

PROGRAMME OBJECTIVES AND ACTIVITIES

The UNICEF and Development Workshop Programme on Producing Evidence and Mobilizing Stakeholders on the Elimination of Child Labour in Turkey (February 2019 – July 2020) aims to strengthen the operational capacities of national and local stakeholders tasked with monitoring and eliminating child labour. The programme generates data and evidence on child labour and deploys these insights to strengthen policy practice. In this regard, it aims to provide support to the implementation of the National Program on the Elimination of Child Labour (2017-2023).

The Programme focuses on child labour in seasonal agricultural work and aims to achieve the following results:

RESULT 1

Developing child-friendly service provision models in order to meet the needs of children in seasonal agricultural worker households.

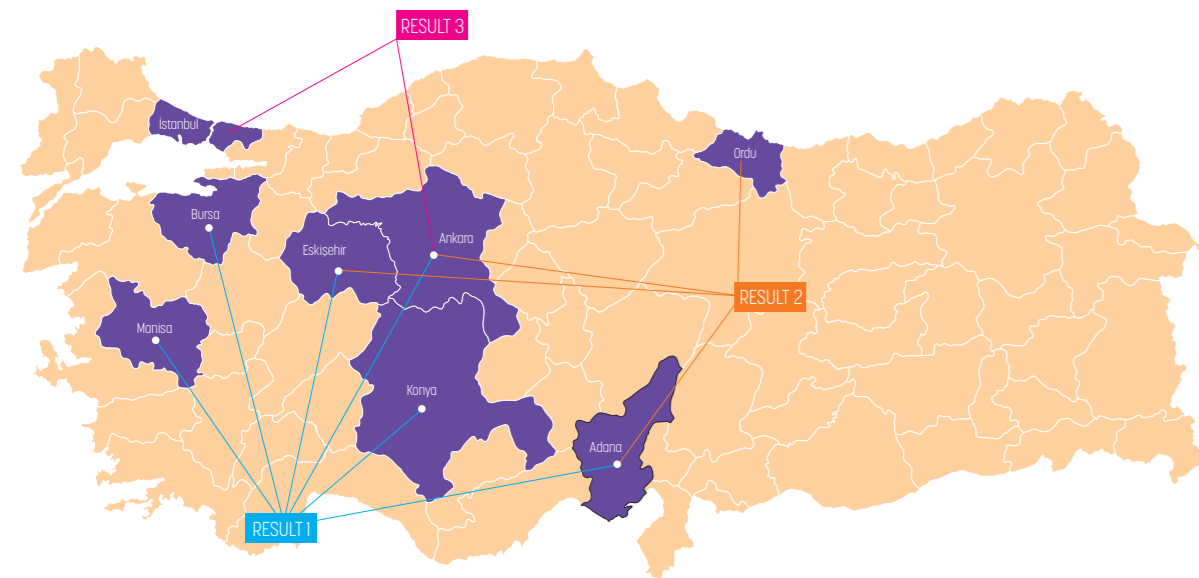
RESULT 2

Strengthening the capacities, enforcing obligations and accountability of agricultural intermediaries to prevent child labour through awareness raising, training and sensitization activities.

RESULT 3

Utilising the insights and evidence from the field to support child labour prevention strategies and operational capacities of relevant institutions at national and local levels, including training kits, guidelines and policy recommendations.

Sites for the Activities



ABOUT US

A group of young people with vision of conducting development activities in Turkey established the Development Workshop Working Group in 2003 to support and be a part of national and international development efforts. This working group consisted of professionals who are experts in social anthropology, sociology, physical anthropology, international relations, biology and forestry. On 3 November 2004, this group of professionals founded Development Workshop as a cooperative.

Cooperatives are not a common choice for organisation in the area of social development in Turkey or in the world. The most significant reasons for becoming organised as a cooperative are solidarity, cooperative production and contributing to new ideas in the area of social development. Another important reason is becoming a multi-partner actor in social development activities and having active participation in the democratic process.

The Development Workshop is a non-profit cooperative established to support the development of Turkey and to provide contributions to conduct sustainable, reproducible and successful projects of all scales. The Development Workshop develops and implements programs in the field of governance, social development, education, and children and youth for and together with non-governmental organisations and producer unions. Areas of particular interest and strength for the Workshop are local development programs and project development, research and capacity building, promoting the cooperative movement, apiculture, seasonal labour migration and child labour.

GENERAL OBJECTIVES

- Combatting against child labour
- Reducing poverty and deprivation
- Protecting and developing the natural environment
- Strengthening the position of women in society and supporting gender balanced development
- Developing cooperation for regional and international development
- Designing and implementing sustainable development models

PRINCIPLES

- Combatting poverty and deprivation
- Democratic participation
- Sustainability, reproducibility and dissemination
- Working with disadvantaged groups
- Strengthening the position of women in society and gender equality
- Protecting and developing the natural environment

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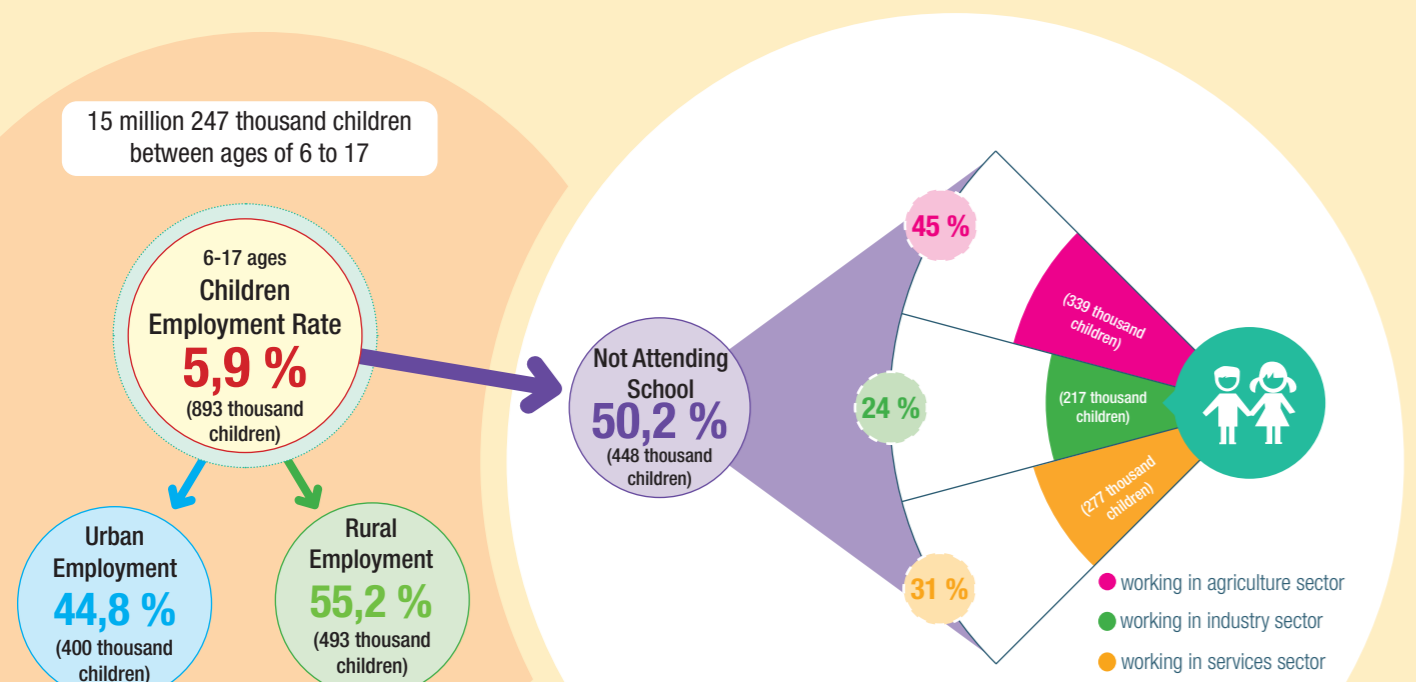


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BACKGROUND

Child Labour Survey, TURKSTAT (2012)



Many children who are engaged in economic activities do not attend school. Even if they do, they do not attend regularly and show lower performance than their peers. Additionally, working children are exposed to unhealthy conditions, occupational hazards and accidents negatively affecting their health, physical, psychological and mental development. The United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child underlines that every child has the right "to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education or that is likely to harm the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development".

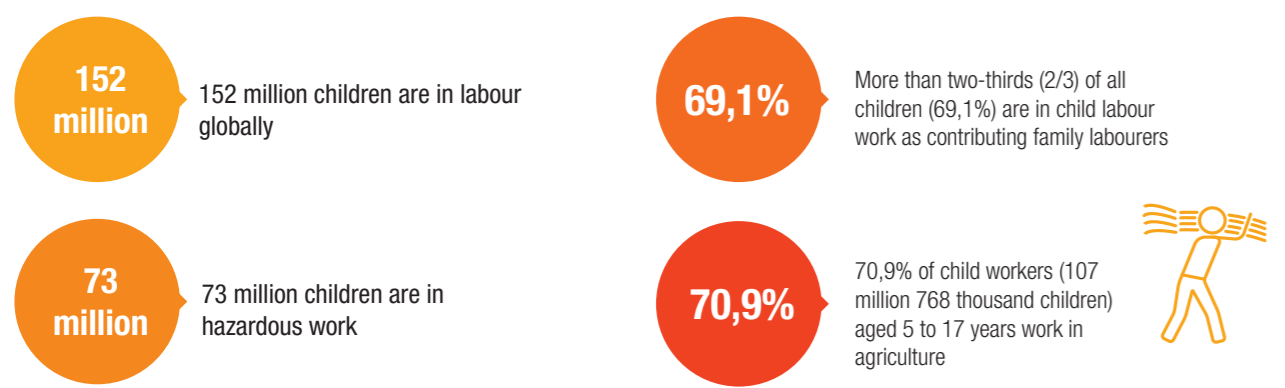
Turkey is party to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and to ILO conventions of no 138 (the Minimum Age Convention) and 182 (Urgent Action Plan on Abolishment and Prevention of the Worst Forms of Child Labour).



Development Workshop Archive, 2019



Child Labour Report, ILO (2017)*



Development Workshop Archive, 2019

More than 41% of working children in Turkey state "contributing to family income" as the reason for working. Children also mention "contributing to the economic activity of the family" (28%) and "acquiring vocational skills" (15%) among their reasons for working.

45% of working children work in seasonal agriculture, 24% in the small and medium scale industry, and 31% in the service sector. The statistics reveal that almost 50% of working children do not attend school but work more than 40 hours a week. Field studies and observations demonstrate that child labour is widespread among Syrians and other communities under temporary and international protection in Turkey. These children work in the same sectors and under same conditions as Turkish children.

Child labour is not only related to poverty. Beliefs and social norms opinions about the child and childhood -particularly about when childhood ends, and financial obligations begin and business practices inspired by such norms perpetuate child labour by normalizing it. When child labour is seen as a way for children to acquire professional skills, its irreversible effects on their development are easily ignored. Child labour often locks children into a cycle of low-paid jobs and poverty that can last for generations. Also, when working children do attend school, they face discrimination and bullying and often have weak academic performance. Hence they are pushed further into child labour.

* ILO (2017) Global Estimates of Child Labour: Results and Trends, 2012-2016

* This data does not include refugee children and no national statistics are available on child labour among refugees.