National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour
For fiscal year 2015 - 2020

Group of Women, Young Worker and Labour Protection Network
Labour Protection Bureau
Department of Labour Protection and Welfare, Ministry of Labour
Mitmairi Road, Dindaeng, Bangkok 10400
Tel. 0 2246 8006, 0 2245 6520 Hotline : 1546
www.labour.go.th
Preface

In the era of global change towards globalisation, there is a rapid economic, social and technological change; that result in the flow of capital and resources. Human resources, being one of the economic driving force mechanisms, generate labour mobility in diverse types and process of employment, which responds to labour demand in the economy necessary for labour productivity. In the current global community, many countries recognise and seek fair and just employment that does no violate labour rights.

Ministry of Labour, in close collaboration with the partnership networks seek prevention measures and solution for the worst forms of child labour. Thailand has given high priority to the issue of the worst forms of child labour by ratifying the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour on 16 February 2001.

Ministry of Labour, International Labour Organization and the partnership networks collaborated to develop the 2nd Thailand National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015-2020, with the purpose of utilising this as a master plan for partnership network to effectively and successfully eradicate the worst forms of child labour according to the goals indicated. An Action Plan has also been developed in order to guide the partnership networks towards constructive, continuous and successful implementation. The National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015-2020 has been approved by the National Committee to the Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour on 9 December 2015 and acknowledged by the Cabinet on 29 December 2015.

Ministry of Labour
December 2015
# National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour For fiscal year 2015 - 2020

## Part 1 Introduction

1. **Background, Principles and Purpose**  
2. **Evaluation Results from the 1st National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009-2014**
   - 1.2.1 Final evaluation at the end of the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014
   - 1.2.2 Results of the evaluation from the analysis of the partnership network
   - 1.2.3 Results of the evaluation from quantitative and qualitative research
   - 1.2.4 Factors causing challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the measures and strategies under the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014 by the relevant partner agencies in order to set up guidelines and offer recommendations to prevent and to solve the problems of the worst forms of child labour

1.3 **The Situation of Child Labour**
   - 1.3.1 The global situation of the worst forms of child labour
   - 1.3.2 The situation of the worst forms of child labour in Thailand

1.4 **Definitions**

1.5 **Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour**
   - 1.5.1 Important contents in an action plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labour comprise of:
   - 1.5.2 Examples of the best practices to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in other countries
   - 1.5.3 Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

1.6 **The principles of the Plan**

1.7 **The purposes of the Plan**

1.8 **Period of the Plan**

---

### Table of Contents (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Section</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Part 1 Introduction</td>
<td>7</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.1 Background, Principles and Purpose</td>
<td>8</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2 Evaluation Results from the 1st National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009-2014</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.1 Final evaluation at the end of the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.2 Results of the evaluation from the analysis of the partnership network</td>
<td>10</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.3 Results of the evaluation from quantitative and qualitative research</td>
<td>12</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.2.4 Factors causing challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the measures and strategies under the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014</td>
<td>14</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3 The Situation of Child Labour</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.1 The global situation of the worst forms of child labour</td>
<td>16</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.3.2 The situation of the worst forms of child labour in Thailand</td>
<td>17</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.4 Definitions</td>
<td>23</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5 Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour</td>
<td>25</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.1 Important contents in an action plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labour comprise of:</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.2 Examples of the best practices to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in other countries</td>
<td>26</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.5.3 Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour</td>
<td>28</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.6 The principles of the Plan</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.7 The purposes of the Plan</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1.8 Period of the Plan</td>
<td>29</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
Table of Contents (continued)

Part 2 The National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015 - 2020

2.1 Policy 32
2.2 Vision 33
2.3 Mission 33
2.4 Goal 33
2.5 Indicators 33

2.6 Strategies to eliminate the worst forms of child labour 33

1st Strategy The Prevention of the worst forms of child labour 35
2nd Strategy The protection and withdrawal of children from the worst forms of child labour 38
3rd Strategy The effective law enforcement and improvement of relevant legislations 40
4th Strategy The development of cooperation between partnership networks 42
5th Strategy The development of management system, monitoring and evaluation 45
### Table of Contents (continued)

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Part 3 The management and monitoring for the mobilization of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for Fiscal year 2015 - 2020</th>
<th>Page</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>3.1 The framework in implementing of the National Policy and Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour</td>
<td>50</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.2 Partnership networks in all sectors will adopt the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for implementation</td>
<td>51</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.3 Objectives</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.4 The Strategy Management</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5 The roles of the partnership networks in all sectors and the general public</td>
<td>52</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.1 National mechanism</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.2 Ministerial mechanism (or equivalent)</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.3 Provincial and local mechanism</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.4 Private sector</td>
<td>53</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.5 Civil society</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.6 Media</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.5.7 General public</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3.6 Monitoring and evaluation</td>
<td>54</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Mobilizing Mechanism and Monitoring of the National Policy and Plan for Fiscal year 2015 - 2020

Appendix
Part 1 Introduction

1.1 Background, Principles and Purpose
1.2 Evaluation Results from the 1st National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009-2014
1.3 The Situation of Child Labour
1.4 Definitions
1.5 Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour
1.6 The principles of the Plan
1.7 The purposes of the Plan
1.8 Period of the Plan
Introduction

1.1 Background, Principles and Purposes

Thailand has given high priority to child labour problems by ratifying the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour on 16 February 2001, and the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment on 11 May 2004. Both Conventions have to be jointly implemented to formulate a national policy with the aim of effectively putting an end to child labour as the International Labour Organization has set a global target to eliminate the worst forms of child labour by the year 2016.

Thailand has set up the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014 in accordance with Article 6 of the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182. On 28 January 2009, the Thai Cabinet acknowledged the National Policy and Plan, which was considered as Thailand’s first National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The relevant authorities have used it as a Master Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014, taking into consideration the principles of non-discrimination, human rights, as well as the participation of every sector in the society and in compliance with the international obligation.

After the relevant partnership networks adopted the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014 to be the Master Plan, the Department of Labour Protection and Welfare, Ministry of Labour, conducted a study to evaluate the work of those partners at all levels, especially the government agencies. The goals were to analyse problems, challenges and factors causing challenges and obstacles to the implementation for fiscal year 2009–2014. The study
also offered recommendations to prevent and to solve the problems of the worst forms of child labour, which has led to the development of the 2nd National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour later on.

The results of the evaluation revealed that the relevant partners had made progress in following the strategies and measures because the National Policy and Plan had contributed to the coordination between the relevant authorities, which helped clarified roles of each agency, which created a more proactive work approach and a more coherent coordination. In order to cover all target groups and to deal with the increasing problems, there was a need for adequate amount of budget. Nevertheless, many agencies – both government and non-governmental – faced the lack of financial support, hindering the full implementation of their activities. Besides, there was no Action Plan that guided serious implementation.

The Department of Labour Protection and Welfare, Ministry of Labour, in collaboration with the International Labour Organization (ILO), therefore developed and set up a framework to create the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015 – 2020. It was aimed to be used as an overarching Master Plan for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in accordance with the intendment of the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour. All partner agencies could utilise the National Policy and Plan as the Master Plan to create their own Action Plan in order to effectively and successfully eliminate the worst forms of child labour. When the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour completes in 2020, focusing on the cooperation between partner agencies in rescuing and protecting children against the worst forms of child labour, and enhancing the integrity of the original Plan, the concerned authorities will therefore set out vision of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, especially on each strategy where details such as goals, purposes, indicators, measures, procedures, agencies in charge and supporting agencies, have been identified. They will also add steering mechanisms to those strategies towards implementation, as well as a monitoring framework to evaluate the completion of the set vision and goals.
1.2 Evaluation Results from the 1st National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014

1.2.1 Final evaluation at the end of the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014

The evaluation at the end of the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014, which was the primary source of information, revealed that there were two groups of agencies dealing with the worst forms of child labour. The first group was considered ‘direct partners’ which means that they took parts in drafting and implementing the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014, namely the Ministry of Labour, the Ministry of Social Development and Human Security, the Ministry of Education, the Royal Thai Police, the Ministry of Justice, and the Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives. The second group of agencies was called ‘indirect partners’ which means that they did not take part in drafting the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014. Nevertheless, their jobs were relevant or interrelated with the work under the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, namely the Ministry of Industry, the Ministry of Public Health, the Ministry of Interior, and Non-Governmental Organizations (NGOs), etc. These agencies’ missions were relevant to the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, which were to promote and to cooperate with other agencies in preventing the worst forms of child labour and warding off children from falling prey to human trafficking, including the vulnerable group, ethnic groups, the stateless, the vagrant, teenage mothers, the broken-home, the infectious, etc.

1.2.2 Results of the evaluation from the analysis of the partnership network

At the conclusion of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014, there was an evaluation on the implementation of the Plan by the partner agencies as follows;
Activities organized by either direct or direct partner agencies were mostly related to the measure in the 1st Strategy, which were activities on campaigning and building awareness. Activity No. 1.1.4 –campaign and public relations towards government officials, private sectors, entrepreneurs and people in general to have correct knowledge and understanding about the law on protecting children from the worst forms of child labour.

Partnership network whose works were relevant to this Strategy has implemented activities in accordance with measure No. 2, which was the assistance and rehabilitation of the children rescued from the worst forms of child labour. Another 4.2% of the partnership network whose works were relevant to the 2nd Strategy has followed measure No. 4, which was the promotion and improvement of the quality of childcare and child protection service for the children rescued from the worst forms of child labour. The reports came mostly from the central region and Bangkok.

Measure No. 2 –Strict Law Enforcement – was the only measure reported on the implementation, which came mostly from southern and north-eastern regions. Although there was no report from the analysis of the partnership network on the implementation of another two measures, namely measure No.1 : Studying, analyzing and reviewing related laws and regulations in order to improve efficiency, and measure No.3 : Studying, analysing and researching on the conditions of child labour in order to develop and revise laws. Although there was no report on the result on partnership network analysis but there were quantitative analysis reports on these 2 measures.

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Strategy</th>
<th>Implementation for fiscal year 2009 – 2014</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>1st Strategy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The prevention of the worst forms of child labour</td>
<td>Activities organized by either direct or direct partner agencies were mostly related to the measure in the 1st Strategy, which were activities on campaigning and building awareness. Activity No. 1.1.4 –campaign and public relations towards government officials, private sectors, entrepreneurs and people in general to have correct knowledge and understanding about the law on protecting children from the worst forms of child labour.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2nd Strategy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The protection and withdrawal children from the worst forms of child labour</td>
<td>Partnership network whose works were relevant to this Strategy has implemented activities in accordance with measure No. 2, which was the assistance and rehabilitation of the children rescued from the worst forms of child labour. Another 4.2% of the partnership network whose works were relevant to the 2nd Strategy has followed measure No. 4, which was the promotion and improvement of the quality of childcare and child protection service for the children rescued from the worst forms of child labour. The reports came mostly from the central region and Bangkok.</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>3rd Strategy</td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>The Effective Law Enforcement and Improvement of relevant legislations</td>
<td>Measure No. 2 –Strict Law Enforcement – was the only measure reported on the implementation, which came mostly from southern and north-eastern regions. Although there was no report from the analysis of the partnership network on the implementation of another two measures, namely measure No.1 : Studying, analyzing and reviewing related laws and regulations in order to improve efficiency, and measure No.3 : Studying, analysing and researching on the conditions of child labour in order to develop and revise laws. Although there was no report on the result on partnership network analysis but there were quantitative analysis reports on these 2 measures.</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>
There were only two measures that have been reported on the implementation including measure No.5 : Continuous promotion and provision of knowledge and skills for personnel involved, and measure No.6 : Promotion of knowledge for personnel involved on laws and practices regarding the protection and rehabilitation of the children, both Thai and foreign, affected by the worst forms of child labour. The reports came mostly from North-eastern and the Central regions.

Most of the Partnership network reported that they have implemented measure No. 3: Establishment of emergency response system, followed by measure No. 7: Developing cooperation with international community and international organizations, and measure No. 6: allocating resources for the National Plan to be implemented effectively and appropriately. The reports came mostly from Bangkok.

1.2.3 Results of the evaluation from quantitative and qualitative research

This was an analysis and evaluation of an individual, group of people and both direct and indirect partner agencies. The evaluation was conducted on the basis of the primary data gathered by a survey using evaluation forms sent out to the partnership network nationwide. From total of 1,520 evaluation forms sent out, 1,100 forms (or 72.4%) were replied. The evaluation was on 4 topics as follows;

1st Topic: Knowledge, understanding and attitude towards the worst forms of child labour

- Almost half of the respondents had correct knowledge about the age of the children who would be protected under the National Policy and Plan, which was below 18 years of age.

- Regarding the attitude towards solving the problems of the worst forms of child labour in accordance with the 5 Strategies, more than half of the respondents agreed, at the high to the highest level, with the implementation aimed at solving the problems of the worst forms of child labour under the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour.
Regarding the opinion on the situation on combating the worst forms of child labour during the past 5 years, more than half of the respondents were of the opinion that the situation of the resolution improved in the past 5 years, or during the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

2nd Topic: Participation of the agencies according to the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

- More than half of the respondents reported that their agencies worked in line with one of the strategies set out by the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour. Their work involved the 4 types of the worst forms of child labour, but less than ¼ of the respondents had participated in the meetings on the National Policy and Plan.

- Regarding the results of the work of each strategy, most agencies followed only certain parts of the Plan. Almost 20% of the agencies whose work was related to the National Policy and Plan have not implemented any strategy of the Plan.

3rd Topic: Results of the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

- Most of the respondents stated that their agencies could achieve only some of the goals in solving the problems of the worst forms of child labour.

- The progress in the implementation of the strategies was at average level.

- Their agencies’ ability to designate duties and responsibilities was at average level. They also lacked the readiness to work in accordance with the strategies in solving the worst forms of child labour.

4th Topic: Suggestions for the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

- Most of the respondents were of the opinion that their agencies still lacked skilled and experienced personnel to handle and solve the worst forms of child labour issue.

- There was a lack of cooperation with other relevant agencies.

- There was a lack of efficiency in management within agencies, as well as a lack of financial support to carry on activities.

- 34.3% of the respondents still had hopes that, in the future, the situation on combating the worst forms of child labour under each strategy would improve.
1.2.4 Factors causing challenges and obstacles to the implementation of the measures and strategies under the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2009 – 2014 by the relevant partner agencies in order to set up guidelines and offer recommendations to prevent and to solve the problems of the worst forms of child labour

1) The problems of the worst forms of child labour resulted from many crucial factors including the family’s inability to provide education for the children, as well as the attitude of the family members that pushed the children into the labour market.

2) The situation of child labour in Thailand was improving because the number of children attending school has increased. However, child labour in sex industry and their involvement with drugs tended to be on the rise.

3) Most of the partner agencies have performed according to their roles and missions, which could be measured by clear performance indicators. Nevertheless, there were some missions relating to the National Policy and Plan that did not have clear performance indicators, resulting in the unfulfilling purposes of the National Policy and Plan. The main season was that those agencies have never heard of the National Policy and Plan before.

4) Regarding problems and obstacles on the implementation of the previous National Policy and Plan, every strategy faced problems varied from one region to another. Recurring problems were on manpower and budget, which happened to almost all partners, both governmental and non-governmental agencies. The focus was on the capability of personnel, which was considered as the main driver for the implementation of the National Policy and Plan.

5) There were many reasons why the work of the agencies did not meet the purpose of the Plan. For example, the agencies’ work and responsibilities were too varied, personnel and budget were misallocated, their campaigns missed the target groups, local administrations did not place importance on the National Policy and Plan, including the attitude of the personnel, which was very crucial. If the officers did not have positive attitude towards cooperation and integration, the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour would certainly be difficult.

6) Most of the officers from the partner agencies have never heard of the National Policy and Plan before, which hindered the progress of the work. Moreover, there was no main responsible agency, causing unclear implementation.
Suggestions

1) Each province’s high level officials, especially the provincial governors, should vigorously and regularly follow up the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour. In order to constantly make progress in the work, the high level officials should focus on the problems of the worst forms of child labour to push hard for the best solution.

2) There should be a comprehensive database system on the worst forms of child labour to be informed of the real situation of the problems.

3) Every agency should set up an operation data center to facilitate access to data and inter-agency exchange of information.

4) Relevant agencies should monitor the media, websites and online pornography because they were the causes of many problems including the worst forms of child labour.

5) In order to prevent and to solve the problems of worst forms of child labour, education authorities, especially their administrators, should join in to share the problems of children in schools. The partnership network should also work accordingly.

6) With regard to the assistance and protection of victimized children according to Convention No. 182, a child monitoring and evaluation system should be added both on their living conditions and quality of lives after the rescue, and the reuniting with families and return to the society.

7) As for the capability building training for personnel, there should be a detailed plan on prerequisite courses requirement for participants of each program, for example prerequisite courses for officials who would work on human trafficking issue.

8) In order to pursue the National Policy and Plan, a centralized decision-making mechanism should be utilized, so that the provincial sector could follow the mandate to fulfill the implementation of the National Policy and Plan.

9) There should be a meeting between partner agencies to discussing their cross-cutting missions, so that their overlapping work could be sorted out and carried out correctly and easily. Work manual for the partnership network should be developed to provide guidelines to the less experienced provinces or the provinces that did not have many case studies, or to facilitate work handover in case of personnel rotation.

10) In formulating the 2nd National Policy and Plan, the main responsible agency should be assigned and its authority and function clearly stipulated. By identifying the hosts and the supporting agencies through a Memorandum of Understanding (MOU), the implementation of the National Policy and Plan would become more focused and flexible. Moreover, it would help the partner agencies to follow the National Policy and Plan with continuity under clear directions.
1.3 The Situation of Child Labour

1.3.1 Global situation of the worst forms of child labour

The global situations of child labour and the worst forms of child labour tend to improve constantly. In 2012, an estimated number of child labour around the world was 167.9 million people, dropping from 245.5 million people in 2000. (International Labour Organization, 2013). However, it was reported that more than half of the child labour still worked in dangerous conditions, which did not meet the goals for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

In Asia-Pacific, the situation of child labour is also improving in line with the global trend. The number of child labour has decreased from 113.6 million people in 2008 to 77.7 million people in 2012, mostly found in agricultural sector. Nonetheless, estimated data on child labour between the year 2000 – 2012 has showed that the number of child labour in industry and service sectors tend to increase (International Labour Organization, 2013). These include child labour in domestic service and in hazardous environments such as working in restaurants, nightclubs, karaoke bars, construction and illicit activities including drugs, beggary, commercial sexual exploitation, human trafficking and forced labour, etc. (See Diagram 1)
Research of Edmonds and Pavcnik (2006) on relationship between child labour and a country’s exposure to trade suggested that countries that trade more have less child labour issues because in high-income countries, the child population has lower risk of becoming child labour. This concurs with a study on root causes behind child labour, which found that poverty and the absence of educational opportunities are the primary causes. (Busa and Van, 1998; Edmonds and Pavcnik, 2005)

1.3.2 Situation of the worst forms of child labour in Thailand

The fast pace of today’s economic and social changes has affected the functioning of family as an institution. When a family fails to provide adequate and thorough supports to its members, the children can develop behavioral problems, leading to many forms of plights, including the homeless, the abandoned, video game addiction, drug addiction or being commercially or sexually exploited in the forms of prostitution and human trafficking. At the same time, government agencies still cannot provide adequate and accessible social services for every group of population. Under the social environment where effective child protection system is inadequate, there will be legal loopholes for exploiters to prey on children in many ways, such as forced begging, theft, drug dealing, prostitution and child labour for instant.
In Thailand, around 1 out of 8 children is considered to be in poverty, and 7.1% of children aged between 0 – 17 years, or approximately 1.2 million children from the total population aged between 0 – 17 years, are orphans and in need of care and protection. (UNICEF, 2011) The Government has put relentless effort in bringing plans and specific programs into action, focusing on poor children and their access to basic services. However, there was still a group of poor and vulnerable children who did not benefit from these programs and services. It was found that 10% of children from poor families had to drop out of school to work.

Despite all this, Thailand has attempted to solve the problems to eradicate the worst forms of child labour by revising two child-related laws and working vigorously and continuously with the relevant partner agencies. Moreover, there is a driving mechanism for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour both at central and provincial administration, covering all responsible agencies nationwide. The relevant agencies also give priority and put effort into the elimination of the worst forms of child labour. In 2014, United States Department of Labor has released the 2014 Finding on the Worst Forms of Child Labour in which the United States has estimated that Thailand’s effort to solve the problems of child labour was at “Significant Advancement” level, which was considered the highest. Out of 140 countries being evaluated, 13 countries reached “Advancement” level on their estimation, among which two countries were from Southeast Asia namely Thailand and the Philippines. Therefore, this was considered a great success for Thailand on that matter. Nevertheless, the report has offered some important suggestions to solve Thailand’s problems, especially on the fact that Thailand still has not conducted a survey on the situation of children at work domestically and that its law enforcement was still not effective enough, leading to the lack of basic data for the precise analysis of the problems and the situation.

However, the relevant partner agencies have worked on the suppression, arrest and prosecution, as well as rescue and protection of children from the worst forms of child labour according to their agencies’ missions and in accordance with the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The preliminary results of their work are as follows:
(A) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, and (B) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances

The patterns of the worst forms of child labour on (A) and (B) are forced labour and sexual exploitation for commercial purposes. From the performance data of the Royal Thai Police during 2012 – October 2015, it showed that, pattern (A) consisted of 427 children under the age of 18 years old, and 260 people over the age of 18 years old, who were forced to work and to become beggars. Pattern (B) consisted of 1,199 children under the age of 18 years old, and 265 people over the age of 18 years old, who were victims of forced prostitution, as shown in Table 2.

Table 2: Number of victims from commercial sexual exploitation and forced labour, sorted by form, nationality and age during the year 2012 - 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Year</th>
<th>Under 18 or (persons)</th>
<th>Over 18 or (persons)</th>
<th>Under 18 or (persons)</th>
<th>Over 18 or (persons)</th>
<th>Under 18 or (persons)</th>
<th>Over 18 or (persons)</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td></td>
<td>Prostitution</td>
<td>Beggary</td>
<td>Forced Labour</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2012</td>
<td>307</td>
<td>111</td>
<td>54</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>46</td>
<td>61</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2013</td>
<td>419</td>
<td>64</td>
<td>78</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>90</td>
<td>36</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>2014</td>
<td>295</td>
<td>62</td>
<td>12</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>50</td>
<td>55</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>1 Jan 2015 - Oct 2015</td>
<td>178</td>
<td>28</td>
<td>0</td>
<td>1</td>
<td>97</td>
<td>94</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>1,199</td>
<td>265</td>
<td>144</td>
<td>14</td>
<td>283</td>
<td>246</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Royal Thai Police, October 2015

Considering the total number of victims, it was found that the majority of victims were Thai (1,562 people or 76%), followed by Myanmarese (244 people or 11.8%), Cambodian (127 people or 6.2%), Laotian (96 people or 4.7%), and of other nationalities (29 people or 1.4%), as shown in Diagram 2.
The performance data on the worst forms of child labour pattern (A) and (B) showed that the number of victims aged under 18 years exceeded the number of total victims by more than half in every form of exploitation, including prostitution, beggary and forced labour. It means that children are vulnerable group who needs special protection.

(C) The use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and drugs smuggling as defined in the relevant international treaties.

Nowadays, there are many problems resulting from various forms of juvenile and child delinquency, especially those relating to illicit drugs which is of grave concern and can lead to behavioral problems and other wrongdoings such as sexual offences, theft, assault, biker gang, video game addiction, etc.

Information from the Department of Juvenile Observation and Protection has shown that, in 2013, there were 2,550 children and juvenile aged over 10 but under 18 years who were prosecuted on drug-related crimes, in particular for the production and distribution of drugs, and were sent to the Juvenile Observation and Protection Center. While in the year 2014 and 2015, the numbers of children were 2,764 and 2,312 respectively as shown in Diagram 3.
Diagram 3: Juvenile charged with the production and distribution of drugs, and sent to the Juvenile Observation and Protection Centers nationwide during 2013 - 2015

(D) Work, which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

The above-mentioned patterns (A), (B) and (C) have concrete nature that is needed to be dealt with to eradicate the “unconditional worst forms” of child labour. Pattern (D), for that matter, is the work that has hazardous nature. To solve this problem, each country needs to formulate a law to define the conditions and types of work considered dangerous thus prohibiting the involvement of children under 18. On 9 November 2012, the Minister of Labour of Thailand has issued a Notification of the National Committee on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, on the List of Hazardous Work for the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The Notification has classified hazardous work into two lists as follows;

(A) List that indicates types of hazardous occupations for children such as work involving lifting, carrying or moving of any load over 20 kilograms in weigh for females, and over 25 kilograms in case of males. Work involving metal smelting, blowing, casting, rolling, metal pressing or work using pneumatic, hydraulic or top hammer drill and etc.

(B) List that indicates the working environments in which is likely to be hazardous to children such as regular work that is performed between 22.00-06.00 hours; work performed in cold storage in production or preservation of food by freezing; work performed in a slaughter house or in gambling place and etc.

Statistics on work-related injuries and illnesses collected by the Office of Workmen’s Compensation Fund, sorted by severity, age and sex, and taking into account death, disability, loss of body parts, and absence from work for more than 3 days, has shown that, in 2013, there were 265 employees, aged...
15–17 years, falling into these categories, shrank to 140 employees in 2014 and 86 employees in 2015. The total number of those affected, considering from all types and degrees of hazards, exhibited a decreasing trend, as there were 747, 456 and 260 employees respectively from 2013 – 2015.

**Table 3:** Statistic on work-related injuries and illnesses, sorted by severity, during the year 2013 – 2015

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Severity</th>
<th>2013</th>
<th>2014</th>
<th>2015</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Child aged 15-17 years</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(person)</td>
<td>3</td>
<td>5</td>
<td>2</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total employees</td>
<td>635</td>
<td>603</td>
<td>492</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>aged 15-17 years or older</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>(person)</td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
<td></td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Death</td>
<td>17</td>
<td>3036</td>
<td>260</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Disability</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>31,419</td>
<td>23,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Loss of body parts</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>76,776</td>
<td>54,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absence of more than 3 days</td>
<td>245</td>
<td>31,419</td>
<td>23,493</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Absence of less than 3 days</td>
<td>482</td>
<td>76,776</td>
<td>54,974</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Total</td>
<td>747</td>
<td>111,894</td>
<td>79,889</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

Source: Office of Workmen’s Compensation Fund, Social Security Office of Thailand, (Data in 2015, as of 31 October 2015)

It is illegal to hire children aged under 15 years old to work because, unlike adult, children at this age have not yet developed physically and mentally to their full potential. They lack skills and physical strength needed for certain types of work, which can lead to work-related perils. Therefore, children below the age of 15 years should be prohibited from work and should receive opportunities to study and to live in decent environment. As for children aged over 15 but below 18 years, they may receive a permission to work and be employed under the law, but only if such work is not physically,
mentally, and morally dangerous to them, or impeding their development, or depriving them of the opportunities to study and to have vocational training. The work allowed should be the one that provides good experience for the children’s future work lives, and is protected under Thailand’s Labour Protection Act B.E. 2541 (1998), stipulating the working hours, standard work conditions, workplaces and types of work that children are prohibited to perform, etc.

1.4 Definitions

The definition and meaning of “the worst forms of child labour” are defined under the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour as follows:

The term “child” means every human being below the age of eighteen years.

The term “the worst forms of child labour” comprises:

(A) All forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;

(B) The use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;

(C) The use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties;

(D) Work, which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

The worst forms of child labour described in (A), (B) and (C) are concrete and applicable, whereas the definition in (D) needs further interpretation for the better implementation.

The term “child Labour” means allowing or accepting children aged below 18 years to work under conditions that are harmful to their well-being, depriving them of their educational opportunity or jeopardizing their development and their lives in the future. The work considered child labour is the work, which by its nature or methods, is hazardous, torturous and exploitative to children, robbing them of their educational opportunity.

The term “hazardous work” means the work, which by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children. According to the Notification of the National Committee on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour, on the List of
Hazardous Work for the Worst Forms of Child Labour Thailand, signed by the Minister of Labour of Thailand on 9 November 2012, hazardous work for child labour can be classified into two lists as follows;

1. List that indicates the types of hazardous occupations for children

(a) Working involving the lifting, carrying or moving of any load over 20 kilograms in weight in the case of females, and over 25 kilograms in case of males;

(b) Work involving metal smelting, blowing, casting or rolling;

(c) Metal pressing;

(d) Work using pneumatic, hydraulic or top hammer drill;

(e) Work using tools or machinery that exposes children to vibrations damaging to their health;

(f) Production, transportation or exposure to radioactive substances that can cause cancer as prescribed by law;

(g) Work involving cyanide;

(h) Production or transportation of flares, fireworks or other explosives;

(i) Exploration, drilling, refinery, filling or loading of fuel oil or gas, except for work in a fuel station;

(j) Work involving production and transportation of, or exposure to hazardous chemicals as prescribed by law;

(k) Taking care of a patient with contagious diseases under the law governing contagious diseases;

(l) Cleaning of a patient’s utensils or clothes in a medical establishment;

(m) Working involving the collection, transportation or disposal of waste or garbage in a medical establishment;

(n) Driving or controlling a hoist or a crane operated by an engine or electricity, regardless of the manner in which they are handled;

(o) Work using a saw powered by electricity or machine;

(p) Any type of work involving the use or handling of radioactive materials;

(q) Work involving the cleaning or repair of machinery or a motor in operation;

(r) Work involving a boiler;

(s) Work involving the driving and operations of truck or any type of public transports.
2. List that indicates the working environments in which is likely to be hazardous to children;

(a) Regular work that is performed between 22.00-06.00 hours;
(b) Work performed in the place that the temperature in the working environment is higher than standards, which considering workloads as prescribed by law;
(c) Work performed in cold storage in the production or preservation of food by freezing;
(d) Work where the noise level to which the employee is exposed continuously is in excessive level permitted by law;
(e) Work performed in an autopsy room;
(f) Work performed in a slaughterhouse;
(g) Working performed in a gambling place;
(h) Work performed underground, underwater, in a cave, tunnel or craters or any location with limited air circulation;
(i) Work on scaffolds where height is above ten meters;
(j) Work performed in an entertainment place as prescribed in the law on Entertainment Place Control;
(k) Work performed in sea vessels;
(l) Work involving loading or unloading goods on and from sea vessels, except vessels cleaning, mooring or tidying up work. Employers are permitted to hire children over the age of 16 if they can perform such works.

1.5 Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

The problems of the worst forms of child labour vary between different countries depending on their economic condition, culture, values and other unique traits. Strategies designed to tackle those problems are therefore diverse, subjected to each country’s context. There are 180 countries ratifying the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, and there are 168 countries ratifying the Convention No. 138 concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment.

It is an obligation under the ILO Convention No. 182 for each member country to formulate a national plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labour, and to have strategies concordant with the Convention. Moreover, after the ratification, member countries are required to set up a national committee, drafting a national action plan and stipulating policies, especially for the protection of child labour.
1.5.1 Important contents in an action plan to eliminate the worst forms of child labour comprise of:

(1) Participation of diverse agencies such as relevant government authorities, from the national to the provincial and local level, non-governmental organizations and business associations, etc.;

(2) Clear and comprehensive prescription of goals, roles, functions that are inter-related, not only on the issue of labour;

(3) Consolidation of basic information on child labour problems, impacts of the current policies and loopholes in legislation and law enforcement;

(4) Focusing on the target group, which is vulnerable children;

(5) Analysis of the relevant partnership network;

(6) Distinct performance; and

(7) Monitoring and evaluation using clear indicators.

1.5.2 Examples of the best practices to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in other countries

1) The Federative Republic of Brazil

The government of the Federative Republic of Brazil has applied broad policy measures for the elimination of child labour and forced labour by formulating the National Plans to Combat Child Labour and Forced Labour in order to gather, organize and utilize relevant information. They collected basic information and conduct an annual National Child Labour Survey (NCLS), the data of which was used for drafting Action Plans and monitoring the progress. The information was linked and the work plans were followed up. In 1990, they also codified the law on minors, concerning “strong actions needed for behavioral changes focusing on the cultural misunderstanding about child labour.”

The Brazilian Government enforced the labour law through the use of a mobile inspection unit, comprising of labour inspector officers, lawyers from the Ministry of Labour and police officers authorized to charge labour offences and issue fines on the spot. They were tasked to strictly inspect child labour and forced labour, and to monitor the situation through the Information System on Child Labour. Moreover, the Government has allocated 1,700,000 million USD for the implementation of the above-mentioned measures.
Another measure was to publicise a Dirty List, compiling names of establishments using forced labour. Those establishments would not receive any financial support from the Government, meaning their loan requests to government banks would be rejected. In addition, the establishments would stay in the list for the period of two years. The list would be updated timely every 6 months against the situation of the forced child labour. Finally, the establishments would be removed from the list provided that the child labour and forced labour were stopped and all the wages were fully paid.

Moreover, the Government of the Federative Republic of Brazil has organized a National Program to Eliminate Child Labour, targeting on poor families whose children became child labour, but were determined that their children should stop working and return to school. In 2010, the Government has allocated 200 million USD to the Program, operating in more than 3,500 municipalities and benefiting more than 820,000 children.

2) The Republic of the Philippines

The Government of the Republic of the Philippines has formulated a National Policy and Plan, prioritizing the integrative cooperation between relevant agencies for maximum effectiveness. The Department of Labor and Employment (DOLE) was assigned to liaise with other agencies to ensure communication, transparency and reduce work redundancy, as well as to develop the Plan for local applicability. Moreover, in 2012, the Filipino National Statistic Office has conducted a National Survey on Children, the result of which showed that 2.99 million out of a total of 3.21 million child labour were considered hazardous labour. (United States Department of Labor’s Bureau of International Labor Affairs, 2013)

The Philippines is a good example of integrative cooperation between several agencies, where the main responsible agency is assigned and the Department of Labor and Employment acts as an administrative secretary to coordinate with other agencies. There is also participation from the private sectors.

3) The Republic of Indonesia

The Government of the Republic of Indonesia has prepared the National Action Plan (NAP) to eliminate the worst forms of child labour as the long-term plan during 2002 – 2022. It aims to highlight the continued development of the policy both at national and domestic levels in connection with the fight against child labour, the assistance to child labour and the vulnerable group of children. There is an establishment of the Board of Directors at the provincial, district and municipality levels as a mechanism for coordination between the Policy and the Action Plan. The Indonesian Government had conducted the Indonesia Child Labour Survey to create a database concerning child labour, raise
public awareness, and organize trainings and talk shows in collaboration with various government and non-government agencies. In addition, the focuses were on the target group of five industries engaging in the worst forms of child labour, namely offshore and deep-sea fishery, prostitution, mining, footwear production industry and drug trafficking. There was also active participation at municipal and district levels.

In 2012, Indonesia has progressed significantly in an attempt to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. The Indonesian Government has increased funding for child protection from dangerous work and created a program that focused on the target group who were the children of the workers in the country. They also improved social protection, such as conditional cash transfers and scholarship, to poor children.

Moreover, the Ministry of Tourism and Creative Economy of Indonesia has cooperated with other Ministries in the elimination of sexual exploitation of children. They prepared information sheets, pamphlets, posters and billboards about avoiding sexual exploitation of children to provide information to stakeholders such as hotel business agencies and tourism organizations, which has been well received.

This information shows that whether those aforementioned countries have or do not have child labour, they all display similar strength in terms of good management system where they put priority on developing databases. For example, the Federative Republic of Brazil has “the National Plans to Combat Child Labour and Forced Labour,” the Republic of the Philippines has “The National Survey on Children,” while the Republic of Indonesia has “Indonesia Child Labour Survey.” These three countries had conducted surveys on the situation of child labour at the national level and gathered information regarding the worst forms of child labour, which can help them recognize the real problems in their countries, resulting in the efficient solutions for those problems.

1.5.3 Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

The relevant partner agencies adjust the Action Plan and budget in line with the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour
1.6 The principles of the Plan

1.6.1 Efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labour must include prevention, protection, assistance, rehabilitation and development without discrimination, regardless of disparities in gender, age, physical and mental condition, ethnics, religion, culture and social background, as well as political opinions in Thailand and its neighboring countries. In so doing, the principles of humanitarian and human rights must be upheld.

1.6.2 The implementation of this Plan must be through a multi-disciplinary approach.

1.6.3 Every step of the operation must be based on the principle of the children’s relationship with their family.

1.6.4 Should a child commit any offense under this Plan, he/she will be presumed as a victim and receive protection before other things.

1.6.5 The implementation of this Plan must be based on the principle of the participation of all social sectors.

1.6.6 The implementation of this Plan must be in accordance with the international obligations and agreements.

1.6.7 The implementation of this Plan must be in collaboration with neighboring countries and the global community.

1.7 The purposes of the Plan

1.7.1 To be applied as a master plan for implementation of elimination of worst forms of child labour;

1.7.2 To provide guidelines in the formulation of action plans for concerned organisations involving in the implementation on the elimination of worst forms of child labour;

1.7.3 To eliminate the worst forms of child labour in accordance with the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

1.8 Period of the Plan

For fiscal year 2015 - 2020
Part 2  The National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015 - 2020

2.1 Policy
2.2 Vision
2.3 Mission
2.4 Goal
2.5 Indicators
2.6 Strategies to eliminate the worst forms of child labour
The National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015-2020, was made in compliance with the framework and principles of the ILO Convention No. 182 and with the resolutions reached from all parties and agencies, both public and private, concerned. This is the second plan of the country to be used as the Master Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The details are as follows:

2.1 Policy

Thailand’s policies to eliminate the worst forms of child labour are:

1. Eliminating all terms of the worst forms of child labour
2. Mobilising ideas, implementation plan and all resources to achieve the goals of national policy and plan mentioned above
3. Promoting participation of all sectors
4. Abiding by the principles of rights of children, human rights and humanities
5. Promoting all mechanisms at every social tier for the efficient implementation of national Policy and Plan mentioned above.
2.2 Vision

“The worst forms of child labour will be eliminated from Thailand within fiscal year 2020.”

2.3 Mission

(1) Developing and promoting management and operation mechanisms of all parties concerned in eliminating the worst forms of child labour

(2) Developing the knowledge on the rights and duties of children as provided in the law to prevent the worst forms of child labour

(3) Empowering all partnership networks at all levels to monitor the worst forms of child labour and, thus, creating the awareness as such in the community

2.4 Goal

“The worst forms of child labour will be eliminated within fiscal year 2020”

2.5 Indicators

The percentage of the worst forms of child labour is 0%

(1) Children under 18 engaging in the worst forms of child labour will be decreasing to 0% within 2020.

(2) Children under 18 who are victims or were victims of the worst forms of child labour will decrease to 0% within 2020.

2.6 Strategies to eliminate the worst forms of child labour

According to the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 5 strategies are indicated as follows:

Strategy 1 The prevention of the worst forms of child labour
Strategy 2 The protection and withdrawal of children from the worst forms of child labour
Strategy 3 The effective law enforcement and improvement of relevant legislations
Strategy 4 The development of cooperation between partnership networks
Strategy 5 The development of management system, monitoring and evaluation
Vision:
“The worst forms of child labour will be eliminated from Thailand within fiscal year 2020.”

Goal
“The worst forms of child labour will be eliminated within fiscal year 2020”

Objectives
1. Management system that provides efficient implementation of elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
2. Knowledge and database for the management of the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

1. Laws and legislation that facilitate efficient operation integration.
2. Effective and efficient law enforcement by responsible agencies.

Victimized children are given systematic assistance and protection and are prevented from being engaged in worst forms of child labour.

Well integrated and efficient prevention, protection and assistance process.

All children under 18 in Thailand are prevented from being engaged in worst forms of child labour.

Strategies
1st Strategy
The prevention of the worst forms of child labour (3 indicators, 4 strategies and 15 measures)

2nd Strategy
The protection and withdrawal of children from the worst forms of child labour (4 indicators, 2 strategies and 9 measures)

3rd Strategy
The effective law enforcement and improvement of relevant legislations (3 indicators, 2 strategies and 9 measures)

4th Strategy
The development of cooperation between partnership networks (2 indicators, 3 strategies and 8 measures)

5th Strategy
The development of management system, monitoring and evaluation (4 indicators, 4 strategies and 13 measures)
1st Strategy The Prevention of the worst forms of child labour

Goal: All children under 18 years old in Thailand are not engaged in the worst forms of child labour.

Objectives: To prevent children from all terms of the worst forms of child labour.

Indicators
1. The number of target groups with the knowledge and understanding of the worst forms of child labour.
2. The number of children under 18 years old in schools and other forms of educational institutions.
3. The number of volunteers monitoring the worst forms of child labour in the risk areas.

Strategies
1. Campaigning and building awareness to all stakeholders
2. Promoting education for all children
3. Developing efficient monitoring systems
4. Promoting decent work

Strategy 1: Campaigning and building awareness to all stakeholders

Measures / guidelines
1. Campaigning and building awareness of the definition “worst forms of child labour” among entrepreneurs, parents, teachers, family, community, media, relevant officers and children. Then, publicize and campaign such knowledge and other violences to children, which obstructs the child development.
2. Promote The National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour among officers in related agencies.
3. Promote the rights of children to children.
Strategy 2: Promoting education for all children

Measures / guidelines
1. Provide access to education for children sufficiently with the focus on the vocational education at the high school level without discrimination.
2. Provide the financial support and scholarship for children in risk group.
3. Provide the language center for migrant children.
4. Provide the comprehensive, accurate and up-to-date student database.
5. Develop efficient student referral and transfer system.

Strategy 3: Developing efficient monitoring systems

Measures / guidelines
1. Promote the monitoring system in the community and children in risk group to prevent children from engaging in the worst forms of child labour.
2. Improve the capability of networks and volunteer for monitoring.
3. Create volunteer programs in the field to providing leads and of monitoring of the worst forms of child labour.

Strategy 4: Promoting decent work

Measures / guidelines
1. Promote decent work amongst children in education institutions, working children and child labour in order to provide good job opportunity and income and access to children rights, freedom of expression, acceptance, family security, self-development, justice and gender equality.
2. Cooperate with entrepreneurs to provide decent work for children.
3. Promote capacity building and increase educational opportunity for working children.
**Responsible agencies**


**Supporting agencies**

1. The Royal Thai Police
2. Ministry of Defense
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
4. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
5. Ministry of Finance
6. Ministry of Transportation
7. Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
8. Ministry of Tourism and Sports
9. Ministry of Commerce
10. Ministry of Interior Affairs
11. Ministry of Justice
12. Ministry of Culture
13. Ministry of Public Health
14. Ministry of Industry
15. National Statistical Office
16. Bureau of the Budget
17. Office of the Attorney General
18. Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
19. Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
20. The Parliament
21. The Senate
22. Employers and Employee Organizations
23. International Organizations in Thailand
24. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)
25. National and Local Media
2nd Strategy The protection and withdrawal of children from the worst forms of child labour

Goal: Victimized children are given assistance and protection and prevented from being engaged in the worst forms of child labour.

Objective: To provide victimized children of the worst forms of child labour with assistance, protection, compensation and rehabilitation.

Indicators
1. The percentage of children who are/or were victims of the worst forms of child labour that is given assistance and protection.
2. The percentage of victimized children of the worst forms of child labour that is given physical, psychological and mental rehabilitation.
3. The percentage of victimized children that resided in the shelter that are returned to the society.
4. The percentage of victimized children of the worst forms of child labour that are not victimized again.

Strategies
1. Strengthening integrated assistance, protection, remedial and rehabilitation program.
2. Improvement the access to the fundamental social services.

Strategy 1: Strengthening integrated assistance, protection, remedial and rehabilitation programs.

Measures / guidelines
1. Provide the national standard and manual on assistance, protection and rehabilitation programs.
2. Provide legal assistance and protection by cooperating with all sectors with children’s best interest.
3. Provide appropriate psychological, physical and mental rehabilitation programs.
4. Promote participation in post-rehabilitation care programs in local agencies and community.
5. Promote the establishment of protection center or shelters by the private sectors based on the indicated standards.
6. Provide the interpretation services for the protection of victimized children.
7. Provide robust and continuous surveillance system for total elimination of child labour and blacklisting the child labour offenders.

**Strategy 2: Improvement the access to the fundamental social services**

**Measures / guidelines**
1. Increase the access to the fundamental social services.
2. Promote access to fundamental services of the government in risk group children.

**Responsible agencies**

**Supporting agencies**
1. Ministry of Defense
2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
3. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
4. Ministry of Finance
5. Ministry of Transportation
6. Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
7. Ministry of Commerce
8. Ministry of Culture
9. Ministry of Industry
10. Bureau of the Budget
11. Office of the Attorney General
12. Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
13. Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
14. The Parliament
15. The Senate
16. Local Administrative Organizations
17. Employers and Employees Organizations
18. International Organizations in Thailand
19. Non-Governmental organizations (NGO)
20. National and Local Media

3rd Strategy The effective law enforcement and improvement of relevant legislations

Goals
1. Provision of laws that enable efficient integration of work and operation among agencies.
2. Efficient and effective law enforcement by responsible agencies.

Objectives
1. To develop laws that enable efficient integration of work and operation among agencies.
2. To provide efficient law enforcement.

Indicators
1. The number of laws or regulations that are developed.
2. The percentage of the victimized children of the worst forms of child labour that are protected by the legislation.
3. The number of offenders of the worst forms of child labour that are punished.

Strategies
1. Develop/amend relevant laws on the worst forms of child labour in cooperation with all concerned agencies.
2. Specification of law enforcement guidelines that are coherent with the elimination of the worst forms of child labour for responsible agencies and impose disciplinary actions and criminal prosecution upon officials negligent of their duties or involved with wrongful exploitation.
Strategy 1: Develop/amend relevant laws on the worst forms of child labour in cooperation with all concerned agencies.

Measures / guidelines
1. Provide research, analyses and reviews on laws and regulations relevant to the worst forms of child labour for revisions.
2. Provide training programs on the laws for prevention, suppression, assistance and protection for the victimized children to Labour inspectors, officials and other relevant parties.
3. Increase capacity of the officials so they are equipped with knowledge, skills, understanding and positive attitude for successful prevention, suppression, prosecution, protection and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

Strategy 2: Specification of law enforcement guidelines that are coherent with the elimination of the worst forms of child labour for responsible agencies and impose disciplinary actions and criminal prosecution upon officials negligent of their duties or involved with wrongful exploitation.

Measures / guidelines
1. Continuous suppression and arrest of offenders of the worst forms of child labour by focusing on risk areas such as workplaces, industrial locations and service/entertainment premises.
2. Seek cooperation with relevant organizations working on prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labour such as schools, communities and workplaces.
3. Indicate measures for social orders and strict measures on vices control to prevent delinquent congregation.
4. Regular and strict labour inspection in target locations.
5. Strict law enforcement, prosecution and punishment on offenders.
6. Disciplinary actions and criminal prosecution on officials who are negligent of their duties or involved with wrongful exploitation.

Responsible agencies
Royal Thai Police, Ministry of Justice, Ministry of labour, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
Supporting agencies
1. Ministry of Defense
2. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
3. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
4. Ministry of Finance
5. Ministry of Transportation
6. Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
7. Ministry of Commerce
8. Ministry of Interior
9. Ministry of Culture
10. Ministry of Education
11. Ministry of Public Health
12. Ministry of Industry
13. Bureau of the Budget
14. Office of the Attorney General
15. Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
16. Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
17. The Parliament
18. The Senate
19. Local Administrative Organizations
20. Employers and Employee organizations
21. International Organizations in Thailand
22. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)
23. National and Local Media

4th Strategy The development of cooperation between partnership networks

Goal:
Well-integrated and efficient prevention, protection and assistance process.

Objective:
Develop Well-integrated and efficient prevention, protection and assistance process.
Indicators
1. The number of agencies/organization that are in partnership networks in tackling the worst forms of child labour.
2. The number of enterprises participating in the social responsibility programs, especially in the prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

Strategies
1. Promoting the participation from all sectors concerned with the worst forms of child labour.
2. Providing implementation and monitoring mechanism and systems of all sectors.
3. Generate incentives for the organization and officials in eliminating the worst forms of child labour.

Strategy 1: Promoting the participation from all sectors concerned with the worst forms of child labour.

Measures / guidelines
1. Provide the Memo of Understanding (MOU) among partnership networks concerned with the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
2. Promote well-integrated cooperation among partnership networks with well-connected system from local to national levels.
3. Promote knowledge on the National Policy and Plan on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour and the guideline of implementation to the partnership networks.
4. Develop bilateral and multi-lateral international cooperation.

Strategy 2: Providing implementation and monitoring mechanism and systems of all sectors.

Measures / guidelines
1. Establish Partnership network Cooperation Committee
2. Organize meetings to share work implementation
Strategy 3: Generate incentives for the organization and officials in eliminating the worst forms of child labour.

Measures/guidelines

1. Recognize organizations or people who are working on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
2. Encourage entrepreneurs to participate in the social responsibility programs, especially in the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

Responsible agencies

Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Social Development and Human Security

Supporting agencies

1. The Royal Thai Police
2. Ministry of Defense
3. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
4. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
5. Ministry of Finance
6. Ministry of Transportation
7. Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
8. Ministry of Tourism and Sports
9. Ministry of Commerce
10. Ministry of Interior
11. Ministry of Justice
12. Ministry of Culture
13. Ministry of Education
14. Ministry of Public Health
15. Ministry of Industry
17. Bureau of the Budget
18. Office of the Attorney General
19. Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
20. Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
21. The Parliament
22. The Senate
23. Local Administrative Organizations
24. Employers and Employee Organizations
25. International Organizations in Thailand
26. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)
27. National and Local Media

5th Strategy The development of management system, monitoring and evaluation

Goal
1. Management system for efficient elimination of the worst forms of child labour
2. Knowledge and database for management purpose for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour

Objectives
1. Increase management system efficiency on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
2. Develop integrated knowledge system and promote practical application.
3. Build databases of implementation, monitoring and evaluation.

Indicators
1. The number of action plans to drive strategy and measures on the worst forms of child labour forward.
2. The number of knowledge on the worst forms of child labour.
3. The percentage of achievements of the plan implementation by indicators.
4. Success level of knowledge management level and the implementation.
Strategies

1. Improving the capability of management system and mechanism on the implementation of steering strategy and measures for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
2. Research on relevant knowledge and innovation related to the worst forms of child labour.
3. Create integrated database on child labour.
4. Provide efficient monitoring and evaluation system.

Strategy 1: Improving the capability of management system and mechanism on the implementation of steering strategy and measures for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

Measures / guidelines

1. Promote the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour as national agenda
2. Establish local inter-disciplinary committee or working group.
3. Establish focal point to coordinate with partnership networks to steer strategies/measures for the elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
4. Build mechanism that will promote the significance of and responsibility towards prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
5. Allocate necessary and appropriate resources for the implementation of the action plan according to the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

Strategy 2: Research on relevant knowledge and innovation related to the worst forms of child labour.

Measures / guidelines

1. Conduct research and knowledge development on the worst forms of child labour.
2. Publicize, disseminate and apply the research findings to improve the implementation of prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.
3. Disseminate knowledge to relevant officials.
4. Organize forums for knowledge sharing.
Strategy 3: Create integrated database on child labour.

Measures / guidelines
1. Provide the Memo of Understanding (MOU) of cooperation among partnership networks on database sharing.
2. Conduct survey on Thailand’s situation on child labour.

Strategy 4: Provide efficient monitoring and evaluation system.

Measures / guidelines
1. Monitor and evaluate the implementation of partnership networks of both central and regional government agencies.
2. Provide the mid-plan and final-plan evaluation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

Responsible agency
Ministry of Labour

Supporting agencies
1. National Statistical Office
2. Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
3. The Royal Thai Police
4. Ministry of Defense
5. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
6. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
7. Ministry of Finance
8. Ministry of Transportation
9. Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
10. Ministry of Tourism and Sports
11. Ministry of Commerce
12. Ministry of Interior
13. Ministry of Justice
14. Ministry of Culture
15. Ministry of Education
16. Ministry of Public Health
17. Ministry of Industry
18. Bureau of the Budget
19. Office of the Attorney General
20. Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
21. Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
22. The Parliament
23. The Senate
24. Local Administrative Organizations
25. Employers and Employees Organizations
26. International Organizations in Thailand
27. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)
28. National and Local Media
Part 3 The management and monitoring for the mobilization of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for Fiscal year 2015 - 2020

3.1 The framework in implementing of the National Policy and Plan for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour

3.2 Partnership networks in all sectors will adopt the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for implementation

3.3 Objectives

3.4 The Strategy Management

3.5 The roles of the partnership networks in all sectors and the general public

3.6 Monitoring and evaluation
The management for the mobilization of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, fiscal year 2015-2020 is an important process that will lead to successful implementation of the policy and plan and achieve the goals indicated. Cooperation from all sectors and agencies is vital for the constructive implementation, where by each agency shall adopt the relevant policies on the elimination of the worst forms of child labour to their missions and incorporate the policies into programs/activities in their operational plans.

3.1 The framework in implementing of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

The National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, fiscal year 2015-2020 complies with the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182 concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour. Relevant authorities are prompted to adopt the stated National Policy and Plan as the Master Plan in order to achieve efficient and effective elimination of the worst forms of child labour. Therefore, the plan serves as a tool or guidelines for various agencies to achieve their mission efficiently under the following 5 strategies.

Strategy 1 : The prevention of the worst forms of child labour
Strategy 2 : The protection and withdrawal of children from the worst forms of child labour
Strategy 3 : The effective law enforcement and improvement of relevant legislations
Strategy 4 : The development of cooperation between partnership networks
Strategy 5 : The development of management system, monitoring and evaluation
3.2 Partnership networks in all sectors will adopt the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for implementation

1. Ministry of Labour
2. Ministry of Social Development and Human Security
3. The Royal Thai Police
4. Ministry of Defense
5. Ministry of Foreign Affairs
6. Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives
7. Ministry of Finance
8. Ministry of Transport
9. Ministry of Information and Communication Technology
10. Ministry of Tourism and Sports
11. Ministry of Commerce
12. Ministry of Interior
13. Ministry of Justice
14. Ministry of Culture
15. Ministry of Education
16. Ministry of Public Health
17. Ministry of Industry
18. National Statistical Office
20. Office of the Attorney General
21. Office of the National Human Rights Commission of Thailand
22. Office of the National Economic and Social Development Board
23. The House of Representative
24. The Senate Council
25. Local Administrative Organizations
26. Employers and Employee Organizations
27. International Organizations in Thailand
28. Non-Governmental Organizations (NGO)
29. National and Local Media
3.3 Objectives

3.3.1 To promote the participation among partnership networks from all sectors to mobilize and implement the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015 – 2020.

3.3.2 To integrate plans from the central, regional and local authorities in order to drive The National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015-2020 forward.

3.3.3 To achieve the systematic monitoring and evaluation using indicators.

3.4 The Strategy Management

In order to successfully implement the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour for fiscal year 2015-2020, the collective responsibility of all sectors is vital in providing prevention, protection and assistance. Government authorities cannot solely work alone but there needs to be participation of the international organization, as well as the private sector and the general public at local, regional and national level.

At national level, the establishment of the National Committee on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour provides direction of the implementation. While, the Sub-Committee is responsible for driving the implementation forward, so the goals can be achieved and evaluated within the given timeframe. The main authorities are the Office of Labour Protection and Welfare in each province (76 provinces and 10 offices in Bangkok). Their main mission is to provide support to the public and private sector, educational institutions and non-governmental organizations on the implementation of the National Policy and Plan.

3.5 The roles of the partnership networks in all sectors and the general public

To achieve sustainable prevention and the elimination of the worst forms of child labour, the cooperation from all sectors in the society is vital. Public and private sectors, non-governmental organizations, employers and employees must recognize the issue and must work together collectively and continuously to achieve the goals.
3.5.1 National mechanism

Appointment of advisor and establishment of National Committee on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour is considered a national level implementation mechanism:

Advisor: Saisuree Chutikul
Chair of the Committee: Minister of Labour
Secretary and Committee Member: Director General of Department of Labour Protection and Welfare

Committee Members: Representatives from governmental organizations and private sectors employers and employees organizations, academic experts and non-governmental organizations.

The National Committee is responsible for the supervision and implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour, and also monitoring and evaluation for any necessary strategies adjustments. Moreover, the committee provides advice, recommendations and coordinate with national and international agencies pertaining the compliance with the International Labour Organization’s Convention No. 182. The committee is also responsible for reporting any rising issues and providing recommendations to the cabinet annually. The committee can also appoint appropriate sub-committee or working group and undertake any operations designated by the Chair of the Committee.

3.5.2 Ministerial mechanism (or equivalent)

Government agencies shall implement the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour by integrating the Policy and Plan into Ministries’ missions.

3.5.3 Provincial and local mechanism

Provincial and local levels mechanism provides support and assistance to partner agencies at provincial and local levels pertaining the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour. The partner agencies are government entities, educational institutions and local administrative organizations in 76 provinces and Bangkok.

3.5.4 Private sector

Private sector includes entrepreneurs associations, employers organizations, business associations and sectors that are directly engaged with labour; therefore they play a key role in providing prevention and solution on the worst forms of child labour by being aware of the current child labour situation and they are able working collectively to tackle the issue.
3.5.5 Civil society

Civil Society is another important mechanism due to its close proximity with the child labour, contributing to the high awareness and clear recognition of the problem. Moreover, civil society can provide timely respond and quick access to target child labour. Due to their presence, the civil society’s input and recommendation can help improve policy and they can also provide effective coordination with government agencies and prompt assistance to the target group.

3.5.6 Media

The media plays a key role in publicizing the information and news about the worst forms of child labour to the public and relevant stakeholders. And also play a part in creating awareness and campaign on the issue.

3.5.7 General public

With accurate understanding on the worst forms of child labour, people in general can assist in monitoring and be vigilant in their communities, as well as provide leads to the authorities. People’s cooperation with the authorities can help with the prevention and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

3.6 Monitoring and evaluation

Monitoring and evaluation are important tools to track the progress and achievement of the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour. This mechanism assists in the recognition of challenges and problems in the implementation, which can lead to future solution.

- Monitoring at the levels of plans/ programs/ activities by the responsible organizations
- Monitoring at strategic level by the indicators.
- Evaluation of the achievement of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour
- Mid-plan and end of plan evaluations
The National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour (2015-2020)

Vision: “The worst forms of child labour will be eliminated from Thailand within fiscal year 2020.”

1st Strategy  The prevention of the worst forms of child labour
2nd Strategy  The protection and withdrawal of children from the worst forms of child labour
3rd Strategy  The effective law enforcement and improvement of relevant legislations
4th Strategy  The development of cooperation between partnership networks
5th Strategy  The development of management system, monitoring and evaluation

Mobilizing Mechanism and Monitoring of the National Policy and Plan

Master Action Plan

Actional plan/Work plan/Programs

Implementing Units

Government (central, regional, local), Private Sector, Civil Society, General Public

Strategies Management and Monitoring

The National Committee on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour

The Sub-Committee for mobilization, monitoring and evaluation of the implementation of the National Policy and Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour

Local mechanism in 76 provinces and Bangkok