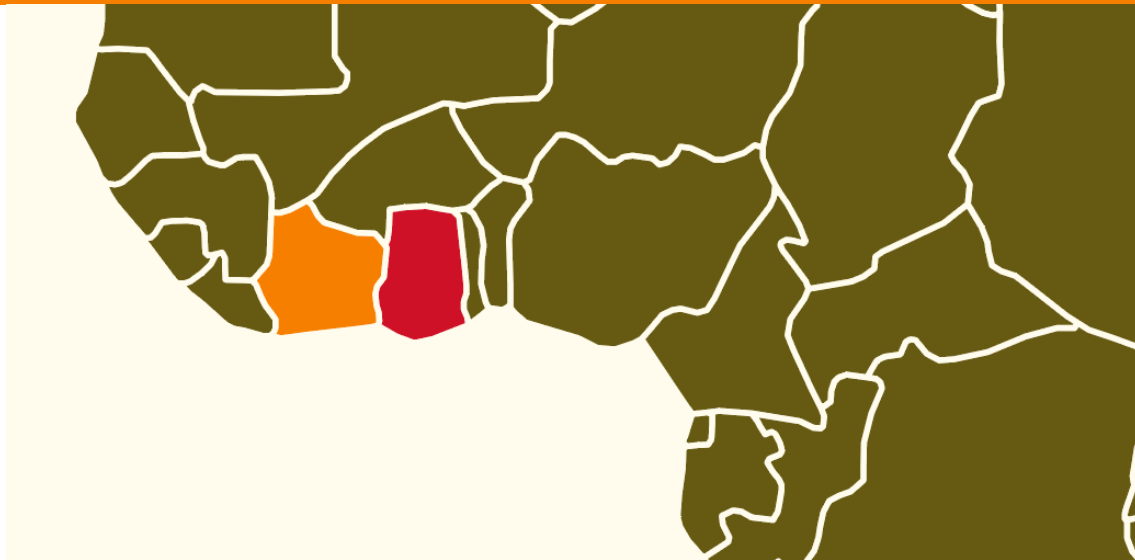


## Forced Labor Indicators Project (FLIP)



### *FLIP Activities Expand to Côte d'Ivoire*



For the past three years, Verité's Forced Labor Indicators Project (FLIP) has worked with government, private sector, trade union, and civil society stakeholders to advance the ILO Forced Labor Indicators approach in Ghana. By developing educational resources on forced labor, offering trainings on forced labor, consulting on the integration of forced labor indicators into monitoring systems, and conducting a Training of Trainers for labor inspectors, FLIP is contributing to the development of a common framework on forced labor indicators in Ghana.

Based on the success of the FLIP Ghana model, the project is expanding activities into Côte d'Ivoire where project staff will similarly work to build stakeholder capacity to use the ILO indicators to understand and address forced labor risk. Over the next 18 months, FLIP activities in Côte d'Ivoire will complement the project's original objective by strengthening a common framework for understanding and addressing forced labor risks in both Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire. While FLIP activities in Ghana have generally focused on the cocoa, oil palm, and gold sectors, activities in Côte d'Ivoire will concentrate on the cocoa and coffee sectors.

The FLIP team is particularly excited about establishing a Technical Working Group (TWG) in Côte d'Ivoire. The Côte d'Ivoire TWG will be a counterpart to the Ghana TWG, which has been instrumental in the project's success to date. As FLIP activities continue in both countries, it is envisioned that the TWGs will serve as a platform for working under a common understanding of the forced labor indicators based on international standards.

FLIP programming in Côte d'Ivoire will be led by Mr. Amourlaye Toure. Mr. Toure comes to Verité with an impressive background having worked on challenging and complex human rights issues for 20 years in a variety of African countries including Côte d'Ivoire, his home country, Burkina Faso, Niger, Togo, Democratic Republic of Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi. He has worked to promote democracy and electoral justice, increase

transparency in the extractive industry, reduce interethnic violence, and enhance civil society's ability to engage with government. He is a founding member of the Ivorian Human Rights Movement (MIDH) and most recently has focused on reducing deforestation and increasing traceability and sustainability in the Ivorian cocoa sector.

By expanding project activities into Côte d'Ivoire, FLIP will contribute to advancing the ILO indicator approach amongst a wider network of diverse stakeholders united by a common framework for understanding and addressing forced labor risks.

[Visit the FLIP webpage](#)

For more information, including on ways FLIP can work with your institution, contact Lisa Cox at [lcx@verite.org](mailto:lcx@verite.org).



Each year, June 12 marks **World Day Against Child Labour**, a day to reflect on progress made and pledge action. While the number of children in child labor dropped significantly between 2000 and 2016, according to the International Labour Organization (ILO), the impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic have resulted in an increase in child labor over the past year. The United Nations has declared 2021 the “International Year for the Elimination of Child Labour” in an effort to accelerate the pace of progress and change.

2021 also marks the first World Day Against Child Labour since **the historic first universal ratification of the ILO’s Convention No. 82 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour**. Forced or compulsory child labor is considered a worst form of child labor, and while all child labor should be eliminated, it is especially critical to eliminate the worst forms of child labor. **According to the ILO**, the forced labor of children refers to “work performed by children under coercion applied by a third party (other than by his or her parents) either to the child or to the child’s parents, or work performed by a child as a direct consequence of their parent or parents being engaged in forced labour.”

To mark World Day Against Child Labour, in Côte D’Ivoire, FLIP participated in activities hosted by the Ivorian Human Rights Movement (MIDH) and Mighty Earth. The Cabinet of the First Lady, which is at the forefront of the fight against child labor in the country, especially in the cocoa sector, was represented at the celebration. In Ghana, the Child Labour Unit of the Labour Department at the Ministry of Employment and Labour Relations led a series of activities, including radio and TV discussions to inform and sensitize the public.

Verité is committed to the fight against child labor and promoting decent work for adults through our programming and **publicly-available resources**. Look for more resources

## Forced Labor Risk and Supply Chains



FLIP's work is important to not only reduce the risk of forced labor for vulnerable groups but also to ensure exports and supply chains are free from forced labor. Several countries have taken steps to prohibit imports of goods produced with forced labor which can affect high risk industries. For example, in the United States, the Customs and Border Protection (CBP) detains shipments at border when forced labor has been alleged. Other countries are considering similar regulations, including Canada which issued guidance in May 2021 that its Border Services Agency is working to identify goods that have been produced by prison or forced labor in order to prevent their entry into the country. In March 2021, the European Union's Parliament issued a resolution on corporate due diligence and accountability banning importation of products connected to severe human rights violations to ensure that forced labor does not find a place in the value chain of EU companies. In April 2021, the African Union issued a 10 Action Plan on the Eradication of Child Labour, Forced Labour, Human Trafficking and Modern Slavery in Africa (2020-2030).

[Visit the FLIP webpage](#)

## Project and Contact Information

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