



GOOD PRACTICES TO END CHILD LABOUR

Agile systems for monitoring and assessing target 8.7 of the SDGs

Monitora 8.7



Country
Brazil



Creation year and validity

Since 2017, the monitoring and assessment system Monitora 8.7 is being developed in the framework of the Initiative SmartLab¹ for the Promotion of Decent Work, created jointly with the

International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Public Labour Ministry (MPT) of Brazil.



Responsible institution(s)

As part of the activities of the project “Consolidating and Disseminating Efforts for the Eradication of Forced Labour in Brazil and Peru”, the ILO in

Brazil partnered with the National Commission for the Eradication of Slave Labour (CONATRAE) and with the NGO Repórter Brazil to develop monitoring and assessment tools for the II National Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labour. This association resulted in an online monitoring system.

Later, as a pilot initiative, this system was adapted with the support of the MPT for the creation of the Monitora 8.7 system. The project has been integrating new functionalities over time that facilitate the work of organizations in the follow-up of action plans for the eradication of forced labour, contemporary slavery, human trafficking and child labour, and thus offer support in achieving target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

¹ See at: <https://delta87.org/2018/08/smartlab-de-trabajo-decente-una-iniciativa-de-gestion-del-conocimiento-en-brasil/?lang=es-xl>.



Child Labour and
Information and
Communications Technologies

Within the framework of the Regional Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean Free of Child Labour, eight factors have been prioritized with the potential to accelerate the rate of reduction in child labour and advance towards the achievement of target 8.7 of the SDGs.

As social challenges continue, the differential value of the use of Information and Communication Technologies (ICT), to innovate in actions aimed at development and social inclusion in the countries, grows. ICTs can improve and make more effective the responses of governments and organizations for the fulfillment of fundamental rights. Therefore, they have the potential to reduce gaps in education, economy, health, work, etc. They help to produce and process, organize and analyze information in a cost-efficient way to make evidence-based policy decisions and subsequently assess them.



Issue we proposed to address

It has been established that in many countries governments produce a diversity of data related to public policies and the defence of individual and collective rights; however, on few occasions such collected data become useful information for decision-making.

As stated in the Monitora 8.7 system², the deficit in the knowledge base required for adequate decision-making undermines the formulation, monitoring and assessment of programs, projects and public policies and, in that sense, consolidating timely and truthful information is essential to contribute to sustained economic growth, as recommended in the 2030 Agenda.

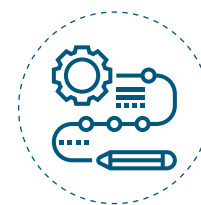
Along these lines, Brazil, considering the relevance of promoting decent work, which is also reflected in the country's Constitution that establishes the social value of work as the basis of the democratic rule of law and the economic order itself (articles 1 and 170), advances in the development of Monitora 8.7.



Objectives of the practice

The Monitora 8.7 system aims to monitor national, state and municipal plans on forced labour, contemporary slavery, human trafficking and child labour. It contributes in the collection of information, the crossing of data and the in-depth observation of the situation, which allows making a more accurate diagnosis of reality in order to overcome the challenges addressed.

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Methodology developed

According to SDG target 8.7, all countries must take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking, and ensure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including the recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms². The practice is aimed at public officials (prosecutors, inspectors, and legislators), civil society, academics, among others, as well as all the organizations involved³.

As it is a system that serves different organizations, each one safely manages its own records through accredited users. In addition, responsible managers can view aggregate information in reports and make monitoring results publicly available to promote transparency and co-responsibility. The Monitora 8.7 system complies with the most modern security and stability requirements, and is free to use by the institutions associated with the formalization of the membership term.

² See at: <https://monitora87.mpt.mp.br/>.

³ As well as Monitor 8.7, the SmartLab also works with a set of digital observatories, such as the Integra System 8.7, and includes thematic digital observatories that allow the national territorial diagnosis of the 27 units of the federation and of the 5,570 Brazilian municipalities, with a focus on measuring deficits in decent work. The Integra System 8.7 has specific functionalities for registering, monitoring and assessing direct care initiatives for victims and vulnerable persons of violations related to the achievement of target 8.7 of the SDGs.

In order to carry out the monitoring, CONATRAE developed indicators for the follow-up of the National Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labour, which can report in a grouped manner a set of actions for each of the work axes of the plan.

Each indicator is translated into questions that are periodically referred to the organizations responsible for implementing the actions or collecting data. There is also a management analysis functionality, where a person can make an assessment of the set of information added unto the platform by each participating organization and for each of the indicators. The members of CONATRAE meet and assess the information received, analysing the progress and obstacles that mark each period. The objective is for the information to serve as the basis for an increasingly integrated and strategic action by the organizations that make up the Commission and their partners, as well as to inform future planning processes.

As an example, the monitoring of the II National Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labour revealed, for 2014, that 17 of the 33 indicators (51.5%) were partially met; 9 (27.3%) were fully met and 7 (21.2%) were not met. In 2019, in a second monitoring cycle of the same plan, it was revealed that 13 of the 33 indicators (39.4%) were partially met, 16 (48.5%) were fully met and 4 (12.1 %) were not met⁴.

4 In recent years, monitoring of the State Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labour in Maranhão, the Planning of the State Commission for the Eradication of Slave Labour in Bahia, and the monitoring of the Municipal Plan for the Eradication of Slave Labour in the municipality of São Paulo have also been achieved.

The data for all the monitoring stages are public and accessible from the platform. Therefore, they can also help to create awareness in more people about the fight to eradicate slave labour in Brazil and invite other actors to participate.



Criteria that identify it as a good practice



Innovation

Monitora 8.7 innovates, in particular, in the development of new technologies for a better use of available data; through its collection, processing, crossing and visualization, to produce relevant information and knowledge for the monitoring and assessment of public policies.

The digital platform allows a more efficient use of the available information and generates articulation processes to give them added value through applications and analyses that enhance the initial data and transform them into useful knowledge for decision-making.

Another aspect that stands out is that it is inspired by the idea of continuous learning, agile management principles, and the flexible and adaptable applicability of ideas to different contexts.



Relevance

The provision of timely and accurate information for adequate decision-making in the formulation and development of public policies in a country is highly relevant. The efficient use of information contributes to the desired social changes and the development of a sustainable economy, as proposed in the 2030 Agenda.

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Replicability

Monitora 8.7 has been adapted several times, both from a territorial and thematic point of view. Along these lines, the process of monitoring plans to combat child labour and human trafficking began and more recently, in 2020, it is being applied to follow up on the Strategic Plan of the Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean free of child labour⁵.



Effectiveness

The adaptation of the Monitora 8.7 system to monitor various national and state plans is concrete evidence of its effectiveness. In a study carried out with stakeholders in the State of Bahia, almost all users of the system have reported an increase in their knowledge of monitoring and assessment after its use.



Efficiency

Despite their strategic importance, monitoring and assessing national plans are highly complex and costly exercises. With Monitora 8.7, data collection, one of the most expensive parts of the process, is done in a participatory manner by the organizations implementing the plan; so its use is cost-effective.

In general, for the complete monitoring process, including some training sessions, and validation and dissemination events, the investment is approximately USD 10,000.



Sustainability

As expressed in the platform⁶, its sustainability is based on the idea of intelligent practices for the promotion of public policies that generate public value in a sustained way, with resources that organizations generally have and that can be enhanced through articulated initiatives.

In this sense, Monitora 8.7 as a component of the SmartLab initiative, starts off with the available resources (free technologies and underused public data as a rule) to which it adds value through applications and analysis that aim to transform data into useful information and knowledge for the public

policy decision-making process. Furthermore, as a knowledge management tool, Monitora 8.7 is also a learning tool.



Transfer of the practice among the countries

Today there are agreements for the use of the Monitora system in other South American countries, such as Argentina, Paraguay and Peru, even in the field of multi-country and tripartite platforms such as the Regional Initiative for Latin America and the Caribbean free of child labour.

Although much of its operation is intuitive, a manual and tutorial are being prepared to facilitate its use.

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5 The Regional Initiative Latin America and the Caribbean free of child labour is an intergovernmental cooperation platform, made up by 2020 of 30 countries in the region, and employers' and workers' organizations. To learn more, see: <https://www.iniciativa2025alc.org/>

6 See at: <https://monitora87.mpt.mp.br/smartlab/>



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