

In 2014, Angola made a moderate advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. The Government acceded to the Palermo Protocol, passed a new law protecting all children from human trafficking for sexual and economic exploitation, established a Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons, and trained criminal law enforcement officials. However, children in Angola are engaged in child labor, including in agriculture and mining. There are gaps in the legal framework to protect children from exploitation, including a lack of prohibitions on the use of children in illicit activities. Additionally, there is little publicly available information on the Government's efforts to enforce laws on child labor, including its worst forms.



I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Children in Angola are engaged in child labor, including in agriculture and mining. (1-7) Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in Angola.

Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5-14 yrs.	25.7 (694,458)
Attending School (%)	5-14 yrs.	65.4
Combining Work and School (%)	7-14 yrs.	22.1
Primary Completion Rate (%)		54.3

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2011, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2015.(8)

Source for all other data: Understanding Children's Work Project's analysis of statistics from Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2, 2001.(9)

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

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

Sector/Industry	Activity
Agriculture	Planting and picking tomatoes,* production of rice* (1-5)
	Fishing,* animal herding* (1, 6)
Industry	Artisanal diamond mining (1, 7)
	Mining coal* (3)
	Construction,* making and transporting bricks* (1-3, 6, 10, 11)
Services	Street work, including vending, car washing, and shoe shining* (1, 3, 6, 11-14)
	Transporting heavy loads (1, 3, 6)
	Domestic work (1, 6)
Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor‡	Commercial sexual exploitation sometimes as a result of human trafficking (2, 6, 12)
	Work in agriculture,* construction,* and domestic work,* each as a result of human trafficking (2, 15, 16)
	Forced labor in artisanal diamond mining* (2)
	Used in illicit activities, including drug trafficking, moving illicit goods across the border of Angola and Namibia, and working as thieves in criminal gangs (2, 6, 14, 16)

* Evidence of this activity is limited and/or the extent of the problem is unknown.

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

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Although the Government collected general information on the prevalence of child labor in its 2008–2009 national well-being survey, it has not conducted in-depth research on the worst forms of child labor.(17)




Angolan children are trafficked within the country and internationally for domestic servitude and commercial sexual exploitation.(2) There is evidence of girls as young as age 13 in commercial sexual exploitation.(2) Limited evidence suggests that Congolese migrant children enter Angola for work in diamond-mining districts where they experience conditions of forced labor or commercial sexual exploitation in mining camps.(1, 2) Additionally, human trafficking networks recruit and transport Congolese girls as young as age 12 from the Kasai Occidental province in the Democratic Republic of Congo to Angola for various forms of exploitation.(2)

There is a low rate of birth registration in Angola due to high costs, great distances to service centers, and parents who lack documentation.(18) Registration is necessary to enroll in school and access social services.(19) Additional barriers to education include a lack of school infrastructure, teaching materials, and qualified teachers.(14, 18, 20)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

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

Table 3. Ratification of International Conventions on Child Labor

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

In 2014, Angola ratified the Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons.(21)

The Government has established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 4).

Table 4. Laws and Regulations Related to Child Labor

Standard	Yes/No	Age	Related Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	14	Article 282 of the Labor Law (22)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Article 284 of the Labor Law (22, 23)
Prohibition of Hazardous Occupations or Activities for Children	Yes		Joint Executive Decree No. 171/10 (24)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Article 60 of the Constitution of Angola; Article 18 of Law No. 3/14 (25, 26)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Articles 19 and 23 of Law No. 3/14; Article 165 of the Penal Code (26, 27)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	Yes		Articles 22 and 23 of Law No. 3/14; Articles 182-184 of the Penal Code (26-29)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Article 7 of Law No. 3/99; Article 157 of the Penal Code (27, 30)
Minimum Age for Compulsory Military Recruitment	Yes	20	Article 2 of the Military Service Law (31)
Minimum Age for Voluntary Military Service	Yes	18	Article 11 of the Military Service Law (31)
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	12	Article 17 of the Basic Law of the Education System (8, 32)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 7 of the Basic Law of the Education System (32)

During the reporting period, the Government passed the Law on the Criminalization of Infractions Surrounding Money Laundering, Law No. 3/14, which protects all children less than 18 years old from human trafficking and forced labor.(26) The new law also penalizes employers or labor agents who confiscate, hide, damage, or destroy workers' identity documents. The penalty for labor or sex trafficking, including acting as an agent of a trafficker, is 8 to 12 years in prison; custodial adults who are complicit in child trafficking may be subject to 2 to 8 years in prison.(26)

The Government's list of hazardous work, established by Joint Executive Decree No. 171/10, prohibits activities for minors including fireworks production, stone mining, animal slaughter, leather production, paper making, and pornography.(24, 33) However, the hazardous work list does not cover all hazardous activities in which Angolan children are involved, including high-seas fishing, diamond mining, informal market vending, and in street work.(34)

The Penal Code protects children under age 16 from child pornography, but this protection does not extend to age 18, and there are no provisions against possession of child pornography.(27)

While Law No. 3/99 contains provisions prohibiting the use of children in drug trafficking, and article 157 of the Penal Code prohibits a child's custodian from employing the child in prohibited activities, research found no law that generally prohibits the use of children in all illicit activities.(27, 30)

The law establishes that primary education is compulsory for 6 years.(32) The Government reported to the UNESCO Institute of Statistics that children begin primary education at 6 years old, making education compulsory until age 12.(8) Ending compulsory education at 12 years of age makes children ages 12 through 14 vulnerable to child labor, as they are not required to attend school but are not legally permitted to work either. In addition, this age conflicts with the National Development Plan (2013–2017), which sets the age for compulsory education at 14.(11)

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

The Government has established institutional mechanisms for the enforcement of laws and regulations on child labor, including its worst forms (Table 5).

Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
The Ministry of Public Administration, Labor, and Social Security (MAPTSS)	Inspect workplaces and identify children who are employed in the formal sector. MAPTSS can fine an employer, or send the case to the Ministry of Interior for further investigation and the Ministry of Justice and Human Rights for prosecution.(6, 28) Employ labor inspectors in all 18 provinces to carry out inspections and joint operations with tax authorities and social service providers.(28)
National Children's Institute (INAC)	Receive complaints about cases of child abuse, including child labor, through its research and investigation branch. INAC's inspection teams conduct regular oversight missions in collaboration with various ministries, the ILO, and civil society.(28, 30)
Ministry of Justice and Human Rights, including the Attorney General's Office and Court for Minors	Prosecute child labor cases, including the worst forms of child labor.(28) The Court for Minors handles protective proceedings where a child has been the victim of abuse, exploitation, or neglect.(35)
Ministry of the Interior and its agencies, including the National Police, Border Police, and Immigration Services	Enforce criminal laws and conduct operations and investigations related to forced labor, human trafficking, and commercial sexual exploitation.(1, 11, 30)

Law enforcement agencies in Angola took actions to combat child labor, including its worst forms.

Labor Law Enforcement

In 2014, Angola employed 187 labor inspectors. According to the Government, the number of inspectors is insufficient to effectively monitor the labor market.(1) Inspectors, especially those outside of Luanda, lack necessary resources and sufficient training to carry out their work.(1)

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The National Children's Institute (INAC) collects information from the provinces on the number of child labor cases; however, no information is available regarding child labor inspections, violations, citations, and penalties.(11, 16)

MAPTSS inspectors work with INAC and the Ministry of Assistance and Social Reintegration (MINARS) to ensure that victims of child labor receive the appropriate social services.(30)

Criminal Law Enforcement

Research did not find information on the number of investigators responsible for investigating cases of the worst forms of child labor. According to the Government, 240 Angolan officials were trained on the new anti-trafficking in persons legislation during the reporting period.(11)

In 2014, an Angolan national acquired a child in Huila province, intending to take her to the Democratic Republic of Congo to sell her as a sex slave.(36, 37) Police authorities apprehended the perpetrator in Cabinda province and the victim received assistance from social services.(37) In addition, a National Police investigation resulted in the arrest of two Angolan citizens for facilitating the transport and delivery of two children to France. The Attorney General's Office is investigating the case in preparation for prosecution.(16, 36) Research did not find further information regarding investigations, prosecutions, and convictions.

The National Police and Immigration Services refer victims of the worst forms of child labor to INAC and MINARS to receive social services; victims of child trafficking are referred to INAC's Child Support Centers.(16, 30)

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

Although the Government has established a coordination mechanism on human trafficking, research found no evidence of coordinating mechanisms to combat child labor, including all its worst forms (Table 6).

Table 6. Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
The Ministry of Assistance and Social Reintegration (MINARS)	Ensure coordination between various Government bodies related to social welfare and victim protection.(1, 38) MINARS has established institutions and a network of shelters to protect children from abusive, exploitative, and dangerous situations.(37)
National Children's Institute (INAC)	Coordinate Government child protection services. Work with MINARS to provide shelter and help reintegrate children found in child labor situations with their families.(28)
National Council of Children (CNAC)	Coordinate the Government's efforts on children's issues, including the worst forms of child labor. Led by MINARS and comprised of 17 ministries and related organizations, including the Ministries of Justice and Human Rights, Interior, MAPTSS, Education, Culture, as well as UNICEF, religious institutions, and civil society organizations.(1)
Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons*	Coordinate enforcement efforts on human trafficking, including child trafficking for labor and sexual exploitation. Composed of representatives from the Ministries of Justice and Human Rights, MINARS, MAPTSS, Interior, and relevant Government agencies including the Office of the Attorney General, Immigration Services, and the National Police.(11) Established in November 2014, the commission is currently working on a national strategy to combat human trafficking.(11)

* Mechanism to coordinate efforts to address child labor was created during the reporting period.

The process for selecting civil society members of the National Council of Children (CNAC) lacks transparency.(29)

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government of Angola has established policies related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 7).

Table 7. Policies Related to Child Labor

Policy	Description
Community of Portuguese-Speaking Countries (CPLP) Action Plan to Combat Child Labor	Establishes four target areas to combat child labor: the exchange of information and experiences; awareness-raising campaigns; use of statistical methodologies to collect child labor data; and technical cooperation and training.(39-42) During the reporting period, the Government represented the CPLP at the 320th session of the Board of Directors of the International Labor Organization.(42)

Table 7. Policies Related to Child Labor (cont)

Policy	Description
The Eleven Commitments for Angolan Children	Outlines the Government's main policies for protecting children's rights; goals include protecting children from exploitation and providing education to every child.(12, 43, 44) During the reporting period, the Government raised awareness on the importance of education, built or refurbished 293 schools in Zaire province, and increased the number of teachers in the country.(30, 45)
National Strategy to Prevent and Combat Violence Against Children	Guides the Government's efforts to address violence against children including physical and psychological violence, child labor, child trafficking, and sexual abuse.(12, 29)
Plan of Action and Intervention against the Sexual and Commercial Exploitation of Children (NPAI SCEC)	Aims to protect and defend the rights of child victims of sexual and economic exploitation, including the rehabilitation and social inclusion of the victims.(34)
Free birth registration and identification cards*	Makes birth registration free for all Angolan citizens until 2016. Allows parents to get Identity Cards for free so that they are able to register their children.(19)
Poverty Reduction Strategy (2005-2015)	Serves as the main policy document that guides the Government's anti-poverty actions. Supports the Millennium Development Goals and includes as its objectives poverty reduction, democratic governance, crisis prevention and recovery, environmental protection, and sustainable development.(46, 47)
National Development Plan* (2013-2017)	Guarantees nine years of compulsory, free education until age 14.(11)
National Action Plan for Education for All (2001-2015)*	Aims to achieve universal primary education by 2015.(12, 29)

* Child labor elimination and prevention strategies do not appear to have been integrated into this policy.

The Government has indicated that the Plan of Action and Intervention against the Sexual and Commercial Exploitation of Children (NPAI SCEC) is unsuitable for the current context and that there is an urgent need to revise it. INAC is in the process of evaluating the NPAI SCEC's implementation, with the goal of strengthening the policy.(34)

Research found that a lack of human and financial resources has hindered progress toward targets of the Education for All Plan.(18)

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2014, the Government of Angola funded and participated in programs that include the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms. The Government has other programs that may have an impact on child labor, including its worst forms (Table 8).

Table 8. Social Programs to Address Child Labor

Program	Description
Mobile schools‡	Ministry of Education program that provides education in mobile schools to migrant children who work with their parents in herding cattle.(1) The program specifically targets children at the highest risk of involvement in child labor in southern Angola.(1) Some mobile schools also have kitchens, which facilitate in the Government's school meal program.(1, 48)
Microcredit project‡	MAPTSS program that provides cash assistance to parents so that their children do not need to work.(1)
National Institutes of Job and Professional Training *‡	Government-funded program of 555 centers that provide free, professional training for youth so that they have skills to enter the formal labor market.(1, 49) At least 27,019 young people were trained during the reporting period.(49)
Free meals for children*‡	Government program offering free meals for school children.(1, 28) One such program in Benguela, supported by the U.S. Department of Agriculture, NGOs, and the Government of Angola, is reported to have fed more than 220,000 school children. The Angolan Ministry of Education reports similar programs in the provinces of Lunda Norte and Lunda Sul.(28)
Child Support Centers‡	INAC oversees a national network of Child Support Centers in all 18 provinces that offer health care, psychological care, legal and social assistance, meals, basic education, and family reunification for crime victims, including human trafficking victims, under 18 years of age.(2, 16)
Children's shelters‡	The Ministry of Assistance and Social Reintegration (MINARS), the Ministry of Family and Women's Promotion (MINFAMU), and the Organization of Angolan Women operate 51 children's shelters for child trafficking victims.(2, 37)

* The impact of this program on child labor does not appear to have been studied.

‡ Program is funded by the Government of Angola.

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Although Angola has programs that target child labor, the scope of these programs is insufficient to fully address the extent of the problem. Furthermore, research did not identify programs that target children engaged in certain worst forms of child labor, such as commercial sexual exploitation, illicit activities, or forced labor in agriculture, domestic work, or diamond mining.

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

Based on the reporting above, suggested actions are identified that would advance the elimination of child labor, including its worst forms, in Angola (Table 9).

Table 9. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, Including its Worst Forms

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Ensure that the law prohibits hazardous occupations or activities for children in all relevant sectors in Angola, including work in high-seas fishing, diamond mining, informal market vending, and street work.	2011 – 2014
	Ensure that the legal framework protects all children under age 18 from child pornography and includes penalties for possession of child pornography.	2014
	Ensure that the legal framework prohibits the use of children in illicit activities, including thievery or illegal couriering.	2014
	Increase the compulsory education age to 14 to be consistent with the National Development Plan.	2009 – 2014
Enforcement	Strengthen the labor inspection system by increasing the number of labor inspectors, in order to provide adequate coverage of the workforce, and by providing all inspectors with adequate training and the appropriate resources.	2009 – 2014
	Collect child labor information from provincial agencies and make information on child labor inspections, citations, violations, and penalties publicly available.	2011 – 2014
	Make information publicly available regarding the number of law enforcement officials, investigations, prosecutions, and convictions of the worst forms of child labor.	2011 – 2014
Coordination	Establish coordinating mechanisms to combat child labor, including in all its worst forms.	2014
	Release details on the selection process for civil society members of the CNAC.	2012 – 2014
Government Policies	Accelerate birth registration and identification processes to promote school enrollment and provide social services to vulnerable children.	2010 – 2014
	Use the results of the 2008-2009 national well-being survey to integrate child labor elimination and prevention strategies into existing policies.	2009 – 2014
	Revise and strengthen the NPAI SCEC and ensure its effective implementation.	2014
	Allocate more Government resources to the Education for All Policy to ensure targets are met.	2014
Social Programs	Conduct research on the worst forms of child labor.	2010 – 2014
	Strengthen the education system by providing more funding, schools, and trained teachers.	2013 – 2014
	Assess the impact that existing programs may have on child labor.	2011 – 2014
	Institute programs that target children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation, illicit activities, and forced labor in agriculture, domestic work and diamond mining, and expand existing programs to address the scope of the child labor problem.	2010 – 2014

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