**Child Labour in the Chocolate Industry**

# **Child labour definition**

Child labour work can be defined as mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children. It interferes with their schooling by pulling them out or forcing them to leave their community. The worst forms of child labour that is related to the cocoa production, are using children as slaves or trafficking them and forcing them to do hazardous work. The work they are forced to do usually includes dangerous machinery or tools, manually transporting heavy loads and working long hours.

# **Education of child workers**

Child workers do not attend school. They are kept out of school because their families need them on the farms for money to survive. 64 percent of children who work on the cocoa farms do not attend school and the remaining 33 percent attend school. The remaining children are most likely not working on the farms.

# **Reports and studies**

* Many Ivorian cocoa plantations use forced labor. A ship was found near West Africa allegedly carrying child slaves.
* A 2006 study showed many children working on small farms in Côte d'Ivoire, often on family farms. Over 11,000 people working on small Ivorian cocoa farms were surveyed.
* A report funded by the U.S. [Department of Labor](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/United_States_Department_of_Labor) concluded that "Industry and the Governments of Côte d'Ivoire and Ghana have taken steps to investigate the problem and are implementing projects that address issues identified in the Protocol.”