Making economic strengthening work: a holistic approach to child trafficking in Ghana

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Child labour in Ghana

- 24.5 million population
  - 193,100 living in slavery
- 2.4 million “economically active” children
  - Over a million denied education
  - 240,000 victims of hazardous child labour
- 49,000 children working on Lake Volta
  - 21,000 in hazardous child labour
Child trafficking in Ghana

- **Poverty** Immediate need/subsistence living
- **Lack of opportunities** perceived benefits of education
- **Attitude to children**
  - Children moved and separated from parents
  - Child labour accepted practice
  - Considered as “assets” in a large family
  - Violent discipline
Holistic protection

◊ Protection  rescue, rehabilitation & reintegration
◊ Livelihoods economic empowerment
◊ Education access with opportunities
◊ Advocacy policy and attitudinal change
Economic strengthening

- Economic support for school attendance
- Micro-grants and business training
- Youth Empowerment Programme
- Livelihoods project
Achieving impact: valuing children

- Community activists
- Long term monitoring
- Child rights education
- National & local
Achieving impact: valuing education

◊ Conditional grants & loans
◊ Worthwhile opportunities
Scaling

◊ Infrastructure
  ◊ e.g. fish preservation and storage facilities

◊ Campaigning
  ◊ e.g. Police enforcement of anti-trafficking laws
Adaptation

◊ Local culture and attitudes