ALLIANCE 8.7

Joining forces globally to end forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour

Alliance 8.7 at a glance

THE CHALLENGE

About **40** million people globally are victims of modern slavery; Almost **25** million of them are in forced labour and **15** million in forced marriage.

Some **152** million children are in child labour, about half in its worst forms, primarily hazardous work.

THE RESPONSE

Alliance 8.7 is a global partnership committed to take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour, in accordance with Target 8.7 of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development.

Its mission is to assist all UN member States to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and all forms of child labour.

GOALS

1 ACCELERATING ACTION

2 CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE

3 DRIVING INNOVATION

4 INCREASING AND LEVERAGING RESOURCES

INCREASING COORDINATION

This document was prepared by the Secretariat for Alliance 8.7, currently held by the ILO. It benefited from a series of regional consultations and strategic workshops. It is a living document and will be updated in response to feedback.

Case for action

In September 2015, all UN member States adopted the 2030 Sustainable Development Goals: 17 interrelated goals and 169 associated targets to promote economic, social and environmental development. In Target 8.7, all countries committed to:

> **Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms.**

This call to action presents a unique opportunity to bring about a world free of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour. It is also a call to work together in innovative ways.

Alliance 8.7 was created to help national governments achieve this ambitious undertaking, in coordination with workers' and employers' organizations, civil society organizations, United Nations and other international organizations. Alliance 8.7 is part of an integrated strategy to promote fundamental freedoms, principles, and rights at work and collaborates closely with existing programmes. It will also foster synergies with partnerships on other Sustainable Development Goals.

ALLIANCE 8.7 WILL PROMOTE SYNERGIES WITH OTHER INTERRELATED SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOALS
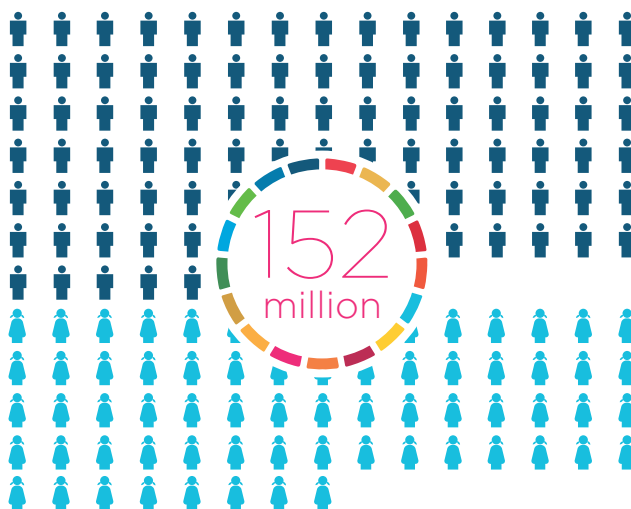
The challenge

The figures tell a devastating story of human rights abuses on a vast scale.

In the area of forced labour, modern slavery and human trafficking there is little evidence of a reduction in the incidence since the first statistics were gathered in 2005.

In the case of child labour, there are signs of progress. Since 2000, the number of children in child labour has decreased by 94 million. However, progeess is slowing.
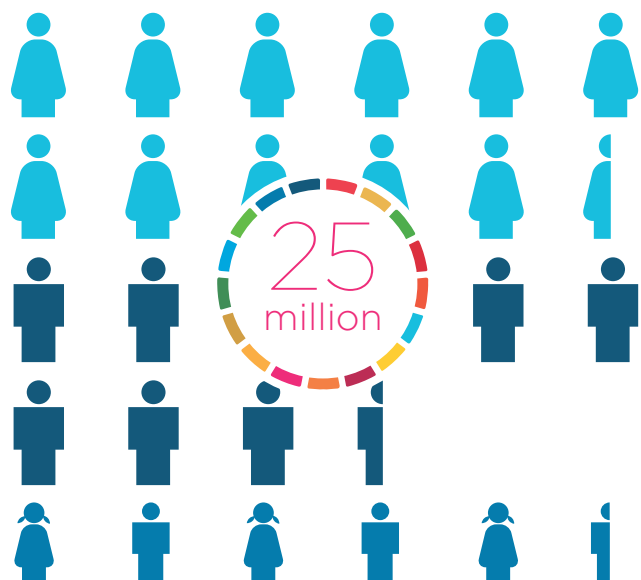
Lessons from the success in reducing child labour have the potential to be applied to other issues under Target 8.7.

152 MILLION CHILDREN IN CHILD LABOUR
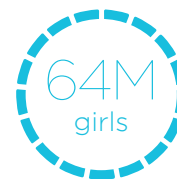

Source: **ILO**

25 MILLION PEOPLE IN FORCED LABOUR

There are 16 million females and 9 million males in forced labour, of which 4.3 million are children.

Source: **ILO**

US$ 150 BILLION IN ANNUAL ILLEGAL PROFITS GENERATED FROM FORCED LABOUR

Source: **ILO**

Why an Alliance 8.7?

The pathway to Target 8.7 has been long and much good work has been done already. Alliance 8.7 will accelerate and intensify these actions through four major streams of work that have to be met in a coordinated way.

1 ACCELERATING ACTION

There is universal agreement on the need to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labour and most States have national plans and strategies in place.

However, there is an urgent need to align these plans and their associated strategies with the ambitious deadlines States have set in the Sustainable Development Goals.

2 CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE

There is a need to agree on indicators for Target 8.7, fill data gaps in key areas such as forced labour and support governments with monitoring progress towards eradication. Better coordination on research agendas is required to prevent duplication. Knowledge sharing arrangements are also key.

Hundreds of powerful datasets and other studies already exist, but most of them are not publically available and tend to sit in silos. There is no efficient mechanism for disseminating lessons learned and good practices to those designing programmes or to access all relevant information in a one-stop-shop.

3 DRIVING INNOVATION

In some areas, the problems and solutions need to be better understood and, in others, innovative solutions offer the opportunity of accelerating action.

New approaches need to be tested and technology harnessed. Fostering collaboration between governments, workers' and employers' organizations and other public, private and civil society organizations has the potential to enhance innovative processes.

4 INCREASING AND LEVERAGING RESOURCES

Resourcing has not reached the levels required to address the scale of the challenge. Coordination among existing funding streams is limited, enhancing the risk of fragmentation.

Existing resources could be earmarked to directly contribute to Target 8.7, pooled between different institutions working towards common goals and new resources mobilized.

Goals

Target 8.7 is ambitious. No government, country or organization can solve this challenge alone and eradication efforts can only be accelerated through concrete commitments and coherent and coordinated action at the national, regional and global levels.

The Alliance has four goals to accelerate eradication and help achieve Target 8.7.

1 ACCELERATING ACTION

To support the ambitious timelines established in Target 8.7, Alliance 8.7 will act as a catalyst at the national, regional and global levels and will:

- Provide technical expertise to governments to strengthen national strategies capable of achieving Target 8.7 under the new accelerated timelines. This includes prioritizing activities to guide partner action at country-level, assigning clear responsibilities, identifying estimated costs and establishing strengthened inter-ministerial cooperation.

- Support workers' and employers' organizations as well as civil society organizations to advocate for stronger national policies and contribute to their implementation.

- Foster and extend regional partnerships on Alliance 8.7 at regional levels, e.g. ASEAN, ECOWAS, OSCE, SARC, the Regional Initiative for Eradication of Child Labour in Latin America and the Caribbean and others.

- Convene periodic global, regional and national stocktaking events to renew commitments, disseminate lessons learned, report on progress and coordinate on future activities.

2 CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE

The Alliance will support efforts to reach agreement on indicators for Target 8.7, fill key data gaps and support governments and other partners in monitoring progress.

To leverage resources most efficiently across organizations, Alliance 8.7 will drive collaboration on research agendas and foster partnerships.

To address the current barriers to knowledge sharing, Alliance 8.7 is developing and supporting a dynamic Knowledge Platform serving as a one-stop-shop for practitioners and other stakeholders working to achieve Target 8.7.

3 | DRIVING INNOVATION

Alliance 8.7 will identify priority areas for testing innovative interventions, including harnessing promising new technologies and supporting collaboration between governments and other partners. It will encourage development partners to support the most promising practices, and make full use of South-South collaboration

4 | INCREASING AND LEVERAGING RESOURCES

Financial and human resources need to be increased and deployed more strategically. Alliance 8.7 partners will coordinate in their advocacy for leveraging, pooling and mobilizing resources, commensurate with the scale of the challenge, and work to ensure a stable and coordinated flow of resources.

Expected results

To achieve Target 8.7, results that could be expected from the work of Alliance 8.7 within its first five years include:

1 | ACCELERATING ACTION

NATIONAL LEVEL

- ⚙ Thematic Action Groups have been established to coordinate research, advocacy, implementation and funding strategies on priority issues.

- ⚙ Governments have put measureable strategies in place by 2020 to achieve Target 8.7.

- ⚙ Governments have made adequate provisions in their national budgets to implement action plans to achieve Target 8.7 and coordinate implementation with workers' and employers' organizations and other concerned groups.

- ⚙ Governments, employers' and workers' organizations, development partners and implementing partners have identified specific funding gaps and established resource mobilization strategies.

- Regional initiatives and organizations have been strengthened and include forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking, and child labour within their remits.

- Good practices and lessons learned on Target 8.7 have been made available to member States, social partners and other organizations.

- Closer relations exist between regional initiatives focused on Target 8.7 and other regional political organizations. There is also wider engagement with public and private actors.

- UN Organizations, International Financial Institutions, the International Trade Union Congress and Global Unions, the International Organization of Employers, Civil Society Organizations, Private Sector Organizations and other potential partners have signed up to Alliance 8.7 as a voluntary global partnership and have committed to its principles. Indicators are in place to track progress towards achieving Target 8.7 and partners are reporting back on progress made.

- Thematic Action Groups have been established to coordinate research, advocacy and funding strategies on priority issues, driving a coordinated approach, connecting and enhancing existing initiatives where relevant.

- Alliance 8.7 has defined a measurement framework and indicators are in place to track progress towards achieving Target 8.7, and partners are reporting back progress made on a periodic basis.

2 CONDUCTING RESEARCH AND SHARING KNOWLEDGE

- An Action Group on research has identified priority global research needs that should be addressed and fed back into the national implementation strategies to achieve Target 8.7

- Alliance 8.7 partners have committed to, and started producing and/or disseminating Target 8.7-related knowledge on the Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform.

3 DRIVING INNOVATION

- An innovation strategy has been developed and put in place to identify potential new partners, sustainable ways of fostering partnerships, means for harnessing new technologies, opportunities for innovative research, mechanisms for delivering a data driven implementation strategy and social innovation.

- An Action Group on innovation has agreed a prioritised list of opportunities and pilot interventions have commenced in all priority areas, linking up development partners willing to support pilot testing.

- Partnerships have been established with technology partners to support the overall strategy.

- South-South and triangular cooperation has been leveraged in all regions.

4 INCREASING AND LEVERAGING RESOURCES

- ◎ Development partner coordination mechanisms have been created and funding levels increased at the national, regional and global levels, including existing UN Trust Funds.

- ◎ Target 8.7 has been systematically introduced and in-built into national development plans and cooperation frameworks such as Decent Work Country Programmes, National Poverty Reduction Strategies and United Nations Development Assistance Frameworks.

What has been achieved so far?

- ◎ Regional consultations took place during 2016 and 2017 in South Asia, West and Northern Africa, South East Asia and the Pacific, Latin America and the Carribean, Europe and Central Asia to inform the establishment of Alliance 8.7.

- ◎ Following the launch of Alliance 8.7 in September 2016 in New York, a strategy workshop took place at Wilton Park. As a result of this meeting, six initial Action Groups were established to provide an implementation-oriented platform for interested Alliance 8.7 members on conflict and humanitarian settings; migration; the rule of law and governance; rural economy; supply chains and commercial sexual exploitation.

- ◎ The Conflict and Humanitarian Settings Action Group met in May in New York. The Supply Chains Action Group held its first meeting in Berlin, in June 2017. The other four Action Groups are expected to start with a first strategy workshop shortly.

- ◎ National consultations took place in several countries, convening governments, workers, employers and other partners.

- ◎ UN University and the International Labour Organization (ILO) were awarded funding from the UK and US governments to build an Alliance 8.7 Knowledge Platform. A consultation was held to inform the development of the platform.

- ◎ First elements have been identified for a comprehensive communications strategy around Alliance 8.7.

- ◎ Draft operational guidelines have been drawn up for internal consultations.

- ◎ A forum of Civil Society Organizations was held in September 2017.

- ◎ Global Estimates of Modern Slavery and Child Labour were released during the 72nd Session of the UN General Assembly.

Operational arrangements

At the initial stage, the ILO is serving as the Secretariat for Alliance 8.7. In this role, it is working in close consultation with other UN agencies, governments, workers' and employers' organizations and other interested partners. The Secretariat is engaged in dialogue with:

- ◎ UN agencies and other international organizations that are the holders or guardians of public international standards.

- ◎ Workers' and employers' organizations on the national, regional and international level that represent the key pillars of economic and social development.

- ◎ Other organizations with a mandate or a long-standing commitment to contribute to the elimination of forced labour, modern slavery, human trafficking and child labour.

Close coordination is also foreseen with the Global Partnership to End Violence against Children (SDG Target 16.2), the Global Partnership for Education (SDG Goal 4) and those working on Target 5.2.

Operational guidelines and principles of engagement will need to be agreed through these and ongoing discussions.

Alliance 8.7 timeline

MAY-JULY 2017

Action Group Workshop on Conflict and Humanitarian Settings, New York, USA, 18 May.

2nd consultation for the IV Global Conference on the Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, Geneva, Switzerland, 19-20 June

Action Group Workshop on Supply Chains, Berlin, Germany, 21 June

Regional Consultation (Africa), Addis Ababa, Ethiopia, 22-23 June

Regional Consultation (Europe and Central Asia), Budapest, Hungary, 29-30 June

Consultation Workshop on data collection and knowledge platform strategy, New York, USA, 7-8 July

AUGUST - NOVEMBER 2017

Forum of Civil Society Organizations, London, UK, 12-13 September

Launch of new Global Estimates of Modern Slavery and Child Labour during the UN General Assembly, New York, USA, 19 September

1st Meeting of the Global Coordination Group, dates TBA.

Regional Consultation (Pacific), 3-5 October

Action Group Meetings on Rural Development, Migration, Rule of Law & Governance and Commercial Sexual Exploitation; dates TBA

IV Global Conference on Sustained Eradication of Child Labour, Buenos Aires, Argentina, 14–16 November

International Instruments

Slavery Convention — **1926**

1930 — Convention Concerning Forced or Compulsory Labour (Nº 29)

Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery — **1956**

1957 — Abolition of Forced Labour Convention (Nº 105)

Convention Concerning Minimum Age for Admission to Employment (Nº 138) — **1973**

1989 — Convention on the Rights of the Child

Convention Concerning the Prohibition and Immediate Action for the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour — **1999**

2000 — Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography

Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict — **2000**

2000 — Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons Especially Women and Children, supplementing the United Nations Convention against Transnational Organized Crime

Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention, 1930 — **2014**

Year