

PROJECT DOCUMENT

SEND 400 CHILDREN AT RISK TO TRAFFICKING TO SCHOOL IN GHANA.

INTERNATIONAL NEEDS GHANA

NOVEMBER 2011

WORKING TITLE: SEND 400 CHILDREN AT RISK TO TRAFFICKING TO SCHOOL IN GHANA.

LOCATION: NORTH TONGU DISTRICT IN THE VOLTA REGION

IMPLEMENTING AGENCY: INTERNATIONAL NEEDS GHANA
P.O. BOX DS 690
DANSOMAN

PHONE: +233-302-300-222, +233-302-300-224

FAX: +233-302-300-574

E-MAIL: info@internationalneedsgh.org

WEBSITE: www.internationalneedsgh.org

CONTACT PERSON: WALTER PIMPONG (Executive Director)

E-MAIL wpimpong2000@yahoo.co.uk

BUDGET: US\$45,850.00

DURATION: 18 months

1. BACKGROUND AND JUSTIFICATION

Ghana ratified the UNCRC in 1990 and in accordance with its provisions embarked on a Child Law Reform Process. This culminated the passage of the Children's Act, (Act 560), the Criminal Code Amendment (Act 554), both of 1998 and the Human Trafficking Act 2005 (Act 694). Ghana is also a signatory to the Palermo Protocol and other related ILO conventions on Child Labour. Specifically, Ghana ratified ILO Convention Number 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the year 2000 and signed a Memorandum of Understanding with ILO in March 2000 to progressively eliminate the worst forms of child labour in Ghana. It has also ratified Convention Number 29 on Forced Labour and Convention Number 138 on Minimum age in Employment. Beyond having ratified International laws, Ghana has also come up with its national legal responses to issues of child labour, its worst forms as well as child trafficking in the context of child rights. Consequently, In October 2010, the cabinet endorsed and adopted a National Plan of Action to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor, which provides the framework for the Ghana Child Labor Monitoring System, and tool to identify and monitor children in the worst forms of child labor, including trafficked children. Ghana therefore has a progressive social policy environment, including many legislative instruments that promote and protect the rights of children.

In spite of the above strides made in the legal framework, there are challenges in enforcing these laws and implementing policies to address the issue of child labour in its worst forms. To give meaning to these laws and convention, there is urgent need to intensify public education to raise awareness on the abuse of the rights of the children trafficked to be engaged in fishing and its related activities in target areas, to ensure that children in the project communities are prevented from being trafficked and supported in education.

The International Labour Organization (ILO) convention on the worst forms of child labour (WFCL) known as convention 182, proclaims protection from child labour and its worse forms as a human rights and a development issue .The WFCL are practices that are so fundamentally at odds with children's basic human rights and must be prohibited for all persons under the ages of 18 years irrespective of the level of economic development of a country.

Child labour is any work performed by a person who is not yet 18 years which is abusive ,hazardous, exploitative, deprives the person of the basic human rights, and interferes with the child's health, safety ,education, physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development or exposes the child to an environment not conducive to his/her development.

Child labour as defined above is different from **child work**. **Child work** is described as work which is light in nature, can be combined with schooling and apprenticeship .Besides, child work is considered as work which is necessary, and not harmful, hazardous or exploitative. It enhances the child's acquisition of basic knowledge, skills, and sense of responsibility, which could prove beneficial in later life.

The practice of engaging children in fishing in Ghana by fishermen and fishmongers has in recent time attracted a great deal of attention from the media, civil society organization and the ILO. Children engaged in fishing are one of the types of child labour that is described as the Worst Forms of Child Labour. Attention has been focused more on the hazardous nature of the work children in fishing are exposed to, the denial of access to education and health care for the children and exposure to various forms of abuse. Studies conducted by African Centre for Human Development (ACHD) have shown that children engaged in this sector are trafficked from other communities, mostly the coastal towns and villages to the fishing communities on Lake Volta.

The national study on the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Ghana (Anon 2007) recommends that the Government of Ghana and institutions such as NGOs should support the efforts of Government to sensitize the public about the

basic rights of children (Anon 2007 p xvii). It is in this context that International Needs Ghana's interest in children trafficked to be engaged in fishing and its related activities on or along the Volta-Lake lies.

International Needs Ghana is one of the few non-governmental organizations that have implemented interventions to contribute to the elimination of child labour in Ghana. Since 2004, the organization with sponsorship from ILO, IN Network New Zealand, the New Zealand's Agency for International Development (NZAID), Geneva Global, International Needs Australia and the Australian Agency for International Development (AUSAID) respectively, has been implementing interventions to prevent and withdraw children from fishing, trafficking and sexual exploitation and providing them with social support. Over 2500 children benefited from the direct interventions. Apart from career and general counseling which the children receive, some were enrolled in vocational training centers to learn livelihood skills of their choice while others enrolled in basic schools.

2. ANALYSIS OF THE PROBLEM

Agriculture continues to be the predominant economic activity in the origin communities (communities from where children are trafficked from to be engaged in fishing). Agricultural activities in the area are however mostly at subsistence level. Fishing forms the main economic activity at the destination communities (community's children are trafficked to be engaged in fishing) along the Volta-Lake.

The 2007 National Worst Form of Child Labour survey (Anon 2007) observed eight (8) factors that could cause child labour as: poverty, inadequate family income, irregular rainfall pattern, loss of one or both parents, illiteracy or ignorance of parents, large family size, stubbornness of child, and peer pressure. The baseline study conducted affirms most of these factors in operation in the origin communities of the study area.

Poverty is the major reason for which children are transported to engage in fishing and related activities on the Volta-Lake. The poverty situation in the project area is described as endemic and pervasive especially within the communities from which children are sent to be engaged in fishing and related activities upstream along the Volta-Lake. These are called the origin communities. The underlying causes of poverty in the project area point to a trend of drastic fall in fish catch and unreliable rainfall pattern for crop production. Further studies have been shown consistently that poor people with many children are the ones most likely to release or loan some of their children to other people to engage them in fishing and its related activities. Under circumstances of poverty and large family sizes, pressure on parents to provide food and basic needs are likely to result in conflict and broken homes. This may lead to single or foster parenthood which put children severely at risk of being trafficked by these parents who are always not able to adequately cater for the needs of the children and may be a major contributing factor to child trafficking for engagement in fishing and related activities on or along the Volta Lake.

Children in fishing are exposed to many dangers according to African Centre for Human Development (ACHD). These include, maltreatment in various forms, contracting HIV/AIDS and other sexually transmitted infections, malaria, commercial sexual exploitation, teenage pregnancy, lack of access to education and health care. The greatest danger to these children lies in the potential of being drowned accidentally or through ignorance. Studies have revealed that children are made to dive sometimes as deep as 30 meters to disentangle fishing nets resulting in some getting drowned in the process. These children should have been in school, but are tragically trapped in the world of the worst form of child labour.

3. PROGRAMME STRATEGY

The duration of the proposed project by International Needs Ghana (INGH) is eighteen months which seek to contribute to the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Ghana.

International Needs Ghana (INGH) seeks to prevent and withdraw (400) four hundred children from being trafficked to be engaged in fishing and its related activities in the space of eighteen months in seven (7) communities in the North Tongu District along the Volta Lake in the Volta Region of Ghana.

The project action plan/strategy involves awareness raising, community education and establish and collaborate with child protection committees, placement of children in schools and vocational skills training and counseling services.

Collaborate with District Child Labour Committee (DCLC)

INGH shall collaborate with District Child Labour Committee in the North Tongu District and work with them to monitor the status of the worst forms of child labour (WFCL) and especially children being trafficked or at risk to trafficking at the district level. The DCLC is made up of representatives from the Ghana Education Service, Commission on Human Rights and Administrative Justice, Department of Social Welfare, National Commission on Civic Education, National Youth Council and Non-Formal Education. INGH has worked in the past with this committee to prevent 450 children from being trafficked.

Establish and collaborate with Community Child Protection Committee (CCPC)

INGH shall transform existing community child labour committees in the seven communities into community child protection committees to enable the project focus on all issues bordering on the protection of the child at the community level. They will help in the identification of (400) targeted children at risk to being trafficked or trafficked to be engaged in fishing. In addition they will assist project staff of INGH to monitor the progress of children who will be placed in schools and vocational skills training apprenticeship. They will also help in community mobilization for the protection of children in their communities.

Membership of the committee shall include, Assemblymen/women, representatives of Ghana National Association of teachers, religious groups, traditional authority/community leaders and trade associations. The composition of both the district and community committees would be gender sensitive and have a female representation, of at least 40%.

Awareness raising programs

Communities shall be educated on ILO Convention 182, Convention on the Rights of the Child, Children's Act of Ghana 1998 (Act 560) and the benefits of education. The purpose of the raising awareness would be to sensitize different stakeholders on the issue of child trafficking and the dangers associated with it as well as the projects intervention, this is expected to enhance active participation of all stake holders in the project implementation and sustainability of the project.

Counseling

INGH shall provide psychosocial, emotional and career counseling services to victims and survivors of trafficking. This is to ensure that their traumatic experiences are dealt with and that they make the right career choices.

Educational and Economic Support

INGH shall work with the Ghana Education Service and Artisanal Association to ensure that children prevented from being trafficked are enrolled into formal schools and vocational training in skills of their choice in their communities.

They shall be provided with school uniforms and learning materials to ensure their continue stay in school. Children who will opt for vocational skills training shall be provided with training tools and equipment. Their school levies and total training fees will also be paid under the program.

4. Sustainability

To ensure the sustainability of the advocacy program, INGH will involve the community level structures in the education and awareness raising programs.

The District and Community Child Protection Committees will continue to undertake monitoring to ensure the children's retention in school .The committees (DCLC & CCPC) will be expected to mobilize resources in their individual institutions and at community level to continue to support the program, and increase awareness on the aftermath effect of child trafficking and importance of education.

Chiefs ,community leaders/elders, opinion leaders and with the support of the assembly shall help in establishing structures by working closely with the community child protection committee in the project communities to deal with issues concerning the protection of children in all forms and improve bye-laws at the local level in addressing child related issues. This will enhance the rights of children been appreciated in their communities and help reduce the incidence of children trafficked to be engaged in fishing and other worst forms of child labour.

5. TARGET GROUPS

5.1 Intended Beneficiaries

5.1.1 Trafficked children

The target groups are children at risk to trafficking from the North Tongu District to be engaged in fishing in communities along the Volta Lake.

5.1.2 Major characteristics of groups of working children

These are children who live in rural communities in the North Tongu District, an area that has suffered severe livelihood dislocation as a result of the damming of the Volta River and the resultant formation of the Volta Lake. The damming of the river affected fishing downstream and also created new opportunities for fishing in the lake communities upstream. This resulted in sustained migration from the communities downstream of the river to the lake communities. The established migratory routes have with time been taken advantage of by traffickers, resulting in the active trafficking of children to the lake communities for fishing purposes. The ages of these children range from 5-17years.

5.1.3 Number of working children

The direct beneficiaries of the project will include four hundred children. These 400 children will be identified with the help of the community child protection committees and mainstreamed into basic schools or vocational skills training centers of their choice, and provided with social support including counseling services, school uniforms and learning materials during the project period.

5.1.4 Family members (parents, sisters and brothers)

Parents/guardians of beneficiary children shall benefit directly from the project, through counseling services.

6. INSTITUTIONAL FRAMEWORK

Implementing Agency

INGH (INGH) was incorporated in 1987 and formally recognized by the Department of Social Welfare (Ghana) in 1991 as a voluntary non-governmental and not for profit organization (NGO). IN Network (Ghana) (INNG) is an autonomous chartered affiliate of a global not-for-profit Christian development organization called the IN Network Inc (INN). The international office is headquartered in New Zealand and the Ghana office is located at A 53/21, 7TH Street SSNIT Flats, Dansoman, Accra.

INGH is managed by a 10-member Board of Directors with varying backgrounds from the world of business, law, finance and development. The Board meets quarterly to review organizational policies, performance and management funds.

The Chairman of the Board is a Chartered Accountant. The other members are professionals such as Engineers, Lawyers, an Educationist, Private Business Executive, Medical Officers, Academics, Social Development Consultants and Child Rights Activists.

The organization is managed on a day to day basis by a four-member Management Team headed by the Executive Director and assisted by functional heads of departments.

The goal of INGH is to promote human and community development for the relief of socio-economic problems and social injustice. In furtherance of this goal, INGH has collaborated with various agencies to undertake projects for the betterment of communities. Agencies which have supported INGH include ;DANIDA,ILO/IPEC, UNFPA, UNIFEM, UN Systems Gender Program, Comic Relief, Australia Agency for International Development (AUSAID), Peterson Foundation, Geneva Global, and the International Needs Network.

INHG has established 10 schools in poor communities in two regions in Ghana and provided about 6500 children the opportunity to access quality education; some of these children are presently in the Universities and other institutions of higher learning. About 5000 are still in schools established by INGH, out of this number 3000 are on its sponsorship programs.

INGH has in addition been promoting child rights issues resulting in the withdrawal and prevention of over 2500 children from the worst forms of child labour (including child trafficking). These children are being supported in schools and skills training programs.

INNG shall provide donors with frequent reports on its website, photos of events and interactions as well as videos. The Program Manger, Child Rights of INGH shall oversee the direct implementation of the proposed program. She shall ensure that planned activities are carried out and in addition monitor and report on the progress of the proposed program.

7. OBJECTIVES, OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

Overall objective

The long term objective of this proposed action program is to contribute to the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Ghana.

Specific Objectives

- At the end of this project, 400 children at risk to being trafficked to be engaged in fishing would have been prevented through the provision of formal education and vocational skills training.
- At the end of this project, seven communities would have been mobilized to advocate against child trafficking and for child protection.
- At the end of this project, project participants (parents & children) would have been involved in monitoring and evaluating activities in project implementation outcomes.

MAJOR OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES

- 400 children mainstreamed in formal schools or provided with vocational skills training
- Seven communities mobilized and advocating for child protection through the work of CCPCs.
- Implementation outcomes monitored throughout the life of the project.

PROJECT ACTIVITIES

Objective Number 1

At the end of this project, 400 children at risk to being trafficked to be engaged in fishing would have been prevented through the provision of formal education and vocational skills training.

Output 1

400 children mainstreamed in formal schools or provided with vocational skills training

Activities 1.1.1

Arrange for admissions for 350 children into basic schools and 50 into vocational skills training through the District offices, of the Ghana Education Service and Associations of Artisans

Activities 1.1.2

Provide grants to pay school levies for 350 children and training fees for 50 children in skills training.

Activities 1.1.3

Provide learning materials for 350 children in formal schools and 50 in vocational skills training.

Activity 1.1.4

Provide counseling services to 400 children and their parents/caregivers

Activity 1.1.5

Reintegrate trafficked children with their families.

Objective Number 2

At the end of this project, seven communities would have been mobilized to advocate against child trafficking and for child protection.

Output 2

Seven communities mobilized and advocating for child protection through the work of CCPCs.

Activities 1.2.1

Seven Community Child Labour Committees already established, trained and transformed into Community Child Protection Committees.

Activities 1.2.2

Organize educational and awareness raising programs in 7 communities

Activities 1.2.3

Identify 200 children at risk to trafficking in collaboration with CCPCs.

Objective Number 3

At the end of this project, project participants (parents & children) would have been involved in monitoring and evaluating activities in project implementation outcomes.

Output 3

Implementation outcomes monitored throughout the life of the project.

Activity 3.1.1

Hold Quarterly Review meetings with key stakeholders to review the progress of the project

Activity 3.1.2

Conduct Mid-term and end of term evaluation of project with key stakeholders.

8. PLANNING, MONITORING AND EVALUATION ARRANGEMENTS

Overall responsibility for **project monitoring** will be with the office of International Needs Ghana. A monitoring framework would be put in place to measure progress towards results and objectives. Monitoring will be carried out at all levels, from community level through the Community Child Protection Committees; at the district level through the District Child Labour Committees and the organizational level through the project team led by the Program Manager for Child Rights. The CCPCs would submit monthly **reports** to the project team in INGH. The Program Manager would be responsible for consolidation of reports, financial coordination and will submit quarterly financial and narrative reports to donors. An in-house **midterm evaluation will be conducted** to examine

the processes and track the delivery of the outputs as set out in the implementation plan. A participatory **final evaluation** would be conducted on the project with key participants. The final evaluations will: (a) determine systematically and objectively the relevance, efficiency, effectiveness and impact of activities in the light of project objectives and indicators as presented in the logical framework. Particular attention will be paid to issues of sustainability; (b) be done through a participatory approach, involving a representative sample of the target beneficiaries and (c) encompass qualitative and quantitative data collected from random samples of beneficiary households and focus groups. There shall be review meetings by all stakeholders which will comprise of a representative from local partners, Project team of INGH, Social Welfare Department, Department of Children and Domestic Violence and Victims Support Unit to review activities every year to maintain proper implementation of the project.

9. LOG FRAME

NARRATIVE SUMMARY	INDICATORS	MEANS OF VERIFICATION	ASSUMPTION AND RISKS
<p>Overall Objective To contribute to the elimination of the worst forms of child labour in Ghana.</p>	<p>400 children prevented from child trafficking for labour purposes and re-integrated with their families</p>	<p>End of term evaluation reports. Photo Album</p>	<p>Risk Unwillingness on the part of some of the children to be withdrawn from trafficking</p> <p>Assumption Funds will be available to implement planned activities.</p> <p>The right target group identified would be willing to participate in the program</p>
<p>Specific Objective At the end of this project, 400 children at risk to being trafficked to be engaged in fishing would have been prevented through the provision of formal education and vocational skills training.</p> <p>At the end of this project, seven communities would have been mobilized to advocate against child trafficking and for child protection.</p> <p>At the end of this project,</p>	<p>350 children in (or have graduated from) school</p> <p>50 beneficiary children in (or have graduated) vocational training</p> <p>Number of community-driven actions against child trafficking</p> <p>Number of community-led action for child protection</p> <p>Number of review</p>	<p>School attendance/INGH records (age and gender disaggregated)</p> <p>Vocational training providers/INGH records (age and gender disaggregated)</p> <p>INGH Training/monitoring reports</p> <p>INGH monitoring reports CCPC reports Stories Photo Album</p> <p>Interviews,</p>	<p>Risks Parents will be uncooperative and may not support the wards to stay in school</p> <p>Assumption All key players play their roles effectively</p> <p>Interest in children's rights from all stakeholders</p>

project participants (parents & children) would have been involved in monitoring and evaluating activities in project implementation outcomes.	meetings held. Number and type of stakeholders participating and reviews and evaluation.	observations, Stories of transformation reports	
Major Outputs Output 1 400 children mainstreamed in formal schools or provided with vocational skills training	Number of children prevented from being trafficked Number of children enrolled and supported in basic school	INNG/CCPC monitoring reports INGH/CCPC activity report (gender disaggregated)	
Activity 1.1.1 Arrange for admissions for 350 children into basic schools and 50 into vocational skills training through the District offices, of the Ghana Education Service and Associations of Artisans.	Means Meetings School and community visits School placements Procurement	Cost/inputs Teachers Transportation Communication Artisans	
Activity 1.1.2 Provide grants to pay school levies for 350 children and training fees for 50 children in skills training.	Meetings School and community visits Vocational School/ Apprenticeship placements Procurement	Transportation Communication Supplies of school and training materials School Levies Artisan's Fees	
Activity 1.1.3 Provide learning materials for 350 children in formal schools and 50 in vocational skills training.	Meetings School and community visits Vocational School/ Apprenticeship placements Procurement	Procurement Transportation Communication Supplies: working tools, equipment etc	
Activity 1.1.4 Provide counseling services to 400 children and their parents/caregivers	Meetings School/Community visits Counselling	Personnel Venue Transportation Communication Counsellors	
Activity 1.1.5 Reintegrate trafficked children with their	Meetings Community visits Negotiation and discussions with families	Resource persons Transportation Communication CCPCs	

families.	Counseling		
Output 2 Seven communities mobilized and advocating for child protection through the work of CCPCs.	No. of committees formed and trained No. of functional CCPCs	INGH records of support INGH Training records Evaluation reports	
Activity 2.1.1 Seven Community Child Labour Committees already established, trained and transformed into Community Child Protection Committees. Activities 2.1.2 Organize educational and awareness raising programs in 7 communities Activities 2.1.3 Identify 200 children at risk to trafficking in collaboration with CCPCs.	Means Meetings Trainings Community and District Assembly visits Meetings Community , home and school visits Meetings Community , home and school visits	Cost/inputs Personnel Resource persons Venue Transportation Communication Refreshments Transportation Communication Honorarium Victuals Venue Personnel CCPCs Venue Transportation Communication	
Output 3 Implementation outcomes monitored throughout the life of the project.	Number of review meetings held with various participants and review meetings.	INGH/CCPC monitoring reports INGH Training records Evaluation reports	
Activity 3.1.1 Hold Quarterly Review meetings with key stakeholders to review the progress of the project. Activity 3.1.2 Conduct Mid-term and end of term evaluation of project with key stakeholders.	Means Community visits, Meetings Meetings Community visits Collection of data	Cost Personnel Transportation Communication Operational costs Refreshment Personnel Transportation Communication Operational costs Refreshment	

10 Project Budget

Budget in USD(\$)**45,850.00** at an Exchange Rate of GHS1.52 to USD(\$)**1**

Code	Activity	Amount
3	Staff and Project Administrative Costs	
3.1	Operations	1,500.00
3.2	Administrative Costs	900.00
3.3	Staff Costs	5,400.00
	Sub-Total	7,800.00
	INPUT RELATED TO SPECIFIC OUTPUTS AND ACTIVITIES	
Output 1.1	400 children mainstreamed in formal schools or provided with vocational skills training	
1.1.1	Arrange for admissions for 350 children into basic schools and 50 into vocational skills training	800.00
1.1.2	Provide grants to pay school levies for 350 children and training fees for 50 children in skills training.	10,150.00
1.1.3	Provide learning materials for 350 children in formal schools and 50 in vocational skills training.	12,150.00
1.1.4	Provide counseling services to 400 children and their parents/caregivers	1,800.00
1.1.5	Reintegrate trafficked children with their families.	900.00
	Sub - Total	25,800.00
Output 2.1	Seven communities mobilized and advocating for child protection through the work of CCPCs.	
2.1.1	Seven Community Child Labour Committees already established, trained and transformed into Community Child Protection Committees.	1,050.00
2.1.2	Organize educational and awareness raising programs in 7 communities	4,200.00
2.1.3	Identify 200 children at risk to trafficking in collaboration with CCPCs.	
	Sub-Total	5,250.00
Output 3.1	300 children mainstreamed in basic and senior high school	
3.1.1	Hold Quarterly Review meetings with key stakeholders to review the progress of the project.	3,000.00
3.1.2	Conduct Mid-term and end of term evaluation of project with key stakeholders.	4,000.00
	Sub-Total	7,000.00
	GRAND TOTAL USD (\$)	45,850.00