18-24) were

assisted with numerous activities to help them with vocational training, apprenticeships, and life skills training. Alongside our support to increase school enrolments, teachers were continuously engaged to change their attitudes towards child labour and to motivate them to play an active role in the prevention of child labour. In Bihar, over 1,500 teachers participated in meetings on child rights and child labour. After this, the teachers followed up with school dropouts and promoted the retention of children in school.

Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities

With community groups and local government functionaries, we organised meetings and trainings on various aspects of child rights, child labour, child marriage, and the status of children's education. Emphasis was given to communities' responsibility to uphold children's rights. Adolescents were empowered to evade the trap of child labour and trafficking through life skills training/workshops and enhanced knowledge. Furthermore, youth aspirations regarding ensuring future decent livelihoods were mapped. As part of the process of creating the Gram Panchayat Development Plan, children's ideas were considered by 56 Gram Panchayat in Rajasthan's Karauli district through group discussions. This process has the potential to be scaled up to 11,367 Gram Panchayats in Rajasthan in the coming years. Accordingly, youth in many Panchayats have taken the lead in addressing the issues of child marriage and trafficking. In addition,



Community mobilisation in Bihar (India)

Youth life skills training (India)

adolescent girls and women were provided with menstrual health and hygiene services during the lockdown period as the government supplies were halted. Occupational health and safety camps benefitted 1,020 female and male mining workers (providing them with health checkups, medicine support, referrals, and occupational health education).

Economic Support

Under the umbrella of our partners' livelihood support efforts, families, children and in particular women were empowered. For example, young adults were provided with startup kits, single women were given support to access to their entitlements, and farmers were trained in areas such as vegetable cultivation and sustainable livestock. Children were given financial support to continue their education and young adults were enrolled in vocational and skills training to enhance their income and provide them with opportunities for self-employment. Lastly, the families living in the most extreme poverty were supported with rations, medicines, and shelter support during the lockdown (April-June).

2.1.2 PATHWAY 2***Engaging National Governments***

In Rajasthan, the WNCB programme was brought to the attention of the government and civil society organisations. We advocated successfully for the inclusion of a 'child labour free' clause in

the procurement norms of the Rural Development Department of the Government of Rajasthan. Accordingly, the Rajasthan Government's finance department included this clause in the Transparency and Public Procurement Act 2013. This achievement will contribute to the prevention of child labour while opening space for various development players to work closely with government departments on child labour eradication issues.

2.1.3 PATHWAY 3***Private Sector Engagement***

Our partners interacted with over 200 employers working in fields such as bidi-making (an indigenous smoking product), brick kilns, motor garages, hotels and agriculture, to create awareness of child labour. Furthermore, the organisations convened meetings with 200 private sector employers and educated them on the legal implications of employing children. A study began in the Khaira Block to research various aspects of bidi-making and the involvement of children in the production process. We also achieved the participation of more companies in the TruStone Dialogue process. Three new companies have been contacted at the European level and around five local suppliers regularly participate in the dialogue process. The connection between international buyers and the work on the ground between the NGOs and lowest tiers helps to improve the situation of labourers. The next step will be to establish a matrix with the responsibilities of each player in the sandstone value chain. Conversations between partners and the American Bar Association resulted in research into the American sandstone supply chain. A series of dialogue sessions was organised in collaboration with the India International Centre, and an institutional partnership was established with the Centre for Responsible Business and the UN Global Compact Network India. Our partners also organised a session during the India Sustainability Summit.

2.1.4 DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN

Several of our activities and outputs have been implemented in a different way to what was planned. In India there are several activities which have been implemented differently. In addition, a few outputs could not be fully achieved, mainly due to the impact of COVID-19. On the other hand, additional activities have been organised to address the impact of the pandemic. The table below provides an overview of the deviations from the work plan.

STRATEGIC PATHWAYS	WORK PACKAGES IMPLEMENTED	ACHIEVED	NOT FULLY ACHIEVED	DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN EXPLAINED
Pathway 1	Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities		X	The capacity-building and strengthening of existing community-based institutions on child rights and relevant laws was restricted due to the lockdown restrictions and impact of COVID-19. 50 organisations out of the 106 identified Child Protection Committees and Forums (CRPF) were supported. Identifying potential members for inclusion in the CRPF is an ongoing and time-consuming process.
	Economic support	X		
	Improving access to quality education		X	<p>This additional activity was realised: school closures meant there was a need to establish remedial centres and other activities. WNCB therefore ran 89 remedial centres at the community level, sustaining 1,953 children's interest in education. Community members ran 68 of these centres. In other states innovative activities were established to keep children motivated for school, such as the use of worksheets and online classes.</p> <p>To strengthen community-based institutions in addressing issues of children's vulnerability and promoting their safeguarding, the importance of reopening schools and offline education was promoted. The initial plan was to sensitise teachers to children's rights. School closures made this impossible. 60 of the targeted 400 Anganwadi (centres for children aged from three to five) teachers were trained on child rights and the child labour free zone approach. The Anganwadi teachers had limited mobility, meaning that it was not possible to conduct the planned number of sessions.</p> <p>Vocational training sessions were organised to improve the life skills of adolescent boys and girls and young adults aged 17 to 24 (with a special emphasis on girls), focusing on gainful employment and computer skills. Just 18 youth were trained rather than the targeted 600 youth; again, not as many were able to participate due to the corona restrictions</p> <p>Teachers were trained in child-friendly methods to contribute to a child-friendly learning environment. Due to the increased incidence of violence and other harmful behaviour towards children during the school closures, the training's focus shifted towards a focus on gender sensitive and safe schools. Because schools were closed due to COVID-19 restrictions, 'learning loss' was evident amongst school going children. To address the situation, two activities were merged to ensure that children continued to learn during the school closures. 20 learning centres and remedial classes were organised, involving community-based education volunteers. They helped to organise community learning spaces benefitting more than 1,000 children. This meant that 20 education volunteers were trained rather than the targeted six volunteers.</p>
Pathway 2	Strengthening Child Protection Systems	X		The additional activity was organised: all partners focused on linking families (particularly disadvantaged households) to government schemes for COVID relief. This was done by increasing awareness and access to government facilities and services, amongst other things.
	National government engagement	X		To increase district and state level policy-makers awareness and understanding of children's rights and child labour, government procurement processes were addressed (in the Rural Development and Panchayati Raj Departments of the Government of Rajasthan). This target was achieved on a larger scale; we had more time to engage with government as COVID-19 limited the implementation of other activities. This meant that the issues were also advocated at the Department of Finance, GoR level, for the amendment of the Rajasthan Transparency and Public Procurement Act 2013, to ensure the eradication of child labour by ensuring that public procurement processes natural stone are child labour free. Our relentless pursuit of this issue at the highest level facilitated this result.

Pathway 3	Private sector engagement		X	<p>The capacity for responsible business conduct (RBC) of local and international businesses that import materials and goods in the region has been strengthened. The goal was to create a business case on RBC and to collect at least three evidence-based stories from the field. No material has yet been developed, but a collaboration with the RVO pilot on the responsible procurement of natural stone has been set up and resulted in the creation of a video on RBC. We hope to realise the business cases in 2022.</p> <p>It was planned to sensitise three businesses (yard owners, mine managers supervisors) on the TruStone Initiative. Visits could not be conducted due to COVID-19; instead, three online stakeholder dialogues with TruStone members and their suppliers and local WNCB partners took place in 2021.</p> <p>Additional activities were conducted: We worked with a consultant to conduct research and produce a plan of action on how to set up a pilot for a local grievance mechanism in Rajasthan.</p> <p>To increase private sector players' awareness of the consequences of child labour in their businesses and how to prevent child labour, 11 meetings were held with 200 private employers in Bihar. Due to COVID-19 travel restrictions, the targeted 500 private sector players could not be reached.</p> <p>To stop child labour in the private sector in Bihar, the aim was to secure the participation of at least 400 employers, and the development of IEC material. Due to COVID restrictions the partners were able to contact 61 shop owners and nine garage owners. Activities were conducted to identify and support children engaged in child labour in locations such as grocer's shops, sweet shops/ stalls, and construction sites. 15 Brick kiln supervisors and eight bidi contractors were engaged.</p> <p>To increase influence on and support to the private sector regarding ways to integrate child protection policies and mechanisms into their businesses, local companies will need to adopt the framework in practice such as CRBP to address issues related to child labour. This year, two yards and one factory were engaged; again, COVID restrictions were a limiting factor. The physical orientation of yard supervisors and factory staff could not be organised and it therefore took place online.</p>
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2.1.5 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Contextual influences

In India, the second COVID wave was so difficult that there was a severe crisis due to a lack of hospital beds, oxygen and other support. WNCB partner organisations experienced the illness and loss of colleagues, relatives and other loved ones, which had a very big impact on everyone. There were various consequences for the WNCB activities:

- Partners adapted and adjusted parts of their work plans to organise activities online;
- Some activities were delayed and some activities could not be implemented due to the travel restrictions and lockdown;
- Many partners also assisted in providing COVID relief to the people in their intervention areas.

In addition to the pandemic, there were state-specific issues - such as the prolonged Panchayat elections in Bihar - which impacted the partners' activities. For example, during the election period (September to December 2021), stakeholder participation was scant and it was difficult to organise events. Restriction of movement meant that mobilising the community for campaigns against child labour and undertaking activities for awareness programmes posed a huge challenge. Despite all these challenges, during the pandemic partners in the respective states and intervention areas tried to be as innovative as possible to implement the activities as per their work plans.

In Bihar, the Panchayat elections were successfully used to further advocate our asks. Our intervention ensured that some of the newly-elected representatives discussed the issue of child trafficking with the legislator during a Block meeting. Furthermore, the Gram Panchayat played a key role in facilitating children's hassle-free admission in school. In Rajasthan, the natural stone sector was disrupted during the lockdown. There were several cases of loss of livelihood which resulted in an increased migration rate. The partners experienced implementation challenges and decided to focus on facilitating entitlements and mobilising resources for the communities' basic needs. In addition, the focus on ensuring children's education and health/hygiene services was helpful in maintaining engagement with the partners' communities.

Timeliness, coherence & efficiency

Despite the challenging situation, many partners worked to make the most of the situation by reaching out to key stakeholders: children, family, community, child protection committees and duty holders, amongst others. The gist of the activities undertaken in the states of Bihar, Delhi and Rajasthan is given below.

In Bihar, partners have been engaged with the community support group members on an ongoing basis through personal contact, mobilisation and meetings. The lockdown caused disruption to the academic calendar, meaning that it was not possible to monitor school functioning and



Motivational education during lockdown (India)



children’s presence in schools on a regular basis. However, our programme team compensated for this by setting up remedial centres for the benefit of children. Regarding the skills training courses provided by our partners, the delays were managed by increasing the duration and number of classes to manage the learning gaps of young girls and boys. In Delhi, innovative teaching methods such as forming online social media groups according to children’s learning levels, teaching through online videos, and having children attend webinars on different relevant topics were implemented to engage more children from the community. In Rajasthan, our partners ensured the smooth implementation of campaign, advocacy and research components of the WNCB programme. Despite these adjustments to our programme design, there were still significant delays in some of the activities, which increased the implementation burden in the last quarter of the year. We ensured that every decision related

to a change in the scale and nature of activities was taken in consultation with the partner communities and other stakeholders. These consultations helped us to take informed decisions and ensured participation and target orientation.

2.1.6 EXPENDITURES IN 2021

As described, we continued activities during the lockdown by being creative and innovative. Some partners spend their budget on alternative activities or accelerated their implementation and spending during times the restrictions were lifted. This entailed that some partners changed their workplan while others tweaked existing activities. Most partners could not spend the whole amount that they reserved for the respective activities as activities were implemented differently, remotely, or were postponed. Also, important to consider is that all partners were in the process of renewal of their Foreign Contribution Regulation Act (FCRA) registration which had an impact on expenditures.

1. COUNTRY PROGRAMMES	TOTAL BUDGET 2021	TOTAL ACTUALS 2021	BUDGET VS ACTUAL
India	€ 1.494.040	€ 1.346.163	90%

2.1.7 OUTCOMES HARVESTED IN INDIA

OUTCOME STATEMENT	SIGNIFICANCE	CONTRIBUTION	SOURCE	ToC PATHWAYS
In 2021 parents, community leaders and local government officials enrolled 1,293 children in Delhi, 600 children in Rajasthan and 2,996 children in Bihar aged from 6 to 14 in formal school and made efforts to retain them in school	The children's parents understand the importance of education, the better quality of life that it may mean for their children, and the social security benefits (such as midday meals, etc) that their children may gain by going to school. Further, going to school may reduce the incidence of child labour	Partners conducted meetings with teachers, parents, communities and local government officials in the three states on the importance of education and the risk of child labour	Partner reports Enrolment records in school Meeting minutes/reports of the meetings, Attendance sheets in school	1.1
In 2021, children from peer groups, local government officials, teachers and community leaders stopped the child marriage and/or child trafficking of a total of ten adolescent girls in Bihar	The actors realised their responsibility with regard to upholding children's rights and intervened to protect the girls' right to freedom and education, saving them from the drudgery of marital responsibilities. Interstate trafficking of girl children is also a serious child protection issue and one of the obstacles to girl child retention in school	Partners conducted meetings with the children's groups, teachers, government officials and community leaders, during which they discussed the problems faced by girl children and the participants' role in addressing and resolving child marriage and child trafficking	Field records, meeting minutes, girls' statements	1.1
During 2021 parents, particularly mothers, and several community leaders took 56 adolescent girls and 73 children out of work in bidi-rolling, brick kilns and local shops and enrolled them in vocational courses (adolescents) and schools in Bihar	Mothers play a key role in influencing children's school going status. These mothers realised that they were wrong to view their children as sources of income and decided to send them to school instead of work so that they had the hope of a better future. The community members realised their responsibility to uphold children's rights and intervened to protect the children's basic rights to security, dignity, education and freedom from exploitation, freeing them from the clutches of child labour	Partners organised regular meetings with parents and community groups to discuss the importance of education for children, and motivated them to take children out of work and into school	Meeting minutes/reports Parents Community leaders	1.1
In 2021, in total 221 community members in Bihar started income-generating activities such as vegetable cultivation, goat farming, incense stick-making, pickle-making, beekeeping and mushroom cultivation). Of these community members, 50 farmers were from the Mushar community, a very disadvantaged group	The income generated from these activities will add to family wellbeing and thus reduce the incidence of child labour. The family members use the pesticide-free vegetables for nutrients and their children's good health. Community vegetable farming is not a social norm, so this will increase community empowerment. It also arrests migration for work	FSS and Nav Jagriti conducted training sessions on vegetable cultivation, animal husbandry and other livelihood activities, with the support of ICCSPL	Training Reports	1.2

<p>In November 2021, the Principal Secretary Department of Finance, Govt of Rajasthan, incorporated a child labour free clause in all the procurement processes made under RTPP (full form) Act 2013</p>	<p>Above all, the WNCB programme advocates for the eradication of child labour in commodity supply chains. As the state government is one of the major buyers of goods and services, its role is very important with regard to emphasising child-labour-free procurement practices. This outcome will also open opportunities at Gram Panchayat (GP) level.</p>	<p>Aravali was involved in evidence generation by implementing partners at the local level. Sharing different studies with authorities Sector-specific research Dialogue on state action Orientation of senior officials Generating support from child rights department, GoR</p>	<p>Official document incorporating this clause Meeting minutes Evidence - reports</p>	<p>2.1</p>
<p>In December 2021, 55 women contested the Panchayat election for different posts in Bihar for the first time. In total 17 of them were elected as ward members</p>	<p>Contesting and being elected in the PRI elections will give women an assured say in village decision-making. Having been trained by WNCB, they are more likely to take steps towards the prevention of child labour in the village</p>	<p>FSS conducted meetings with women from the intervention areas about children's rights and laws of the Gram Panchayat. different posts in the Panchayati Raj Institution Act, roles and responsibilities of elected members of Gram Panchayats</p>	<p>Meeting reports, election results</p>	<p>2.1</p>
<p>In 2021, 15 local newspaper journalists in Bihar engaged on reporting on child labour issues for the first time and reported on 24 children working. Furthermore, two articles on child labour in railway stations and brick kilns were published on national online portals</p>	<p>By reporting on child labour issues in the local media, such cases can be prevented and more awareness can be generated. The articles increase pressure on stakeholders (including the government) to take action (such as implementing the policies on child labour, social security and youth economic empowerment) to prevent child labour</p>	<p>FSS organised two workshop with the journalists in Bihar and ICCSPL created a dedicated network of journalists. The objective was to explain the WNCB programme and journalists' responsibility to highlight child labour issues</p>	<p>Journalists</p>	<p>2.1</p>
<p>In September 2021, seven mine owners and local businesses in Budhpura in Bundi District (Rajasthan), facilitated health camps for the first time and paid wages for the time spent in health check-ups, for 1,055 children and adults (of mining community) on their premises</p>	<p>The target communities have poor access to general health care services, which became a serious issue during the COVID-19 pandemic. The mainstream health services were focused on implementing COVID 19 control measures, leaving other health issues unaddressed. The business owners acknowledged the challenge and agreed to the health camps. These camps were instrumental in ensuring the availability of health care services to the families, on their doorsteps, during the pandemic</p>	<p>Manjari planned health camps with the local businesses (natural stone supply chain), in consultation with the Sustainability Forum on Natural Stone (SFNS), during August and September 2021. Health camps were organised in line with COVID-19 regulations with the help of labour groups, self-help groups and local businesses in different cobble yards situated in the Budhpura and Dhaneshwar areas of Bundi district in Rajasthan. Manjari Sansthan hired a team of medical professionals for the purpose. 1,055 children and adults were provided with medical services (checkup, diagnosis, referral, and medicine support) through these camps</p>	<p>Camp reports Photos Mine owners</p>	<p>3.1</p>
<p>Between July and December 2021, 55 hotel owners signed a declaration and took an oath (put up a board in their hotel) to not employ child labourers in their hotels in the Bettiah, Chanpatia and Yogapatti blocks of West Champaran District in Bihar</p>	<p>This shows increased awareness on the part of the private sector (hotel owners) regarding child labour issues, as well as them taking a definite step towards preventing child labour. Hotel patrons will also have seen/read the board and will have increased awareness of child labour issues</p>	<p>FSS organised four meetings-cum-oath programmes, a poster-pasting-cum-signature campaign, and individual contact with the 135 hotel owners regarding the legal aspects of child labour and the role and responsibility of the private sector regarding stopping child labour in the Bettiah Chanpatia and Yogapatti Blocks of West Champaran district</p>	<p>Hotel owners Photos</p>	<p>3.3</p>

Awareness raising materials (India)



WORK: NO CHILD'S BUSINESS

2.2 IVORY COAST

In Ivory Coast our Alliance partners UNICEF, Save the Children and EI/SYNADEEPCI have formed a strong partnership where comparative advantages are explored. The partnership is further strengthened by the Agence nationale d'appui au développement rural (ANADER). In 2021, interventions continued to be implemented both at the central level (Abidjan) and in the departments of Buyo, Guéyo, and Soubré in the Nawa region (Bas-Sassandra District), with an intensification of activities around child labour in cocoa production. The catchment area of these programme locations encompasses 291,913 community members. We target 5,213 children with child protection services and child rights messages, and by increasing access to education.

2.2.1 PATHWAY 1

Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities

We are supporting a 'community animation programme' by the Ministry of Women, Family and Children, which is being carried out by social workers in the 50 villages of the Nawa region to promote children's rights and to support the setting of positive norms that help to prevent child labour. In relation to this programme, Save the Children set up 20 early warning committees in Guéyo, Buyo and Grand-Zatry, with the main responsibility of sensitising communities to the legal provisions and measures to combat child labour. The child protection committees supported by UNICEF and the Ministry of Women, Family and Children

will become functional following the community animation, which lasts about six months. These grassroots community structures will work in close collaboration with the child protection platforms, which will bring together all actors from the social services, justice, health, and NGOs. Four of these committees have received financial, material, and technical support from UNICEF to improve their functioning and services.

Strengthening child protection systems

Alliance partners are supporting the collaboration between community-based child protection structures and state-supported child protection services through technical support and regular co-ordination. For example, in terms of technical support, social workers have been trained in case management using Save the Children's 'Steps to Protect' method. In 2021 this exemplary approach reached 300 children with direct psychosocial and medical care, family mediation and temporary accommodation. In addition, 2,000 children were provided with identity documents and birth certificates to facilitate their enrolment or retention in school.

Economic support

Our implementing partner ANADER has provided continued ongoing economic support to 750 of the most vulnerable families through cash transfers, income-generating activities and Village Savings and Loan Associations (VSLAs). Save the Children has set up 55 VSCAs in 38 villages in the Nawa region. VSLA meetings are also an opportunity to discuss the risks of child labour and hazardous work. To increase the



School in Soubre (UNICEF Ivory Coast)

chance that these VSLAs will continue to exist after our programme ends, we are preparing to link the VSLAs to basic financial institutions.

Improving access to quality education and decent future employment

Together with our national implementing partners, we welcomed 1,280 children in 69 bridge classes, while 300 children from the 2020 cohort were helped to enter formal schools in 2021. These activities are supported and strengthened through the sensitisation and training of teachers. Trained teachers have been mandated to set up children’s anti-child-labour clubs within schools. The children in these clubs are responsible for educating their peers and parents about the importance of school. Communities were supported to mobilise additional resources that allowed the construction of classrooms. A dialogue is maintained with the actors in the education system to facilitate the transformation of bridge classes into community schools, and their integration into regular (formal) schools.

As part of our strategy towards decent (future) employment through improved vocational training, apprenticeship positions have been identified in the Nawa, and 200 children aged 14 to 17 who are candidates for apprenticeship have been identified. This initiative will be carried out under the leadership of the Direction de l’Apprentissage et de l’Insertion Professionnelle (DAIP) of the Ministry of Technical Education, Vocational Training and Apprenticeship, with whom the partnership modalities are being finalised by UNICEF.

2.2.2 PATHWAY 2

Engaging with local and national governments UNICEF contributed to the establishment of Alliance 8.7 with the International Labour Office (ILO) under the leadership of the Ministry of Employment and Social Protection. This was an important step in the pursuit of political commitment to the elimination of child labour in relation to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Similarly, the Alliance supported the government with appropriate media messages for the celebration of the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour. This created visibility and commitment at the highest level of the State as well as among young people and children in the community. The Netherlands Ambassador made a field visit to the programme in the Nawa region, and regional and local actors felt encouraged and recognised thanks

to the opportunity to showcase their ‘frontline’ work to combat child labour. Advocacy messages were identified during the visit, and the Embassy proposed to pursue these in collaboration with UNICEF and other programme partners.

2.2.3 PATHWAY 3

TOC STRATEGIC PATHWAYS	WORK PACKAGES	ACHIEVED	NOT FULLY ACHIEVED
Pathway 1	Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities	X	
	Economic support	X	
	Improving access to quality education	X	
	Strengthening Child Protection Systems	X	
Pathway 2	National government engagement	X	
Pathway 3	Private sector engagement	X	

Under Pathway 3, most efforts were related to capacity-building for cocoa farmers. Thanks to the introduction of new farming techniques, cocoa farmers learned to increase their productivity without the need for abundant labour - including child labour - which increased children’s chances of accessing education and health care. Furthermore, input was provided to the Dutch Initiative on Sustainable Cocoa (DISCO) roadmap on child labour, focusing on the need to strengthen relevant national systems, and to align the efforts of the cocoa industry with government policies and programmes. To increase our impact, we engage and strengthen cocoa farmers’ co-operatives by making them aware of child rights and linking them with the child protection committees. Nineteen cocoa co-operatives and their members have received training on the Child Rights and Business Principles. Members of the cocoa co-operatives work with the alert committees and child protection committees to identify cases of child labour and refer them to the Centres Sociaux. Furthermore, the cocoa co-operatives provide financial support to the Centres Sociaux.

Cocoa in Soubre (UNICEF Ivory Coast)



2.2.4 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Contextual influences

2021 marked the beginning of a new programme cycle at the UNICEF country office in Ivory Coast. The signing of a new co-operation agreement between the Government of Ivory Coast and UNICEF was a prerequisite for starting new activities with UNICEF's government partners. As this agreement was signed in April 2021, the implementation of activities in the first quarter was delayed. This delay continued with the installation of a new government whose technical teams took some time to take over WNCB activities.

An additional dilemma the programme is facing is that the authorities in Ivory Coast combine awareness-raising initiatives to combat child labour with enforcement operations against those who use children for work. The last crackdown in the Nawa region in 2021 has generated quite a lot of community hostility towards all actors in the fight against child labour, whom they perceive as auxiliaries of the police behind the crackdown. This attitude on the part of the communities in Nawa has disrupted the implementation of activities in some communities as well as in the workshops of

artisans who organise apprenticeships for teenagers aged 14 to 17. As a result, UNICEF has had regular discussions with national and regional authorities on the importance of prevention as a good practice that is in the best interests of the child in all actions to combat child labour in Ivory Coast.

Timeliness, coherence & efficiency

The COVID-19 outbreak had very little impact on the implementation of the programme in 2021. Planned activities were implemented in 2021. The delays caused by the installation of a new government and the signing of a new co-operation agreement between the Government of Ivory Coast and UNICEF were made up for thanks to the various stakeholders developing a matrix of priority actions, and its rigorous implementation.

In terms of strategies for implementing activities, WNCB Alliance members worked to strengthen regional co-ordination among frontline actors in the Nawa while providing capacity-building opportunities to strategic actors such as labour inspectors, social workers, police, and trade unions. The Alliance also relied on children's participation through children's groups within communities and through U-Report, a social platform developed by UNICEF in partnership with the Government of Ivory Coast. U-Report is available via SMS and on Facebook, and allows children and young people to express themselves on issues that are important to them, via short surveys. The survey conducted in June 2021 on the theme of child labour registered the participation of approximately 30,000 children and young people.

2.2.5 EXPENDITURES IN 2021

During the review of the cooperation with the Government of Ivory Coast, several proposals were made to improve UNICEF Programming. This led to changes in some budget lines in the WNCB programme that are within the limitations of budget shifts. The modifications did not affect our overall plan and the outputs we planned to achieve. The budget for Ivory Coast has been overspent by 3%. This is due to catch up of delayed activities from 2019-2020. In 2022 we expect to spend the budget for this budget line fully as well.

1. COUNTRY PROGRAMMES	TOTAL BUDGET 2021	TOTAL ACTUALS 2021	BUDGET VS ACTUAL
Ivory Coast	€ 1.267.781	€ 1.311.412	103%

2.2.6 OUTCOMES HARVESTED IN IVORY COAST

RESULT ACHIEVED	IMPORTANCE OF THE RESULT	CONTRIBUTION OF THE ACTIONS/	MEANS OF VERIFICATION/SOURCE OF EVIDENCE	TOC PATHWAYS
In the second semester of 2021, the members of local child protection platforms involved in individual case management systems were better co-ordinated and promoted systemic care through referral pathway and data protection guidelines to support 461 (277 girls and 184 boys) children and at risk of child labour in Buyo, Guéyo and Grand-Zattry (Soubré)	The actors on the child protection platforms in the programme's areas of intervention now assume full responsibility for the follow-up of cases, increasing children's chances of access to holistic care	Save the Children provided material support (printer, training materials such as markers, flipchart, copybook, files, paper) to three social workers monitoring the work of four child protection platforms in the Buyo, Guéyo and Grand-Zattry (Soubré) areas	Meeting of the meetings Supporting file Referencing sheet	1
In March 2021, 1,538 children at risk of child labour accessed non-formal transitional education in the Buyo and Guéyo departments through 69 bridge classes that had been set up in 2020	This is important because of the 1,538 children reached, 228 are currently in formal schools in the intervention areas and 1,068 children are receiving basic skills in order to enter formal schools	Identification of intervention areas according to the number of children at risk Selection and training of facilitators in pedagogy and ASER test Provision of school kits for learners and teaching kits for facilitators Construction or refurbishment of classrooms, classroom equipment and distribution of school kits Supervision of courses	Register of learners' classes Call book for classes of learners who have entered formal schools Photos List of facilitators Collection sheet Activity report	1
In March 2021, the regional director of the Nawa region education system prioritised the transition of two bridging classes into formal community schools by allowing them to be included on the list of formal schools in the region	The importance of this result lies in the fact that from now on these localities will have a formal school and will therefore benefit from government support, particularly in terms of human resources (teachers) and materials (pedagogical documents and school kits) thus guaranteeing the sustainability of the programme's achievements. Not only have we identified out-of-school children, but we are now giving them the opportunity to have a school nearby so that children are no longer engaged in risky work	Save the Children identified the locality, identified the children, opened the bridging classes, made the school and pedagogical kits available and involved the literacy counsellors in the supervision of these schools, as well as setting up the 1st class gateways literacy counsellors. These advisors assisted the communities with drafting their integration request letters. The local administrative authorities (the prefect and the sub-prefect) gave their agreement and the DRENA officially defended the inclusion of these schools on the school map	Integration request courier Reception feedback from the sub-prefecture and the prefecture Integration Note	2

<p>In August 2021, we observed that 500 cocoa farmers in the Soubré and Buyo departments had improved their productivity through the application of good and improved agricultural processes</p>	<p>This is important because the new farming techniques taught to the farmers have enabled them to understand that improved productivity is possible without the need for abundant labour, including children. Improved productivity means that producers also experience an increase in income, thus increasing the children's chances of access to school, education and health care</p>	<p>ANADER provided technical support for the capacity-building of 500 farmers through 20 agricultural experimentation plots on new cultivation techniques and incomes management</p>	<p>Attendance list Collection sheets Photos</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>In November 2021, village chiefs and community leaders of 50 villages in the Buyo and Soubré departments initiated the creation of 50 child protection committees to combat child labour</p>	<p>The establishment of committees to combat child labour has always been undertaken by NGOs and state bodies. Now, village chiefs and community leaders themselves are leading these initiatives, showing an effective awareness of their role in promoting children's rights in the fight against child labour. This awareness ensures a community climate that is conducive to respecting children's rights</p>	<p>Strengthening the knowledge of village chiefs and opinion leaders through awareness-raising sessions, including six training sessions on child rights, with a focus on child labour and children's right to education. This process was supported by UNICEF via social workers and local NGOs</p>	<p>Attendance list PV</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>In November 2021, social workers in Buyo, Guéyo and Grand-Zatry set up 25 alert committees in 25 communities in the Nawa region, ensuring the detection and reporting of cases of violence and child labour in the programme intervention area</p>	<p>This is important because the existence of a prevention and reporting system in the community gives child victims of violence, exploitation and trafficking the opportunity to have a dedicated contact person nearby who can raise awareness and ensure that cases can be reported and victims access appropriate care</p>	<p>Community mobilisation and consultation, identification and formation of groups, and technical capacity-building of alert committee members. Social workers led the mobilisation of communities and trained the committee members on their roles and responsibilities and on child right and child labour</p>	<p>Activity report Training report Attendance list</p>	<p>1</p>

2.3 JORDAN

Our programme in Jordan is implemented by UNICEF and Save the Children. Save the Children implements our programme in the Za'atari refugee camp and also works closely with the CBO: Jordanian Hashemite Fund for Human Development (JOHUD) in the Zarqa governorate. UNICEF is supporting its partner ROWAD (Al-Khair), a CBO active in East Aman. In 2021 we reached out to 3,715 community members directly, 1,918 of whom are children. In addition, 60 government officers and 19 child protection committee (CPC) members were engaged in our programme.

2.3.1 PATHWAY 1

In the contexts in Jordan, child labour is present throughout the targeted governorates and is not concentrated in one specific area or community. Comprehensive case management interventions enable the identification of working children and their families needs and ensure their referral to suitable services, including education, psychosocial support, livelihood and cash assistance services, employability schemes, etc. The approach is multi-sectoral in nature and aims to tackle the root causes of child protection concerns - child labour in this case, including by strengthening the resilience of and opportunities for children and their families. Case management interventions also integrate preventive aspects, including by engaging parents and children and raising their awareness of the impact of child labour and the value of keeping children in school.

Strengthening Child Protection Systems

We enabled the provision of comprehensive and specialised case management services to 725 working children (34% girls). UNICEF and the Ministry of Social Development (MOSD)'s capacity-building interventions resulted in the local CBO, ROWAD, providing case management services to 410 children (28% girls) in Zarqa, Russeifa, and Sahab, while SC JORDAN and its partner, JOHUD, reached 315 children (43% girls) and completed 792 referrals (education, livelihood, MHPSS, etc.).

Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities

We continued providing the activities in the two established talent hubs² in Za'atar camp and within the JOHUD CBO space in East Amman.

Economic Support

In addition, we provided cash assistance to 150 households to meet their basic needs resulting from COVID-19. SC JORDAN continued to support the two established Child Protection Committees (CPCs) and trained their members (19 members in total), who have started implementing awareness-raising activities.

2.3.2 PATHWAY 2

Engaging National Governments

We engaged actively with key governmental entities, including through technical support and guidance, to develop and/or update key legislation and policies and bolster co-ordination mechanisms. This particularly included support to:

- The National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) in finalising the National Framework to Combat Child Labour and related standard operational procedures (SOPs). The framework enshrines the government's commitment to protect children affected by child labour and outlines the key principles, the roles of different agencies, and services to be provided. The SOPs complement the framework, particularly by specifying the steps in the case management process and referral pathways for children affected by child labour.
- NCFA, the Ministry of Social Development (MOSD) and the Ministry of Labour (MOL) in building the capacity of concerned government officials on framework and SOPs.
- MOSD, to develop a bye-law on child labour, which aligns with juvenile justice legislation and recognises working children as children in need of protection and care.
- NCFA in reactivating and leading the National Child Labour Task Force as a key multi-partner (UN, governmental and non-governmental entities) co-ordination mechanism to lead joint efforts, ensure alignment and avoid any overlap between different child labour interventions.

2.3.3 PATHWAY 3

Private Sector Engagement

We bolstered efforts to prevent child labour, including through the establishment of three child protection committees (CPCs). Our successful engagement with the Ministry of Labour (MoL) led to an increase of its presence in targeted communities. UNICEF and partners signed a Memorandum of Understanding (MoU) with MoL, which enabled

WNCB partners to gain access to MoL's child labour monitoring system and conduct joint activities, including:

- Inspection visits to employers and companies (involved in waste metal recycling, vegetable markets, production and landfills) who had received warnings following reported cases or were suspected of incidences of child labour; SC JORDAN supported the inspectors to reach child labourers in the field, raise awareness among employers, and refer the cases to our programme. SC JORDAN brought the MoL to raise awareness of child labour and labour laws in Za'atari camp and to observe the child labour situation through regular field visits to the camp;
- Awareness-raising activities on child rights and child labour (including with the support of CPCs), targeting business owners/employers, workers' unions/representatives and community members to mobilise actors and efforts against child labour.

SC JORDAN, JOHUD, MoL and the Child Protection Committees conducted awareness-raising sessions for 154 employers, community leaders, caregivers and workers. These sessions aimed to provide the community with the mechanisms, tools and knowledge to prevent and mitigate child labour and provide safe referrals for any cases that need support. As a result, CPC members (community leaders) were able to deliver the awareness-raising sessions to community members (caregivers and workers), while employers were made more aware of the child labour law.

2.3.4 DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN

Several activities and outputs were implemented differently to what was planned. In Jordan there are a few activities where there has been an 'overachievement' in comparison to what was planned. One output has not been fully achieved. The table below provides an overview of the deviations from the work plan.

STRATEGIC PATHWAYS	WORK PACKAGES IMPLEMENTED	ACHIEVED	NOT FULLY ACHIEVED	DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN EXPLAINED
pathway 1	Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities	X		194 HHs received the parenting education session (44 more than planned). These activities were in high demand by mothers, who were eager to learn how to provide the right support to their children at different stages of the children's lives. As the mothers proactively asked the field staff for these sessions, more caregivers were targeted and included in the sessions.
	Economic support	X		Due to the COVID-19 restrictions, all vocational training centres were closed. Livelihood activities such as vocational trainings and startup kits were replaced by cash assistance.
	Improving access to quality education	X		
	Strengthening Child Protection Systems	X		Schools remained closed for longer than expected due to COVID. This increased the demand for services, meaning that 410 children were supported by case management services instead of the initial target of 150 children. The collaboration with the Ministry of Labour supported the targeting and outreach of children. In addition, the use of case management as an entry point to address cases of child labour further strengthened the ability to receive referrals from and refer cases to other service providers.
Pathway 2	National government engagement		X	In 2021, UNICEF supported MOSD to develop/ amend a bye-law relating to child labour to align with international standards and the National Child Labour Framework. The finalisation of this activity, expected by December 2021, has been postponed to 2022 due to delays imposed by the pandemic.
Pathway 3	Private sector engagement	X		

Education centre Za'atari refugee camp (Save the Children Jordan)



2.3.5 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Contextual influences

Despite COVID-19-related restrictions, in 2021 we were able to implement planned activities, including case management services, capacity-building, and awareness-raising activities. When restrictions were in place, the partners adopted remote and (limited) in-person implementation modalities for the activities in the targeted locations during the first half of the year. During the second half, they caught up on any implementation delays. Examples include:

- SC Jordan circumvented access restrictions to Za'atari camp during the first six months of the year by providing remote case management and psychosocial support services. Nationwide limitations on in-person activities were enforced until mid-August. Similarly, limitations on the number of passengers permitted in vehicles impacted transportation

- for children involved in WNCB activities, and increased costs for such services;
- The closure of schools and vocational training centres until September delayed referrals to education services, while WNCB partners observed increasing numbers of working children. As a response and based on a vulnerability assessment⁵, SC Jordan adapted planned livelihood activities by replacing vocational trainings and startup kits with cash assistance for parents.
- In June 2021, we completed a baseline study that involved children and parents in targeted areas⁶. The study provided key insights into the status of child labour and its root causes. It showed the interconnected factors and risks leading to child labour in Jordan, as well as the high prevalence of child labour in the areas in which we work. This proved to be particularly important for increasing the planned number of targeted children with case management and other interventions in 2022, in collaboration with government stakeholders.

Timeliness, coherence & efficiency

The support we provided to government entities resulted in considerable progress in terms of co-ordination and strategic engagement with stakeholders. This is also reflected in the outcomes reported below. Similarly, our support to community-based mechanisms - particularly the CPCs, as well as Talent Hubs within CBOs - improved ownership at the local/community level. For example, on the part of parents and community members, SC Jordan noted increased acceptance and willingness to engage in the programme activities following the awareness-raising activities conducted by CPCs. Moreover, the awareness-raising activities jointly implemented by MOL, WNCB partners, and CPCs showcased efforts to ensure the coherence and efficiency of WNCB interventions.

2.3.6 EXPENDITURES IN 2021

The budget for Jordan has been utilized for 82% in 2021. The main reason for the under expenditures is due to inability to catch up all the unspent balances from the previous period. The activities for Jordan are in schedule and it is expected that all balances will be used in 2022.

1. COUNTRY PROGRAMMES	TOTAL BUDGET 2021	TOTAL ACTUALS 2021	BUDGET VS ACTUAL
Jordan	€ 928.086	€ 763.371	82%

2.3.7 OUTCOMES HARVESTED IN JORDAN

ACHIEVED OUTCOME	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OUTCOME	OUR CONTRIBUTIONS	SOURCE	ToC PATHWAYS
Throughout the year, in Sahab and Russeifa, the family members of 60 working children were referred to employability schemes to strengthen their income opportunities and resilience, to contribute a more protective environment for children	Case management went beyond responding to children's protection needs and successfully referred 60 children's family members to employability schemes. Enrolment in and completion of employability schemes will strengthen children's families' livelihood opportunities and resilience, thus tackling several root causes of child labour	Through case management intervention, UNICEF partner ROWAD referred family members of 60 working children to employability schemes, in co-ordination with UNICEF's Youth Section	Child Protection Information Management System (CPIMS) and data from UNICEF's Youth section	1
In early 2021, the Jordanian government endorsed the national framework and Standard Operation Procedures (SOPs) on child labour	The national framework reflects the government's commitment to protecting children affected by or at risk of child labour and outlines the key principles, the roles of different agencies and the services to be provided to ensure a co-ordinated approach to child labour. The SOPs complement the framework, particularly by specifying the steps in the case management process and referral pathways for children affected by child labour. These tools are practical complements to the co-ordination efforts of the National Task Force on child labour. In the absence of such a framework and SOPs, actions are unco-ordinated which can lead to (for example) duplications, gaps in capacity and/or ability for referrals, service provision and prevention/outreach activities, thereby hindering overall national efforts to combat child labour	WNCB partners provided technical support and guidance to NCF for the development/ drafting of the national framework and SOPs, and provided inputs and reviewed the documents up to their finalisation	Framework and SOPs adopted (copies of documents)	2
In 2021, a Memorandum of Understanding between the Ministry of Labour and UNICEF partner ROWAD al-Khair was signed, creating opportunities for joint monitoring and prevention activities and bolstering the identification and referral of working children in WNCB areas	The MoU has provided ROWAD with access to the MOL child labour database and enables joint monitoring visits to identify working children and children at risk in WNCB areas. It is essential to link up the identification of working children by MOL inspectors and their referral to and provision of case management services by ROWAD. Similarly, the MoU enables MOL and ROWAD to conduct joint prevention activities for business owners in WNCB areas, increasing access and outreach for both MOL and ROWAD and avoiding duplication of actions	UNICEF aided ROWAD al-Khair in with a comprehensive capacity development package so that they are able to provide case management services to children and families within their target communities.	MoU signed.	Outcome is cross-cutting: Pathway 1,2 & 39

<p>In August 2021, in East Amman and Za'atari camp, 315 children increasingly engaged in the WNCB programme activities, specifically case management and mental health and psychosocial support</p>	<p>Working children are more likely to be deprived of peer relationships that help them build their individual personalities and characters, and often lack knowledge of their rights, particularly the right to education. Case management and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (HEART & Life Skills) interventions helped them to feel more confident about their ability to enrol in school and made them more willing to engage with other students</p>	<p>Case management and Mental Health and Psychosocial Support (HEART & Life Skills) interventions were designed in an engaging way to help children build relationships, increasing their confidence and their knowledge of their rights. The activities within the sessions also contributed to developing the children's personalities and increasing their awareness regarding seeking help for protection concerns. Facilitators and case managers also gave children the opportunity to express their feelings and talk about their ambitions, which made them feel heard</p>	<p>Observation from the facilitators and the case managers. Analysis of pre/post-tests, which measure the knowledge improvement and behavioural change of targeted children</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>In 2021, the National Task Force on Child Labour was reactivated, bringing together all relevant line ministries, UN agencies and civil society organisations for improved co-ordination and collaboration in the fight against child labour</p>	<p>The national task force is the main co-ordination body at national level, co-ordinating efforts to combat child labour. It brings together all relevant actors, including key line ministries and government entities (NCFA, MOL, MOSD, MOE), and UN and international and national NGO partners. The Task Force is critical to identifying and addressing gaps, mapping actors and activities and ensuring overall co-ordination, including the co-ordinated implementation of protection and prevention activities. This directly contributes to WNCB objectives and also avoid duplication of efforts with/by other partners</p>	<p>UNICEF provided direct, ongoing technical support and guidance to NCFA - as co-chair of the task force - to reactivate and operationalise the task force and take a leadership role at national level. In this endeavour, UNICEF also co-ordinated closely with Plan International - as the other co-chair of the task force - to support NCFA's leadership role and bring all relevant parties together. UNICEF and SC Jordan both attend the regular meetings of the task force and support NCFA as needed</p>	<p>Task Force operational; regular co-ordination meetings (monthly/bi-monthly)</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>In 2021, the Ministry of Social Development (MOSD) further bolstered its commitment for combatting child labour by developing a bi-law on child labour to ensure that working children are recognised as children in need of protection and care</p>	<p>The bi-law aims to align with juvenile justice legislation and ensure that working children are recognised as children in need of protection and care. The bi-law is critical as it contributes to the institutionalisation of a protective environment for working children and children at risk of labour, ensuring their protection both in law and practice - particularly in diverting them from justice processes, and enabling their access to protection/social and education services</p>	<p>Throughout the reporting period, UNICEF provided technical support and guidance to MOSD to draft and finalise the byelaw. UNICEF was a member of the bye-law development committee, attending all meetings and providing inputs and reviewing the draft bi-law, ensuring its alignment with national juvenile justice legislation</p>	<p>Bi-law developed by MOSD; adoption by Constitutional Court</p>	<p>2</p>

<p>In 2021, members of the Child Protection Committees/ Networks in WNCB locations increasingly addressed child labour issues by raising awareness among communities, caregivers and private sector actors</p>	<p>Targeted audience (community members, care givers, children, private sector) lack knowledge regarding the root causes and consequences of child labour. The interventions conducted by committees/ networks are directly contributing to an increased awareness among the respective target groups, which can amplify messages and awareness within their own networks</p>	<p>UNICEF and SC Jordan support and provide guidance to committee/network members in rolling out their activities, including by providing the necessary training and support</p>	<p>Documenting initiatives by CP committees/ networks</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>In 2021, Community Committees/ Networks included influential women community members to reach and engage mothers and women in the communities and therefore increase the programme credibility</p>	<p>Women committee members are essential to reaching women and children within the communities, especially by building trust and breaking/mitigating cultural barriers that limit women's and children's access to and/or engagement in awareness-raising activities and other actions aimed at combatting child labour</p>	<p>UNICEF and SC Jordan support and provide guidance to committee/network members in rolling out their activities, including by providing the necessary training and support. Both UNICEF and SC Jordan work to ensure a necessary gender balance within the committees/networks, and actively seek out/engage women community members to join such committees/networks</p>	<p>Observations from WNCB teams and CP committees/ networks members</p>	<p>3</p>

2.4 MALI

Despite the continuous and major challenges that Mali is facing, our Malian partners ENDA, the National Union of Education and Culture (SNEC), Save the Children and UNICEF have been able to implement many of the activities set out in the consolidated work plan. The programme is implemented in 20 communities (eight communities in the Segou region in the administrative units (Cercles) of Bla and San, and 12 communities in the Sikasso region in the administrative units of Sikasso, Bougouni and Yanfolila) where children mostly work in gold mines and agriculture. In 2021 the programme reached 4,390 community members (parents, adolescents, teachers, civil servants, religious leaders, and women's groups members) and 1,228 children were assisted through direct services.

2.4.1 PATHWAY 1

Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities

We further rolled out mass awareness-raising activities through which we address the risks of child labour, children's rights, and the importance of education. 432 children without an official status (and thus unable to access government services such as schools) have been assisted to obtain birth certificates or alternative judgements.

Strengthening Child Protection Systems

In our targeted communes we make home visits to vulnerable families/parents and communities and start a dialogue within the community with the aim of positively influencing norms about child labour. To ensure ownership and sustainability, we empowered community and school-based bodies such as child protection committees, anti-labour clubs and children's parliaments.

Improving Access to Quality Education

To improve access to education, teachers developed their capacities in trainings in child-friendly teaching methods which led to increased awareness of children's rights and gender equality. In some communes we improved school infrastructure (such as classrooms and latrines) in collaboration with education stakeholders. 233 children (110 girls and 123 boys aged 8 to 12) are attending classes in our gateway centres and are expected to be reintegrated into the formal education system in the 2022-2023 school year. A total of 943 children (416 boys and 527 girls) were able to access the formal education system. Many of these children have attended bridge schools and were given help to stop

working in hazardous work, particularly in gold-washing sites and cotton fields. In addition, 70 young people/adolescents that were assisted in accessing vocational trainings now work in decent jobs.

Economic Support

We implemented income-generating activities (IGA) with the aim of increasing the income generation of mothers of particularly vulnerable households to enable them to keep their children in school.

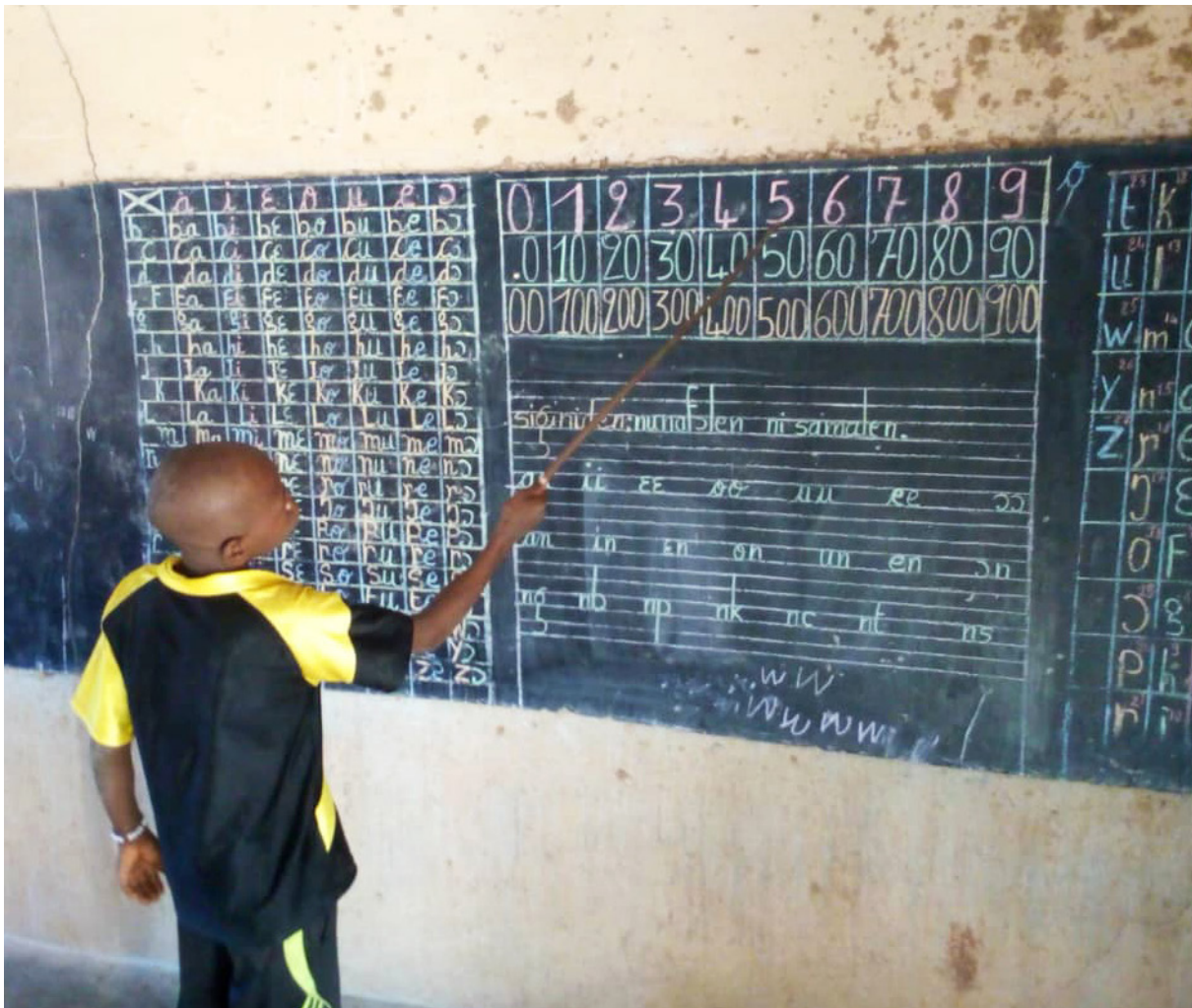
2.4.2 PATHWAY 2:

We are encouraging the Malian government to put into practice and follow the laws ratified in the framework for child protection. Protection actors (Government Technical Services and NGOs) are supported to put in place protection actions that better respond to the specific needs of children in mining areas through formative research on the impact of the mining sector on communities. This research should help them to better understand mine work and conditions on the gold-panning sites. The results of the report are being used to better inform programming for adolescent girls and boys. The conclusions and lessons learned will also be used to create evidence-based advocacy messages in workshops.

The child protection resource centre website from which child protection toolsets can be accessed will go live in 2022. The site is intended to bring together all documentation relating to child protection, and more specifically the tools for managing child protection cases. It will also give managers access to resources (in particular the harmonised tools for managing child protection cases in Mali, which were validated by the Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and the Family (MPFEF) on 28 April 2021) so they can better organise protection activities in the field. These tools cover the protection of children who are victims and/or at risk of violence, abuse, exploitation, and neglect (including in humanitarian situations) and consist of: (i) guidelines; (ii) Standard Operating Procedures with harmonised forms; (iii) data protection and Information sharing protocol; (iv) harmonised case management forms and (v) case management adaptation forms for COVID context (Vil decision-make).

We have set up an inter-ministerial consultation framework¹⁰ to reinforce the actions of the National Steering Committee (CDN) on child protection in general and the fight against child labour in particularly harsh conditions such as in the gold-

Education activities in San (Mali)



mining sites and in agriculture (cotton and grains). The Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and the Family has been given help to institutionalise a toolset for case management in child labour. Our common aim is to improve access to basic services for children at risk or living in serious situations of abuse, violence, exploitation, or neglect in the targeted mining communities. In parallel to the institutionalisation of this toolset, a national child protection resource centre for child protection officers and stakeholders has been established and will soon be functional.

2.4.3 PATHWAY 3:

In 2021 we made progress in our approach to collaborating with the private sector in Mali. National private sector actors have been encouraged to make a bigger contribution to eliminating child labour and to financing community development. Particularly at local level, private sector players have been actively engaged in the programme:

- At national level, 38 representatives of trade unions and platforms on decent work have been strengthened and sensitised to defend the rights of employees in enterprises;
- In Sikasso, a permanent dialogue framework on CSR/CRBP has been set up with employers. Twelve commitments have been signed by the communal authorities and local heads of informal enterprises to increase children's access to and retention in school. In addition, measures have been taken to fight against early marriage, the abduction of girls, and school drop-out;
- 39 members of the National Council of Malian Employers are in the process of creating a network of Malian employers for the application of CSR/CRBP in their companies.
- In Ségou, 32 business leaders have been strengthened in business finance and personnel management;
- In 2021 we started a partnership with 13 local businesses that aims to be beneficial for both the businesses and young people/adolescents. For example: young people who have been withdrawn from gold panning or agricultural work can choose to learn a trade from some of these companies;
- In 2021 co-operation agreements were established with the Chamber of Trades to support the professional integration of CRBP.

2.4.4 DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN

STRATEGIC PATHWAYS	WORK PACKAGES	ACHIEVED	NOT FULLY ACHIEVED	DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN
Pathway 1	Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities	X		
	Economic support	X		
	Improving access to quality education	X		603 children (349 girls and 256 boys) were assessed by advisors of the Pedagogical Activity Centres / Centres d'Animation Pédagogique (CAP) in the Accelerated Schooling Strategy (Stratégie de scolarisation accélérée - passerelle - SSA/P) centres. Originally 220 students were targeted. Before the opening of WNCB/ENDA 's SSA/P centres, the children identified were registered and evaluated in partnership with the SSA/P centres of the NGO 'Association Protestante pour la Santé au Mali' in order to avoid duplication in the same intervention villages.
	Strengthening Child Protection Systems		X	The establishment of a resource centre for child protection in Mali (Digital Library) was more time-consuming than expected. The construction of the website is underway and expected to be operational by Q1 2022. The capacity-building activities of child protection actors were postponed to 2022 due to the COVID-19 situation
Pathway 2	National government engagement		X	The organisation of advocacy workshops at national level involving all actors from the sectors (public, private) and the international community involved in issues related to children/youth and the private sector, particularly the gold mining sector, was postponed to 2022. This was delayed because data collection was completed in December 2021 and the final report is expected in April 2022.
Pathway 3	Private sector engagement	X		Technical support was provided to selected companies for the development of the CSR/CRBP action plans. In 2021, three structures became available at regional level to support the development of the action plans. The efforts will continue with the support of the regional chambers of mines and trades in 2022.

2.4.5 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

In 2021 our programme partners in Mali faced a protracted security crisis and socio-political tensions. Although these issues are causing several bottlenecks for the implementation of our programme, we managed to remain relevant in addressing child labour in a context where there are also increased risks for children due to the pandemic.

The security crisis has, for example, led to the closure of many schools throughout the country (1,600). Due to the efforts of our Alliance member, the National Union of Education and Culture (SNEC) advocated to keep schools open and managed to keep schools open in our intervention areas. However, the closures of schools elsewhere resulted in large numbers of children coming to work on the gold-mining sites in our target communities.

We collaborated with child protection committees, which we helped to identify children from outside our intervention areas, provide them with temporary shelter, and ensure a safe return to their place of origin and their own families.

As a result of socio-political tensions and the security crisis, we faced changes in local administrations and the provision of state services. For example, we observed that teachers we had previously trained were being transferred to other locations. Due to these socio-political changes, our efforts to strengthen child protection services at local level seem to be less effective for now.

COVID-19

Due to the security crisis but also due to the pandemic and the local health crisis, our campaign to influence the community's perception, norms and behaviour around child labour has been adjusted.

Vocational training (Mali)



Innovative strategies have been developed to remain focused on measures to prevent child labour. Community radio has served as a stopgap measure to create awareness about child labour. However, this does not have the same effect as face-to-face meetings between actors.

We also needed to provide cash transfers to vulnerable families through women’s groups and grassroots community organisations, both as emergency aid and to finance the startup of income-generating activities. We observed that this countered the abusive exploitation of children during outbreaks and security concerns, and provided parents with the financial means to enable their children to access formal education systems.

Timeliness, Coherence and Efficiency:

The strong in-country governance structure into which our programme partners have organised

themselves in Mali contributed to a timely, coherent, and efficient implementation of our programme, with national and local level stakeholders, and we are able to engage with communities through, for example, children’s clubs and community-based child protection committees. Our programme increases its coherence further by putting in place accountability mechanisms involving communities and giving them opportunities to make our programme more relevant.

2.4.6. EXPENDITURE IN 2021

The total expenditure for Mali is 89% of the approved budget for 2021. The remaining 11% under expenditure is because not all education activities could take place as planned. In Mali, this was caused by a long series of strikes, insecurity, especially in the San area, the COVID-19 pandemic, and the political tensions. The remaining balances have been carried over to 2022.

1. COUNTRY PROGRAMMES	TOTAL BUDGET 2021	TOTAL ACTUALS 2021	BUDGET VS ACTUAL
Mali	€ 1.025.316	€ 909.523	89%

2.4.7 OUTCOMES HARVESTED IN MALI

OUTCOME STATEMENT	SIGNIFICANCE	CONTRIBUTIONS	SOURCE	ToC PATHWAYS
In 2021, a total of 1,738 children in the regions of Sikasso and Ségou are no longer forced into child labour in order to contribute to their family's expenses	The result is a contribution to the global effort to eliminate child labour; as youth/ adolescents are free from work, they will now have greater control over their lives and better access to quality education, transitional education, and decent (future) employment in a supportive family and community environment	Enda and SC Mali have organised numerous awareness-raising sessions for the programme on the importance of children's education and the harmful consequences of child labour, coupled with home visits ¹²	Source: Alliance annual activity reports and IPTT	1
As of June 2021, 127 teachers in Mali apply good outreach techniques and strategies on child rights advocacy in their classrooms and villages, to get children out of work and into school and keep them there	To change the behaviour of target communities in favour of children's education over labour, teachers serve as agents for awareness-raising and dissemination of child protection laws to learners and communities, thus ensuring sustainability beyond the period of the WNCB programme	127 teachers (48 women and 79 men) are trained by SNEC on the rights of the child and the risks of child labour as well as on the global concept of child labour, the child labour free zone approach, social dialogue, the C138, C182, C189 and the CRC (Convention on the Rights of the Child) by SNEC	Source: SNEC training reports and annual activity reports	1.1
Women in the programme's intervention areas, associated in 18 groups of 30 members each, are involved in reducing dropout rates through Income Generating Activities (IGAs)	The development of self-consumption activities generated by the programme helps mothers to charge of their children's school supplies and fees when their parents are unable or unwilling to do so. (Particularly in the case of girls, who are perceived differently from boys in rural Malian society.) 759 of the 943 children who have returned to school have done so not only due to the programme's awareness-raising activities, but thanks to the women who now take care of school fees and supplies (pens, pencils, notebooks, bags, etc.) if one of these items runs out or wears out in the course of the school year and the father is unable to finance it to allow the child to continue to attend classes normally.	Enda and SC Mali have implemented IGAs by organising women and strengthening their financial capacities and simplified management for their economic empowerment. They are supported in this by local educational structures (school administration, solar management committees (CGS) and pedagogical animation centres (CAP) that facilitate the conditions needed for children to return to school and stay there	Source: Annual activity reports and financial reports	1.2
In August 2021, 12 formal commitments were signed by 12 local authorities for access to and retention of children in school in the programme areas	The prefects of the Cercles of Yanfolila and Bougouni (Sikasso), the mayors and the heads of the School Management Committees of the intervention communes are involved in the creation of Child Labour Free Zones and are committed to increasing the school enrolment rate	SC Mali organised an advocacy workshop on local issues (gold-panning) for local authorities to protect children	Source: Activity reports and signed acts of commitment	2

<p>On 28 April, the Ministry for the Advancement of Women, Children and Families validated the harmonised tools for the management of child protection cases in order to better organise protection actions on the ground</p>	<p>This will strengthen the case management system for access to basic services for children at risk of or living in severe situations of abuse, violence, exploitation or neglect in the targeted mining communities.</p>			
<p>The harmonised tools serve to make available all documentation relating to child protection</p>	<p>A Child Protection Resource Centre in Mali (Digital Library) is up and running thanks to UNICEF</p>	<p>Source: UNICEF report and Decision No. 2021/0022 of 28 April 2021 of the Minister for the Advancement of Women, Children and the Family</p>	<p>2</p>	

2.5 UGANDA

Our programme in Uganda is co-ordinated by SCL partner Hivos. It is being implemented in the region of Busia by SCL partner EWAD and in the region of Karamoja by Save the Children along with SCL partners UNATU and Nascent. Within these districts, the programme targets 15 villages directly through an area-based approach in which all children are targeted. However, the scope of activities in which we strengthen child protection systems and lobby & advocacy activities is wider than these villages; it affects complete districts and even regional and national child labour policies. A total of 22,579 people live within the wider catchment area of child protection services that are being influenced at district and parish level, and 5,557 have been reached through direct and indirect services.

2.5.1 PATHWAY 1

Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities

In the villages that fall within our area-based approach, we continued to support entire communities, families and children through community mobilisation activities and awareness-raising on the risks of child labour and the value of education. With support from sub-county stakeholders, we successfully enabled the allocation of three acres of land for constructing new child-friendly spaces in addition to the ones that are already operational. Children have been encouraged to stop working and have been supported to

return to formal schooling. Several strategies were employed to ensure that children were motivated to continue learning and that youth acquired skills to enter decent employment.

Child protection system strengthening

In a bid to strengthen the capacity of the community-based child protection structures (para-social workers, mentors), quarterly capacity-building sessions on case management, referral pathways and child participation were conducted for 30 (15 male, 15 female) para-social workers in partnership with two (1F,1M) Community Development Officers, two (2M) District Probation and Social Welfare officers, and two (1M,1F) Police Child and Family Protection Units, to improve on timely and effective responses to cases of child abuse. This was in line with the recommendation of the baseline and regular monitoring reports.

Improving Access to Quality Education and opportunities for decent work

With the MEAL data and information about the status and root causes of child labour, the programme has lobbied for government schools and qualified government-paid teachers in some of the villages where we work that did not have schools. The District Chairpersons pledged to provide qualified teachers and the Resident District Commissioners pledged to fully support the programme of setting up community schools in Moroto and Nakapiripirit. Within our target villages, stakeholder meetings have been organised



Back to school campaign Karamoja (Uganda)

to engage with community leaders, key influencers and the district leaders. In these meetings local leaders pledged to mobilise the communities to encourage and help children to go to school. Several stakeholders committed to our work by donating land and by providing construction materials to build community schools.

In the meantime, children in our targeted villages are being assisted with numerous activities that help them to return to school, or with vocational trainings, apprenticeships, and life skills trainings. We also trained teachers in child-friendly teaching methods, in order to contribute to a child-friendly and gender-sensitive environment at existing schools. Where possible, the programme team made changes to activities in response to the COVID-19 pandemic. Home-based learning was adopted by teachers from our target community. 38 home learning centres were established (27 in Karamoja and 11 in Busia) where children attained the requisite knowledge in line with the Ministry of Education's home-based learning curriculum. Learning centres kept children from child labour as they were able to spend at least nine hours at the learning centres per week (two to three hours per day).

In Busia, EWAD trained 30 teachers in child-friendly school environments and conducted stakeholders' meetings that targeted influencers to serve as advocates for changing norms in their respective communities.

Economic Support

We trained 50 (29 female, 21 male) parents whose children are, or were withdrawn from child labour in alternative livelihoods. VSLAs have been set up and strengthened through training and continuous support. This has resulted in substantial funds (a total of €9,000) for each of the 12 groups in Moroto and Nakapiripirit, which contributes to the sustainability of the VSLAs. It is envisaged that funds will be spent on children's tuition and scholastic needs.

2.5.2 PATHWAY 2

Engaging Local and National Governments

We have started a co-operation with the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs, who have appointed a focal point to work with us to speed up the processing of ordinances and approval of by-laws that address the root causes of child labour. In our collaboration with the Ministry of Education

Motivational centre Busia (Ewad Uganda)



& Sports, during a high-level meeting in October 2021 we shared guidelines on the prevention and management of teenage pregnancy and on child mothers returning to school. The Minister for Karamoja Affairs, Dr Mary Goretti Kitutu, was the chief guest and she committed to supporting us. The meeting has led to nationwide guidelines on registering child mothers and helping them to return to school. In our targeted villages, we observed that five child mothers were being facilitated to access formal education in 2021 and we expect that this number will increase significantly in 2022, when schools will reopen after a long period of closure. We worked with the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development to finalise and disseminate the National Child Policy. As part of this policy, and in collaboration with the programme, government stakeholders at subcounty and district level started to establish functional child welfare committees that strengthen the child protection mechanisms.

Together with both the National and District level authorities, we commemorated the World Day Against Child Labour. The WNCB co-ordinator was nominated to represent all CSOs and NGOs in Uganda at the high-level panel discussion on 12 June 2021. In this discussion, our selected main advocacy messages were discussed. The panel highlighted, for instance, the long distances that children in mining areas must walk to go to school. Through this message we successfully changed the discourse and there is now more recognition about the need for government schools in mining areas. A regional level commemoration was held in Moroto on 15 December 2021, with the top district leaders commending us for our contribution and commitment to ending child labour in their respective districts.

2.5.3 PATHWAY 3

Private sector engagement

The programme further integrated Child Rights and Business Principles (CRBP) practices into its

approach. We trained 40 staff from the mining companies and 80 small-scale artisanal miners in CRBP principles. We subsequently assisted them in drafting (or reviewing existing) codes of conduct.

2.5.4 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

The COVID pandemic had quite a big impact in Uganda. Uganda witnessed two large waves in 2020 -2021 and the government took drastic measurements to contain these outbreaks, including school closures that lasted for two years.

Economic downturn and food insecurity

Many parents and caregivers lost their jobs and businesses as a result of the lockdown measures. In our target villages we observed that numerous children reverted to child labour, including those who had been attending school prior to the pandemic. The risk of child labour has further increased as people that live in the Karamoja region are prone to food insecurity and malnutrition. This has greatly affected the children and women, with some of them being admitted to the Nutrition Unit at Moroto Regional Hospital. The programme team proposes incorporation of a sustainable component to address this issue. We have also reached out to the WFP in Uganda who are in the process of addressing the situation in Karamoja.

Gender Inequality

During the pandemic many girls were forcibly married off for a bride price or to relieve households of a mouth to feed. In 2021 this led to skyrocketing numbers of child mothers in Uganda¹³ and we observed many teenage pregnancies in our regions of implementation, Karamoja Region and Busia. We are currently conducting a programme-wide gender assessment that will provide us with better insights into this root cause of child labour.

Increased Insecurity

Insecurity in the region had a major effect on the timely implementation of programme activities as it instilled fear into staff, and reduced

their mobility and time spent in the field. During the period under review, the Karamoja region experienced pockets of insecurity exacerbated by cattle-rustling across the region - including the programme sites. This resulted in injury, death, loss of property, and increased danger for community members in the villages we are targeting. The WNCB programme teams adopted the strategy of seeking security updates from the security experts and community before reaching out to the community to implement activities.

Small-scale artisanal miners at the Lopetakwang mining sites in Nakiloro in Moroto District (who had adopted modern technology in gold processing to stop children from working in the mining sites) were robbed and several machines were stolen. This discouraged the small-scale artisanal miners from acquiring modern machines, until they eventually resumed business thanks to the resilience skills obtained from the training on Child Rights and Business Principles.

Timeliness, coherence & efficiency

Although the contextual developments had a big impact on our target communities, we were able to fast-track planned activities according to an adjusted work plan in 2021. Additional data from MEAL products such as SenseMaker and the baseline study provided us with continuous guidance for implementation. In addition, WNCB partners - in collaboration with District and Sub-County authorities - conducted joint monitoring and follow-up, and they updated action plans regularly to support the tracking of the activity implementation processes.

The summary of our implementation above shows that activities are being implemented in harmony with the existing standards and governance structures. We collaborated and co-ordinated continuously with key stakeholders at National, District, Local and Community levels and provided them with relevant support such as trainings and contributions to the development of policies and laws.

Vocational training Busia (Uganda)



Example: During one of these cattle raids, one of Save the Children's para-social workers lost all 52 of his cows, and his son was killed by the raiders. People in Nakabaat and Nanyidik in Moroto District and Moruakimat in Nakapiripirit were displaced and relocated to nearby villages.

2.5.5 DEVIATIONS FROM THE WORK PLAN

TOC STRATEGIC PATHWAY	WORK PACKAGES	ACHIEVED	NOT FULLY ACHIEVED	DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN
Pathway 1	Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities		X	The provision of meals at schools was not achieved as it was difficult to identify a local supplier. The implementation of a more sustainable action was proposed; the meals could be replaced by school gardening and farming activities to provide food to schools.
	Economic support		X	The procurement of seeds, pesticides and farm equipment was delayed. As a result, the purchases did not meet Karamoja's seasonal farming needs in 2021. The provision of seeds, pesticides and farm equipment was postponed until the next planting season in 2022.
	Improving access to quality education		X	All learning institutions were closed due to COVID-19. Eleven home study centres in Busia (655 children) and 27 centres in Karamoja (3041 children) have been set up instead of the planned output, to provide monitoring and support to four motivation centres. The school closures made it hard for the programme to engage children in SCREAM-related activities through school clubs. The targeted 25 school clubs which focus on music, dance, drama, debates and sports could therefore not be setup and supported. Community-based vocational training has proven to be better than institutional placement. The trainings address contextual needs and reduce intimidation of less-qualified youth because they have a hands-on practical focus. This meant that more youth were willing to participate. 74 out-of-school youths (aged 15 to 17) were included in these activities; originally 25 children were targeted for skills development.
	Strengthening Child Protection Systems	X		
Pathway 2	National government engagement	X		
Pathway 3	Private sector engagement	X		

2.5.6 EXPENDITURES IN 2021

The budget for Uganda has been used for 76%. The remaining balance will be carried over to 2022. The main reason for the under expenditure is related to contract commitments that have been signed in

2021. A part of the actual payment will be made in the subsequent year. Moreover, the school closure during the year has hampered the implementation of the activities related to education.

1. COUNTRY PROGRAMMES	TOTAL BUDGET 2021	TOTAL ACTUALS 2021	BUDGET VS ACTUAL
Uganda	€ 838.954	€ 638.633	76%

2.5.7 OUTCOMES HARVESTED IN UGANDA

ACHIEVED OUTCOME	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OUTCOME	CONTRIBUTION OF WNCB ACTIONS / OUTPUTS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION/ SOURCE OF PROOF	TOC PATHWAYS
<p>In November 2021, the small-scale artisanal miner's association (ASM) of Nakiloro village in Uganda procured a gold processing machine (ball mill) to minimise the use of children in gold processing</p>	<p>The use of the gold processing machine (ball mill) by the small-scale and artisanal miners will reduce the use of children in gold processing in the mining areas, hence reducing child labour. The use of equipment increases the miners' production, resulting in increased income. This is a partial fulfilment of their commitment to take full responsibility for preventing child labour at their mining site</p>	<p>In August 2021, Save the Children and WNCB partners organised a learning event for the ASM and District Probation Officers, District Community Development Officers, District Labour Officers and Sub County Community Development Officers in the form of a learning visit to ASM sites in Busia District. Following the visit, the miners were motivated to adopt the technology learnt from Busia in the EWAD WNCB programme catchment areas</p>	<p>Activity report for field monitoring filed at Save the Children's office in Moroto</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>On 22 May 2021, Sunbelt Mining company in Nanyidik Village developed and displayed the code of conduct to guide their daily operations towards the elimination of child labour</p>	<p>The Sunbelt Mining Company's development and daily implementation of a code of conduct shows one of the key steps taken towards fulfilment of the mining companies' role in the prevention and addressing of child labour in mining</p>	<p>In March 2021, Save the Children in collaboration with the District Labour Officer trained 40 (35 male, 5 female) of the staff of the Sunbelt Mining Company in Nanyidik on Children Rights' Business Principles, code of conduct and their role and responsibility as a company. The aim was to guide their operations towards the elimination of child labour</p>	<p>The activity report on the Child Rights Business Principles training held at the Sunbelt Mining Company was filed at Save the Children's office in Moroto</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>On 10 June 2021, the Permanent Secretary of the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development nominated two members of the WNCB Programme to the National Steering Committee on Child Labour, which consists of 27 members</p>	<p>Nomination of the two officials puts WNCB in a strategic position to influence policy and action in favour of WNCB advocacy actions in addressing child labour in mining and the informal sector. The National Steering Committee is an intersectoral and inter-ministerial committee that leads in providing strategic direction and policy guidance on child labour issues at national level</p>	<p>Between February 2021 and June 2021, WNCB representatives were involved in the national planning and advocacy meetings on the elimination of child labour, the review of the National Action plan, and the World Day Against Child Labour. Following these engagements, WNCB was recognised as part of the national steering committee</p>	<p>NBS news clip, report for the WDACL</p>	<p>1, 2 & 3</p>

<p>In August 2021, two head teachers in Amonikakinei and Busitema sub-counties mobilised 27 teachers to support 655 (295 male and 360 female) children in eleven home-based learning centres (seven in Buteba and four in Tira-Sikuda sub-county) in the community amidst the COVID-19 pandemic and school closures</p>	<p>Home-based learning is a model of learning in which small clusters of children study from a centralised place established at a community household within the village. Home-based learning shows the support and attitude of teachers as community influencers for education. This strategy ensured children's access to education and kept them motivated amidst school lockdowns from September to December 2021. Parents willingly offered their homes to serve as home-based learning centres, demonstrating the families' and communities' support for children's rights to education</p>	<p>On 9 and 10 August 2021, EWAD conducted refresher training for 30 schoolteachers (22 male, 8 female) on creating a friendly learning environment to prevent potential school dropout. The participants were primary and secondary teachers from schools in Sikuda, Buteba, and Tiira Town Council. During this meeting a commitment was made that was spearheaded by the Head Teachers of Amonikakinei, to start home-based learning. The training was attended by the Busia District Education Officer, who made a commitment to support the home-based learning initiative by offering administrative authorisation</p>	<p>Training report titled 'Refresher training for teachers' Attendance list for the children at the home-based learning centres</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>In December 2021, the District Education Officers (DEO) of Moroto and Nakapiripirit District in Uganda posted seven qualified teachers who are on the government payroll (6 male and 1 female) to Nanyidik 4, Nakiloro 2 and Acherer 1 Community Schools in Moroto and Nakapiripirit respectively</p>	<p>The posting of teachers to the community schools by the District Education Officers has enabled children to enrol and attend formal basic education</p>	<p>In December 2021, WNCB partners held a community dialogue on education. It targeted the District Education Office and the community in Nanyidik village in Moroto District and was attended by 88 participants (48 male and 40 females). It was during these engagements that the two DEOs committed to posting teachers to the community learning centres</p>	<p>Nascent Research and Development Organisation teacher's attendance book at Nanyidik motivation centre. Save the Children consultative activity report and attendance list</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>On 22 October 2021, 27 elders and opinion leaders (19 male and 8 female) of Nakiloro in Rupa sub-county in Moroto district and nine members of the area land committee (6 male and 3 female) of Hutut Village in Moruita sub-county in Nakapiripirit District in Uganda offered three and ten acres of land respectively for the establishment of child-friendly spaces and the community schools</p>	<p>The donation of land for the establishment of child-friendly spaces and community schools will improve access to education and reduce the number of children at the mining sites, hence contributing to an increase in retention of children to acquire quality education. By donating the land, the community is demonstrating support for education</p>	<p>In June, August and December 2021, WNCB partners and Rupa and Moruita sub-county leaders conducted three community dialogue meetings on the importance of education and the establishment of child-friendly spaces and community schools. In December 2021, the elders and opinion leaders handed over land for the establishment of the child-friendly space and community school to the sub-county and Save the Children, in the presence of the Chief and Development Officer of Rupa Sub-county, Moroto District</p>	<p>The minutes of engagement meeting with elders on land Agreement/ land handover in WNCB files in Save the Children's Area Office in Moroto District</p>	<p>1</p>

2.6 VIETNAM

Our programme in Vietnam is a partnership between UNICEF, Save the Children and the (Vietnamese) Centre for Child Rights and Business. In Vietnam we collaborate with a few ministries and other government agencies at local and national level. Several communes in Ho Chi Minh City and Dong Thap province are targeted through an integrated approach. In 2021 we reached 2,422 children and 2,200 government officers, parents, and teachers through trainings and services.

2.6.1 PATHWAY 1

Strengthening Child Protection Systems

We further supported local child protection systems in the programme districts: we established two local child protection systems in two new districts in Dong Thap. We also supported capacity-building for 240 local child protection officers and collaborators, who demonstrated improved knowledge in differentiating and identifying child labour and hazardous work.

This resulted in improvement of the quality of case management in responding to and supporting child labourers and children at risk. The Alliance also built capacity and strengthened the collaboration among members of child protection boards on case management for grassroots personnel. The collaboration resulted in the timely identification and selection of beneficiaries during COVID responses by local authorities.

We started dialogues with 400 vulnerable parents, caregivers, and children on the negative impact of child labour, and positively reinforced beneficial norms such as the long-term benefits of education through child protection and social services for vulnerable children and their families.

Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities

Echoing the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and Jeunesses Musicales International's 'Music Against Child Labour' competition, we marked the International Year for the Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour in Vietnam by joining hands with the ILO, MOLISA and the Vietnam Composers' Association to launch a local competition in April 2021. This competition contributed to widespread public awareness by giving specific attention to harmful existing norms on the part of the public and the media, concerning the prevalence, drivers, manifestations, short-term and long-term impacts of child labour on children.

In Ho Chi Minh City, we continued to raise awareness of children's rights to protection and the negative impact of child labour, both in and out of schools, through many child-led events to facilitate child participation and empowerment.

Improving Access to Quality Education

To promote child-friendly learning environments, we organised a training course on positive discipline for 30 core teachers. We also established and strengthened the quality of 15 school-based counselling units, increasing the frequency of students using the service.

Economic Support

We helped to empower over 100 women to improve their livelihoods and family income, which increased their confidence during decision-making processes within the family and contributed to preventing children from dropping out of school and entering child labour.



Engaging with businesses (Vietnam)

2.6.2 PATHWAY 2

Engaging Governments

The Alliance provided support to the national policy framework on child labour. Its advocacy and technical support yielded the Prime Ministerial approval of the National Programme on Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour 2021-2025. This policy provides a robust national policy framework with specific measures for prevention of and responses to child labour, including, for the first time, communication, and awareness-raising for the prevention and elimination of child labour, targeting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It also promotes an intersectoral approach to the prevention of and response to child labour by assigning roles and responsibilities to new stakeholders such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Information and Communication, the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the private sector, in addition to the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs (MOLISA) as the lead.

2.6.3 PATHWAY 3

FINDINGS FROM RESEARCH INTO BUSINESS PRACTICES

The are basically four findings in the context of the garment/footwear sectors in Vietnam: 1) Misconceptions about employment of workers aged 15 to 17: In general, the factories recruit workers aged over 18. Factory managers were reluctant to employ 15 to 17-year-olds because it potentially exposes factories to the risk of non-compliance in terms of juvenile workers, they often lack sufficient resources and knowledge to provide non-hazardous and sustainable work to these young workers; 3) Young workers are under the impression that their long-term development is not guaranteed in the garment and footwear sector; 4) Young people with limited education are more likely to end up in low-paid informal employment with poor working conditions, and are thus facing the risk of child labour.

The Alliance conducted an assessment with 265 SMEs and baseline research with top sustainable companies to better understand businesses' attitudes, practices, challenges and barriers in promoting different child rights issues, including protection for young workers. Findings and recommendations from this assessment have been used to inform the design of a training programme

on child labour prevention and remediation, decent work and protection for young workers and skill development. For example, businesses - especially SMEs - still lack awareness of and sensitivity towards their broader responsibility regarding children's rights. Many are not well-equipped with relevant procedures and practices to ensure child labour elimination or the employment and protection of young workers, which results in limited formal employment opportunities for marginalised adolescents. We are observing that suppliers, business partners and contractors find it difficult to apply child rights and business principles in their daily work. Most businesses face a lack of support from relevant stakeholders to promote CRBP and need further practical guidance on what they can do to minimise the negative and maximise the positive impact on children.

Together with the Vietnam Chamber for Commerce and Industry (VCCI), we organised several strategic and comprehensive interventions to increase commitment, respect, and support from the business sector:

- A consultation targeted 60 participants from businesses, consulting firms, NGOs and experts, and resulted in a roadmap for strengthening the capacity of businesses in CRBP;
- Three business dialogues were held to discuss and exchange international and national good practices and knowledge in creating decent jobs and enhancing employability skills for youth, with a particular focus on transferable digital skills and career orientation;
- More than 100 representatives of businesses and associations, youth, academia and government stakeholders joined and formed a network of businesses and related stakeholders on skill development. In addition, under collaboration with VCCI, the Alliance conducted a training on Child Labour Prevention and Remediation, Protection and Skills Development for young workers, which was attended by ten businesses.
- We continued our efforts to position CRBP in sustainable development action plans and businesses/ businesses associations' standards, regulations, and initiatives such as the Corporate Sustainable Index programme. A training manual was developed which will be used for training with selected government agencies in the coming years. Moreover, the Alliance successfully enrolled two new garment factories in the Programme. A total of five factories have now been recruited to roll out Youth Development and Child Labour

Prevention and Remediation, Working Parent Trainings, Youth Development and Child-Friendly Spaces for parents and workers, with subsequent significant improvement in age verification procedures during recruitment, procedures for handling cases of child labour and young workers, and remediation in these factories. These participating factories have developed a new policy on management of young workers (aged 15 to 17) for the prevention of child labour and remediation within their lower-tiered suppliers.

2.6.4 CHALLENGES AND OPPORTUNITIES

Contextual influences

Vietnam suffered from the spread of COVID-19, with Ho Chi Minh City and Dong Thap being among the most severely affected provinces. Strict measures were taken to contain the pandemic, such as school closures, social distancing and lockdowns. Children were forced to switch to online learning from the end of April, which affected disadvantaged children (due to lacking digital learning devices, internet connection and parental support).¹⁵

Factory closures, supply chain disruption and business closures caused the loss of jobs and income for millions of Vietnamese people. In Quarter 3 of 2021, 28 million workers suffered job losses and reduced working hours, and subsequently reduced income. HCMC witnessed an unprecedented wave of migrants leaving the city due to loss of income and economic and social hardship. Many families struggled to make ends meet, which increased the risk of children joining the workforce to contribute to family income. This further exacerbated children's pre-existing vulnerability to school dropout, child labour, abuse, and exploitation.

From Quarter 4 of 2021, Vietnam switched to a 'Living with COVID-19' policy. Immunisation in the country has increased rapidly, but the COVID-19 pandemic is still having a major impact and there are complicated developments, with newly-found Omicron variant cases in Vietnam.

Timeliness, coherence & efficiency

The Alliance stayed agile and maintained close and frequent communication and consultation with all Vietnamese partners, and with the PMU for adjustment of work and budget plans. Special attention was paid to the changed needs of the local community, especially vulnerable groups, and to the priorities of the local government during

the COVID-19 outbreak. As classes went online, children from many poor families had their schooling interrupted as these families did not have suitable devices and could not afford Wi-Fi, particularly amid losses of parental employment and income. The Alliance provided direct cash transfers to 1,220 disadvantaged children at risk of dropout and child labour. The Alliance provided tablets and school aid packages to 546 children to ensure these children continue their schooling during lockdown.

Where possible, training courses, workshops and meetings were switched to online mode to ensure the timely implementation of activities amid restrictions. However, online modality was perceived to reduce the effectiveness of training programmes with a focus on building skills (such as child protection risk assessments and case management practice). Furthermore, the online platforms limited interactions among peers. As a result, some training for teachers, child-led initiatives and community-based parents' initiatives, and the offline communication campaign have been rescheduled for 2022.

2.6.5 DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN

Vietnam was heavily affected by the pandemic in 2021. This led to several deviations from the original work plan and not all planned outputs were achieved in 2021. The table below provides an overview with a detailed explanation. The next paragraph explains the situation in Vietnam in 2021 in more depth.



School girl (UNICEF Vietnam)

TOC PATHWAYS	WORK PACKAGES IMPLEMENTED	ACHIEVED	NOT FULLY ACHIEVED	DEVIATIONS FROM WORK PLAN EXPLAINED
Pathway 1	Children Empowerment through Supportive Communities		X	Child-to-child communication activities to promote child participation have been postponed to 2022 as in-person activities could not be organised due the COVID-19 pandemic.
	Economic support	X		105 women (original target 60) received direct livelihood support to empower women in contributing to families' income and preventing children dropping out of school and entering child labour.
	Improving access to quality education		X	Vocational trainings and pilots for students have been delayed due to COVID-19; however, children are directly supported by the provision of tablets and internet connections to maintain their online learning. The organisation of school dialogues, technical support for school counselling and job orientation, trainings on positive discipline and counselling, training on the implementation and assessment of the Quality Learning Environment, and support for child-led initiatives at 16 schools were also delayed because of the school closures.
	Strengthening Child Protection Systems		X	<p>The pilot of a model of child labour prevention through school systems in Dong Thap was postponed to 2022 due to school closures. In 2021, a detailed workplan and clear timeline of co-operation activities with the Ministry of Education and Training (MOET) on child labour prevention via schools were developed and agreed.</p> <p>400 child protection officers, who are volunteers for the local child protection committees in eight communities, were provided with capacity-building training. Also, fathers and mothers in two of the eight targeted communities were provided with knowledge on child abuse and exploitation, and children's right to education. Due to the strict social distancing and lockdown measures, fewer child protection officers and caretakers were reached than originally targeted.</p> <p>The strengthening of child protection services was planned in four communities through awareness-raising campaigns for children and families in the community. Due to the lockdown, one child protection service could be set up. Other activities to improve the quality of the child protection system were also delayed; however, the programme has revised the budget and activity interventions, i.e. COVID Response Activity, to provide direct support for children at risk in the community who are significantly affected by COVID, and to provide PPE so students can return to schools safely.</p>
Pathway 2	National government engagement		X	<p>Training for selected government agencies, focusing on strengthening their capacity on GC16 and CRBP, was postponed as offline training could not be provided due to COVID-19 restrictions. However, the Alliance and partners (VCCI and the Human Rights Institute) organised an awareness-raising workshop for related stakeholders in October and invested time in developing the training manual. The final training manual in Vietnamese will be available for training in 2022.</p> <p>The development of a course on child labour and social work at Hanoi National University of Education was delayed due to personnel changes at the university. However, the University of Labor and Social Affairs was given support to redesign its social work training programme. UNICEF also plans to discuss this activity with other potential universities through its partnership with the Ministry of Education and Training.</p>
Pathway 3	Private sector engagement		X	The forums on CRBP that created a platform for sharing and building mutual understanding of the issue between the business community, SMEs, social entrepreneurs, governments and other partners were postponed to 2022 due to COVID-19.

1. COUNTRY PROGRAMMES	TOTAL BUDGET 2021	TOTAL ACTUALS 2021	BUDGET VS ACTUAL
Vietnam	€ 1.262.438	€ 949.035	75%

2.6.6 EXPENDITURES IN 2021

The budget for Vietnam has been depleted for 75%. The remaining balances have been reallocated to 2022. Vietnam faced severe COVID-19 restrictions which affected the alternative activities. Moreover,

the departure of Corporate Partnership Specialist at UNICEF resulted in less coordination expenses. For SC Vietnam, there is just a small unspent balance as they have conducted Covid-19 response activities to help children at risk.



School children (UNICEF Vietnam)

2.6.7 OUTCOMES HARVESTED IN VIETNAM

ACHIEVED OUTCOME	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OUTCOME	OUR CONTRIBUTION	SOURCE	ToC PATHWAYS
<p>Students in 15 schools in Nha Be, Go Vap, Cu Chi and District 10 have increasingly used the services of the school-based counselling units since the first quarter of 2021</p>	<p>Seeking counselling through school-based units is not a common practice among students in Vietnam. These units serve as a channel for students to confidently share issues around their schools and in the community. It means that teachers and school boards can provide them with timely support. This in turn strengthens the relationship between students and teachers and subsequently enhances a quality learning environment. These counselling units also provide students with vocational information and employability skills</p>	<p>SC Viet Nam provided financial and technical support to set up and maintain counselling units. The teachers in charge and school management boards are engaged in regular meetings/training to enhance their capacity in delivering the services</p>	<p>Annual school report; Case story; Log book for each unit recording the total number of children using services. The number of students seeking school-based counselling services will be included in the report at the end of the school year</p>	<p>1</p>
<p>From March 2021 to June 2021, two factories in Cu Chi and District 12 developed a new policy on the management of young workers (aged 15 to 17) for the prevention of child labour and remediation within their lower-tiered suppliers</p>	<p>By developing a new policy on managing young workers and enhanced child labour prevention and remediation steps in the lower tiers of the supply chain, the participating factories have shown their commitment to combatting child labour by preparing to provide decent work opportunities for youth. This commitment is further extended to their lower-tier partners as the policies are applied in the same way as their supply chain actors</p>	<p>The Centre for Child Rights and Business provided training on child labour prevention and remediation, including managing young workers, for four out of five participating factories. While two of them have already developed new policies following further consultancy with the Alliance, the rest of the participating factories will continue to enhance their policies in 2022</p>	<p>Training report, Training materials, Business Child Labour and Young Workers policies</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>In May 2021, the national government committed to addressing child labour by approving the national Programme on Child Labour Prevention and Elimination 2021-2025, which for the first time includes communication, and awareness-raising for the prevention and elimination of child labour, targeting small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). It also promotes an intersectoral approach to the prevention of and response to child labour</p>	<p>The Programme provides a national policy framework with specific measures for the prevention of and response to child labour in the next five years. This second programme promotes an intersectoral approach to addressing child labour and assigns roles and responsibilities to new stakeholders such as the Ministry of Agriculture and Rural Development, the Ministry of Information and Communication, the Ministry of Education and Training, the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry and the private sector, in addition to the Ministry of Labour, Invalids and Social Affairs as the lead</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - UNICEF provided significant advocacy and technical support to MOLISA, including supporting the organisation of high-level consultation/advocacy workshops with MOLISA and key actors on the development of the Programme and development of guidance on Programme implementation. - UNICEF joined hands with ILO to support MOLISA to organise the launching workshop of this Programme with the participation of all key stakeholders and media. This was a key event to exemplify the efforts in policy advocacy and public awareness-raising of child labour prevention 	<p>Decision No. 782/QĐ-TTg dated 27 May 2021 of the Prime Minister approving the Programme on the government's portal: https://vanban.chinhphu.vn/default.aspx?pageid=27160&docid=203303</p>	<p>2</p>

<p>In June 2021 the Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) jointly generated a roadmap for strengthening the capacity for businesses in CRBP through virtual consultations and engagement with 60 participants from businesses, consulting firms, CSOs and experts</p>	<p>Highlights the importance of strengthening businesses' capacity, which helps them to show their response to meet the international and national standards on CRBPs</p>	<p>UNICEF provided technical contributions to developing the framework for the roadmap and the guiding questions to facilitate the development of the roadmap with seven detailed steps (from data generation and needs assessment to Sustainability and Scale up). The roadmap has been recognised as a useful tool and guidance for businesses to strengthen their capacity-building programme on CRBP and has been shared with interested businesses</p>	<p>Meeting minutes, a roadmap for strengthening the capacity of businesses in CRBP</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>In October and November, the leaders of ten different businesses signed the statement of commitment and had detailed action plans to scale up training on child labour prevention and remediation for young workers in their business and supply chains</p>	<p>The Statement of Commitment, which shows critical change in businesses' knowledge, capacity and commitment, especially business leaders, to address the child labour issues and support young workers. The implementation of action plans with the adaptation of training material provided by the Alliance indicates the scaling up of good practice models</p>	<p>UNICEF joined hands with VCCI and SDRC/CENTRE to organised virtual training on Child Labour Prevention and Remediation, Protection and Skills Developments for young workers. All business leaders signed the statement of commitment and had detailed action plans to scale up the training in their businesses and supply chains. Businesses are mostly from the Apparel and Footwear sector, with some from the Tourism and Travel, Information and Communication Technology sectors. The Statement of Commitment was drafted by the Alliance and VCCI</p>	<p>Training report, Training materials, Business Statement of Commitments, Business Action Plans, Feedback from trainees</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>As of November 2021, 97 disadvantaged children, 1,220 poor children and 35 young people continued their education in programme schools and vocational training schools in four targeted districts of Nha Be, Go Vap, Cu Chi and District 10</p>	<p>The Alliance's support in the form of tuition fees and devices for online learning ensured that disadvantaged children could continue their studies, especially during lockdown and online classes. The support of tablets helps students with their online learning and encourages families to keep their children at school regardless of the difficulties. In addition, the programme flags local governments and schools to pay particular attention to these at-risk children and thus to have a proper intervention plan in place (i.e. case management). The Alliance's support allowed young people to gain more hands-on practical experience. They were more proactive in equipping themselves with necessary skills and practice, which were crucial to have for graduation, and give them an advantage when applying for jobs</p>	<p>SC Viet Nam provided tuition fees to help 97 disadvantaged children in targeted schools; provided unconditional cash transfers to 1,220 poor children whose families were significantly affected by COVID-19, and; provided 246 tablets to poor children in 16 programme schools.</p> <p>SC Viet Nam provided direct support in the form of equipment and tools to 35 young people in four targeted vocational training schools. These young people received training on employability and life skills so they could upgrade their skills and leverage them for better employability and employment in the future. Specifically, young people who took courses in electrical appliances were able to start working part-time and earn some income to support their families</p>	<p>Report on selection criteria (home visit) Case studies Post-distribution report</p> <p>Note: Official reports on the use of tablets and the number of drop-outs will be submitted by the programme schools and the partners at the end of the school year (i.e. July)</p>	<p>1</p>

3. IMPLEMENTING, LINKING AND LEARNING THROUGH WORKING GROUPS

This chapter contains a description of the activities and results of the different working groups during 2021, with a focus on the thematic expertise as well as on cross-cutting results. Working groups contribute to the achievement of our theory of change in various ways. We ensure the exchange of knowledge and experiences on specific thematic and technical fields of expertise related to the WNCB programme implementation. Each working group (WG) consists of representation of all Alliance partners, who bring in their specific expertise on lobby & advocacy and responsible business conduct, gender, education, and research. Working groups collaborate with countries through country focal points that are brought together for various thematic discussions, learning events and exchange meetings.

3.1 WORKING GROUP CONTRIBUTIONS TO PATHWAYS 3 AND 4

The Lobby, Advocacy and Responsible Business Conduct (L&A and RBC) and Communication working groups operate mostly in service of two of our planned long-term outcomes which are: The private sector takes full responsibility for preventing and addressing child labour and EU/ Dutch government and international/multilateral organisations act in support of the elimination of child labour and fulfil their obligation to protect by setting and reinforcing Due Diligence policies and laws.

3.1.1 LOBBY & ADVOCACY WORK IN THE NETHERLANDS

The WG on Lobby and Advocacy and Responsible Business Conduct (WG L&A/RBC) aimed to contribute to results within Strategic Pathways 3 and 4 of the programme. The position of Lead of the L&A WG was vacant for a large part of the year, which reduced our capacity considerably. It was therefore necessary to prioritise certain activities in the L&A+RBC WG annual plan.

In our efforts towards the private sector taking full responsibility for preventing and addressing child labour, two milestones were achieved. One was the engagement with the Dutch Association of Investors for Sustainable Development (VBDO) to undertake

a study on the incorporation of child labour in responsible investments in the Netherlands. The other milestone was the collaboration with VNO/NCW and MKB Nederland to create awareness among its members on the issue of child labour through a webinar and a dedicated website page.

Our Stop Child Labour Alliance partner Arisa participated in de biggest European stone trade fair in Verona in September 2021 and discussed in the challenges and issues related to Child Labour with over 20 suppliers. Arisa also gave a presentation to the European federation of natural stone companies of the risks we see in the natural stone industry.

Within Strategic Pathway 4, our advocacy to the EU/ Dutch governments and international/multilateral organisations on the elimination of child labour and fulfilment of their obligation to protect by setting and reinforcing Due Diligence policies and Laws, we have only been partly successful. In the Netherlands the commitment of Minister de Bruijn to work on Due Diligence legislation is promising. Through the membership of the MVO platform, various Alliance members have been actively involved in the work around this (including through IDVO). At EU level the European Commission agreed to work on Corporate Social Responsibility legislation and a proposal is expected for early 2022. The WG has been actively involved in the research and the subsequent report from the MVO platform on the status of the Dutch government's sustainable procurement practices. On 28 September we organised a webinar for partners in India on access to remedy in the international textile and garment supply chain. This helps the partners on the ground to know how to use the OAR (Open Apparel Registry). 16 participants formed unions and CSOs working in the Delhi region. As a result of this, two Dutch companies that play a role in the Natural Stone Value Chain have been contacted and informed about child labour in their value chain. The WNCB approach has been embraced by three companies. For the Global Conference of Child Labour in May 2022, the WG L&A started to draft a position paper as a basis for the entire WNCB programme. Due

School children (Ivory Coast)



to staff turnover and the pandemic, the working group was unable to implement all planned outputs and the plan for 2021 was put on hold for quite a while. In 2021 we also explored cross-contamination between working groups, especially the relationship between RBC, CRBP and gender issues. Action plan 2022 to identify on companies' impact on gender-related issues and potential RBC interventions to mitigate or even prevent the impact companies have on gender-specific issues.

These activities have been included in the planning process for 2022 where possible. For example, engaging in covenants to address CRBPs to industry in NL, and developing the capacity of country teams to advocate for integrating children's rights/ CRBPs in the policies and practices of companies.

3.1.2 COMMUNICATION

2021 was the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour. WNCB participated in various actions and activities that contributed to wider knowledge of the WNCB principles and method as a solution to the problem of child labour. WNCB submitted a pledge on the End Child Labour platform (by the ILO and Alliance 8.7) and shared this pledge with governments, private sector and civil society. WNCB also participated in the worldwide communication campaign led by Alliance 8.7, to raise awareness of the urgency of combatting child labour due to increased numbers of children

working. This was done by disseminating the campaign messages and drawing attention to the problem of child labour through the WNCB channels and Alliance partner channels. On 24 May, WNCB conducted a webinar together with the Alliance 8.7 on the topic of 'How can we harness the power of local businesses to end child labour by 2025?' The 200 participants gained more knowledge about solutions that work and were invited to ask questions. More than 500 participants shared knowledge and expertise in the online discussions that were organised around the webinar.

As an international media journey was not an option due to travel restrictions, WNCB developed a communication strategy for sharing messages, both evidence-based and storytelling, in owned and earned media to raise awareness and influence governments and the private sector. In the Dutch and international media, the release of the new ILO-UNICEF estimates on child labour has drawn attention, particularly because the number of children in work has risen in past four years. WNCB used this momentum by releasing two opinion articles to support the call for action for the Dutch government to invest in education worldwide. The articles have been disseminated through WNCB channels and Alliance partner channels. In co-operation with Global Campaign for Education, an opinion article was written and published, and a webinar on Child Labour & Education was organised on 13 April.

Keeping in touch and sharing experiences was important within the WNCB Alliance and the six partner countries, all the more so because travel and in-person meetings were still not an option in 2021. Through a programme newsletter, regular input from country partners, and a platform for sharing information, WNCB partners and staff have been kept better-informed of what is happening within the Alliance at all levels and in all countries. WNCB partners aligned on using key messages in their work and communication for a more focused contribution to lobby & advocacy efforts (at different governance levels).



School children (Vietnam)

3.1.3 DEVIATIONS FROM THE WORKPLANS L&A AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUP

TOC PATHWAY	PLANNED OUTPUT	DEVIATION & EXPLANATION
Pathway 3	We have put child labour on companies' agendas, specifically those related to WNCB commodities. We link these companies to WNCB and pique their interest in collaborating with WNCB on due diligence + the implementation of prevention/mitigation/elimination activities. Special focus will also be placed on gender issues.	In progress/ongoing: Research into the gold value chain in Mali has started but has been delayed; the same research in Ivory Coast has also been delayed and will be ready in 2022. UNICEF takes part in the gold covenant and actively participates in discussions on transparency.
Pathway 4	Child labour on the agenda of two trade missions (organised by RVO, BZ, EZ) before or during (online) trade mission. Enable companies and COs to share their 'on the ground' experiences related to child labour.	Cancelled: It has proven difficult to have a place in the online trade missions and we decided not to put any more effort into this.
	Contribution to the adaptation of public procurement law.	In progress/ongoing: Due to the formation of a government in the Netherlands being delayed past the end of 2021, not all activities were not taken up. We were for instance not able to send out a two-pager on CL for parliamentarians. However, we did send a Card to all MPs in January 2021 and informed 'informatie' Tjeenk Willink. Webinar with the Global Campaign on Education (GCE) to discuss lobby around education and child labour Contribution to the MVO Report: https://www.mvoplatform.nl/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2021/11/MVO-platform-Goed-voorbeeld-doet-volgen.pdf
Overall	Media journeys with local and international journalists	We only conducted media visits with local journalists; international media journeys were not possible. It was not possible for international journalists to travel to implementation areas.

3.1.4 OUTCOMES HARVESTED BY THE L&A AND COMMUNICATIONS WORKING GROUPS

	ACHIEVED OUTCOME	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OUTCOME	CONTRIBUTION OF WNCB ACTIONS / OUTPUTS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION / SOURCE OF PROOF	TOC PATHWAYS
Dec 2021	Minister de Bruijn (D66) of the Dutch Ministry of Foreign Affairs announced that national IMVO (internationaal maatschappelijk verantwoord ondernemen - corporate social responsibility) legislation will be developed in the Netherlands during a committee meeting with Parliament on 2 December.	Due diligence is a first step towards companies knowing where their products come from and what kind of human and labour rights risks are involved in the production of their products. Child labour is one of the salient risks that would then become mandatory to address. This was the first time the Minister had made this clear commitment. Previously, D66 and the Minister had not been clear on whether they were committed to legislation.	WNCB Alliance partners (SCL, Save the Children Netherlands & UNICEF) have contributed their knowledge and insights as part of the MVO platform coalition and IDVO campaign, especially in the area of child labour and the importance of this legislation being applicable to all companies (including SMEs).	MVO platform and parliament https://www.mvoplatform.nl/brief-aan-minister-de-bruijn-2/	4
Jan 2021	In January 2021, VBDO (the Dutch Association of Investors for Sustainable Development) included child labour in its sustainability strategy and put child labour in the agenda of its members.	Child labour was not seen as an issue for these companies to address as they have no operations on the ground in areas where child labour is an issue. The fact that their knowledge and insights changed in acknowledging that their investment policy can make a difference in combatting child labour makes this outcome significant. After the webinar with pension funds and insurance companies in November 2021, a different discourse around child labour was heard among the members: it was now seen as part of their problem too.	WNCB Alliance partners (SCL, Save the Children Netherlands & UNICEF) have contributed their knowledge and insights as part of the MVO platform coalition and IDVO campaign, especially in the area of child labour and the importance of this legislation being applicable to all companies (including SMEs).	Webinar, report: https://www.vbdo.nl/wp-content/uploads/2021/11/VBDO-Report-Child-Labour_DIG.pdf	3
Q3	As of October 2021, the VNO/NCW and MKB have demonstrated increased commitment to combatting child labour, through facilitating the identification of child labour in their members' value chains via a dedicated website and tool.	<i>VNO/NCW and MKB NL acknowledged the expertise within WNCB and ensured WNCB's quality input especially for the Plan van Aanpak. SMEs in general find it difficult to address issues in their supply chain. A first step is to know where your products come from, and often this is not known. From the initial results (January 2022) it is clear that SMEs in particular struggle to know where their products come from: "de scan is 354 keer ingevuld en 50% van de bedrijven die de scan deed wist niet of hun bedrijf tot een risicosector behoorde, en de grote meerderheid wist niet waar hun grondstoffen/producten vandaan komen."</i>	WNCB (UNICEF and SCL), in co-operation with the WNCB communication co-ordinator, has delivered important quality content for the webpage and the tools. With the tools, VNO/NCW accepts that it is important for companies (including SMEs) to know where their products come from as a starting point to be able to address child labour. WNCB shared best practices and supported the (online) campaign by VNO/NCW-MKB Nederland.	Webpages: https://www.ondernemen.nl/tegen-kinderarbeid https://ondernemen.prod.websites.vno-ncw.totalservices.io/app/uploads/sites/4/2021/10/Plan-van-aanpak-tegen-kinderarbeid_2021.pdf https://www.vno-ncw.nl/nieuws/hulp-voor-bedrijven-bij-zorgplicht-kinderarbeid%20/	3

3.2 PROGRAMMATIC ASSISTANCE IN PATHWAYS 1, 2 & 3

To ensure the availability of high-quality-level expertise on relevant programme themes, quality standards and processes, we are also collaborating in several thematic working groups. These are: Gender Equality and Inclusion (GEWG), Child Rights and Business Principles (CRBP), Education, Research and Monitoring, Evaluation, Accountability and Learning (MEAL).

The outcomes that these working groups achieve can be seen as preconditions for being able to work towards the planned long-term outcomes in our Theory of Change. They often relate to the capacity development of programme partners, and facilitate collaboration between programme partners.

3.2.1 GENDER EQUALITY WORKING GROUP

During 2021, the Gender Equality Working Group (GEWG) has mostly focused on the rollout and implementation of the Alliance Gender Analysis (GA), including development of context-specific ToR and the recruitment process of competent consultants' teams in all countries. Other relevant work focused on the ongoing gender mainstreaming through evaluation and reporting and close collaboration with the Education WG.

The first two quarters of the year were characterised by unforeseen internal challenges, including recurrent turnover of relevant members, leaving the Lead with little capacity to commit to 2021's deliverables. Due to this, a decision was made internally with Alliance partners and PMU to

identify a long-term solution. Ultimately, Level of Effort (LoE) was allocated by all partners (Save the Children (SC), Stop Child Labour (SCL) and UNICEF) and by July 2021 there were two new core team members who are closely supporting the work of four of the countries, both in English and French. With the new structure, the WG was able to ensure the ongoing support of all teams on the GA phase II implementation.

Between August and December, the GEWG focused on the GA phase II, including: finalisation of pre-assessment, development of a GA Alliance and context specific ToR, and ongoing consultations and inductions, including short GA training which culminated on the recruitment of all consultants in all the countries. Between October and December all members and focal points were busy with recruitment. By January 2022 all consultants were identified and in place.

3.2.2 EDUCATION

The Education WG's workplan has been carried out to a large extent. Some adaptations were made according to developments, opportunities and new insights in the course of the year. Education having been taken for granted until a few years ago - and being only a relatively small part of the WNCB programme - the pandemic and its consequences made the crucial role of quality education (as underlined from the outset by the WG) gain priority in the discourse on eradicating child labour, including within WNCB. From the point of view of the Education WG, the changing narrative of WNCB is a very important milestone.



Community mobilisation (Mali)

3.2.3 RESEARCH

Based on the experience in 2020, the research Working Group initiated research on how to advance research in the WNCB partnership. The results of this research have resulted in a shift of the workgroup's approach towards ensuring more localised research. Budgets for research and innovation were shifted to the implementing countries to enhance country ownership, and the WG has started to make the shift towards an advisory role rather than a control and approval role.

The WG research identified research focal points in each of the implementing countries. These are key to discussing and designing future studies in the countries and to influencing global, cross-country research priorities. The WG research focuses on providing hands-on support where needed, especially in the research formulation stage, and keeps in close contact with the focal points.

Two research proposals have been initiated: one in Mali on gold mining and one on children in home-based working in the textile industry in India. The annotated bibliographies developed in 2020 that aimed to create an overview of scientific evidence regarding child labour in each country have received an update in 2021. Where the first version was written by students of the University of Leiden, the second version has been localised and conducted by students from local universities in the implementing countries, under the supervision of the WG. In Vietnam and Mali, presentations were made on the updated bibliographies. The last studies are scheduled to be finalised and presented by the end of February 2022.

3.2.4 CHILD RIGHTS AND BUSINESS PRINCIPLES

Throughout 2021 the working group was significantly affected by changes in staff. The three WG members that started in 2021 had left by the end of the year. In Q3 and Q4 the WG operated with two members, one of whom was replaced in Q4. As the WG has been understaffed for quite some time, and new members brought new ideas, the activities of the WG have been adjusted over the year. Nonetheless, the WG CRBP has been able to conduct planned activities as outlined in the workplan for 2021. Some important milestones that have been achieved include:

- A webinar was organised, entitled 'Best practice webinar: a roadmap on working with business on children's rights', sharing lessons learned in working with the natural stone business sector on children's rights in Rajasthan, India;

- Exchange sessions between Ivory Coast, Mali and Uganda have been organised on their activities in the ASM gold sector, focusing on discussions of country programmes, research, dilemmas, field visits, and the drafting of a ToR on developing content for workshops with the formal and informal gold mining sector;
- Analysis of baseline studies to find relevant data on Outcome 3;
- Building the CRBP community through stimulating the sharing of information, research/publications, news items, tools, best practices, dilemmas and needs for support on the CRBP Teams Platform.

3.2.5 MEAL WG

In 2021 the MEAL WG further rolled out the MEAL protocol.

- In the reporting phase in 2021, the partners reported on their harvested outcomes for the first time. Although this was a challenge for many country teams, many partners reported interesting, harvested **outcomes**. These outcomes should allow programme partners to assess their effectiveness and the way we are collaborating towards achieving planned WNCB 'Theory of Change' objectives.
- 2021 also saw the further rollout and finalisation of the **baseline studies** as these were delayed due to COVID-19. SenseMaker studies have been conducted and finalised for **five countries**. The baseline studies have been finalised for **five countries**. Uganda has collected data for the KPI baseline and will finalise the analysis in 2022. All countries are working towards identifying their targets relating to the KPIs.
- The annual **planning process** saw the inclusion of a number of improvements to facilitate more interaction between partners, such as information meetings about formats and requirements with all country teams.

3.2.6 MOST SIGNIFICANT DEVIATIONS FROM THE ANNUAL PLANS OF WORKING GROUPS

TOC PATHWAY	ANNUAL PLAN OUTPUT DESCRIPTION	DEVIATION & EXPLANATION
Most Significant Deviations from the GEWG Annual Workplan		
Cross cutting	CConduct gender analysis: monitor gender analysis rollout and process in all countries; monitoring reporting and gathering data including assessment against baseline	In progress/ongoing: The approval of the Terms of Reference and identification of the consultants took longer than expected. Data collection and reporting will take place Q1/Q2 2022. We expect ongoing and increased awareness and relevance on the topic.
	Start comparative analysis of all gender rapid assessments and baseline disaggregated data (comparative assessment)	Delayed: Planned for 2022 - Inception Report and implementation in progress during February 2022. The reasons for the delay were competing priorities in countries and the challenge to find suitable candidates to conduct the GA.
	Action plan and strategy: Develop a Gender-Responsive Action Plan following the gender analysis recommendations and the results of baseline and SenseMakers to share with all countries to simplify and facilitate context-based strategy	
1	Focal points are identified and trained to deliver capacity-building workshops supported by the GEWG. Adaptation to virtual content and promotion of cascaded TOT in countries may be necessary	Delayed: To support a concrete gender champion training and capacity-building plans while identifying focal points, it is relevant to understand the results of the gender assessments (which hasn't yet been finalised)
3	Adapting and promoting guidelines on gender auditing, GE transformation through private sector practices, and in particular child labour and related topics (e.g. girls' poverty, child marriage, education etc.)	Postponed: Originally, the GEWG thought we could gather relevant external resources for these activities; however, we realised that the GA will also be crucial to informing any of these resources
	Develop brief for use in lobby and RBC work, based on gender mainstreaming efforts in action plan and activities, including linkage to the goals for the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour (best practices, case studies)	
Most Significant Deviations from the CRBP WG Annual Workplan		
3	Members of the CRBP community know how to find each other and actively share their questions, knowledge, and experience with each other through four information exchange activities (webinars, calls, news updates, best practice sharing)	A second webinar organised by the WG on 'supply chain mapping' was cancelled due to lack of registrations. No updates were sent to the CRBP community. Activity on the CRBP Teams Platform increased temporarily when the WG actively shared information and stimulated focal points to share some dilemmas / requests for support on the Platform. However, interaction has now returned to near zero.
	Members of the CRBP community have more in-depth knowledge about the topics and sectors specified	The WG decided to shift focus from sharing knowledge among the entire CRBP community to sharing knowledge in subgroups, based on topics or sectors. In 2021 focus was on stimulating exchange between countries engaged in ASM gold mining.

Most Significant Deviations from the MEAL WG Annual Workplan		
Cross cutting	Country teams and working groups have access to the OH community of practice and are able to build their capacity through available materials such as webinars, documentation and assistance.	Country Teams have access but active participation in a digital community of practice has proven to be difficult at this stage in the programme. Some partners do use Teams in its full capacity. The digital CoP is therefore at this stage mostly a useful reference space. Programme-wide encouragements in using TEAMS are essential to have a more active online CoP. Capacity development in OH has also proven to be challenging as there has been quite some staff turnover and the COVID-19 situation did not allow ToT type of activities. An active and participative MEAL community of people who interact with each other was therefore not realistic in 2021. We have anticipated this observation by providing tailor-made support to some countries (Uganda, Mali and Vietnam). MEAL focal points have also been brought together to discuss OH in exchange meetings (two) to and where to provide input on the overall WNCB MTR ToR.
	WNCB has a tailor-made community engagement and accountability approach in place that allows partners to work according to their own strength and receive support as needed to comply with guidance in the MEAL protocol	CEA approaches have been discussed by the MEAL WG at various times. We have discussed how the approach is relevant and how it can be introduced to the programme as a bottom-up approach. Particular attention to CEA approaches has been paid in the annual planning process for 2022. We have decided that the MTR is an important moment to assess the strengths of partners in CEA and identify some important gaps.
	WNCB & AP have setup-up that allows them to report in IATI.	Hivos reports on KPIs on behalf of all partners with their input in the Indicator Protocol Tracking Table.
Most Significant Deviations from the education WG Annual Workplan		
Cross cutting	WNCB country teams are better able to implement planned education activities. We therefore plan to assess and develop capacity within the WNCB programme to implement essential education activities	Capacity-building in the sense of elaborating a complete plan was deliberately left out. No urgency was expressed by the focal points. Capacity-building is also part of the country plans and in general many ideas, tools and resources have been shared. The WG was forced to make these choices due to lack of time.
	Implementing partners have continuous access to up-to-date and relevant information on education and are capable of adapting or innovating their education strategies. We planned to organise several online meetings/ webinars.	Instead of organising our own webinar, we collaborated with the L&A WG and external partners. Knowledge, experiences and new resources have been shared in many other ways, e.g a webinar together with the Global Campaign for Education. This was a better option due to the limited availability of budget, time and additional support. Also, the collaborative activity provided insights into both education and L&A priorities.
1	The education focal points of implementing partners have better insight into the effects of the COVID-19 crisis on the wellbeing of children due to reduced access to education. It was therefore planned to develop a research proposal on country-specific or cross-country education strategies that mitigate the effects of the COVID-19 crisis, with a specific focus on school dropout due to COVID-19. The results should support focal points/country teams in improving the implementation of plans.	We responded to the continuing need to exchange, and reduced urgency for immediate research because of the availability of many new resources. Instead of a research proposal - which required a time-consuming consultation phase - we changed the objective and focus on linking and learning first. The L&L proposal was developed with an informal Q&A / preparatory session and the analysis of existing documents.
3	Selected Alliance Members and focal points have developed a draft (education) strategy that includes the education sector's responsibility to provide access to quality apprenticeships, skills training and, where possible, in-company training for older youth (above the compulsory school age).	Due to time constraints, the work on a common youth strategy started later in the year. In addition, the objective of the youth strategy has been reformulated in a less formal way and more in line with other activities.

Most Significant Deviations from the research WG Annual Workplan		
Cross-cutting	Updated annotated bibliographies and sharing of relevant research	Four country annotated bibliographies were updated. Two still need to be finalised as well as the overall analysis and publication
	Collaboration with the University of Leiden to organise event to discuss knowledge gaps on the topic 'Right to Work'	TTThis result has not materialised due to capacity and timing issues with involved parties. The topic proposed by Leiden University (Right to Work) did not seem so relevant for the Alliance.
	Adapt research application procedure & guidelines based on lessons learned	A collaboration with the Wageningen University and Research centre (WUR) was initiated to work on this. The Research WG used these recommendations to review its way of working from the donor and compliance role to a facilitator's role. This shift included moving research budget to countries. The WUR research results were presented in the Alliance-wide meeting in October and December 2021, followed by an external publication on the WNCB website.
	Provide technical advice and guidance to WNCB partners for research	In collaboration with UNICEF Innocenti, the WG provided two training webinars on designing and conducting research in development settings. In Q1 the webinar was conducted by UNICEF Innocenti. The follow-up workshop in Q2 was facilitated by the Research WG members in support of research proposal development
Pathway 2 & 3	Create an overview per country of the research activities based on their 2021 workplans; support and approve emerging research proposals.	TTThe country plans did not contain concrete research plans. The Research WG only engaged with country teams and global teams on an ad hoc basis, based on the needs expressed by the country teams and workgroups in 2021. For example, the Research WG held a consultation with the CRBP Working Group about one of their research ideas, and has offered support to the Gender WG for the gender assessment.
Pathway 4	Develop research plans with the L&A group	No concrete research requests were submitted by the L&A group

3.2.7 OUTCOMES HARVESTED BY WORKING GROUPS

ACHIEVED OUTCOMES	SIGNIFICANCE OF THE OUTCOME	CONTRIBUTION OF WNCB ACTIONS / OUTPUTS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION / SOURCE OF PROOF	TOC PATHWAY
Working group: Gender				
In the last quarter of 2021, the WNCB country teams in Vietnam, Uganda, Jordan, India, Mali and Ivory Coast included more gender-sensitive/ responsive approaches in their programme activities	Previously, many programme activities were formulated as 'gender unaware'. Gender equality and mainstreaming is fundamental to creating a targeted response to the vulnerabilities and risk associated with child labour. By ensuring a gender-sensitive intervention, the countries can better identify and respond to challenges.	The Gender Working Group facilitated one cross-country coaching session, followed by six country-specific sessions to reflect on the gender sensitivity of the country workplan. Participants in the sessions included the country gender focal points, country leads and in-country leads.	Partner Country work plans. Consultations and reporting from countries, more awareness and commitment including capacity identified to GESI	Cross cutting
In Q3, the Vietnam government became highly interested and engaged in the process of gender mainstreaming by sharing their interest through the Vietnam country team.	By bringing attention from relevant policy-makers and stakeholders outside the Alliance, we ensure that there is a chance for more long-lasting changes to policy and actions around gender norms and inequalities linked to the onset of child labour.	This was achieved in follow-up with the Ministry of Labour (MOLISA) by the Vietnam team after an introduction to the gender assessment by the Gender WG.	MoU with Government, approval of the ToR. Stakeholder involvement in activities.	Cross cutting
In Q3, state government officials became interested and engaged in the process of gender mainstreaming by sharing their interest through the WNCB India country team	By bringing attention from relevant policy-makers and stakeholders outside the Alliance, we ensure that there is a chance for more long-lasting changes to policy and actions around gender norms and inequalities linked to the onset of child labour.	This was achieved in follow-up with state government officials by the India team after an introduction to the gender assessment by the Gender WG.	Minutes of meetings with government officials	Cross-cutting
Working group: Education				
Education focal points have become more active in the exchange of information, both within the working group and in wider WNCB meetings.	Linking and learning is an important strategy for achieving the common objectives. Focal points are in large part volunteers, without extra time and sometimes with very little logistical means. Even if those with more time (e.g. also being country lead) share most of the information, the others react more often than before.	Fortnightly meetings with all focal points, and e-mail communications. In the summer, the WG organised a more extensive online discussion for each country. The focal points stimulated active participation from everyone and shared updates, comments, ideas and documents. Furthermore, the working group invited focal points to present good practices in webinars, such as the WNCB-GCE webinar and other WNCB-wide webinars and online meetings.	Contributions of focal points to webinars in - and outside WNCB, sharing of reports and articles on country developments. Most important resources shared with WNCB comms unit for website, newsletter or general resource database.	Cross-cutting

<p>Throughout 2021, the Global Campaign for Education increasingly published and shared articles concerning child labour, and more often made the connection between child labour and education.</p>	<p>To eradicate child labour, we need more than just the WNCB partners to be active. Every other organisation that we can convince to take child labour into consideration when developing education programmes is a step forward. More specifically, through the large CSO network of the GCE, the WNCB principles are shared widely in networks where child labour has never previously been a topic for discussion.</p>	<p>The L&A and Education Working Groups co-operated with the Global Campaign for Education to organise a webinar for (Dutch) organisations working on education in development co-operation. Both working groups provided the content, moderators and speakers.</p>	<p>GCE-NL website Dag van de rechten van het kind Lobby letters and articles elaborated jointly later in the year</p>	<p>2</p>
<p>The ILO (May 2021) and RVO (December 2021) used the information and expertise from the Education Working Group as an important resource for their own work.</p>	<p>More stakeholders that understand, share or adopt our views means more possibilities for more aligned common actions in the (near) future; adoption of our points of view and approaches by other networks will keep our principles alive after the programme has finished.</p>	<p>Employees of RVO Fonds Bestrijding Kinderarbeid (FBK)-learned about WNCB education activities and the existence of the working group in an online meeting attended by the lead. The information on the webinar, presentations, and links to recordings were shared widely through several networks.</p>	<p>E-mail correspondence, the Website ILO training institute where several of our presentations were proposed highlighted and E-learning on sustaining the elimination of child labour ITCILO)</p>	<p>3</p>
<p>Local media outlets shared smaller and larger articles and reports on the importance of education as a critical strategy to combat child labour from the WNCB Alliance partners in the programme countries.</p>	<p>The impact of school closures (including the insufficiency of alternative education) became clear in all countries and highlighted the crucial role played by functioning schools and quality education in relation to child labour. External sources (UNICEF, ILO, others) confirmed that everywhere in the world more children had started working and had lost or were losing contact with education. When access to education is reduced, as was the case during the pandemic, a harsh (re)turn to child labour can be observed. Partner organisations, working groups, and staff responded with more frequent lobby messages and other actions, making clear that in order to eradicate child labour and to reach out to all children, the availability of, access to and quality of education is crucial. This is especially significant for the programme as it makes clear that education cannot be taken for granted and requires more attention and investment.</p>	<p>Increased L&A lobby asks for more investment in education; such concrete messages did not go out before 2021.</p> <p>The Education Working Group insisted on the crucial role of education, and on the fact that most children will not be reached when there is too much of a focus on the supply chains where only a relatively small number of children are working (the newest ILO numbers also support this). A shift in the narrative within WNCB can be observed.</p>	<p>Recordings of meetings, webinars, lobby letters.</p>	<p>1</p>

Working group: Research				
In October 2021 the implementing partners in the six WNCB countries identified research focal points, demonstrating increased commitment and support to systematic and quality research to combat child labour	Through the country research focal points, the assumption is that research questions can become increasingly based on local needs and realities to enhance understanding of how to address child labour. This research has the potential to confirm, enhance or challenge the country WNCB ToC	The outcome was achieved through the discussions based on the WUR research to which partners in Uganda, India and Jordan contributed. Following critical review by the Research WG, follow-up actions were discussed in WNCB-wide meetings in September and December 2022.	E-mail and meeting correspondence between research focal points WUR report	Cross-cutting
In Q1 of 2021, partners of the WNCB Alliance in India improved the design of a research proposal based on the annotated bibliography	The use of the annotated bibliography was relevant to know what other research was available on this topic. Such a systematic overview was not available earlier.	The articles in the Annotated Bibliography that were used as background for the proposal were brought together by students in 2020 with support from the WNCB Research WG.	The research proposal from India Annotated bibliography	Cross-cutting
Working group: Child Rights & Business Principles				
Since June 2021, the members of the CRBP community with a specific interest in the ASM gold sector have increased engagement / exchange of knowledge and experience with each other.	The outcome contributes to more knowledge of how to engage relevant actors in the formal and informal gold mining sector to improve children's rights.	Three exchange sessions with CRBP focal points Ivory Coast, Mali, Uganda. Information exchange on Teams Platform Draft ToR on developing content for workshops with the formal and informal gold mining sectors in Ivory Coast, Mali, Uganda.	Interaction during exchange sessions, via e-mail and on Teams Platform. Contributions to collective draft Terms of Reference.	3
Working group: MEAL				
APs (Alliance Partners) focus on better and more integration of norms and behaviour change strategies in programme planning, activity design, strategy development, communication and learning events.	A common finding in all SenseMaker studies was that there was a cognitive dissonance between people's initial awareness of and opinions about child labour and the level to which child labour is part of existing norms, values and behaviour within communities. Although norms change is part of the programme's existing approach, the finding allows programme partners to design more context-specific strategies and possibly to scale up their work to the wider community with respect to norms change.	APs (Alliance Partners) are supported to use SenseMaker findings in their programme planning, activity design, strategy development, communication and learning events.	Integration of norm change in WNCB position paper Knowledge and learning events on norms change Annual plans SenseMaker Study reports	Cross-cutting
Programme Partners (India, Uganda, Mali, Vietnam, Ivory Coast) are more aware of KPI data and use this information to plan towards specific quantitative targets and have more coherence between their strategic pathways.	The coherence between the different strategic pathways can be improved by assessing population data and KPIs. KPIs can also inform L&A activities and child protection systems.	WNCB & APs have a set up that allows them to report in IATI. Support to countries to organise data collection, assess their KPI data. Guidance document for targeting.	IPTT IATI Dashboard	
Country partner and working groups' Annual Plans are better aligned to our strategic pathways.	WNCB has a bottom-up approach in which partners are encouraged to improve their way of working.	Support in the annual planning process to countries.	Annual plans 2022	

4. CROSS-CUTTING COMPONENTS

4.1 LINKING AND LEARNING QUESTIONS

Based on the results and overall progress that the WNCB programme made over the year 2020, we identified a set of key learning questions to guide the programme in 2021. The guidance that these questions have given the programme's implementation in the countries and working groups has led to the following lessons learned:

1. What experiences and/or opportunities do countries have for scaling up for increased effectiveness and impact?

In Uganda, the country programme has been working with the Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development (MGLSD) to finalise the National Action Plan (NAP) on the Elimination of Child Labour, working with a focal point person from the Ministry of Justice and Constitutional Affairs to expedite the processing of the ordinances and bye-laws approval. The WNCB country team, together with MGLSD, disseminated the National Child Rights Policy. This resulted in the stakeholders proposing the establishment of functional child welfare committees at the Sub-County and District level to strengthen the child protection mechanisms.

In Vietnam the Prime Minister approved the National Programme on Prevention and Elimination of Child Labour 2021-2025. This programme provides a more robust national policy framework with specific measures for prevention and responses to child labour, including, for the first time, communication, and awareness-raising for the prevention and elimination of child labour.

In Jordan, government entities showed ownership and leadership at the policy and co-ordination levels, with a focus on the scaling of service provision and quality of services to reach more children. The WNCB Alliance supported the National Council for Family Affairs (NCFA) in finalising the National Framework to Combat Child Labour and related standard operational procedures (SOPs). The framework enshrines the government's commitment to protect children affected by child labour and outlines the key principles, roles of different agencies, and services to be provided.

The Ministry of Social Development will develop a bye-law on child labour, which aligns with juvenile justice legislation and recognises working children as children in need of protection and care. WNCB partner Rowad Al-Khair was able to scale up its case management interventions for working children and these will be replicated in other areas in 2022.

In Ivory Coast the Alliance supported the government in the celebration of the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour to ensure visibility and commitment at the highest level of the State as well as among youth and children. WNCB facilitated the sharing of strategies and results with the Embassy of the Netherlands and identified advocacy points that the Embassy proposed to pursue jointly with UNICEF and other Alliance members.

In India, the WNCB country team envisaged a long-term collaborative strategy with the national government of Rajasthan and successfully advocated for including a 'child labour free' clause in the Rajasthan Transparency and Public Procurement Act 2013.

2. How can the WNCB Alliance continue to strengthen the activities and the objective of getting children back to school and out of child labour after the COVID-19 lockdowns in the countries?

In Uganda, home learning centres were established where children gained the requisite knowledge in line with the Ministry of Education's home-based learning curriculum. Learning centres prevented children from entering child labour since they were able to spend at least nine hours at the learning centres each week.

In Mali children were enrolled in the Adapted School Strategy/Passerelle (SSA/P) centres and then returned to the formal school system.

In Ivory Coast, beyond teacher trainings, dialogue is maintained with the actors of the education system to facilitate the transformation of the

bridging classes into community schools, and their integration into the school map. In the same way, the communities were supported to mobilise additional resources that allowed the classrooms to be constructed of sustainable materials and then to serve as the first buildings for a formal school.

In India, we have seen increased enrolment of children in school across all WNCB partners. Innovative teaching methods, like forming online social media groups according to children's learning level, teaching through online videos, and having children attend webinars on different relevant topics were followed to engage more and more children from the community.

3. How do we effectively integrate the thematic focus on parents' economic empowerment (living wages, Village Saving and Loans Associations, income-generating activities, cash transfers, etc.) in our Theory of Change, geared towards the elimination of child labour and access to quality formal education?

In Uganda we have seen the economic empowerment of families through training and the establishment of Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs).

In Mali the country team and communities developed strategies to keep their children in school through income-generating activities, as well as Mothers' Associations for Children (AMEs). The WNCB programme will continue to analyse the possibility of financing more women, given that they are generally poor in rural areas. Other income-generating activities were introduced, for example through soapmaking and the use of revolving funds to be used by all those whose children are enrolled in school.

In Vietnam the Alliance provided direct cash transfers to 1,220 disadvantaged children who were at risk of dropout and child labour. The Alliance provided tablets and school aid packages to 546 children to ensure these children continue their schooling during the lockdown period.

In Jordan the programme adapted planned livelihood activities by replacing vocational trainings and startup kits with cash assistance for parents. The aim was to mobilise the private sector and community members to donate to ROWAD Al-Khair's cash programme, and subsequently support the families of working children.

In Ivory Coast ANADER has continued to provide economic support to 750 vulnerable families through social transfers, income-generating activities and Village Savings and Credit Associations (VSCAs), with the aim of improving farmers' productivity and income. Save the Children and ANADER have established 55 VSCAs that are operational in 38 villages in the Nawa region. In some cases, the profits generated by the VSCAs have enabled members to replace child labour with adult labour on their plantations. Preparations have begun to connect the VSCAs to basic financial institutions to improve access to financial products for small households. IGAs and cash transfers need to be combined with initiatives to improve access to basic social services and activities that promote changes in social norms.

In India, the country team has focused on training and capacity-building on vegetable farming and exposure to livestock-raising and management.

4. How can we ensure and demonstrate that awareness-raising activities and campaigns, focused on the elimination of child labour, will eventually lead to changes of behaviour and practice of all stakeholders involved (public and private sector, and civil society)?

In Uganda, small-scale artisanal miners were trained after which they developed and displayed codes of conduct on child labour in their premises and areas of operation in Moroto and Nakapiripirit.

In Mali, for 2022 there has been a focus on establishing links with local radio stations for broadcasting in 1 predesigned messages and spots in local languages as incentives for back-to-school campaigns.

In Vietnam the programme raised the awareness of 400 parents, caregivers, and children on the negative impact of child labour and the long-term benefits of education and facilitating access to protection and social services for vulnerable children and their families. Through these activities, parents and children showed high commitment in continuing their education.

In Jordan, WNCB continued to support the three established Child Protection Committees (CPCs) and trained their members (19 members), who have started implementing awareness-raising activities. Community leaders were able to deliver the awareness-raising sessions on child rights and child labour to their communities, while employers

became more aware of the child labour law. The private sector has been engaged to combat child labour through awareness-raising activities and by encouraging them to sign the 'ending child labour' pledge of the International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour. While interventions in 2021 focused on awareness-raising, interventions in 2022 will focus on improving both knowledge and skills to effectively protect children.

In Ivory Coast it is important to note that for some years now the authorities have felt that the time has come to combine awareness-raising initiatives against child labour with enforcement operations against those who use children for work. WNCB partners are addressing this with relevant authorities, as repressive enforcement is not in the best interest of children (parents are imprisoned). However, this issue may need high-level follow-up from other actors as well. At the same time, WNCB partners continue to engage communities on prevention and reduction of child labour.

In India there have been community awareness meetings, motivation camps and deployment of field mobilisers, focused on communities as well as on private sector engagement.

KEY LESSONS LEARNED

The learning derived from the key learning questions, in conjunction with the analysis of the harvested outcomes, leads us to the identification of lessons learned that will further be explored over the year 2022.

- In the countries we have demonstrated the value of multi-stakeholder involvement and engagement with local and national governments as well as with private sector actors, to ensure the possibilities for scaling-up. The involvement of local communities and their ownership of the programme further ensures the sustainability of the activities and results of the WNCB country programmes.
- Due to the continued impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on access to quality education, the WNCB countries have prioritised bringing children back to school and have focused on community engagement. This priority will continue in 2022 and provides us with the opportunity to further explore the linkage between child labour and education, as well as to demonstrate the complementarity between the programme's area-based approach and value chain approach.

Particular attention will be given to including the informal sector through the programme's focus on child rights and business principles.

- The economic empowerment of parents and caretakers has been approached via various tools and methods, such as Village Savings and Loans Associations, livelihood training, cash transfers and aid packages. In the coming years it will be a priority to share the experiences between the countries, as well as identify evidence that will demonstrate if and how the various ways of working contribute to our final goal of the elimination of child labour.
- The engagement of the private sector will require a deep dive and strategic interventions through a multi-stakeholder approach, including a crucial role for the communities and civil society organisations. The increased partnership that we have seen in the countries has contributed to more effective involvement of private sector actors in the programme.
- Awareness-raising activities have generated changes of practice and/or behaviour in key actors, such as local and national governments and private sector stakeholders. However, the engagement of these actors will remain key to ensure enduring ownership of the WNCB programme's child labour goals. Over the next few years, we hope to see increased engagement of public and private sector actors, as well as collaboration with civil society organisations.

Support to the countries to further explore the abovementioned lessons learned will be provided through the various thematic working groups, as well as through the Alliance partners' networks.



Safe spaces and life skills training (Jordan)

4.2 INCLUSIVENESS, GENDER EQUALITY AND EQUITY

The Practice of Gender Equality and Social Inclusion (GESI) is an important pillar of the WNCB programme. In 2021, we aimed to have a context-specific gender-sensitive approach in all our countries of implementation.

GESI approach

Gender Equality and Social Inclusion has been an integral element in the development of the annual plans to ensure that vulnerable groups have access to appropriate and relevant services. In 2021 we were able to use all the data from our surveys, SenseMaker studies and other MEAL activities to better understand the level of inequality in our target communities. The collection of disaggregated data enabled the identification of needs and best practices on the inclusion of marginalised and vulnerable groups such as sexual minorities, migrants, people with disabilities, children affected by HIV, and people living in poverty. Data also allowed us to design context-specific and tailor-made gender assessments in each country, which are being conducted in 2022.

We strengthened the capacity of WNCB partners and country gender focal points and started to pay more attention to the gender balance in staffing. Gender focal points in each country ensured that activities were sufficiently gender-responsive and/or transformative. We remained agile by ensuring that sufficient funds were allocated for GESI activities throughout the year in each country.

Gender-responsive and gender transformative Activities in 2021 were gender-responsive and where possible, gender-transformative.

The partners bring attention to gender inequalities and address the root causes of child labour among girls in all contexts of implementation. Girls are the most vulnerable to early marriage and domestic work. To counter these risks, key messages about gender stereotypes, gender-based violence and sexual and reproductive health have formed part of our awareness-raising campaigns. We also further promoted and increased access to education for girls in all our contexts of implementation. Behaviour change communication efforts helped to remove the myths and misconceptions about girls' education and girls being a burden for the family and led to more girls enrolling in school.

Within our implementation, we ensure that activities particularly strengthen the role of women and girls. Economic empowerment activities often target mothers. Female community members were asked to reach out to and engage mothers. Livelihood components (including vocational training and startup kits) target both male and female caregivers to financially empower families. Several experiences have taught us that this enables families to better support their children to go to school.

4.3 SUSTAINABILITY ANALYSIS

We want our impact to last beyond the lifetime of the programme, so it remains important that we monitor to ensure that we achieve lasting change. Our country partners described the financial, institutional, environmental, technical and institutional aspects of the sustainability of their activities. Likewise, our work plan and reported outcomes were analysed in relation to these sustainability pointers.

4.3.1 FINANCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

The programme partners directly facilitate economic empowerment through livelihood approaches such as income-generating activities and cash transfers. In addition, teenagers who were previously engaged in child labour are supported to find decent work opportunities. Economic empowerment in combination with the community-based/livelihood approaches increase the likelihood that children will enjoy their right to education, and of bringing an end to child labour. These community-based services are organised with the support of teachers and accountability mechanisms within communities. This allows the services to exist independently of the partner organisations and to continue beyond the duration of the WNCB programme. In addition, local actors are strengthened to mobilise resources from the public and private sector for child protection initiatives. Lastly, Villages Savings and Loans Associations were set up and connected to financial institutions and local governments to ensure the continuation of services and technical support. These efforts transfer the ownership of and responsibilities for continuation of services to governments, businesses and communities, thereby increasing financial sustainability.

4.3.2 INSTITUTIONAL SUSTAINABILITY

The continuous engagement of stakeholders and partnership-building activities have strengthened current systems, institutions, policies and

procedures at national and local level to meet the community's needs. This includes lobby activities towards national, regional, district and local governments to strengthen child protection systems. Through an evidence-based approach and by sharing lessons learnt, the WNCB achieved a unique position in the countries to promote, advocate and inform policies on child labour. Next, through collaborating with (local) governments, teachers, social workers, local organisations and child protection committees, the current child protection structures are strengthened and local ownership is facilitated. The Alliance has also supported businesses to strengthen their management system to reduce the risk of child labour, and has ensured protection and maintained benefits for their young workforce and parenting workers. The institutional strengthening contributes to structural changes and increases the likelihood of creating lasting changes to keep children out of child labour and in schools.

4.3.3 ENVIRONMENTAL SUSTAINABILITY

The effects of floods and droughts caused by climate change have become a mainstream issue. First of all, these can worsen the root causes of child labour, as livelihoods are affected. For example, in India floods cause displacement and form challenging circumstances for children who have migrated to attend school, and in Uganda droughts lead to food insecurities. Climate adaptation efforts such as planting trees are sometimes part of other activities that our project partners implement on a community level. In addition, the specific sectors in which we address child labour, such as mining and agriculture, have the potential to address environmental degradation which impacts the livelihoods of communities.

4.3.4 TECHNICAL SUSTAINABILITY

Whether it is by strengthening governments, communities or other stakeholders, we aim to ensure that the gains of their interventions survive the end of the project. For this reason, a high degree of ownership by local communities and national parties is key. Technical support and capacity-building efforts are provided by the partners to achieve, maintain and further develop child protection approaches. Accordingly, child protection initiatives are considered an extension of collective concerns and the responsibilities of community members alongside governments and businesses. The child protection committees are run by volunteers from the community. They play a role in identifying child labour cases and refer child protection concerns to governmental child

protection structures. The voluntary community engagement ensures that the results of the project are sustained.

4.3.5 SOCIAL SUSTAINABILITY

We aim to empower children, caregivers, and community members to change social norms and to break poverty cycles beyond the lifespan of the WNCB programme. Our activities support poor women to do things such as achieve economic sustainability, reduce school dropout, and equip young people with the necessary skills for better occupations. These efforts strengthen society and contribute to a reduction in child labour. The focus on norm changes addressing the root causes of child labour facilitates lasting social change. The programme is community-centred and therefore involves a high degree of community participation in planning, implementation and tracking progress. District stakeholders and community elders are always engaged in project reviews and strategic project implementation. The community-based mechanisms - particularly child protection committees (CPCs) - improve this ownership at the local level. In addition, the data collection methods have been improved, random sampling methods were applied by partners, and the baseline information was successfully corrected. This leads to a better understanding of the current situation and of specific needs within communities, such as inclusion and gender-sensitive approaches.

CONCLUSION

In 2021 many partners were able to keep on track towards implementing their annual plans and we have seen increased collaboration between the country partners for effective programme implementation. In this implementation, the country partners continued to address heightened child labour risks arising from the COVID-19 pandemic. Many children had no opportunity to attend schools and entered child labour with no chance to return to school afterward. Furthermore, parents and caretakers lost their jobs and income, thus limiting children's access to quality education. Besides the pandemic in Uganda, we have seen the effects of climate change through droughts, while in Mali the political instability limited the programme's activities too.

Despite these limiting factors, the WNCB countries have found new and innovative ways to implement most of their planned activities. Concerning Pathway 1: 'Child empowerment and community-based approach', the countries have focused on bringing children back to school, supporting the communities, strengthening child protection systems, and economic empowerment.

In 2021 we saw an increase in the importance of our activities to get children back into the formal education system, with increased support from governments. The linkage between education and child labour has thus become prominent in most programme countries.

The country programmes have also effectively engaged with local and national governments leading to, for example, a National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour in Uganda, and the development of a bye-law against child labour in Jordan.

The private sector involvement and engagement has led to increased ownership from companies and commitments to reduce and/or eliminate child labour, for example in Vietnam where two factories have committed to a zero-tolerance policy concerning child labour, and in Ivory Coast where 500 cocoa farmers have improved their productivity leading to increased income and access to quality education.

Government and private sector engagement has successfully been implemented in all country



Girls from life skills training (India)

programmes and we expect that the results will increasingly generate political frameworks and business models in support of our fight against child labour.

The engagement of the Dutch and EU governments has been achieved by the Lobby and Advocacy working group. Due to staff changes in the Dutch Alliance partners during the year, the working group was not able to implement all planned activities and achieve the expected results. In Quarter Four of 2021 we addressed this challenge and managed to effectively engage the Dutch government on due diligence legislation. On EU level we will continue to collaborate on Corporate Social Responsibility legislation. In the next year we expect to actively progress in our engagement toward national and international governments, for example via the Global Conference on Child Labour in South Africa in May 2022.

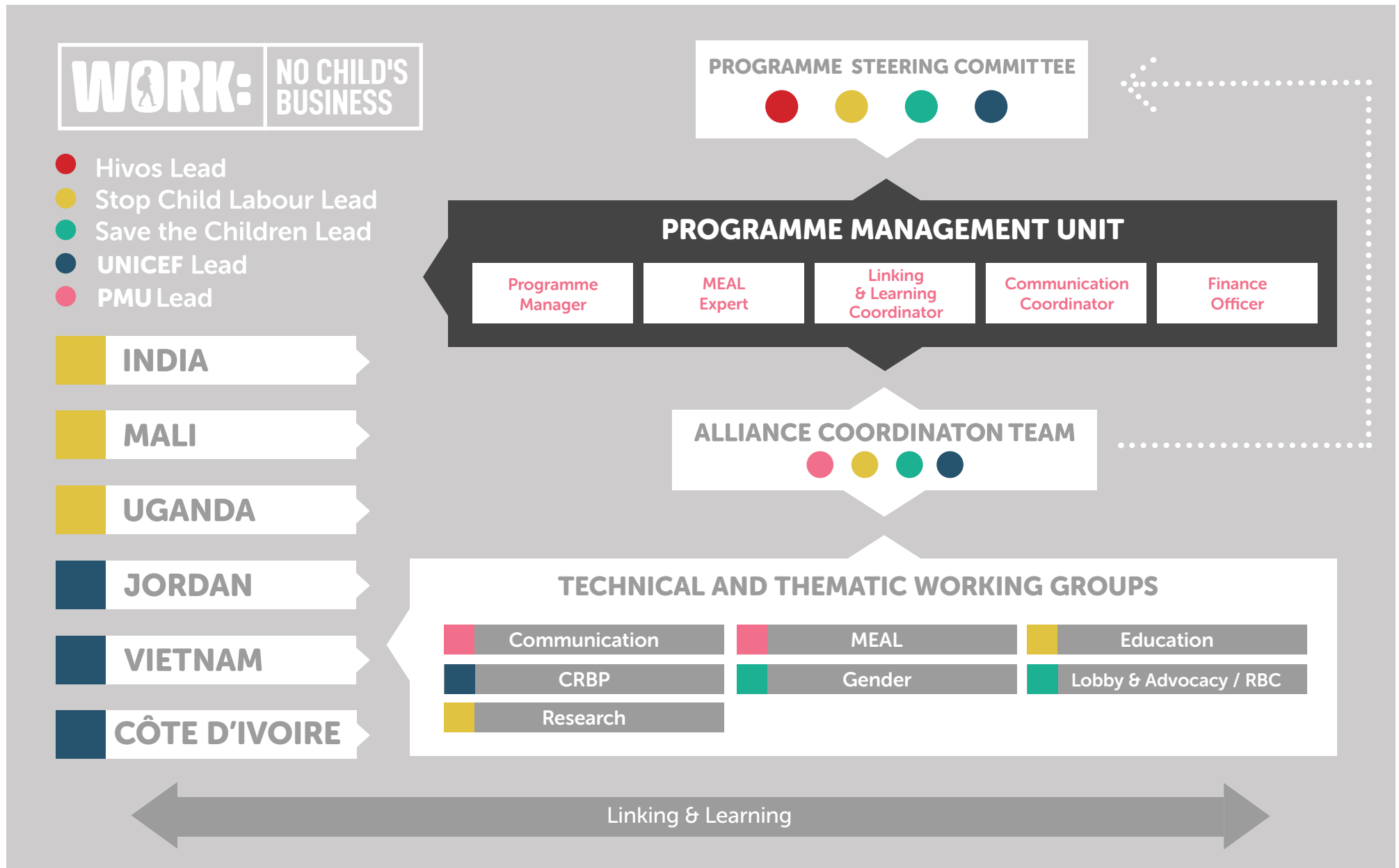
Within the WNCB Alliance, the multi-stakeholder approach and partnership strengthening that has occurred in the countries remains a key to success. There has been an increase of engagement with governments and businesses, leading to greater ownership by local and national governments, as well as changes of practices by companies to decrease child labour. The programme will continue to provide tools and methodology to foster effective collaborations between the programme partners as well as with external relevant stakeholders. WNCB Alliance partners complement each other's work in different ways. Activities within the communities continued and were expanded, with a focus on strengthening community-based norms change and child protection systems, improving the economic situation of households with children in child labour and/or at risk of child labour, and supporting children and youth to re-enter school/ education or to participate in vocational training programmes. The WNCB working groups provided technical and strategic support and guidance for the country programmes, as well as an increased exchange of knowledge and experiences and capacity-strengthening in, for example, outcome harvesting, gender mainstreaming, and the development of localised research proposals.

Key lessons learned in 2021 focused on ways to bring children back to school, the economic empowerment of parents and caretakers, the scaling-up of activities and results, and how awareness-raising activities can lead to significant

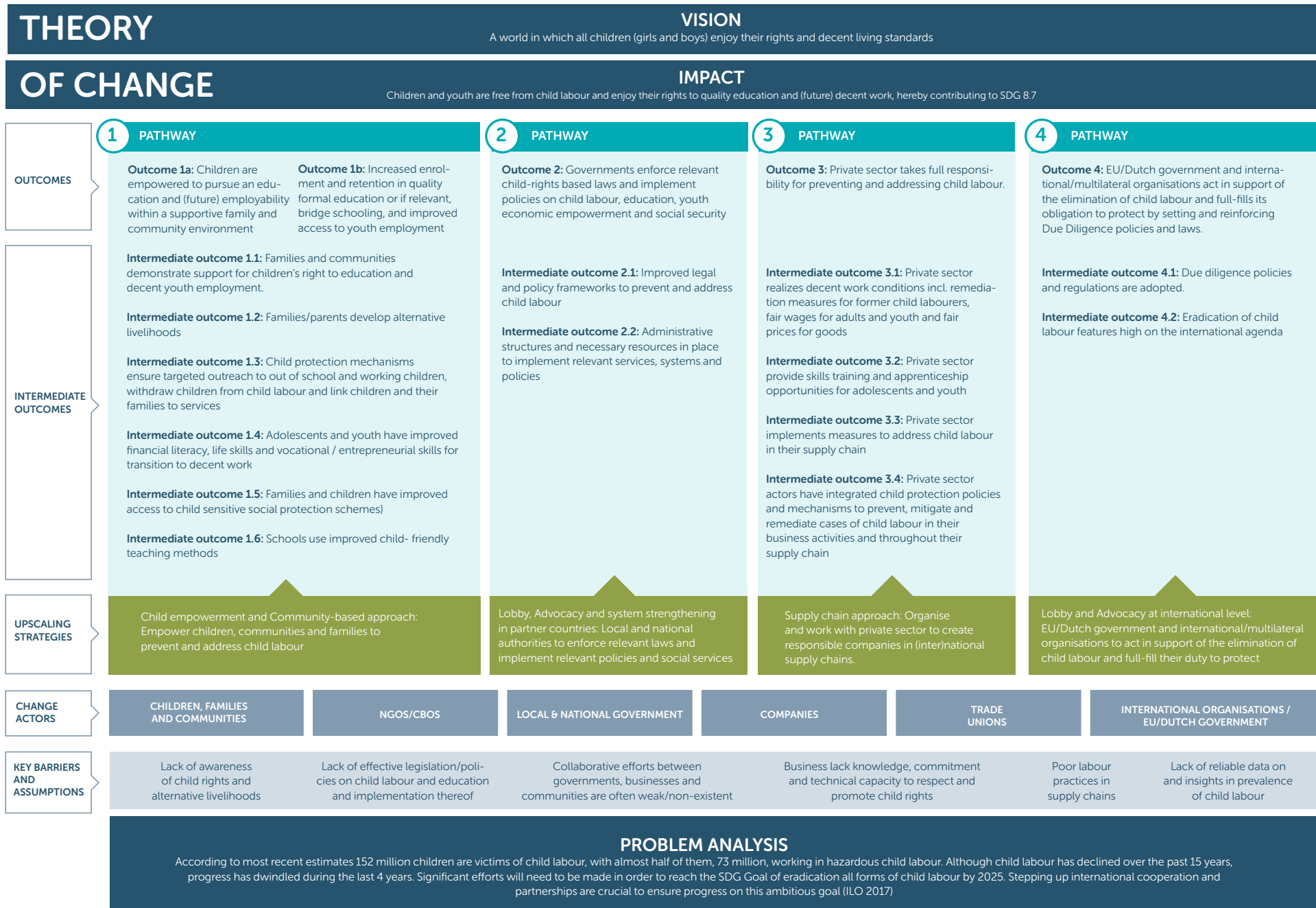
changes in behaviours and practices by key stakeholders and actors. We will continue to explore these and additional key learnings in order to ensure the effectiveness, increased impact and sustainability of the WNCB programme.

As a final note, we would like to thank all WNCB staff for their tireless efforts and commitment to a world in which child labour will be eradicated. The country teams and working groups have strengthened their collaboration and will continue to guide the programme to a future in which children and youth are free from child labour and enjoy their rights to quality education and (future) decent work.

ANNEX 1: WNCB ORGANISATION CHART



ANNEX 2: THEORY OF CHANGE



ANNEX 3: APPROACHES OF THE PROGRAMME

Each partner brings a unique set of strategies, experiences, and networks to our alliance. The alliance therefore integrates several distinct approaches in support of our strategic pathways in the **Theory of Change**. These are: (1) area-based approach; (2) strengthening child protection systems; (3) supply chain approach and (4) (international) lobby and advocacy. These existing approaches enable us to conduct evidence-based advocacy for the scale up of effective strategies to the sub-national and national level, as well as link area-based approaches (urban and rural) to (sectoral) supply chain approaches, whilst supporting national action plans on the elimination of child labour.

The **area-based** approach ensures all children within a given area who don't attend school are included in the programme which similarly means that not 'only' children who work in a specific sector or on the worst forms of child labour are 'targeted'. Through this approach we ensure to include so-called 'invisible' children who work on their family's land or as domestic workers in the household within a specific geographical area. The aim is to empower all children in a targeted or **area** and to enhance and improve access to (quality) formal education, bridge or transitional schooling, and youth employment within a supportive family and community environment. The second approach focusses on **(community-based) child protection system strengthening**. Under this approach the alliance collects evidence for advocacy purposes and emphasizes the need for strengthening accountability mechanisms. The approach works both ways. On the one hand it is geared towards engaging communities in child protection and to link up families at risk to child labour with case management services. Local governments are also stimulated to enforce relevant child-rights based laws and to have coherent policies in place on child labour, education, youth economic empowerment and social security. Direct services are often provided to families and children through Case Management Services. Through both the **area-based approach** and **child protection system strengthening**, root causes of child labour such

as traditions and norms, the violation of workers' rights, and poor education systems are addressed. They also both aim to work from the bottom up with relevant stakeholders to remove key barriers to the elimination of child labour and to the protection and fulfilment of child rights. These stakeholders include school principals, teachers, child protection committees, parents, children, village and/or religious leaders, community, and women's groups, (education) unions, local authorities, employers and companies, and financial institutions.

Both approaches require business action and related interventions not only inside the workplace, but also in communities and throughout global supply chains. The **supply chain approach** can therefore be seen as a cross cutting strategy within other approaches. The sectors that fall within the scope of this programme are gold/mining, garment, textiles & footwear, natural stone, cocoa, and informal and/or domestic work. Collaborating with the private sector to take full responsibility for preventing and addressing child labour. The supply chain of most companies is top-down and set up in a vertical manner. In the 'Work: No Child's Business'- programme, the efforts of companies will be complemented and strengthened by the horizontal (area) and a bottom-up approach initiated by local communities, civil society organisations by engaging the local companies and to make their role specific. We conduct trainings on CRBP, support business and assist in developing action plans that integrate CRNP actions into workplace policies. We also advocate with authorities to carry out labour site inspections and roll out child labour remediation plans.

Lobby and Advocacy at an international level is performed to ensure that **international and multilateral organisations, the Dutch government, and EU** representatives act in support of the elimination of child labour, monitor companies' behaviour, and fulfil their duty to protect children's rights by setting relevant policies and regulations on due diligence. The approach seeks to encourage the EU, Dutch government, and

international/multilateral organisations to act in support of the elimination of child labour and fulfil their obligation to protect by setting and reinforcing due diligence policies and laws. The alliance expects governments to hold companies accountable in line with the OECD guidelines and guidance, and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

WORK: NO CHILD'S BUSINESS



Save the Children



for every child

STOP



CHILD LABOUR
School is the best place to work