

NO CHILD SHOULD EVER BE FOR SALE

JOIN THE FIGHT TO END CHILD SLAVERY

World Vision

For Children. For Change. For Life.

CHOCOLATE UNWRAPPED

Canadians and chocolate: We're inseparable. We are a nation of chocolate lovers, and on average each of us consumes almost 6.4kg of chocolate per person every year, including our favourites Kit Kat and Coffee Crisp candy bars. And every year, records show we manage to eat more. Our growing chocolate habit, however, comes at a high cost. In many cases, the cocoa used to make our chocolate indulgences comes from the hands of child labourers.

Cocoa is grown in various parts of the globe, including Asia and South America, but by far the largest producer is West Africa, where two countries – Ghana and Côte d'Ivoire – account for 60 percent of the world's cocoa crop. Here, the majority of cocoa is grown on small family farms – many as small as the size of a baseball diamond. It's estimated that there are more than 1.5 million of these farms across both countries. It's also estimated that 2.13 million children work on these farms, most in hazardous labour.

THE BITTER TRUTH

Farm life for many children is anything but wholesome and carefree. Cocoa farming in West Africa is hard work, done with basic tools and old farming practices. Child labourers on these farms may:

- Work long hours in extreme heat.
- Carry heavy tools.
- Use machetes to clear land and harvest cocoa.
- Work with and around pesticides.
- Become victims of violence by employers or others.

Regardless of the situation, these children work in the "worst forms of child labour," according to the International Labour Organization.

The worst forms of child labour are classified as 3D jobs – dirty, dangerous and degrading – and refer to any job that is likely to be hazardous, to hamper a child's education or to be harmful to their health and development. Working in cocoa farming is a 3D job. Not only are some boys and girls exposed to injury, ill health and violence, their access to schooling is compromised and poverty limits their access to critically needed health care.

WHY IT'S HAPPENING

What forces these children into child labour varies. Some are working on their own family farms to avoid the cost of hired labour. Some work because schools are not affordable. Some are hoping for practical work experience to ensure that they will have a job when they grow up. Others are working on farms to supplement their families' incomes or to compensate for parents who cannot work, or for the loss of a parent. Some children have no parents so need to work to support themselves.

In certain cases, boys and girls are forced into child labour by their families. In others, children are trafficked into jobs on cocoa farms from outlying communities or surrounding countries, such as Mali or Burkina Faso. In Côte d'Ivoire alone – the largest supplier of cocoa on the global market – thousands of child labourers were identified as having been trafficked from neighbouring countries and sold into slave labour for little or no wages.



OUR GOAL: THAT ALL OF THE WORLD'S CHOCOLATE BE ETHICALLY SOURCED BY 2020
JOIN WORLD VISION TO MAKE IT HAPPEN.

85%

OF CHOCOLATE SOLD AROUND THE WORLD CANNOT BE CERTIFIED FREE FROM FORCED, CHILD OR TRAFFICKED LABOUR.

COCOA BY THE NUMBERS

- 4,360 thousand tonnes: The amount of cocoa produced globally in 2013/2014.
- 6.4kg*: The average amount of chocolate each Canadian consumes annually. That's the equivalent of 160 chocolate bars.
- 31,000 tonnes: approx. amount of ethically certified cocoa sold in 2013/2014
- 123,400 tonnes: The volume of chocolate Canadians are expected to consume by 2017.

Source: <https://www.kpmg.com/Global/en/IssuesAndInsights/ArticlesPublications/Documents/taste-of-the-future.pdf>

<http://www.10campaign.com/static/faq.pdf>

VISIT www.nochildforsale.ca

West Africa statistics: Tim Newman and Elizabeth O'Connell. "Still Time to Raise the Bar: The Real Corporate Social Responsibility Report for the Hershey Company" (Global Exchange, Green America and the International Labor Rights Forum, 2011).
Chocolate Unwrapped: 1.8 million children reference is an estimate based on data gathered by the Payson Centre for International Development and Technology Transfer Tulane University in their study entitled "Oversight of Public and Private Initiatives to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the Cocoa Sector in Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana." p.7. Why It's Happening: "10,000 child labourers" reference: Tim Newman and Elizabeth O'Connell 2011.

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COCOA & CHILD LABOUR A RECIPE FOR CHANGE

Poverty and economics lay at the heart of the chocolate-and-child-slavery issue. Declining cocoa prices on global markets have led already-poor farmers to accept whatever price they are offered by cocoa buyers. In turn, these low prices make it difficult for farmers to earn enough income to cover production costs, including wages. And low wages lead to a workforce of child-labourers. These are some of the reasons behind the problem. But there are better alternatives.

THE GOAL: 2020

Currently, about 85 percent of chocolate sold around the world is not certified to be free from the use of forced, child or trafficked labour. This is an issue the global cocoa industry is aware of. Some of the largest chocolate manufacturers, such as Mars, Nestle, Ferrero and Lindt, have committed to sourcing only ethical chocolate and reducing the worst forms of child labour by 70% in Ghana and Cote d'Ivoire by 2020.

How will we achieve these goals? Just as there are many causes for the child-labour-and-chocolate issue, there are a variety of factors required to fix it. Simply banning children from working on cocoa farms will not eliminate the problem. In fact, doing so could force children to work in even more dangerous industries and situations.

There is a real opportunity to reduce the worst forms of child labour in cocoa farming if corporations involved in the industry work together with governments, non-governmental agencies, and consumers. We need to build on progress from 2013 when we saw a 15% rise in global retail sales of Fairtrade products and a 32% rise in UTZ products.

WHAT NEEDS TO BE DONE

- 1. Plan to be child-labour free.** Companies need to make public their commitment and step-by-step plan and goals for sourcing only ethical, child-labour-free cocoa by 2020.
- 2. Be transparent.** Tell us where your cocoa comes from. Work with third-party ethical certification organizations such as Fairtrade and Rainforest Alliance or any organization that is part of the ISEAL Alliances to verify that their cocoa products are ethically sourced.
- 3. Support local farmers.** Companies need to pay fair prices for cocoa. They need to help educate and facilitate the education of farmers on ways to eliminate exploitive and dangerous labour practices. They need to support initiatives that make it possible for farmers to improve their farming methods to produce quality, environmentally sustainable cocoa.
- 4. Care for the children.** Companies need to support or help to create programs that rehabilitate child labourers and provide access to education, shelter, food and health care and, where possible, restore them to their families.

THE DANGERS

Child labourers who work on cocoa farms are exposed to many dangers. They work long hours in extreme, 30-35 degree heat. They use machetes to clear land, harvest the cocoa pods and extract the cocoa beans. They work with pesticides, known to cause headaches, nausea, liver and kidney complications and cancer. And they may have little access to nourishing food or health care. These children may also be victims of violence by employers or others in the cocoa trade.

http://www.icco.org/pdf/4_Mike_Rutherford.pdf; <http://www.grinningplanet.com/2004/02-03/pesticides-in-chocolate-organic-cocoa.htm>



HERE'S WHAT YOU CAN DO

Choose wisely when shopping for ethically certified chocolate products.

- Look for symbols such as Fairtrade, Rainforest Alliance and UTZ on packaging.
- If no information about ethical sourcing is on product labels, look to brand websites to tell you about origins of ingredients.
- Learn more about ethical cocoa sourcing by visiting:

www.goodchocolateguide.ca

<http://www.isealliance.org/about-us>

VISIT https://nochildforsale.ca/ethical_chocolate/