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Evaluating the Success of Market-Based Incentives against Child Labor: the Case of the Harkin- Engel Protocol and GoodWeave

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Evaluating the Success of Market-Based Incentives against Child Labor: the Case of the Harkin- Engel Protocol and GoodWeave



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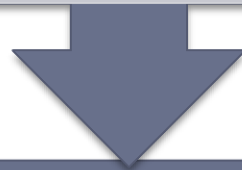
Knight Ridder Publisher exposes child and forced labor in
cocoa industry

Threat of national chocolate boycotts



Congressional discussion of “slave- free” label

CMA lobbies against label



Bill dies in the Senate

Harkin Engel Protocol signed in 2001

Harkin- Engel Protocol

- 1 Publicly commit to end child labor
2. Advising committee to investigate and consulting group for remedies
2. Sign a joint statement on child labor

**“Voluntary,
non-
binding,
non-
legislative
document”**

Harkin- Engel Protocol Cont.



4. Establish joint action program: independent monitoring system by May 2002
5. Form a joint international foundation by July 2002
6. Develop a certification system by July 2005: assures consumers no child labor in cocoa

Estimating the Scope of Child Labour

- **109,000** children working in hazardous conditions (WFCL) on cocoa farms

(USDOS, 2007)

- Up to **10,000** children are trafficked

(USDOS, 2007)

- **89%** of interviewed children worked in cocoa agriculture
(Payson Center Certification Survey, 2007)

- **98%** of children do not report exposure to any intervention project

(Payson Center Certification Survey, 2007)



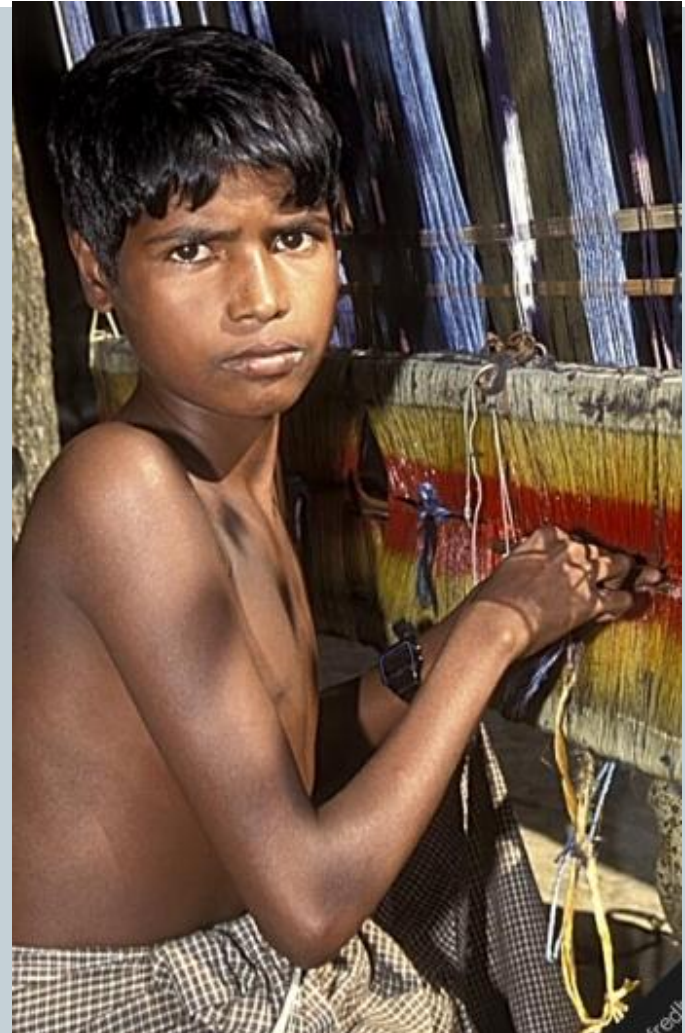
- Voluntary nature of protocol
- Flawed ITTA research methodology
- Lack of certification system



Criticism of the Harkin Engel Protocol

Child Labour in India's Carpet Industry

- ILO, 2010: 115 million children in India subject to the WFCL
- ILO, 2010: Child Labor declined by 10.2% since 2004



Child Labour Estimates Cont.



- NCAER, 1992: 3.6% of carpet weavers are illegally hired children
- NCAER, 1997: 1.2% illegally hired children

Rugmark- GoodWeave Model

- Voluntary social label
- Funded by donations and license fees
 - Fees equivalent to 1.25-2% of export value of shipments
- Funds inspections, rehabilitation, and campaign efforts





2009, Annual Report

- Certified **7.5** million child-labor free rugs
- Freed more than **3,600** children from weaving looms



Faces of Freedom exhibit, GoodWeave

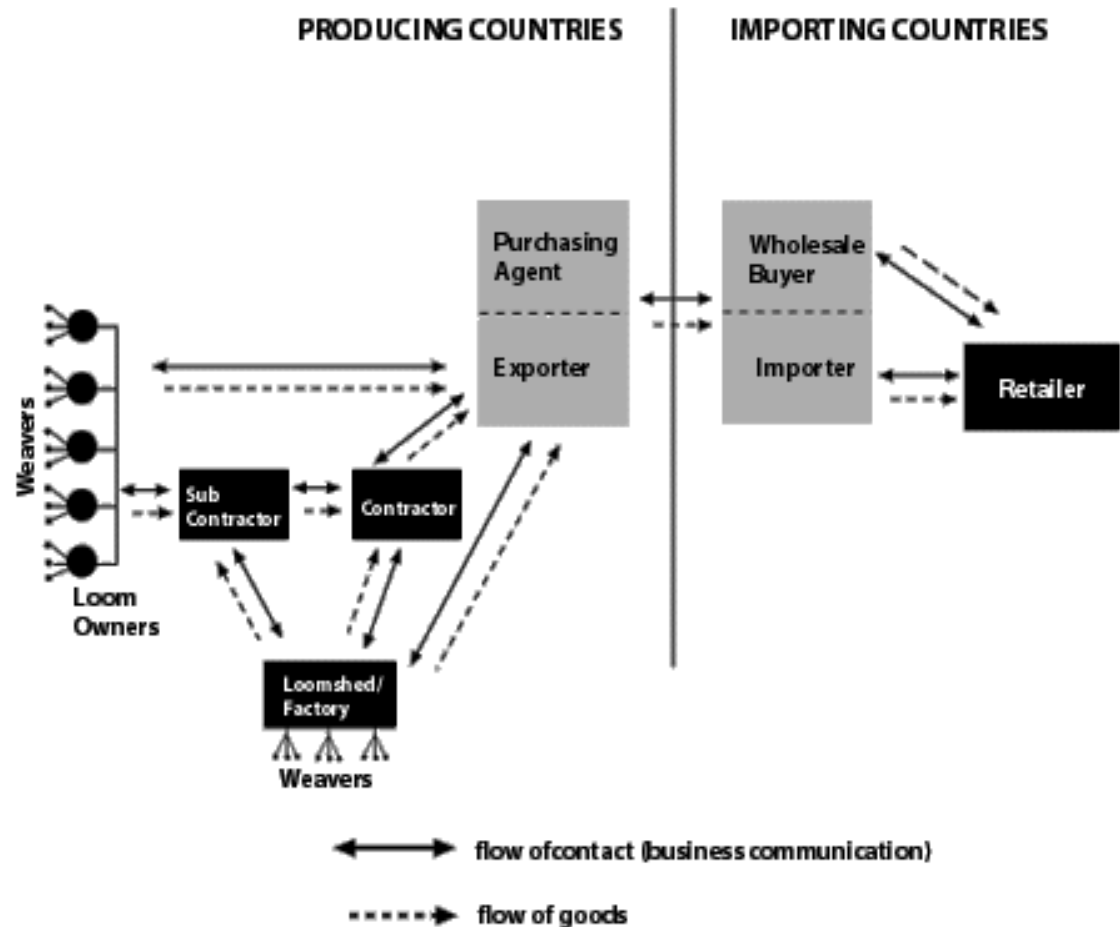
Goodweave Accomplishments

Goodweave Criticism

- Loopholes:
 - Inspections
 - Decentralized industry
- Redistributes child labor
- Voluntary participants

FIGURE II-2

Hand-Knotted Carpet Chain of Production and Distribution



Effectiveness of Voluntary Social Labels

CON

- Duplication of Efforts
- Voluntary nature
- Fickle Consumer Demand/ Awareness
- Endless Demand for Cheap Pliable Labour

PRO

- Enforcement Mechanisms
- Educational Services
- Industry imposed standards
- Carrot and Stick Method



- Advocate for Fair Trade goods

- Creative Solution

(CA Supply Chain Act, Slavery Footprint)

- Raise Awareness of the issue

(Change.org)



Personal Demand

*Nobody made a greater mistake
than he who did nothing because he could
only do a little.
~Edmund Burke*



**Unless someone like you cares a
whole awful lot, nothing is going to
get better. It's not. ~Dr. Seuss**