Biggest labor risks stem from large population of foreign migrant workers. Apparel sector is small, but significant (2% of global apparel exports). 2nd largest producer of palm oil globally. Major risks for migrant workers: Major risks for child labor: • High recruitment fees (leading to bonded labor) • Lack of representation in unions • False job representation in recruitment process • Withholding of travel documents • Unacceptable working conditions and employer-provided housing • Presence of “stateless” and undocumented children • Increased economic hardship and school disruptions from Covid

PROJECT OVERVIEW

OVERALL OBJECTIVE
Reduce the risk of forced labor and child labor in the production of Malaysian palm oil and garments.

PROJECT SUB-OBJECTIVES
1. Increase advocacy by workers and civil society to address forced labor and/or child labor
2. Increase worker voice in the implementation of a social compliance system
3. Increase access to remedies for workers exploited for forced labor and/or child labor

WHERE WE WORK

MALAYSIA – INDUSTRY & RISKS

2nd largest producer of palm oil globally
Apparel sector is small, but significant (2% of global apparel exports)
Biggest labor risks stem from large population of foreign migrant workers
• 40% of MY workforce
• Estimated 3-6 million undocumented migrant workers in Malaysia

CONTACT US
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**WHO WE WORK WITH**

- **Civil Society**
  - Workers’ unions
  - Local civil society organizations
  - Migrant worker networks (in-country and in origin countries)
  - Workers
- **Government Agencies**
  - Labor
  - Trade
  - Industry-specific
  - Migration
- **Private sector**
  - Employers (apparel factories, palm oil extractors, farmers)
  - Industry associations
  - Buyers
  - Labor recruiters & employment agencies

**ABOUT SAI**

Founded in 1997, Social Accountability International (SAI) is a global non-governmental organization advancing human rights at work.

SAI’s vision is of decent work everywhere—sustained by an understanding that socially responsible workplaces benefit business while securing fundamental human rights.

**MY VOICE TIMELINE**

- **Project Duration:** 4.5 years
  - Dec. 2021 - May 2026

**Year 1**
- Landscape analysis
- Stakeholder engagement
- Baseline assessments

**Year 2–3**
- Cross-sector workshops to develop a common approach for addressing child and forced labor and to build communication

**Year 4–5**
- Low-barrier remediation service for forced and child labor cases

**Capacity building to prevent, identify, and remediate forced and child labor**

- Comprehensive toolkits/guidance for social compliance systems and grievance mechanisms/processes

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**PROJECT PARTNERS**

- **proforest**
  - Leading not-for-profit organisation in the development and implementation of sustainable production and sourcing of agricultural and forestry commodities, including soy, sugar, palm oil, cocoa, beef and timber.

- **Our Journey**
  - Our Journey is a registered civil society organisation based in Kuala Lumpur, Malaysia providing legal representation for migrants in labour, immigration and criminal cases.

- **The Centre**
  - For Child Rights and Business
  - The Centre works with companies to promote and respect children’s rights in all their operations, with a particular focus on supply chains. We help businesses understand how and where they impact children, and deliver practical solutions and services for mitigating risks and creating positive change.