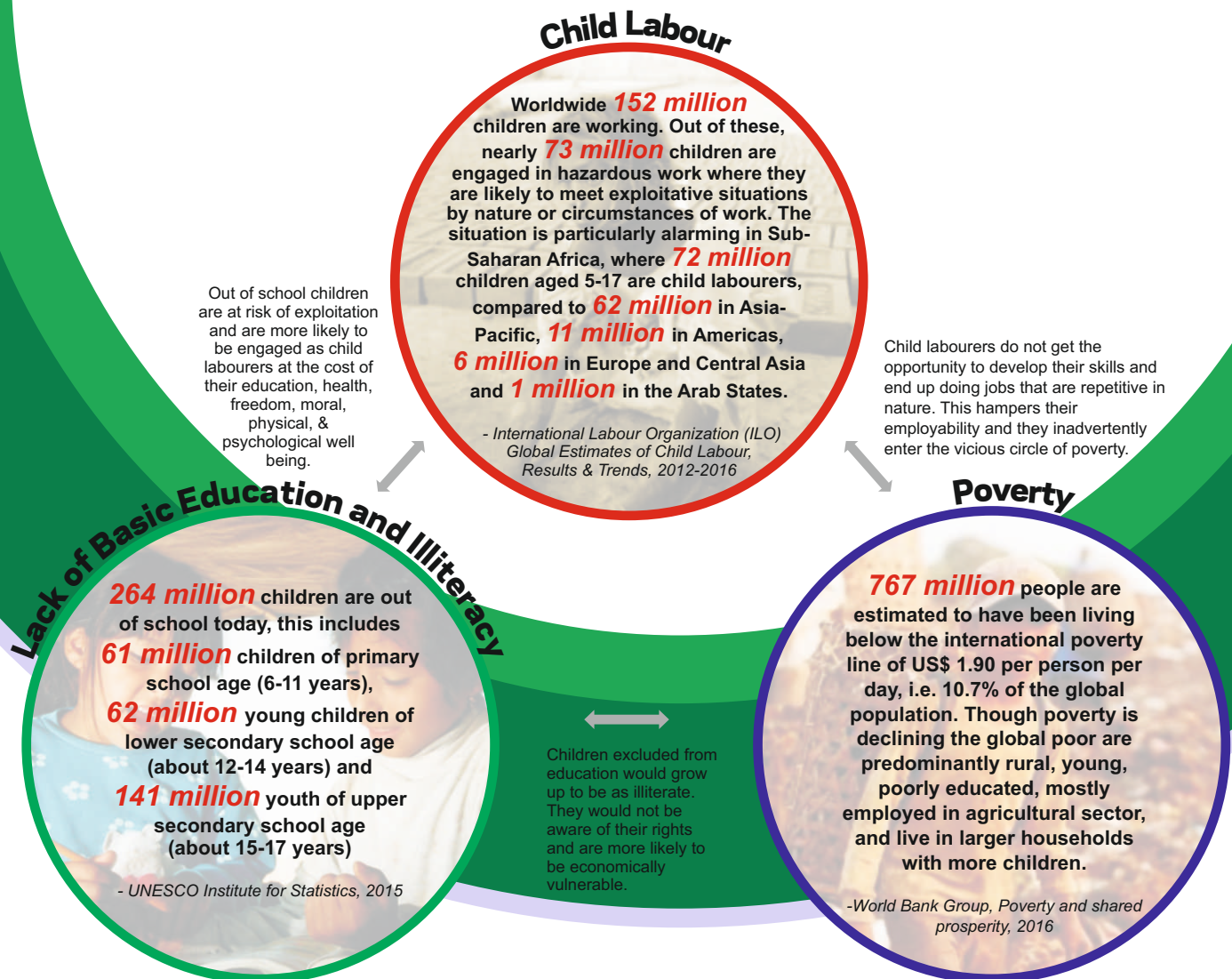


*Education for All can pave way  
for Elimination of Child Labour  
and Alleviation of Poverty*

# FROM EXPLOITATION TO EDUCATION

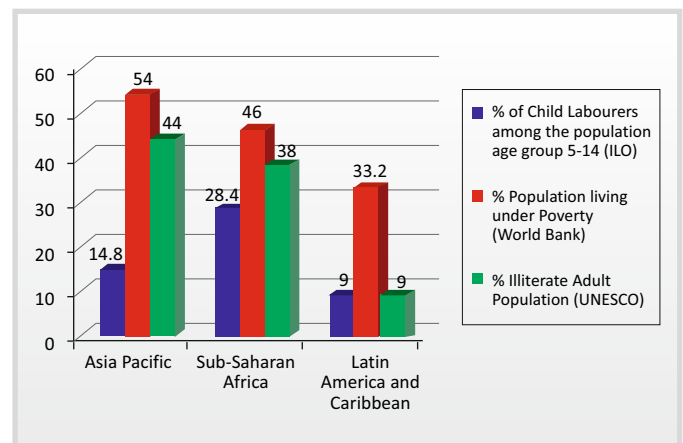
## The Triangular Paradigm

The elimination for child labour, achievement of Education for All (EFA) and poverty alleviation are inter-connected global goals.



In poor countries, the effects of poverty and unemployment are dramatic. The child's very right to survival may be threatened by parents' unemployment. In addition to suffering severe economic hardships families are disintegrating. In addition to preventing child labour, the education sector can provide special measures to reintegrate children withdrawn from hazardous work into school. Still, policies that focus exclusively on the education system without accounting for economic environment of households and the general state of labour market will be insufficient to reduce child labour and achieve education for all over the long term.

This underscores the importance of addressing the root causes of child labour and poor quality and access to education within a broader poverty alleviation strategy.



# Bringing together policy and action for a unified response to child labour, illiteracy and poverty

An anti-poverty and child-friendly strategy must therefore pay much attention to converge with other policies on education and the elimination of child labour. EFA and the elimination of child labour should find a prominent focus in poverty alleviation programmes.

## Education For All

International Instrument:  
**Dakar Framework of Action and Education For All Goals**

National Instrument:  
**National Action Plan for EFA**

- Improving access and enrollment
- Construction of school buildings
- Resource mobilisation
- Improving teacher pupil ratio
- Enhanced efforts are required towards child-friendly policies for retaining children at school
- Policy efforts are inadequate to address the special needs of working children
- Investments in Education for All has not been sustained

### **ILO Convention 138 on the Minimum Age for Employment:**

The Convention calls for the elimination of child labour up to the age of the completion of compulsory education but this has not been translated into actions at national level actively.

## The Elimination of Child Labour

International Instrument:  
**ILO Convention 182 on the Worst Forms of Child Labour**

National Instrument:  
**National Action Plan and Time-Bound Program on the Worst Forms of Child Labour**

- Ensure ratification of Convention 182 on worst forms of child labour and constant assessment of progress made with respect to Roadmap 2016 on elimination of worst forms of child labour
- Loosely defined national laws ensuring the rights of the child coupled with lax enforcement
- Non-formal education for a small fraction of children withdrawn from work
- Inadequate efforts towards re-integration of children withdrawn from work into main stream society and formal education
- Inadequate efforts to meet the commitments in elimination of worst forms of child labour while simultaneously working to abolish child labour in general
- Inadequate economic upliftment efforts for the households vulnerable of sending children to work.
- Economic crisis could further push more children to work

## Poverty Alleviation

International Instrument:  
**Millennium Development Goals**

National Instrument:  
**Poverty Alleviation Strategy Papers**

- Welfare approach of providing relief to poor people
- Economic assistance through micro credit facilities without focus on improving lives of children
- Inadequate focus on child centric poverty reduction strategies for the households
- Inadequate efforts for providing meaningful and quality state sponsored education for children

A multi-dimensional approach consisting of awareness building and consciousness raising, community participation, alternative and viable socio-economic rehabilitation and enforcement of national and international legal instruments in relation to children and other similar plans, is needed for linking the elimination of child labour with the overall poverty alleviation and education strategies. There needs to be a synergy in policy planning and programmes that address these vital issues that affect the lives of millions of children for a sustainable development.

**There must also be better cooperation and understanding between policy planners, children and advocacy groups working on children's behalf.**



**GLOBAL MARCH**

Against Child Labour  
Contra el Trabajo Infantil  
Contre le Travail des Enfants

Global March Against Child Labour (Foundation): Rokin 38-I, 1012 KT Amsterdam, The Netherlands  
Global March International Secretariat: L-6, Kalkaji, New Delhi-110 019, India  
Ph.: +91 11 49211111, 41329025 Fax: +91 11 49211138 Email: info@globalmarch.org

**[www.globalmarch.org](http://www.globalmarch.org)**