

In 2016, Uzbekistan made efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor, but was also complicit in the use of forced child labor. The Government expanded the monitoring activities of both the ILO-led Third Party Monitoring and its own Coordination Council-led monitoring. The Government also took steps to improve the Feedback Mechanism for reporting labor violations in the cotton harvest and investigated complaints of forced child and adult labor received through this mechanism. However, Uzbekistan is receiving an assessment of no advancement because there were reports that some local officials mobilized children to pick cotton in the region of Kashkadarya and the Republic of Karakalpakstan. There



was no evidence of centrally-coordinated forced mobilization of children. However, the Government maintained policies in the cotton sector that mandate regional harvest quotas and set crop prices at levels that create incentives for local administrators to forcibly mobilize labor, creating an ongoing risk of forced child labor. Public confidence in the Feedback Mechanism remained low, and some users reported retaliation for complaints, indicating flaws in the system for receiving and processing forced child labor complaints. Members of civil society who attempted to conduct independent monitoring of child labor in the cotton harvest reported experiencing harassment by the local government authorities. A Presidential Decree was issued in October 2016 prohibiting unannounced inspections in private businesses, including labor inspections. In addition to continued reports of the worst forms of child labor, including forced child labor in the cotton harvest, a limited number of reports indicate that children perform dangerous tasks in cultivating silk cocoons. Overall, gaps in law enforcement and insufficient coordination with provincial officials impede Uzbekistan's ability to fully address the child labor problem.

I. PREVALENCE AND SECTORAL DISTRIBUTION OF CHILD LABOR

Some children in Uzbekistan engage in the worst forms of child labor in harvesting cotton.(1-23) Although there is an overall lack of current data on child labor in Uzbekistan, a limited number of reports indicate that children also perform dangerous tasks in cultivating silk cocoons.(4, 24-26). Table 1 provides key indicators on children's work and education in Uzbekistan.

Table 1. Statistics on Children's Work and Education

Children	Age	Percent
Working (% and population)	5 to 14	4.3 (244,095)
Attending School (%)	5 to 14	84.1
Combining Work and School (%)	7 to 14	5.0
Primary Completion Rate (%)		98.9

Source for primary completion rate: Data from 2011, published by UNESCO Institute for Statistics, 2015.(27)

Source for all other data: Understanding Children's Work Project's analysis of statistics from Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 3, 2006.(28)

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	Cultivating and harvesting cotton [†] (1-23)
	Cultivating silk cocoons (4, 24-26)
Services	Street vending and street begging (18, 29, 30)
	Collecting scrap metal (20, 31-34)

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Table 2. Overview of Children’s Work by Sector and Activity (cont)

Sector/Industry	Activity
Categorical Worst Forms of Child Labor [‡]	Commercial sexual exploitation, sometimes as a result of human trafficking (19, 35)
	Forced labor in cultivating and harvesting cotton (3-5, 9, 10, 12-20, 36-42)
	Forced labor in collecting scrap metal (20, 31-34, 43, 44)
	Forced labor in cultivation of silk cocoons (4, 24-26)

[†] Determined by national law or regulation as hazardous and, as such, relevant to Article 3(d) of ILO C. 182.

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

The ILO-led Third Party Monitoring (TPM) exercise and the Government-led monitoring found no evidence of forced child labor in the cotton harvest.(45, 46) However, independent observers of the harvest in 2016 reported incidents of children forcibly mobilized to pick cotton.(23) In addition, the TPM noted that staff of educational institutions, as well as students from lyceums, colleges, and universities, were at high risk of mobilization for forced labor in the cotton harvest.(45)




While there was no evidence of a centrally-coordinated forced mobilization of children, observers reported witnessing more cases of children forcibly mobilized by their schools in 2016 compared to the previous year.(23) Organized local mobilization of rural schoolchildren by school officials was also reported in several districts of Kashkadarya and Karakalpakstan.(23) In addition, an unknown number of 17-year-old students were included in class-wide mobilizations of third-course college and lyceum students, who tend to be 18 years old, but can also include some 17-year-olds.(23, 47) Further, the mobilization of teachers interrupted class schedules and created larger class sizes, negatively impacting the quality of education and leaving children whose school attendance was interrupted more vulnerable to participation in the cotton harvest.(23, 47) The Uzbek-German Forum continued to report harassment by local officials of human rights activists and foreign journalists attempting to monitor the cotton harvest in 2016.(23, 48)

Limited evidence suggests that government-imposed quotas also contribute to forced child labor in the cultivation of silk cocoons and the collection of scrap metal.(4, 24-26, 31-34, 43, 44)

II. LEGAL FRAMEWORK FOR THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

Uzbekistan 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	✓

The Government has established laws and regulations related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 4). However, gaps exist in Uzbekistan’s legal framework to adequately protect children from child labor.

Table 4. Laws and Regulations on Child Labor

Standard	Meets International Standards: Yes/No	Age	Legislation
Minimum Age for Work	Yes	16	Article 77 of the Labor Code; Article 20 of the Law on the Guarantees of the Rights of the Child; Article 49-1 of the Administrative Code (49-52)
Minimum Age for Hazardous Work	Yes	18	Articles 241 and 245 of the Labor Code (51)
Identification of Hazardous Occupations or Activities Prohibited for Children	Yes		Decree on Adoption of the List of Occupations with Unfavorable Working Conditions to Which It Is Forbidden to Employ Persons Under Eighteen Years of Age; Decree on Approval of Provision on Requirements on Prohibition of Use of Minors' Labor (53, 54)
Prohibition of Forced Labor	Yes		Article 37 of the Constitution; Article 7 of the Labor Code; Article 51 of the Administrative Code; Articles 135 and 138 of the Criminal Code (50-52, 55-58)
Prohibition of Child Trafficking	Yes		Article 14 of the Law on Guarantees of the Rights of the Child; Article 135 of the Criminal Code (50, 58)
Prohibition of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children	No		Article 10 of the Law on Guarantees of the Rights of the Child; Articles 130 and 135 of the Criminal Code (50, 58)
Prohibition of Using Children in Illicit Activities	Yes		Article 10 of the Law on Guarantees of the Rights of the Child; Articles 127, 270, 273, and 276 of the Criminal Code (50, 58)
Minimum Age for Military Recruitment			
State Compulsory	Yes	18	Articles 4 and 46 of the Law on Universal Military Service (59, 60)
State Voluntary	Yes	18	Article 24 of the Law on Universal Military Service (60)
Non-state Compulsory	No		
Compulsory Education Age	Yes	18 [‡]	Article 3 of the Law on Education (61)
Free Public Education	Yes		Article 4 of the Law on Education; Article 41 of the Constitution (55, 61)

[‡] Age calculated based on available information(61)

During the reporting period, there were some changes to the legal framework. In September 2016, Uzbekistan amended the Law on Labor Protection to more clearly incorporate international standards into the labor protection system and define the role of the government, employers, workers, and workers' organizations in monitoring working conditions.(47, 62, 63) In October 2016, a Presidential Decree was issued prohibiting unannounced inspections targeted at improving the business climate by eliminating regulatory burdens on small and private businesses. However, the decree imposed a ban on unannounced labor inspections of all private enterprise.(64) This provision is scheduled to enter into force in 2017.(47, 64)

The Law on Guarantees of the Rights of the Child requires that the State protect children from involvement in prostitution; however, the law does not criminally prohibit the use, procurement, or offering of children in prostitution.(50, 52, 58)

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). However, gaps in labor law enforcement remain and some enforcement information is not available.

Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Labor	Conduct labor inspections, including inspections for compliance with child labor laws.(65)
Ministry of Interior Office for Combating Trafficking	Investigate crimes related to child trafficking, which may then be prosecuted by the Prosecutor General's Office.(66)
Prosecutor General's Office	Prosecute criminal violations involving the worst forms of child labor, including human trafficking, forced labor, and commercial sexual exploitation.(66)

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Table 5. Agencies Responsible for Child Labor Law Enforcement (cont)

Organization/Agency	Role
Ministry of Public Education, Ministry of Higher and Secondary Special Education, and Center for Secondary and Vocational Education	Monitor elementary through secondary school students to prevent forced child labor, including in the production of cotton. Monitor employment of all graduates of all educational institutions for two years after graduation.(67, 68)
Women’s Committee of Uzbekistan	Monitor school attendance through the academic year, especially during the cotton harvest. A total of 14 regional and 194 district branches of the Women’s Committee are involved in monitoring school attendance.(67)
Ministry of Labor Human Trafficking Hotlines	Receive reports of incidents of human trafficking and refer reports to the relevant agencies.(69)
Feedback Mechanism	Receive complaints on the violation of workers’ rights and labor laws through two telephone hotlines: one Ministry of Labor hotline that refers cases to the Labor Inspectorate and the Prosecutor General’s Office, and one Federation of Trade Unions hotline that focuses on mediation of individual workers’ rights complaints.(17)

Labor Law Enforcement

In 2016, labor law enforcement agencies in Uzbekistan took action to combat child labor, including its worst forms (Table 6).

Table 6. Labor Law Enforcement Efforts Related to Child Labor

Overview of Labor Law Enforcement	2015	2016
Labor Inspectorate Funding	Unknown (17)	Unknown (17)
Number of Labor Inspectors	439 (70)	328 (71)
Inspectorate Authorized to Assess Penalties	Yes (70)	Yes (70)
Training for Labor Inspectors		
Initial Training for New Employees	Unknown	Unknown
Training on New Laws Related to Child Labor	N/A	N/A
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (70)	Yes (71)
Number of Labor Inspections	Unknown (17)	Unknown
Number Conducted at Worksite	Unknown (17)	498 (71)
Number Conducted by Desk Reviews	Unknown (17)	Unknown
Number of Child Labor Violations Found	Unknown (17)	13 (47)
Number of Child Labor Violations for Which Penalties Were Imposed	7 (72)	Unknown
Number of Penalties Imposed That Were Collected	Unknown	Unknown
Routine Inspections Conducted	Yes (17)	Yes (17)
Routine Inspections Targeted	Yes (17)	Yes (17)
Unannounced Inspections Permitted	Yes (17)	Yes (17)
Unannounced Inspections Conducted	Yes (17)	Yes (17)
Complaint Mechanism Exists	Yes (17)	Yes (17)
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Labor Authorities and Social Services	Yes (17)	Yes (17)

During the reporting period, both the ILO-led TPM and the Government-supported Coordination Council conducted monitoring of the cotton harvest.(46) The coverage of national monitoring expanded from 3 provinces in 2015 to all 13 provinces in 2016. Five minors were identified in cotton fields; however, no evidence of systematic use of child labor was detected.(71) The TPM adapted its methodology in 2016 to include a pre-harvest monitoring phase that assessed whether ministries, schools, and medical facilities responsible for recruiting cotton pickers were taking appropriate measures to prevent the use of child and forced labor. The TPM report noted that recordkeeping on the implementation of these measures was inconsistent, especially in rural areas, and that regular auditing of records would be required to ensure preventive measures were being properly implemented.(45) The TPM report also noted that many respondents appeared to have been coached on how to answer monitors.(45) Independent observers commented that the presence of Government-

affiliated Federation of Trade Unions of Uzbekistan (FTUU) officials on monitoring teams intimidated respondents and made them unwilling to speak openly with monitors.(23)

Differences between TPM and government monitoring results and reporting by independent observers suggest deficiencies in the current monitoring and enforcement system, including insufficient investigation, identification, and punishment of labor violations in the cotton sector. Among the independently reported violations are incidents of mobilization of entire classes of schoolchildren and the possible involvement of local or regional government authorities in such mobilization.(23, 45) The Government of Uzbekistan issued administrative penalties, such as fines or written admonishments, to 15 local administrators of educational and healthcare institutions and farming enterprises involved in mobilizing adult forced labor in 2016.(73) However, research did not find any cases in which local government officials responsible for enforcing quotas at the regional, district, or town level received fines for their involvement in the mobilization of children or adults in the cotton harvest.

Both the Ministry of Labor and the FTUU continued to operate separate Feedback Mechanism (FBM) hotlines during the 2016 harvest. Notable improvements to the FBM’s functioning in 2016 include the introduction of anonymous complaints to the FTUU’s hotline, the addition of an appeals process, and the introduction of year-round operation.(45, 73) Observers agree that increased public confidence in the FBM is needed for the mechanism to function effectively. While the use of the hotlines increased in 2016, reports of reprisals against individuals who made complaints via the FBM hotlines about forced labor continued in 2016.(23, 45)

In February 2016, the President signed a resolution mandating that each region have a dedicated labor inspector, an improvement on the previous standard of one inspector for every two regions, which left rural areas underserved.(73) However, the number of labor inspectors is insufficient for the size of Uzbekistan’s workforce, which includes over 17.8 million workers. According to the ILO’s recommendation of 1 inspector for every 20,000 workers in transitioning economies, Uzbekistan’s labor inspectorate should employ roughly 890 inspectors.(74-76)

Criminal Law Enforcement

In 2016, criminal law enforcement agencies in Uzbekistan took actions to combat child labor, including its worst forms (Table 7).

Table 7. Criminal Law Enforcement Efforts Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor

Overview of Criminal Law Enforcement	2015	2016
Training for Investigators		
Initial Training for New Employees	Yes (68)	Yes (68)
Training on New Laws Related to the Worst Forms of Child Labor	N/A	N/A
Refresher Courses Provided	Yes (72)	Yes (73)
Number of Investigations	Unknown	Unknown
Number of Violations Found	54 (72)	12 (73)
Number of Prosecutions Initiated	Unknown	Unknown
Number of Convictions	Unknown	Unknown
Reciprocal Referral Mechanism Exists Between Criminal Authorities and Social Services	Yes (17)	Yes (17)

During the reporting period, 50 Ministry of Interior officers and investigators received training on measures for preventing human trafficking.(73)

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

The Government has established mechanisms to coordinate its efforts to address child labor, including its worst forms (Table 8).

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Table 8. Key Mechanisms to Coordinate Government Efforts on Child Labor

Coordinating Body	Role & Description
Coordination Council on Child Labor Issues (Coordination Council)	Coordinate efforts to address child labor issues, including monitoring of the cotton harvest; chaired by the Federation of Trade Unions.(71, 73) In 2016, the Coordination Council led child labor monitoring activities throughout Uzbekistan and collaborated with the ILO and the World Bank to host capacity-building seminars for government ministries, regional government authorities, and farmers on the implementation of national and international labor standards.(45, 47, 71)
Interagency Working Group	Coordinate efforts to address labor rights issues, including child labor.(65, 77, 78) Report to the ILO on the Government’s implementation of ratified conventions and its efforts to prevent forced labor and protect working minors. Headed by the Ministry of Labor.(77-80)
National Interagency Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons	Oversee efforts to combat human trafficking, including by improving interagency cooperation, raising public awareness, and drafting legislation.(72) Chaired by the Prosecutor General.(66) In 2016, actively coordinated with local NGO partners to conduct public awareness campaigns.(73)
Local interagency committees	Monitor human trafficking at the provincial, regional, and municipal levels.(66)

In August 2016, the Ministry of Labor and the FTUU issued a joint letter to the seats of regional government, or *hokimiyats*, emphasizing the importance of preventing the use of child and forced labor in the harvest.(73) According to the TPM report, child labor has become broadly socially unacceptable. However, despite formal directives and awareness-raising efforts, national prohibitions on child labor continued to be implemented inconsistently at the local level.(23) This suggests the need for improved coordination between the national, regional, and district governments to ensure that local governments are committed to implementing the laws and policies prohibiting child labor in cotton production and other sectors and that appropriate remediation action is taken when they do not.

V. GOVERNMENT POLICIES ON THE WORST FORMS OF CHILD LABOR

The Government has established policies related to child labor, including its worst forms (Table 9).

Table 9. Key Policies Related to Child Labor

Policy	Description
Memorandum of Understanding Between the ILO and the Republic of Uzbekistan (2014–2016)	Establishes terms of agreement between the ILO and the Government on cooperation to implement the Decent Work Country Program in Uzbekistan from 2014–2016.(81) This agreement represents an important step toward implementation of recommendations of the ILO supervisory bodies, including utilizing ILO technical assistance and continuing to work with the ILO or other credible third parties to observe cotton harvests.(36, 82)
National Action Plan for the Application of ILO Conventions	Establishes a framework for implementing ILO Conventions 138 and 182 by coordinating the activities of ministries, departments, and local government authorities.(17, 83) Prescribed activities include the annual monitoring of the cotton harvest, which took place during the reporting period.(71, 83)
Resolution of the Cabinet of Ministers No. 132 on Additional Measures to Ensure the Implementation of ILO Conventions (2014–2016)	Establishes actions and efforts to be taken to address the worst forms of child labor and forced labor. Outlines additional activities to be implemented in 2014–2016 in response to ILO convention requirements, including awareness-raising, monitoring of the cotton harvest, legal reform, data collection, and activities on the worst forms of child labor targeting government ministries, international organizations, students, trade unions, and employers.(84) Ministry of Labor is charged with implementation.(68)
Action Plan on Improving Working Conditions, Employment, and Social Protection of Workers in Agriculture (2016–2018)†	Demonstrates the Government’s commitment to improving conditions for hiring of workers in agriculture; strengthening the Feedback Mechanism (FBM) and national monitoring to prevent child and forced labor; increasing provision of information and guidance in order to advance decent work; increasing mechanization of agriculture; and improving social protection of workers in agriculture.(85-87)
Cabinet of Ministers Order 909F	Outlines steps to ensure decent working conditions in Uzbekistan, including by preventing child and forced labor. The order lays out the Government’s intentions to improve monitoring and feedback mechanisms, as well as to continue working with the ILO and World Bank to develop information materials and conduct public awareness campaigns about child and forced labor.(17)
National Plan of Action Against Trafficking in Persons (2015–2016)	Includes activities to conduct public awareness-raising, assist and protect victims, and strengthen the capacity of government agencies and NGOs working on human trafficking issues.(72)

† Policy was approved during the reporting period.

In 2016, the national government maintained cotton production policies that mandate harvest quotas and set crop prices at levels that offer strong incentives for local administrators to mobilize forced labor, which in turn creates an ongoing risk that children may be mobilized for forced child labor.(23, 73)

The Government has not included child labor elimination and prevention strategies into the Education Sector Plan (2013–2017).(88)

VI. SOCIAL PROGRAMS TO ADDRESS CHILD LABOR

In 2016, the Government funded and participated in programs that included the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms (Table 10).

Table 10. Key Social Programs to Address Child Labor[†]

Program	Description
<u>Support for the Decent Work Country Program in Uzbekistan</u>	\$6 million USDOL-funded project awarded in December 2014 to the ILO to enhance the capacity of the Government and workers’ and employers’ representatives to prevent and reduce child and forced labor, and to promote decent work in Uzbekistan.(89, 90) In 2016, the project prepared training materials for monitoring child labor and forced labor in the cotton harvest. It also delivered training courses, seminars, and technical advice on collective bargaining and core labor conventions, facilitating Uzbekistan’s ratification of ILO Convention 87 Concerning Freedom of Association and the Protection of the Right to Organize.(91, 92)
Efforts to Prevent Child Labor in the Cotton Harvest [‡]	Government-led initiatives to prevent the involvement of children in the cotton harvest include the provision of extracurricular activities for students who might otherwise participate in the harvest after school, and efforts to raise awareness about the prohibition of child labor in the harvest.(71) In 2016, 44,500 posters including information on the prohibition of child labor and the FBM hotlines were distributed to educational institutions, and 100,000 flyers were disseminated among farmers and employers. Awareness-raising videos on the FBMs were also prepared and received air time on national television.(71)
Global Partnership for Education	Multilateral initiative to coordinate the efforts of developing countries, donors, international organizations, teachers, NGOs, and the private sector to secure universal access to quality education in developing countries.(93, 94)
School Assistance [†]	Ministry of Public Education program that provides winter clothes and other educational resources to needy families to support their school attendance.(17, 95)
Family Support Assistance [†]	Government of Uzbekistan program that provides an allowance to low-income families to be paid if their children continue their education up to age 18.(17, 95)
Child Protection Assistance	UNICEF program that engages with the Government of Uzbekistan to support the development of a national child protection system that will prevent and respond to children who are at risk of or have been subject to child abuse, exploitation, and violence.(96)
Child Rights Monitoring	UNICEF program partners with local and regional governments, NGOs, and civil service training institutions to strengthen Uzbekistan’s application and monitoring of obligations under the UN CRC.(97)
National Rehabilitation Center [†]	Ministry of Labor-operated shelter that provides human trafficking victims with emergency medical and social services and assists in social rehabilitation. In 2016, the shelter served 400 individuals, including 17 minors.(71)
Human Trafficking is a Modern Issue [†]	National Interagency Commission to Combat Trafficking in Persons-led program, which carried out more than 61,500 awareness-raising activities that reached 4.1 million citizens, including 1 million children.(72, 98)

[†] Program is funded by the Government of Uzbekistan.

[‡] The Government had other social programs that may have included the goal of eliminating or preventing child labor, including its worst forms.(46, 47)

The Government has implemented programs to combat child labor in the cotton harvest and to address human trafficking. Despite these efforts, forced labor issues persist in Uzbekistan.(99)

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 Uzbekistan (Table 11).

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Table 11. Suggested Government Actions to Eliminate Child Labor, Including its Worst Forms

Area	Suggested Action	Year(s) Suggested
Legal Framework	Criminally prohibit the use, procurement, and offering of a child for prostitution.	2015 – 2016
	Ensure that the law criminally prohibits the recruitment of children under 18 by non-state armed groups.	2016
Enforcement	Ensure that monitoring is independent, including by creating conditions such that respondents can participate without fear of reprisal and by holding accountable officials who coach or provide answers to local officials or workers involved in the cotton harvest.	2016
	Allow independent observers unrestricted access to monitor child labor during the cotton harvest through unannounced site visits, and punish officials who threaten or detain observers in order to suppress information about labor violations.	2014 – 2016
	Publish information about the Labor Inspectorate’s funding, training for inspectors, number and type of inspections conducted, number of child labor violations found, and number of penalties collected.	2015 – 2016
	Establish a process to regularly assess institutional measures to prevent child and forced labor to ensure consistent implementation, including in rural areas.	2016
	Take steps to build public trust in the Feedback Mechanisms and other mechanisms for receiving child labor complaints, especially by ensuring individuals who make use of these mechanisms do not experience retaliation.	2015 – 2016
	Increase the number of labor inspectors responsible for enforcing laws related to child labor in order to provide adequate coverage of the workforce.	2015 – 2016
	Ensure unannounced inspections are permitted in all sectors, to ensure the inspection system is not weakened.	2016
	Ensure that the cotton harvest monitoring and enforcement system is comprehensive, investigates worker complaints and third-party reports of school closings and child labor, and applies penalties against responsible individuals, including local or regional government authorities (such as <i>hokim</i> or town mayors), who are involved in the mobilization of children.	2012 – 2016
	Publish disaggregated information on investigations, prosecutions, and convictions related to the worst forms of child labor and trafficking of children.	2011 – 2016
Coordination	Increase coordination efforts directed at regional and district governments to ensure local governments are both aware of and committed to implementing the laws and policies prohibiting child labor in cotton production and other sectors ensure that appropriate remediation action is taken when they do not.	2015 – 2016
Government Policies	Integrate child labor elimination and prevention strategies into the Education Sector Plan.	2014 – 2016
	Ensure that the participation of teachers in the cotton harvest is voluntary and does not negatively impact education quality during the harvest or increase the vulnerability of students to participation in the harvest.	2015 – 2016
	Revise policies that mandate cotton harvest quotas and set purchase prices below market value to help prevent forced involvement of children under age 18 in the cotton harvest.	2012 – 2016
	Strengthen recordkeeping in educational institutions and maintain up-to-date records of cotton workers’ ages to ensure students under age 18 are not engaged in the harvest.	2013 – 2016
Social Programs	Conduct research to determine the prevalence of child labor, including the nature and extent of children’s involvement in silk cocoon cultivation and scrap metal collection.	2013 – 2016
	Expand programs to address the worst forms of child labor, with a particular focus on child trafficking and children involved in cotton production.	2009 – 2016

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