



UNGC Communication on Engagement 2017 - 2018

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WE SUPPORT



Statement of Continued Support

I am pleased to submit the ECLT Foundation's 2017 - 2018 Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. On behalf of ECLT, I reaffirm our support of the UN Global Compact and confirm that our work during the reporting period has been in alignment with its Ten Principles.

Guided by the UNGC Principles and the SDGs, ECLT strategically invests in local capacities and builds partnerships to advance economic, social and environmental development, in line with UN Human Rights and ILO standards.

It is widely known that child labour, like many social issues, is not a stand-alone problem but rather a manifestation of many other complex and interlinked issues like poverty and fragile livelihoods, lack of access to education and information, as well as gaps in national legislation and global supply chains.

Therefore, in order to effectively abolish child labour, in line with the UNGC Principle 5 and SDG accelerated target 8.7, our programmatic approach is comprehensive, data-driven and addresses the root causes of child labour.

Our projects support communities where tobacco is grown through improved and diversified livelihoods, increased food security, better access to quality education, as well as access to clean water and sanitation. Through our work on the ground, we promote gender equality by supporting women's economic empowerment and girl's education. As there is no Planet B, we are fully aware of our environmental responsibility to the current and future generations and have integrated technology and skills training to support better use of water and energy within our project communities.

To increase impact and promote sustainability, we create and support multi-stakeholder partnerships and social dialogue because we know that concrete, collaborative efforts are best practice because they produce measurable and long-term results.

The ECLT Foundation remains committed to collaborative solutions for children, farmers, and families, that combat the root causes of child labour in rural communities where tobacco is grown. The Foundation looks forward to the continued collaboration with the UN Global Compact and its members and welcomes feedback or requests for further information.

Sincerely,

Karima Jambulatova
Executive Director



Who we are

The ECLT Foundation is committed to collaborative solutions for children and their families that combat the root causes of child labour in rural communities where tobacco is grown.

Founded as an independent Swiss foundation in 2000 to bring together key stakeholders against child labour in the tobacco-growing supply chain, the ECLT Foundation is based in Geneva, Switzerland. The Foundation is a member of the UN Global Compact and holds special consultative status with the UN Economic and Social Council.

What we believe

The ECLT Foundation works towards a world with thriving agricultural communities, where children are free of child labour, so they can go to school and develop in a safe environment. We believe that supporting local capacities and building lasting partnerships for sustainable solutions is the best way to address root causes of child labour and promote positive change.

What we do

We advocate for strong policies, research best practices to multiply our impact, and engage rural families so they can benefit from farming while ensuring that their children are safe, healthy, educated, and encouraged to reach their full potential.



Our work

Since 2000, the ECLT Foundation has worked with and for children, farmers, and families in areas where tobacco is grown. We take a sustainable, multi-stakeholder approach, supporting communities to fight child labour and thrive.

Our inclusive, area-based projects focus **on root causes**:

- 1** Raising awareness on child labour and the dangers it poses to children.
- 2** Engaging parents and communities to identify children in child labour, withdraw and support them.
- 3** Building capacities in communities to improve family livelihoods.
- 4** Increasing access to quality education and skills training to prepare children and youth for decent work.

Engaging stakeholders for sustainable change

Fostering collaboration with government, farmers, workers, private sector, and civil society is necessary to make progress, which is systemic and sustainable. By engaging policy makers, other agricultural sectors and organisations working on the ground, ECLT supports the development and implementation of strong policies and practices that go beyond our project areas and benefit all children and families in the countries where we work.





The ECLT Foundation
is committed to
promoting the
**10 UNGC Guiding
Principles**

and advancing the
**17 Sustainable
Development
Goals.**

These are our highlights from
2017-2018, supporting work in
7 countries:

Guatemala

Indonesia

Kyrgyzstan

Malawi

Mozambique

Tanzania

Uganda



50+ company technicians trained as trainers to increase finance and business skills of **3,000+** farmers.



4,300 community members learned skills to **increase** their incomes, access credit or manage family finances.



8,300+ children received **school meals**, so they can concentrate on their studies with a full stomach.



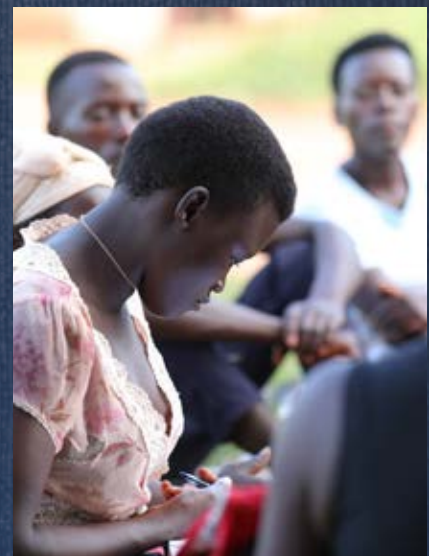
87% of saving and loans group members are **women**, promoting financial independence and family stability.



Go beyond the numbers.
See Catherine's story on page 16.



Go beyond the numbers.
See Alzada's story on page 12.



4 QUALITY EDUCATION



100% of students in our pilot project in Guatemala **graduated** and moved on to the next grade level.

45,000+ children were supported to stay in school and out of child labour.

9,000+ children are better prepared with basic reading and math skills from **145** learning centres in Malawi.



Go beyond the numbers.
See Roberto's story on page 18.

6 CLEAN WATER AND SANITATION

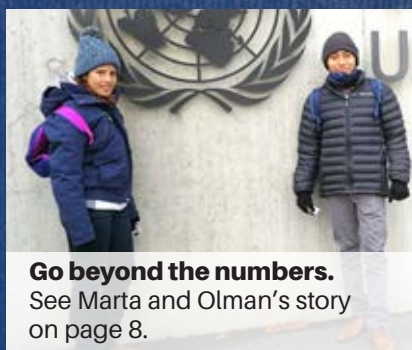


30+ villages now have access to **clean water** provided by solar irrigation pumps.



Go beyond the numbers.
See Patrick's story on page 14.

2 young people proved that young voices matter promoting education at the UN in Geneva.



Go beyond the numbers.
See Marta and Olman's story on page 8.

100+ students and teachers now have **clean toilet** facilities at schools in Guatemala.



8 DECENT WORK AND ECONOMIC GROWTH



4,000+ children removed from child labour.

380+ young people gained new job skills and started businesses.

4,000+ farmers trained to manage risks and make their farms safer places.



Go beyond the numbers.
See Nasolo's story on page 10.

17 PARTNERSHIPS FOR THE GOALS



100+ stakeholders came together in Indonesia in the first-ever multi-sector partnership against child labour in agriculture.

6 national action plans on child labour were supported to increase protection for all children in ECLT project countries.

11 companies assessed their progress against child labour in supply chains. **5** shared positive practices to accelerate progress.



“ It is necessary the we continue to be heard at the UN; that we have the opportunity to express our needs, our worries, our hopes, and that our opinions are taken into account in decisions made at all levels, from local to international.”

Excerpt from Olman’s remarks as the first speaker under 18 at the UN Forum.



Olman Mendoza and Marta Lima made history as the first child and youth speakers at the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights. The 2018 Forum brought together over 2,000 influencers and decision makers in Geneva.

Sharing their stories as former child labourers in rural Guatemala, Olman and Marta called for increased support so that children and young people in farm communities can go to school and get job skills. They help to provide a sobering reality check about the difficulties still faced by millions of children today. Making this connection

between the realities in children’s lives and the UN system encourages recommendation and policies that can make a real difference.

The UN Forum on Business and Human Rights started in 2012. That same year, Olman was 11 years-old. He was already working alongside his family on a farm in San Jose de la Maquina, Guatemala. On the other side of town, Marta was home helping with family work. The closest school was too far away, down a dangerous road. Even if she could reach it, the fees were too high for her mother to pay.

The stories that Marta and Olman shared at the 2018 UN Forum, however, were ones of hope. Through the



Marta and Olman pose before they enter the UN for their sessions.



EEMPATA project, which began in 2015, Marta and Olman were able to go back to school, close to their homes and without paying fees. They are both excelling in high school and taking part in the first-ever professional internship programme for students in their community.

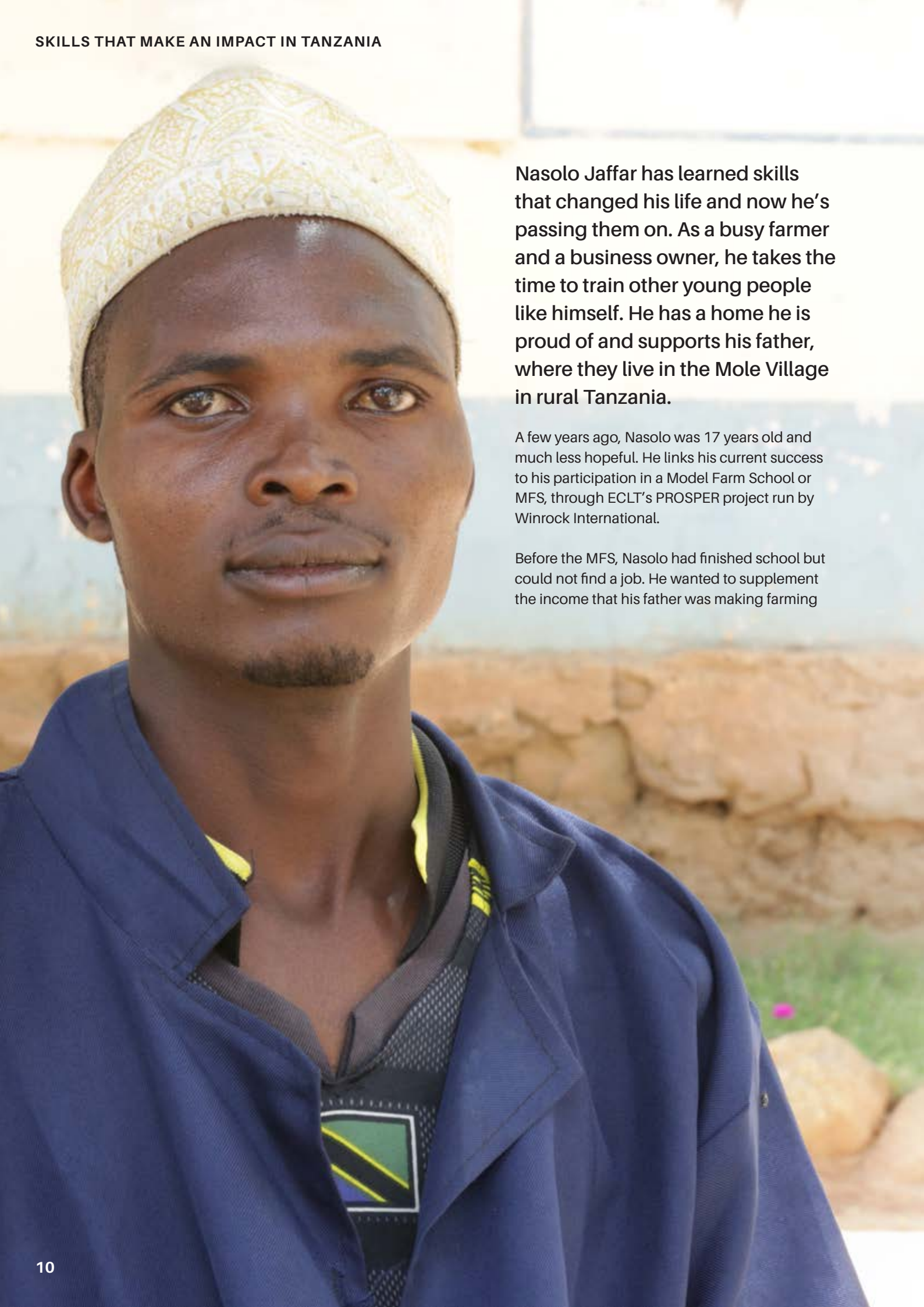
The EEMPATA model is replicable and focused on education and job skills training for rural communities. ECLT and our project partners, DNI Costa Rica, are working closely with the Government of Guatemala to explore how the model can be used as a blue print to improve the lives of children throughout Guatemala and beyond.

Collaboration against child labour

4 Memoranda of Understanding (MoUs) with Governments to strengthen work and policies against child labour.

1,000 stakeholders from governments, unions, private sector and communities gathered to discuss collaborative solutions.

500k people learned and shared about hazardous child labour on World Day against Child Labour.



Nasolo Jaffar has learned skills that changed his life and now he's passing them on. As a busy farmer and a business owner, he takes the time to train other young people like himself. He has a home he is proud of and supports his father, where they live in the Mole Village in rural Tanzania.

A few years ago, Nasolo was 17 years old and much less hopeful. He links his current success to his participation in a Model Farm School or MFS, through ECLT's PROSPER project run by Winrock International.

Before the MFS, Nasolo had finished school but could not find a job. He wanted to supplement the income that his father was making farming

tobacco and subsistence crops. Nasolo jumped on the opportunity to join the Model Farm School, where he learned better, safer farming methods, techniques to grow a variety of crops, and business skills. In his very first harvest, he earned enough money to buy a plot of land for his new house.

Since graduation, Nasolo is a successful farmer and has become a trainer, teaching other young people the skills he learned. He has invested in more crops, as well as goats, and opened the only barbershop in Mole, diversifying his income further.

Now, income from the farm, goats and barbershop mean that Nasolo has enough money to support himself and his family all year round, not just at harvest time. He added that crop yields have been affected by changes in the climate. Having other sources of income means that he is able to save and respond to economic shocks such as poor harvests, illness or natural disasters.

“ My life is better since joining the PROSPER project. After secondary school I joined the Model Farm School and earned enough money to set up a barbershop. Now I can afford a house for my family with a steel (waterproof) roof.”

Nasolo, Model Farm School graduate

Fighting child labour in Tanzania

10 Model Farm Schools supported youth like Nasolo to farm better and start businesses.

265+ children were supported to get out of “worst forms of child labour”.

160+ scholarships were given so young learners have a chance at a brighter future.

100+ farmers gained access to new resources for safer farming in partnership with 2 companies.

Working directly with children, farmers and families in **3 districts**.

“ **We have significantly increased the family income.** Through the training seminars, I developed my business skills; it was during one of them that I joined the microloan cooperatives.”

Alzada Salieva, middle, and members of her mutual aid group farm together to avoid using child labour.

Aizada Salieva is supporting her children to go to school and supporting others to do the same. As part of a microloan and mutual aid group in the Kadamjay District in Kyrgyzstan, Aizada works together with other farmers to lend a hand on each others farms, ensuring that no one's children are missing school to work in the field.

Microloans help farmers in Aizada's group prepare for the growing season and react when family incomes are stretched. Although individual, microcredits are given

as part of a collective agreement and with a condition of non-use of child labour in tobacco growing. "If only one member uses child labour and/or does not repay the loan, all members lose their loans," explained Aizada.

Aziada, like many farmers in Kyrgyzstan, relied on her 6 children to help on the farm rather than sending them to school. During planting time, when money may be short, farmers struggle to access traditional loans. ECLT supported mutual aid microloan groups for Aizada and other farmers. Through the groups, farmers come together not just for loans but for better farming, bringing together farmers to share tools, tips and best practices with each other. These groups not only boost productivity on farms but also act as safety nets when a member is struggling.



Fighting child labour in Krgyzstan

1,400+ families farming together, sharing tools, practices and labour to keep children in school and out of fields.

540K USD being loaned locally to boost farmer resiliency through microloans.

9 farming districts covered through awareness raising and better farming efforts.

1,900+ young people better prepared to find decent work through job skills training.

Tobacco production in Krgyzstan has decreased by almost 90% over the past two decades and families, farmers and children in rural communities faced challenges as they transitioned to other crops. ECLT concluded a 2-year sustainability project in 2017, supporting farmers in crop diversification, the creation of cooperatives, sustaining microloans and building awareness on child labour.

In November 2017, ECLT officially turned over ownership of a local farmer mutual aid groups microloan fund worth more than half a million US Dollars to local partner Alliance for the Protection of Children's Rights. In 2018, the fund continued to support over 1,400 farmers and families in 9 districts in Krgyzstan.



Given the right training and knowledge, [we] are capable of creating decent work opportunities."

Farmer who received farm risk assessment training



Patrick Majamanda has taken simple steps to make his home and his farm safer for his family. When the Katoga youth club visited Patrick's home and farmstead, they worked together to assess risks and propose reasonable solutions for Patrick to put into action.

After doing an assessment of his home and farm area, Patrick and the youth group members identified that the wall in his latrine area was causing a safety and hygiene risk, for himself, his family and anyone working on his farm. Together, they came up with a solution, and Patrick has dug a new protected by proper brick walls, providing a safer, cleaner environment for his home and farm. "People just get used of bad practices that are



harmful, despite the fact that they can easily be sorted out," he shared.

Agriculture is one of the top 3 most hazardous sectors. When farmers, like Patrick, are given knowledge and tools to make simple improvements, it can often mean the difference between hazardous labour and decent work.

In 2017 and 2018, ECLT has supported over 4,000 farmers and families in Malawi and Tanzania. Through training of trainers and local support groups, farmers are better able identify the risks for all workers and advises them on how to prevent, remove or control them. This helps to create a safer environment for everyone working on the farm. Farmers, and others who can help them, like labour inspectors or union leaders, are trained so that they can be part of the battle against hazardous child labour.



Community committees come together to make farms safer places.

Fighting child labour in Malawi

9,000+ learners improved reading and math skills at 145 Literacy and Numeracy boost centres.

2,100+ farmers and young people learned about hazardous labour and making farms safer places.

2,700+ members of savings and loans groups pooled their money, learned business skills and improved their financial situations.

10,000+ community members benefited from improvements in school facilities, teacher housing, bridges, and water pumps.

Malawi National Action Plan against child labour was supported by CLEAR, for coordinated action against child labour across the country.



Patrick Majamanda makes bricks to repair an unsafe latrine identified in his farm.



“ I call upon everyone out there to not only support themselves but others in need as well.”

Catherine Icular, Village Savings and Loans Trainer

Catherine Icular is a changemaker. She wants to make a difference in her community, and she is using her training on savings and loans methodology to do just that.

Village Savings and Loans Associations (VSLAs) are groups where community members - especially women - can come together to learn how to save money, make loans and manage their money. They fill a crucial role for many farmers and families who do not have access to banks.

Catherine learned about savings and loans associations as part of her job as a leaf technician. She attended a training for technicians working directly with farmers that grow tobacco and was sponsored by ECLT's REALISE project, run by UWESO. Catherine participates in a savings group herself and she says feels confident with her new financial literacy. *"This has given me a new level of life."*

Coordinating savings and loans groups for farmers, Catherine sees that they are more stable, that they can meet the needs of their families, and that they feel like part of a community. Farmers in the groups are investing in their farms and pooling money together to hire workers when they need support, rather than resorting to child labour.

With the money management skills she learned, Catherine is able to invest in a passion she shares with her mother: a health clinic providing immunization, first aid and other services to vulnerable community members, especially children. Catherine is living proof that connecting passionate people with skills training can have a positive ripple effect throughout entire communities.





Women say that being part of savings and loans groups gives them confidence and financial independence.

Progressive progress against child labour in supply chains

11 company members of the ECLT Pledge of Commitment and Minimum Standards.

100% participation in a second self-assessment to measure progress and identify gaps on child labour in global tobacco-growing supply chains.

3 business and human rights pillars - **protect, respect, remedy** - provide the base for the ECLT Pledge.

5 good practices in the fight against child labour documented in supply chains.

“Thanks to my internship, I feel more confident. I am much less worried about looking for a job.”

Roberto (mid-left) gives a presentation with his classmates.

Roberto Mendez’s new-found confidence is contagious, but confidence is not one of the skills he was expecting to learn through an internship. In October 2018, Roberto started a month-long internship, where he learned about the work of the ministry, as well as practical, everyday office skills, like using a computer and writing emails.

Roberto, who is in his 4th year of secondary school, confided that at first he was nervous. The work was a little complicated since he had never had to do professional tasks. But things got better quickly. *“I learned more each day. My co-workers saw how interested I was, so it worked out really well.”*



Roberto was one of 23 student interns from La Maquina, Guatemala, where ECLT has worked with DNI Costa Rica to develop and launch a “rural employment training model”. A main priority is making sure that students in rural schools graduate with the skills they need to find jobs in their communities. In 2018, 12 organisations offered internships, including the Ministry of Labour, banks, renewable energy companies, the Chamber of Commerce and business centres, to name just a few.

Roberto is already looking forward to his next chance to participate in another internship next fall. As the employment training model is fine-tuned, plans are already in action to make it replicable for other communities – ensuring that more young people come out of school with the skills they need for a bright future.



Fighting Child Labour in Guatemala

100% of students in the EEMPATA project passed on to the next grade at school.

23 students completed the first-ever professional internship programme in the La Maquina area.

12 companies and organisations, including the Ministry of Labour, hosted interns.

Increased sustainability for improved education was secured through an agreement with the Ministry of Labour.



The ECLT Foundation

2017 - 2018

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Head of Operations

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Ultoco Services

Elaine McKay
Japan Tobacco International
and Japan Tobacco Inc.

Linda McMurtry
Hail & Cotton Inc.

Glyn Morgan
Premium Tobacco

Mette Valentin
Scandinavian Tobacco Group

Implementing Partners

Guatemala
Defensa de Ninas y Ninos
Internacional (DNI Costa Rica)

Indonesia
LPKP
SANTAI

Kyrgyzstan
Alliance for the Protection of
Children's Rights

Mozambique
iDE International Development
Enterprises

Malawi
Total Land Care
YONECO
CRECCOM

Tanzania
Winrock International
TDFT
TAWLAE

Uganda
UWESO

External Evaluators

IMPAQ International
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External Auditors

Berney Associés



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Transparency
Accountability
Integrity
Sustainability

www.eclt.org