

# Improving human rights in global food chains

Risk scan, measurement & improvement options in the private sector



# 4 human rights issues in global food chains



ILO: 60% of global child labor occurs in agriculture

Child labor



Most agricultural workers work excessive hours for low wages

Hours & Wages



ILO: 25 million people are in forced labor, of which 16 million among others in agriculture

Modern slavery



Agriculture accounts for 70% of the world's water usage

Water and sanitation

> than 780m people lack access to safe drinking water,

2.5 billion lack access to basic water sanitation, and

> than 1.5 million children die each year from water-borne diseases.



# Sense of urgency for food companies

Legislation on international labour conditions becomes more strict



**New brief calls on EU to adopt mandatory corporate human rights due diligence legislation**

Author: European Coalition for Corporate Justice, Published on: 17 November 2017

Clear focus area in UN, SDGs and OECD & FAO guidelines



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So far, insights in specific numbers of illegal labour in many supply chains is limited, which are necessary for effective improvement on labour practices

# Recent developments in national policies

## US:

- 2010: California Transparency in Supply Chains Act
- 2016: Trade Facilitation and Trade Enforcement Act

## UK:

- 2015: Modern Slavery Act

## EU:

- 2021: Due Diligence Law for conflict minerals

## France:

- 2018: Due Diligence Law

## Hong Kong:

- 2017: Draft Modern Slavery Bill

## Australia:

- 2018: Modern Slavery Bill

# WUR's expertise on improving human rights in food supply chains

1. KPIs & metrics on human rights
2. Global risk assessment, as well as policy landscape analysis 2020-25
3. Monitoring progress on labour conditions
4. Guidance on implementation, e.g. true costs analysis, remediation and training
5. Impact evaluation on human rights interventions (within and beyond certification)

[www.wur.eu/improve-sustainability](http://www.wur.eu/improve-sustainability)



# Current track record on human rights

UTZ-Rainforest Alliance: Manager of theme 'modern slavery'

Walmart & The Sustainability Consortium: KPI development for measuring labour conditions in supply chains

Sligro: Supporting coffee suppliers in sustainable journey

J.M. Smuckers Company: Strategy development for mitigating slavery risks in coffee production

Barry Callebaut & UTZ: Impact evaluations on child labour, livelihoods and income

Dutch Ministry of Agriculture, Nature & Food quality: True pricing of food products

# Contact us

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