



# Ghana Forced Labor Indicators Project

## *Welcome to the FLIP Newsletter*

Verité is currently implementing a U.S. Department of Labor-funded project focused on growing government, private sector, and civil society capacity to combat forced labor of adults and children through advancing the ILO forced labor indicators approach in Ghana. Led by Research and Policy Department Director Allison Arbib and Project Director Josephine Dadzie, the Forced Labor Indicators Project (FLIP) focuses on the gold, cocoa, and palm oil sectors and has three main objectives:

- Develop a shared understanding of the specific nature of forced labor and trafficking in Ghana and how the forced labor indicator approach can be utilized in support of this understanding;
- Collaborate with stakeholders to support integrating the forced labor indicators approach into existing labor monitoring efforts;
- Further capacitate the labor inspectorate and other key government actors in recognizing, documenting, and addressing forced labor and labor trafficking and the risk factors and indicators it encompasses.

This newsletter serves as a space for Verité to share project developments with project stakeholders and interested parties.

## *Program News*

In May 2019 we launched the project's Technical Working Group (TWG). The TWG brings together key stakeholders in regular meetings to help ensure alignment around forced labor monitoring programming and to support project implementation.

### **TWG Members:**

- Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations
- Ministry of Gender, Children, and Social Protection
- Ghana Police Service
- General Agricultural Workers' Union
- International Cocoa Initiative
- Solidaridad West Africa
- Minerals Commission
- International Labour Organization
- Free the Slaves
- Cocoa Research Institute of Ghana, of The Ghana Cocoa Board
- Ghana Employers' Association

In June and August 2019, Verité conducted rapid appraisal research in cocoa, gold, and palm oil communities in the Ashanti, Eastern, Western, and Western North regions in order to document which indicators of forced labor might be relevant in each. Qualitative field research findings were triangulated with previously published research and reviewed against the forced labor indicators as articulated by the International Conference of Labor Statisticians (ICLS) 2018 *Guidelines concerning the measurement of forced labour*, published by the International Labor Organization.<sup>[1]</sup> Verité will use learnings from the field research to develop a list of key follow-up questions related to forced labor indicators that can be incorporated into emerging and existing labor monitoring and inspection systems, law enforcement efforts, or independent research.

On October 3, 2019, the Verité Accra team led by Ms. Dadzie with support from Ms. Helga Osei Aku

hosted the second meeting of the Technical Working Group (TWG) to review and validate preliminary findings from the June and August field research. The input from TWG participants will be incorporated into a draft of findings that will be shared publicly. The TWG will continue to meet regularly as a venue for members to share the progress of their own institutions to address forced labor, to continue to provide technical input on FLIP outputs, and to share learnings in a community of experts.

[i]International Conference of Labor Statisticians. *International Labor Organization Guidelines concerning the measurement of forced labour*. ILO. October 2018. [https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms\\_648619.pdf](https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---stat/documents/meetingdocument/wcms_648619.pdf)

## Trainings in Accra



Left to right: Josephine Dadzie, Project Director; Helga Osei Aku, Program Associate; Gabriela Delgadillo, Senior Director; Allison Arbib, Research and Policy Department Director.

Verité held numerous trainings in Accra in the second quarter of 2019. In April Verité staff trained the SDG 8 Civil Society Organization Group on the ILO Indicators approach and how it relates to their work. In May Verité staff trained the Ministry of Employment, Child Labor Unit, and the General Agricultural Workers' Union; all trainings covered the ILO indicators approach to forced labor and included a review and discussion of forced labor in Ghanaian and international law. For a copy of the PPT from any training, please contact Helga Osei Aku at [hoseiaku@verite.org](mailto:hoseiaku@verite.org).

## Project and Contact Information

For more information, contact Josephine Dadzie at [jdadzie@verite.org](mailto:jdadzie@verite.org) or Allison Arbib at [aarbib@verite.org](mailto:aarbib@verite.org).

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