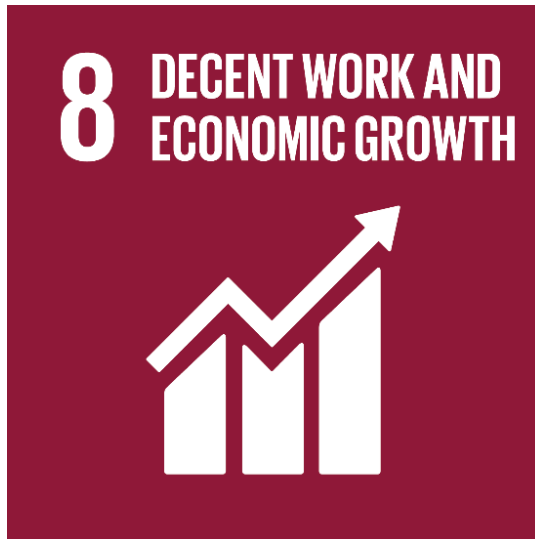


▶ **SDG indicator 8.7.1**

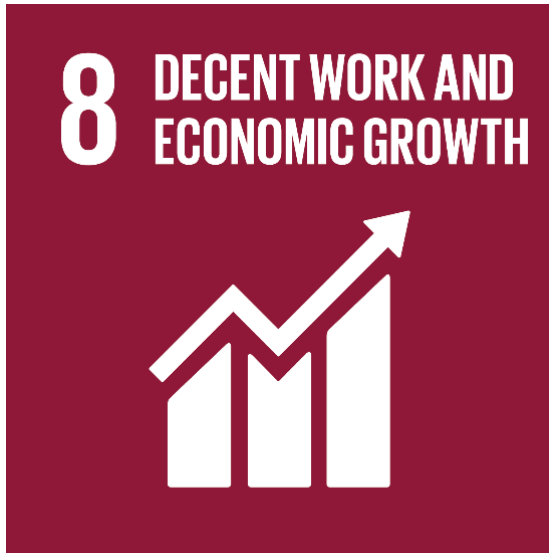
Child Labour

▶ The Sustainable Development Goals include a renewed global commitment to ending child labour.



SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT GOAL 8

Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all



TARGET 8.7

Take immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, end modern slavery and human trafficking and secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour, including recruitment and use of child soldiers, and by 2025 end child labour in all its forms

8.7.1 Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years engaged in child labour, by sex and age

Tier II

Custodian: International Labour Organization (ILO), United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF)

Definition:

The **number** of children engaged in child labour corresponds to the number of children reported to be in child labour during the reference period (usually the week prior to the survey).

The **proportion** of children in child labour is calculated as the number of children in child labour divided by the total number of children in the population. For the purposes of this indicator, children include all persons aged 5 to 17.

What is child labour?

Child labour refers to work for which children are either too young or that may be physically or psychologically injurious to their health and well-being.

Not all work performed by children is child labour: child labour is work by children prohibited by the law.

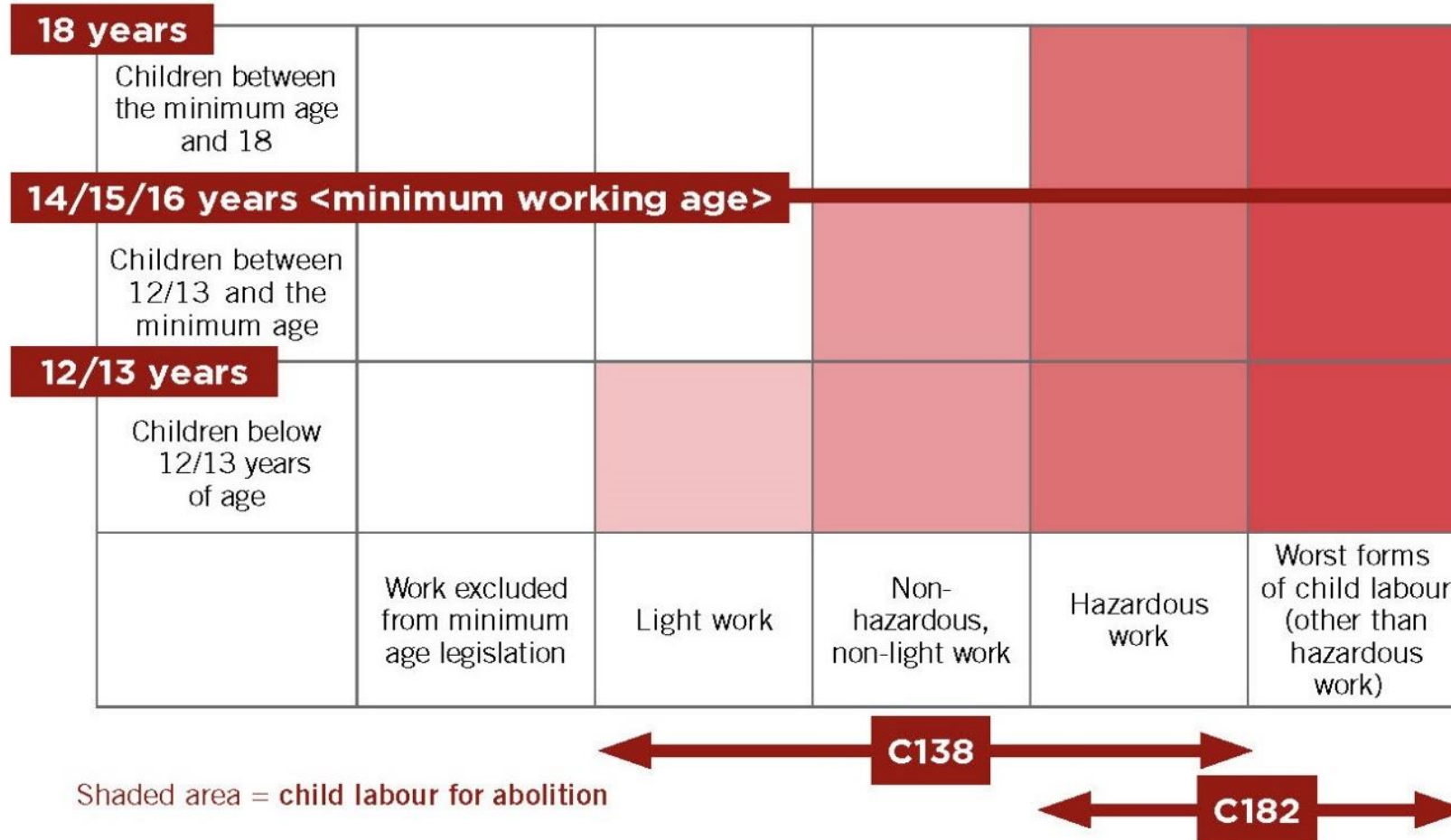
Three principal international legal instruments:

- **ILO Convention No. 138 (Minimum Age) (C138),**
- **United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC),**
- **ILO Convention No. 182 (Worst Forms) (C182)**

together set the legal boundaries for child labour, and provide the legal basis for national and international actions against it.

The resolutions adopted by the International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) provide the basis for translating the legal standards governing the concept of child labour into statistical terms for the purpose of child labour measurement.

Measuring child labour



Measuring child labour - SDG indicator 8.7.1

The definition of child labour is in line with the standard set by the latest 20th International Conference of Labour Statisticians. Resolution to amend the 18th ICLS Resolution concerning statistics of child labour.

In accordance with the ICLS resolutions, child labour can be measured on the basis of the **production boundary set by the United Nations System of National Accounts (SNA) or on the basis of the general production boundary.**

The former limits the frame of reference to economic activity, while the latter extends it to include both economic activity and unpaid household services, that is, the production of domestic and personal services by a household member for consumption within their own household, commonly called “household chores”.

Two indicators are used for measuring child labour for the purpose of SDG reporting:

Indicator 1: Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years **engaged in economic activities** at or above age-specific hourly thresholds (SNA production boundary basis)

- Child labour for the 5 to 11 age range: children working at least 1 hour per week in economic activity;
- Child labour for the 12 to 14 age range: children working for at least 14 hours per week in economic activity;
- Child labour for the 15 to 17 age range: children working for more than 43 hours per week in economic activity.

Indicator 2: Proportion and number of children aged 5-17 years **engaged in economic activities and household chores** at or above age-specific hourly thresholds (**general production boundary basis**):

- Child labour for the 5 to 11 age range: children working at least 1 hour per week in economic activity and/or involved in unpaid household services for more than 21 hours per week;
- Child labour for the 12 to 14 age range: children working for at least 14 hours per week in economic activity and/or involved in unpaid household services for more than 21 hours per week;
- Child labour for the 15 to 17 age range: children working for more than 43 hours per week in economic activity.²

Calculations

$$\text{Proportion of children in child labour} = \frac{\text{number of children in child labour}}{\text{Total number of children in population}}$$

The number of children engaged in child labour corresponds to the number of children reported to be in child labour during the reference period (usually the week prior to the survey).

For the purposes of the SDG indicator 8.7.1, children include all persons aged 5 to 17.

▶ Data source

Household surveys such as National Child Labour Surveys, National Labour Force Surveys, National Multipurpose Household Surveys, UNICEF-supported Multiple Indicator Cluster Surveys (MICS), Demographic and Health Surveys (DHS), ILO-supported Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour (SIMPOC), and World Bank Living Standard Measurement surveys (LSMS) are among the most important instruments for generating information on child labour in developing countries.

Estimates of child labour generated by these survey instruments are increasingly relied on by countries to monitor progress towards national and global child labour elimination targets.

▶ Data collection method

SDG 8.7.1 data are collected through a consultative process.

This process solicited feedback directly from National Statistical Offices, as well as other government agencies responsible for official statistics.

It includes the collection of feedback on the compilation of the indicators, the data sources used, and the application of internationally agreed definitions, classification and methodologies.

ILO and UNICEF provide feedback and assist as necessary

▶ **Questions?**