Improving human rights in global food chains

Risk scan, measurement & improvement options in the private sector
4 human rights issues in global food chains

- **Child labor**: ILO: 60% of global child labor occurs in agriculture.
- **Hours & Wages**: Most agricultural workers work excessive hours for low wages.
- **Modern slavery**: ILO: 25 million people are in forced labor, of which 16 million among others in agriculture.
- **Water and sanitation**: Agriculture accounts for 70% of the world’s water usage. More than 780 million people lack access to safe drinking water, 2.5 billion lack access to basic water sanitation, and more than 1.5 million children die each year from water-borne diseases.

Source: BSR, 2013
Sense of urgency for food companies

Legislation on international labour conditions becomes more strict

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

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

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

**EU:**
- 2021: Due Diligence Law for conflict minerals

**UK:**
- 2015: Modern Slavery Act

**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
## 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
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