



Concept Note on the Interactive Session on

Invest in agriculture, end child labour

Investing in change: leveraging investments and the role of IFIs to end child labour in agriculture

6th Global Conference on the Elimination of Child Labour,

Marrakech, Morocco

Thursday 12 February 2026, 16:30-18:30

I. Background and description of the session

No agricultural investment programme is neutral with respect to child labour. Even when not explicitly part of their scope, such programmes can have direct or indirect, positive or negative, intended or unintended impacts on children and their involvement in child labour. Therefore, it is crucial to integrate a child labour lens into agricultural investments and programmes not only to prevent harm, but also to strengthen accountability, due diligence, reinforce safeguard systems, and maximize the positive social outcomes of interventions.

The session co-organized by FAO and the World Bank aims to enhance participants' understanding and capacity to assess and prevent child labour issues in agricultural investment programmes. It will:

- Highlight the importance of integrating child labour considerations into investments' design, safeguard system, monitoring and evaluation
- Present practical tools and guidance to identify, assess and mitigate child labour risks.
- Draw on the experience of the World Bank and on FAO tools including the Child Labour Risk Assessment Tool and DIGICHILD, a GIS-based child labour risk estimation index.

Discussions will also explore how investments can intentionally target systemic drivers of child labour, such as poverty, living income, gender inequality or cultural norms.

II. Methodology and expected results

The session will use a combination of tools and methodologies developed by FAO and the World Bank for child labour risk assessment and safeguard development, and real-world application of such tools through case studies. It will provide participants with a space for collaborative problem-solving and peer-exchange to adapt these tools to their own institutional and country contexts.

Expected results include:

- Enhanced awareness on practical ways to avoid unintended negative impact and maximise positive impact of agricultural investments on child labour.
- Improved knowledge on how to strengthen child labour due diligence, safeguards and mitigation measures
- Opportunities for collaboration and synergies