

TECHNICAL COOPERATION PROJECT SUMMARY

PROJECT TITLE	WEST AFRICA REGIONAL MINING
REGION/COUNTRY	AFRICA/Burkina Faso, Niger, Mali (Research Activities only in Mali)
PROJECT DURATION	September 30, 2005 – January 29, 2010
FISCAL YEAR & FUNDING LEVEL	FY 2005: USD 3,000,000
PROBLEM TO BE ADDRESSED	<p>The GAO region in Mali, at the border with Burkina Faso and Niger, is an area with considerable cross-border movement of miners, and is known as the migration corridor to Niger and Burkina Faso gold mines. Many of these miners appear to be children who have had little education.</p> <p>There are many factors that create an environment in this region that perpetuates child labor. These include poverty, the remoteness and isolation of many gold mining (orpaillage) areas; the nomadic tradition of the orpailleurs; a general lack of awareness of the long term consequences of child labor; the illegality and the informal nature of the orpaillage sector; government lack of capacity and resources to police the sector; lack of investment in the social infrastructure in rural orpaillage areas; lack of orpailleur associations, and a growing proportion of children in the population.</p>
TARGETS	<p>The project targets 1,500 children to be withdrawn and 2,500 children to be prevented from exploitive work in gold mining in Burkina Faso and Niger. A total of 3,000 children will receive educational and/or training services and will participate in youth clubs as a result of project activities.</p> <p>In Niger, the project will target Komabangou, M’Banga and surrounding villages in the Department of Téra in the Tillabéri region.</p> <p>In Burkina Faso, the project will focus activities in Gorgadji (Sahel Region) and Ziniguéma (Centre-Nord Region).</p>
PROJECT OBJECTIVES	<p>To contribute to the prevention and elimination of child labor in gold mining (orpaillage) in West Africa.</p> <p>Intermediate objectives include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Reduce vulnerability of children and youth to being exploited for work in the target areas;• Increase economic security and stability of families in the target areas;• Strengthen community cohesion in the target areas;• Strengthen national policies and structures in

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SUMMARY OF ACTIVITIES	<p>Burkina Faso and Niger to support and sustain local work; and</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Ensure a feasible model for sustainable elimination of child labor in mining is ready for widespread replication throughout the mining region.• Organize miners associations meetings to negotiate and adopt a complete prohibition against children under 18 years of age in mines and mining areas;• Develop child labor monitoring documentation system/database;• For formal schooling needs, provide technical assistance to ministries of education to a) develop a system for identifying teachers for community schools, b) provide specialized training to teachers, and c) adapt existing curricula;• For informal schooling needs, establish link with education-related NGOs and provide materials;• Design and organize associations for children and peer support networks;• Organize participatory workshops and produce a “local development plan” for orpaillage communities that includes CL elimination;• Undertake investigative research on combating child labor in the tri-border area of Mali;• Train district officials and community members from target areas in Burkina Faso, Mali and Niger on matters related to removal of CL;• Organize a sub-regional workshop to share implementation experience and lessons learned.• As of February 28, 2009, 3,822 children have been withdrawn or prevented from exploitive child labor as a result of this project.
GRANTEE	International Labor Organization’s International Program on the Elimination of Child Labor (ILO-IPEC)
IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS	National level ministries; local government administration; traditional leaders; mining companies; mining federation (ICEM) and local trade unions; international and local NGOs (esp. Plan International, Catholic Relief Services, World Vision); and community organizations.
CONTACT INFORMATION	Office of Child Labor, Forced Labor and Human Trafficking (OCFT) (202) 693-4843