

FORCED LABOUR, CHILD LABOUR, AND TRAFFICKING IN NEPAL

AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY, 2024

Jeevan Baniya, Prasansa Thapa, Sudeshna Thapa,
Rajib Neupane, Madina Rai, Andrea Upadhya
& Samikshya Bhattarai



Centre for the Study of
Labour and Mobility

FORCED LABOUR, CHILD LABOUR, AND TRAFFICKING IN NEPAL

AN ANNOTATED BIBLIOGRAPHY, 2024

Jeevan Baniya, Prasansa Thapa, Sudeshna Thapa,
Rajib Neupane, Madina Rai, Andrea Upadhya & Samikshya Bhattarai



Centre for the Study of
Labour and Mobility

Suggested Citation:

Baniya, J., Thapa, P., Thapa, S., Neupane, R., Rai, M., Upadhyaya, A. & Bhattarai, S. (2024).
Forced Labour, Child Labour, and Trafficking In Nepal: An Annotated Bibliography, 2024.
Social Science Baha

© Social Science Baha, 2024

Social Science Baha

345 Ramchandra Marg, Battisputali, Kathmandu – 9, Nepal

Tel: +977-1-4572807

info@soscbaaha.org • www.soscbaaha.org

Contents

Abbreviations and Acronyms

1. Introduction	vii
2. Books, Journal Articles and Research Reports on Child Labour, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Nepal	1
3. Legal and Policy Frameworks on Child Labour, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking	126
3.1. Legal framework for combating child labour	126
3.2. Legal framework for combating forced labour and human trafficking	129
3.3. Policies and programmes on child labour, forced labour and trafficking	132
3.4. Protection, withdrawal, and remediation policies on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking	134
3.5. Education policies and programmes with a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking	136
3.6. Social protection policies and programmes with a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking	137
3.7. Active labour market policies and programmes with a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking	138
3.8. Advocacy policies and programmes with a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking	139

Abbreviations and Acronyms

AATWIN	Alliance against Trafficking in Women and Children in Nepal
AES	Adult Entertainment Sector
AHTB	Anti-Human Trafficking Bureau
AMKAS	Aaprabasi Mahila Kamdar Samuha Nepal
CBOs	Community-based organisations
CDO	Chief District Officer
CDS	Child Development Society
CeLRRD	Center for Legal Research and Resource Development
CPN (UML)	Communist Party of Nepal (Unified Marxist-Leninist)
CSEC	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
CRC	UN Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSOs	Civil Society Organisations
CSR	Corporate Social Responsibility
CTIP	Combating Trafficking in Persons
CWIN	Child Workers in Nepal Concerned Centre
CWISH	Children-Women in Social Science and Human Rights
DCWs	Domestic Child Workers
DD	Durban Declaration
DEMIR	Definition-Exploration-Modelling-Implementation-Review system approach
DFID	Department for International Development
DOFE	Department of Foreign Employment
ECOSOC	UN Economic and Social Council
FAO	Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GBV	Gender-based violence
GoN	Government of Nepal
GCC	Gulf Cooperation Council
HTIB	Human Trafficking Investigation Bureau
HTTCA	Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act
ILO	International Labor Organization
INGO	International Non-Governmental Organisation
IOM	International Organization of Migration
IREWOC	International Research on Working Children
KIIs	Key Informant Interviews
LCCHTs	Local Committees for Controlling Human Trafficking
MDWs	Migrant Domestic Workers
MoHA	Ministry of Home Affairs

MoLESS	Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security
MoWCSC	Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens
NCCHT	National Committee for Controlling Human Trafficking
NGO	Non-Governmental Organisation
NHRC	National Human Rights Commission
NLFS	Nepal Labour Force Survey
NMICS	Nepal Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey
NMPECL	National Master Plan for the Elimination of Child Labour
NWECPC	Navajagaran Women and Children Protection Centre
OSRT	Office of the Special Rapporteur
PNCC	Pravasi Nepali Coordination Committee
PTSD	Post-traumatic Stress Disorder
SDGs	Sustainable Development Goals
SECBL-II	Sustainable Elimination of Child Bonded Labour Project
SOPs	Standard Operating Procedures
TIP	Trafficking in Person
UMN	United Mission to Nepal
UN	United Nations
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNWTO	United Nations World Trade Organization
USAID	United States Agency for International Development
VDC	Village Development Committee
WCSC	Women, Children, and Senior Citizen Service Centres
WCSCSD	Women, Children, and Senior Citizen Service Directorate
WPC	Women's Protection Center

Forced Labour, Child Labour, and Trafficking in Nepal

An Annotated Bibliography, 2024

Although there has been a significant decline over time, practices of child labour, bonded and forced labour, and trafficking continue to persist in various sectors in Nepal.¹ Studies have indicated several drivers of forced labour and child labour, such as structural, gaps in policies and practices, patriarchy, and gender and social norms, etc. Those mainly from marginalised communities or impoverished backgrounds and the poor are vulnerable to forced labour, child labour, and trafficking.² Nepal has introduced and implemented various policies and programmes to address the issues of forced labour and child labour. As a pathfinder country for the Alliance 8.7, Nepal is seeking to achieve Sustainable Development Goal 8.7 by taking immediate and effective measures to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, and human trafficking and ensure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour in all its forms by 2025.

This bibliography is an attempt to compile existing literature on forced labour, child labour, and trafficking. It includes journal articles, research papers and reports, books, government laws and policies, etc. The bibliography was initially prepared in 2020 by the lead author with support from Sudeshna Thapa and Ritika Singh for the project, 'From Research to Action (RTA): Using Knowledge to Accelerate Progress in the Elimination of Child Labour and Force Labour', to inform the Research Agenda in Nepal (<https://rtaproject.org/research-agendas/>). It was further updated in 2024. Authors would like to express sincere thanks to Lorenzo Guarcello, Policy Research and Statistics Officer (RTA Project Director), Research and Evaluation Unit, Fundamentals Principles and Rights at Work Branch, International Labour Organization, for providing permission to use the resources in the bibliography. We also thank Khem Shreesh for his review and input and Ajaya Subedi for his support for the layout and design of the bibliography.

-
- 1 ILO, UNICEF and CBS, 'Report on Employment Relationship Survey in the Brick Industry in Nepal' (Kathmandu: International Labour Organization, United Nations Children's Fund and Central Bureau of Statistics, 2020), <https://shorturl.at/dgHIM> ILO and CBS, 'Nepal Child Labour Report 2021' (Kathmandu: International Labour Organization and Central Bureau of Statistics, 2021), <https://shorturl.at/coGNP>.
 - 2 ILO and CBS, 'Nepal Child Labour Report 2021'; FAO, IFAD and ILO, 'Breaking the Rural Poverty Cycle: Getting Girls and Boys Out of Work and Into School', 2010, <https://shorturl.at/eyIT6>.

2

**Books, Journal Articles and Research Reports on Child Labour,
Forced Labour and Human Trafficking in Nepal**

1. Child Labour in the Nepalese Carpet Sector: A Rapid Assessment

KC, Bal Kumar, Govind Subedi, Yogendra Bahadur Gurung, Keshab Prasad Adhikari, and Dhanendra Veer Shakya. 2002. Geneva: International Labour Organization. https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---sro-new-delhi/documents/publication/wcms_424772.pdf

The purpose of this report was to fill the gap in the available knowledge and further study the relationship between child labour and the broader carpet economy. It aimed to provide recommendations that could help in the development of specific interventions for the Time Bound Programme opposing the worst form of child labour in the carpet sector. It focused on finding the economic situation of the carpet industry at the time and finding out the authentic data on the number of children working in the carpet industry—in production profile, their family, socioeconomic status, working condition, health risks, different phases of abuse during the production where the children are involved, etc. It is primarily based on the Rapid Assessment methodology, which is a mix of both qualitative and quantitative methods and was developed by ILO/UNICEF in the year 2000. The paper discusses the situation of the carpet industry in Nepal at the time and says that children working in carpet factories are in the worst possible situations since they are forced to work under unhygienic circumstances, lengthy hours, night shifts, lack of mobility options, and, in some cases, bonded employment. It further says that the child labour in carpet sector is related to the family vulnerability in terms of poor economic condition, unemployment, illiteracy, domestic violence, sexual abuse, etc. and also related with the close relatives who are already employed in the same sector. The report's recommendation includes the prohibition of children below 14 years of age in the carpet industry by educating the employers about the national and international laws and provision on the prohibition of employing children as labour, initiating campaigns for health and safety in work, emphasising on real working circumstances and issues, etc.

Keywords: carpet industry, child labour, working condition, health, safety

2. Cross Border Trafficking of Boys: Nepal

WOREC. 2002. Kathmandu: International Labour Organization.

https://www.worecnepal.org/uploads/publication/document/4885458092002_traffboarder_boys_nepal_en.pdf.

The report argues that although trafficking in women and girls has become an issue of national priority with its own National Plan of Action at the policy level, very less, if any, attention has been given to the issues of trafficking of boys. It also argues that the reason behind this could be because not many cases have been known so far about the trafficking of boys. The study was based on two districts, i.e., Mahottari and Dhanusa, as the intercepted children came mostly from these districts. The sample size consisted of 70 trafficked Nepali boys, of which 30 had already returned to Nepal while 40 boys

were still working in exploitative labour situations in India. Primary data were also collected through key informants other than those 30 boys who returned back and those informants included a total of 20 parents (10 male, 10 female), a campus teacher, 2 school teachers (1 male and 1 female) from Rara Multiple Campus, 2 CDOs (from Mahottari and Dhanusha), Local Development Officer (from Dhanusha District), 2 Superintendent of Police (from Mahottari and Dhanusha), District Development Committee Chairperson (from Dhanusha District), representatives from major political parties (Nepali Congress, CPN (UML), and Sadbhavana Party), the chairperson of All Nepal Women's Organisation, a member of the Nepal Teachers Association, and 2 local-level human rights organisations. Data were also collected from the concerned police departments, Honourable Member of the National Human Rights Commission, journalists, president of CWIN, and coordinator of AATWIN. Structured questionnaires were used to collect the data. Similarly, a focus group discussion among the 25 intercepted boys was also conducted for the study. The study finds that high rate of population growth in the rural poor and extremely poor communities might be the reason behind the increase in the trafficking of boys, which is further supported by the fact that the girls in these specific communities live a protected and confined life. The boys who were trafficked had to work 10 to 14 hours daily and most were subjected to various abuses, such as physical violence, psychological, and sexual, while five per cent of them were not abused at all. The study also finds a lack of law enforcement on trafficking to be one of the major culprits to induce child trafficking.

Keywords: human trafficking, trafficked boys, exploitation, intercepted children

3. Manual on Child Labour Rapid Assessment Methodology

International Labour Office and UNICEF. 2005. Geneva: International Labour Office. <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/pdf/Manual-on-child-labour-rapid-assessment-methodology.pdf/>.

This manual on rapid assessment research is a compilation of qualitative information regarding child labour, specifically the worst forms of child labour. It provides an up-to-date practical guide for its users in terms of planning and preparing for research; research methods; review, analysis, and presentation of the data; researching harder-to-access areas of child labour such as child domestic workers; children in commercial sexual exploitation; children engaged in drug trafficking and armed conflict; and child labour and HIV/AIDS. Further, the manual also reflects on the latest terminology and definitions and the latest approaches to gender and other key areas of child labour. For instance, it describes 'Children at work in economic activity' as those who are involved in production activities such as a) for the market or not, b) paid or unpaid, c) full or part-time, d) on a casual or regular basis and/or, e) in the formal (organised) sector or the informal sector. The purpose behind preparing this manual is to serve as a resource pool for the user researchers. It also aims to provide an incentive of urgency for its users in

the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour.

Keywords: worst forms of child labour, rapid assessment research, child labour

4. Sex Trafficking in Nepal: Survivor Characteristics and Long-term Outcomes

Crawford, Mary and Michelle R Kaufman. 2008. *Violence Against Women*, 14(8): 905-916. DOI: [10.1177/1077801208320906](https://doi.org/10.1177/1077801208320906).

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18667405/>.

The article studies the status of the sex trafficking survivors in Nepal at the time. It studies the rehabilitation and reintegration of female sex trafficking survivors in the society. The research participants were randomly selected from an anti-trafficking NGO, where 80 out of 321 cases of trafficking survivors were selected for analysis and out of that 80, 20 cases were randomly selected for detailed analysis. The study finds that every person in the sample suffered somatic and behavioural effects. Similarly, almost 75 per cent of the survivors had successful reintegration; they returned back to their own village and were accepted by their families. Many of them were married and did small businesses and gained financial independence. The finding of the study implies that the rehabilitation and reintegration programmes in place are creating positive outcomes but systematic diagnosis, recording, outcome investigation and education is needed in order to minimise the stigma associated with trafficking and reintegration and to encourage safe migration practices.

Keywords: sex trafficking, Nepal, rehabilitation, reintegration, survivors

5. Mental Health of Female Survivors of Human Trafficking in Nepal

Tsutsumi, Atsuro, Takashi Izutsu, Amod Poudyal, Seika Kato, and Eiji Marui. 2008. *Soc Sci Med*, 66(8): 1841-7. DOI: 10.1016/j.socscimed.2007.12.025.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/18276050/>.

The article examines the status of mental health of women who are the survivors of human trafficking by comparing them with the women who are forced to work as sex workers as well as women who are involved in other areas of work such as circus worker and domestic worker. Mental health issues like depression, anxiety, PTSD have been looked into among the participants in the research. The Hopkins Symptoms Checklist-25 and PTSD Checklist Civilian Version were used to examine anxiety and depression, and PTSD respectively. The study found out that both sex workers and non-sex workers' groups had a high number of cases with anxiety, depression, and PTSD. More specifically, the sex workers' group were found to have more anxiety symptoms compared to non-sex workers and depression and PTSD was found far more in sex worker's group. The paper, in order to improve the mental health status of trafficking survivors, recommends including psychosocial support in intervention programmes designed to address issues of human trafficking and also recommends the NGOs and United Nations work-

ing in this field to focus more specifically on psychosocial support and mental health.

Keywords: human trafficking, women, Nepal, mental health, sex work, post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD), anxiety, depression

6. Child Labor in Carpet Weaving: Impact of Social Labeling in India and Nepal

Chakrabarty, Sayan and Ulrike Grote. 2009. *World Development*, (37)10: 1683-93.

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.worlddev.2009.03.013>.

The study attempts to review if labelling marketable products like carpet that have been made without using any child labour increases the well-being of children and their families. Primary data was collected from a survey of 415 households in Uttar Pradesh, India, and 410 households from Kathmandu Valley, Nepal, in 2005. The study finds that social labelling does have some influence on the removal of child labourers for the household having income above the subsistence level, and as for the house with household income below the subsistence level, the social labelling does not have any substantial impact.

Keywords: trade policy, social labelling, poverty, education, child labour, non-governmental organisations

7. Children Trafficked and Sexually Exploited in the Adult Entertainment Industry: Child Labour Status Report 2009

World Education. 2009. World Education.

<https://nepal.worlded.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/bfp-child-trafficking.pdf>.

This report focused on child trafficking in the entertainment sector in Nepal, particularly in urban areas like Kathmandu. The study highlights an alarming prevalence of child trafficking in Nepal's entertainment sector. Similarly, children came particularly from Kavrepalanchowk, Sindhupalchowk, Nuwakot, Dhading, and Makawanpur districts and work in massage parlours, cabin restaurants, and dance bars, particularly young girls seeking better lives in urban areas. Factors such as poverty, lack of opportunities, and broken families contribute to the vulnerability of certain communities, and the demand for younger sex workers further exacerbates the problem. Similarly, as per this report, husbands, boyfriends, and pimps are primarily involved in trafficking. The report also sheds light on the rehabilitation shelters stating there is a lack of sufficient space. The shelters are frequently full, and there is a shortage of funds and resources, including staff, to adequately support trafficking victims.

Keywords: child trafficking, adult entertainment sector, sex workers

8. Vocational Education to Address Child Labour: Child Labour Strategies Report 2009

World Education. 2009. World Education.

https://publications.worlded.org/WEIInternet/inc/common/download_pub.cfm?id=10688&lid=3.

The report highlights that large numbers of children in Nepal are compelled to engage in labour to support themselves or to contribute to their families' finances. A significant proportion of them also engage in part-time work to cover the expenses associated with higher-level education. These children typically possess strong self-motivation to work hard and are determined to find ways to improve their long-term future prospects. For these children, vocational education frequently presents itself as better alternative to break free from exploitative work conditions. The report identifies viable work options where NGO partners could learn the aspects such as assessing local work options and then options for youth migrating from the region, helping children determine their own abilities and interests and options identification concerning suitable training that is locally accessible, among others. Additionally, the report covers and strategises the career-planning and apprenticeship programme for children, providing some of the lessons learned, for example, relevance of job trainings, accessibility, complementary literacy and numeracy skills, employment opportunities, motivation to the employers to host apprentices, and NGOs networks with training provided to employers among others. Furthermore, the report also identifies challenges of finding works for them after apprenticeships, vocational training through skill-training centres or special courses, and highlights self-employment and economic education programmes, special effort for girls trafficked into the adult entertainment industry, even including agro-forestry for enhancing rural livelihoods opportunities, among others.

Keywords: child labour, vocational education, work options, viability, strategies

9. Children Working in Carpet Industry: Child Labour Status Report 2009

World Education. 2009. World Education.

https://publications.worlded.org/WEIInternet/inc/common/download_pub.cfm?id=10679&lid=3.

This report discusses the status of child labour in the carpet industry, the age range of the children, the caste they belong to, and why those children had to work as labourer in the carpet industry. The report asserts that broken families, poor economic conditions, discontinuation in school, and desire to work are the major push factors for the children to work in the carpet industry. Similarly, the pull factor for it is that the employers prefer to hire the children because in comparison to adults, they are easy to manipulate and do not have skills to negotiate. The insufficient implementation of regulations, particularly of the unregistered carpet factories and contractor places, helps employers to keep children in this sector.

Keywords: child labour, carpet industry, poor economic conditions

10. Child Labour in Kathmandu, Nepal

de Groot, Afke. 2010.. Amsterdam: Institute for Research on Working Children.

https://archive.crin.org/en/docs/IREWOC_deGroot_Worst%20Forms%20Nepal_2010.pdf.

This research mainly focuses on the condition of the children in the worst forms of child labour, their family background, regions they come from, among others in Nepal. It focuses on children working in brick kilns, tea shops, and small restaurants and as porters in urban markets. The data has been collected through two rigorous periods of anthropological research in three villages (Mahadevsthan, Kalpabrikshya, and Kapilakot) of Sindhuli districts as well as in fieldwork in Kathmandu Valley. Observation, individual talks, group discussion, structured interviews have been used as data collection tools. The study finds that children come to brick kiln sector from various parts of the country, especially from Dang, Pyuthan, Rolpa districts in western Nepal and Sindhuli district in central Nepal, as well as from places nearby such as Kavrepalanchowk, Makawanpur, Sindhupalchowk, and Ramechhap districts. The major incentive that attracts the families to this profession is the advance payment they get and in this process the children get pulled in in this sector too. The workers working in the brick kiln sector have poor living conditions, they live in a small hut that is made by themselves that is exposed to different elements. They are exposed to dust, smoke, etc. that leads to different health issues. Further, children working in the portering sector largely come from Okhaldhunga and Udayapur districts from the eastern Nepal and Rolpa, Dang, Pyuthan, and Rukum districts from the western Nepal as well as from Sindhupalchowk, Nuwakot, and Dhading districts in central Nepal. Those child porters usually stay in rented rooms with friends and families, and it is found that up to 5 people share a room. Finally, children working in restaurants come mainly from Sindhupalchowk, Kavrepalanchowk, Makawanpur, Dhading, Nuwakot, Ramechhap, Sindhuli, and Gorkha districts in central Nepal. They have to work long hours every day and usually children working in big restaurants sleep inside the restaurant premises. The paper's recommendations among others, include awareness programmes for safety and basic hygiene as well as campaigns to educate people about the real situations of children working in these sectors, creating social protection systems and employment opportunities for the grown-ups so that in the time of crisis, there are choices beside sending children to work.

Keywords: poverty, education, policy, social protection system, legislation, hazardous working conditions, brick kilns, domestic work, restaurant work

11. Cross-Border Trafficking in Nepal and India—Violating Women's Rights

Deane, Tameshnie. 2010. *Human Rights Review*, 11: 491-513. DOI: [10.1007/s12142-010-0162-y](https://doi.org/10.1007/s12142-010-0162-y).

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/225497306_Cross-Border_Trafficking_in_Nepal_and_India-Violating_Women's_Rights.

The article focuses on the cross-border trafficking of girls and women from Nepal to India. It also surveys the laws and policies in Nepal and India to combat trafficking and why trafficking is still a big issue in Nepal despite all these existing laws and policies. The article finds that there are two factors in society: supply and demand that contribute to the vulnerability of people to trafficking. The major supply factor is the belief of people that there are better opportunities in another place than their own and the major demand factors are increasing engagement of criminal organisations, migration, globalisation, high demand of cheap labour, high demand for sex with children, etc. High demand factors increase the supply of trafficking victims, especially in the sex industry. Similarly, although there are laws, because of lack of implementation and/or serious commitment to implement the law, they not effective in curbing trafficking. The article suggests, in order to combat trafficking, to create awareness in the society about susceptibility of women to trafficking and, in trafficking situations, prioritise rehabilitation programmes in India and Nepal's legislature, enforcing strict punishments for traffickers, offender of human rights and laws, etc.

Keywords: trafficking, commercial sexual exploitation, slavery, sale of humans, human rights

12. The Bonded Labor System in Nepal: Exploring Haliya and Kamaiya Children's Life-Worlds

Giri, Birendra Raj. 2010. *Himalaya, the Journal of the Association for Nepal and Himalayan Studies*, 29(1): 29-41.

<https://digitalcommons.macalester.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1850&context=himalaya>.

This study aims to fill the gap in research concerning children working under *haliya/kamaiya* systems, and, in particular, research that delves into the understanding and perception of children regarding their own work. In-depth interviews, group discussions, participant observation were used to collect information about history, culture, and the economics of the *haliya/kamaiya* practices in Nepal. The working and living conditions of more than 50 *haliya/kamaiya* children have been discussed in the paper and in-depth study has been done of 30 children among those 50. Similarly, interviews have been conducted with parents of bonded children, local leaders, and Nepali researchers in order to incorporate their perception on bonded labour. The study finds that expansion of generational *haliya/kamaiya* agreement has shifted to the children. Children are forced to undertake *haliya/kamaiya* work because of lack of choices, especially to their families, to fulfil their basic needs for survival. Similarly, although the government has banned *haliya* and *kamaiya* system, the promises of education has become one of the factors of motivation to continue with the bonded labour contract as the offer is very attractive to those children who while being with their family would not have the chance of going to school and receive education.

Keywords: poverty, bonded labour, haliya, kamaiya, debt bondage, education, social vulnerability, child labour, sexual exploitation, gender, domestic work, hazardous working conditions, physical abuse

13. Bonded Labour Practice in Nepal: The Promise of Education as a Magnet of Child Bondedness

Giri, Birendra Raj. 2010. *South Asia Research*, 30(2): 145-164. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1177/026272801003000203>.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/10.1177/026272801003000203>.

The article explores the degree to which the unfulfilled desire of getting education for Musahar and Tharu bonded children serves as a form of restriction in empowerment or contributes to the continuation of the bonded system in Nepal. It talks about how the promise of employers to provide education to the child has become the point of attraction for child bondedness. Interviews, observation, and visual tools have been used as methods to uncover Musahar and Tharu children's lives as bonded *haliya* or *kamaiya* labourers in detail. Fifty participants (half each from both the groups) were selected through purposive sampling. The study finds that the Musahar and Tharu community considers education as an important factor in life for their own particular reasons. Some consider it a means to avoid deception, some consider it as a means to defy societal typecasting. They also consider education essential to help them come out of poverty, to get rid of practical problems like lack of food, and to also elevate their lifestyle. In bonded labour practice, education is taken as a safe juncture for both the sides and the family sends their child to work to not only fulfil their materialistic needs but also with the desire of their children receiving education.

Keywords: bonded labour, child labour, Dalit, Janajati, education, haliya, kamaiya, Musahar, Nepal, Tharu

14. Bonded Labour in Nepal: Life and Work of Children in Communities

Giri, Birendra Raj. 2010. PhD dissertation submitted to The Open University, UK.

<http://oro.open.ac.uk/62018/1/13837675.pdf>.

The study aims to explore the overall situation of *haliya/kamaiya* children's bondedness at work as well as reasons for them to do bonded labour, how they perceive their work, and its importance in their life. Structured interviews and group discussions with 58 *haliya/kamaiya* children with ages ranging from 8 to 16 years were interviewed in order to know the everyday life of those children from their own perception. Similarly, 'child-friendly' research techniques were also applied to collect the data. The study finds that although the traditional *haliya/kamaiya* system was banned in 2000, it is still being practised continuously due to factors like poverty. Similarly, rather than being seen as domestic workers, shepherds, or babysitters, those children were known as *haliya/ka-*

maiya because they had to be involved in similar works that their parents were involved in before the year 2000. The study also finds that the promise made by the employers to educate the children has become one of the factors of motivation to continue the contract of bonded labour.

Keywords: poverty, bonded labour, debt bondage, education, social vulnerability, child labour, sexual exploitation, gender, domestic work, hazardous working conditions, physical abuse

15. Haliya and Kamaiya Bonded Child Labourers in Nepal

Giri, Birendra Raj. 2010. In Gary Craig (ed) *Child Slavery Now: A Contemporary Reader*. Bristol: Bristol Policy Press. 227-242.

This book chapter explores the viewpoint of bonded children working as *haliya*, *kamaiya* in their everyday lives, with emphasis on Musahar and Tharu communities. The study was carried out in Bardiya and Morang districts; these districts were selected purposively as these two districts are reported to have large number of kamaiya families that have still not been freed. The study finds that the generational, family-based haliya/kamaiya agreement has shifted more and more towards the children belonging to the family of haliya/kamaiya. The families get rice, beside *adhiya* (sharecropping) land and loans, when the children work for the landowner. Similarly, the daily work done by the haliya/kamaiya children is usually quite significant. They have to work for long hours and in some cases are treated badly by the employers.

Keywords: poverty, haliya, kamaiya, education, policy, social protection system, legislation, hazardous working conditions, brick kilns, domestic work, work in restaurant

16. Stepping up Child Protection: An assessment of Child Protection Systems from All Countries in South Asia, Including Reflections from Central Asia

Heiberg, Turid, Radha Kamath, Catherine Kates, and Chiranjeet Das. 2010. Kathmandu: Save the Children Sweden.

<https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/pdf/2780.pdf/>.

This study evaluates the child protection system in eight countries in South Asia and two in Central Asia. It includes data collected through primary and secondary sources like UN agencies, government officials, and civil society. Review of the legal framework, government initiatives, community mobilisation, and development partnerships along with some recommendations is provided in the report. A small section in this report talks about child labour, categorised as a form of violence experienced by children in South Asia. The study reports that, in Nepal, more than 55,000 children serve as domestic workers; the majority of them are boys with approximately two-thirds being between the age of 10 to 14. Similarly, these children face economic exploitation as they have to work for long hours with little to no compensation, which is one of the most

prevalent forms of violence. The study finds the existence of hazardous child labour, child domestic labour, child labour in industries focused on export, bonded child labour especially in agriculture, and work in the informal economy, especially in the urban areas. The report also states that the children are susceptible to physical and sexual abuse and these child workers generally do not have educational opportunities that further perpetuates the cycle of poverty and vulnerability. The report's recommendations include the government prioritising of the protection of children and enforcing laws addressing their protection at national, district, and community levels, government co-ordination and cooperation with all the partners for effective management of protection of children, participation of children in all initiatives, etc. among others.

Keywords: child labour, government intervention, child development

17. Human Trafficking in Nepal: A Rising Concern for All

Joshi, Sunil Kumar. 2010. *Kathmandu University Medical Journal*, 8(1): 3-4. DOI: 10.3126/kumj.v8i1.3213.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/200836792_Human_trafficking_in_Nepal_A_rising_concern_for_all.

This editorial discusses the historical development and processes of human trafficking in Nepal. It identifies a number of legislative and policy instruments in place to prevent human trafficking. However, it argues that the ineffective enforcement of the law and policy has failed to address the challenge. The article also highlights the role of ethical research on trafficking issues, rehabilitation of the victims of trafficking, and raising awareness regarding various issues related to trafficking. The editorial also calls for advocacy training which helps in the systematic and effective lobbying in regard to various facets trafficking as well as raising awareness in general. Further, it emphasises on the improvement of research methods and techniques for gathering more reliable quantitative and qualitative data. Similarly, in order to fight trafficking, the article also suggests prioritising promoting and providing health facilities that are preventive and curative as well as sensitising the vulnerable communities and school children.

Keywords: human trafficking, advocacy, law, policy

18. The Worst Forms of Child Labour in Asia: Main Findings from Bangladesh and Nepal

Lieten, G.C.M., Afke de Groot, Anna Ensing, Nanna Baum, and Mariette de Graa. 2010. Amsterdam: Foundation for International Research on Working Children (IREWOC). <https://resourcecentre.savethechildren.net/sites/default/files/documents/3990.pdf>.

The report looks into the worst forms of child labour existing in Nepal and Bangladesh. The Nepal chapter attempts to scrutinise deeper prevalence of child labour in brick kilns and the restaurant sectors by means of qualitative research that employs structured

interview questionnaire, focused mainly on the living and working conditions of the child workers. The study provides an overview of children working in brick kilns, working as porters at markets, and working in local restaurants and small tea-stalls, during 2008-2009 in Kathmandu Valley. It highlights that while still young, the child labourers are proud of the economic contributions they make to their respective families, but once they are in their twenties they are, most of the time, confronted with the physical impact of working at a young age. It further states that the children, who are perhaps only involved in household duties and may even attend school regularly, should not be excluded from the definition of 'worst form' of child labour, as defined in ILO C182. The report concludes with the view that these forms of child labour are physically harmful to the young bodies for the children and suggests that the classification of such labour needs to be more inclusive. The report ends with recommendations to take concrete steps toward resolving the issue of child labour.

Keywords: street children, ILO conventions, domestic labour, economy, education, housing, legislation, poverty, sexual violence and abuse, violence against children

19. The Kamaiya System of Bonded Labour in Nepal

World Organisation Against Torture. 2010. Geneva: World Organisation Against Torture.

https://www.omct.org/files/interdisciplinary-study/ii_b_3_nepal_case_study.pdf.

The report is a case study of the *Kamaiya* system in Nepal. Nepal is a signatory to various international human rights treaties and formally abolished *kamaiya* and bonded labour in 2002 to protect people from inhumane practices of exploitation rampant in such a system. This study explores the *Kamaiya* system in detail from its historical origin to the socio-economic condition of the *kamaiya* labourers within the system. It describes the atrocities faced by the labourers, the systematic impunity, and the role of state mechanisms in perpetuating the 'cycle of deprivation'. The study concludes that despite its abolishment, the deep structural issues that give rise to the problem still remain. The study also claims that other related issues like rehabilitation and alternate livelihood were not addressed enough by after the *Kamaiya* system prohibition. The study warns that unless it is expanded to a larger movement, bringing about changes in unequal relations that exist currently is impossible, and whatever achievements have been gained so far may turn out irrelevant in the future.

Keywords: forced labour, debt bondage, *kamaiya*, social vulnerability, structural inequality, government intervention, poverty, education, sexual exploitation

20. False Promises: Exploitation and Forced Labour of Nepalese Migrant Workers

Amnesty International. 2011. London: Amnesty International Ltd.

<https://www.amnesty.org/download/Documents/28000/asa310072011en.pdf>.

The report highlights the ways in which certain recruitment agencies and brokers dupe

migrant workers and break the Foreign Employment Act, 2007 that was enacted to safeguard migrant workers against trafficking and exploitation as well as forced labour. Altogether 149 detailed interviews were conducted in this study. Amnesty International conducted interviews with 76 individual Nepali migrants, potential migrants as well as the families of five migrants who passed away while abroad. Furthermore, three group interviews were conducted with one group consisting of 46 returnee migrants, another group consisting 11 returnee migrants, and third group consisting family members of 11 migrants who are still abroad. The report states that the Government of Nepal has been unable to comply with the international commitments of stopping forced labour and trafficking as it has not governed and monitored the recruitment agencies effectively or has enforced laws against the ones that break it. The report provides recommendations in four broad categories for improving the safeguarding of migrant workers against trafficking and forced labour: on the operation of brokers and the recruitment agencies, on the Foreign Employment Promotion Board, on different measures to prevent trafficking and forced labour, and on international community members.

Keywords: Labour migration, poverty, exploitation, law, debt, female migration

21. Women Trafficking from Nepal in India: Uncontrolled Problem and Helpless Victims

Bhardwaj, Vinod K. 2011. Jaipur, India: South Asia Studies Center, University of Rajasthan.

https://www.academia.edu/6856756/Human_Trafficking_from_Nepal_in_India_Uncontrolled_Problem_and_Helpless_Victims.

This paper is based mainly on observations and survey of secondary sources of data. The issue of trafficking of women and girls from Nepal into India, also within Nepal and within India is one that is increasing because of ignorance on many different levels. The issue in Nepal is brought on by its heterogeneous sociocultural, geographic, and economic conditions. Innocence and social deprivation are the main drivers of trafficking in Nepal, but society as a whole bears some of the blame as well for it, whether directly or indirectly. The issue has been made worse by the demand for Nepali girls and women in the sex market both in India and overseas. Without stringent legal anti-trafficking laws, government's monitoring of sporadic agencies, and an adequate rehabilitation strategy for these disadvantaged people, Nepal, through the efforts of the embassy here in India, will not be able to simply address the crisis.

Keywords: Sex trade, human trafficking, mafia, racketeers, rescue, rehabilitation, anti-trafficking laws

22. Does Social Labelling Encourage Child Schooling and Discourage Child Labour in Nepal?

Chakrabarty, S., U. Grote, and G. Lüchters. 2011. *International Journal of Educational Development*, (31)5: 489-495.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0738059310001549>.

The paper delves into the factors that influence child labour with regard to education. It also looks at the way non-governmental organisations (NGOs) that are involved in social labelling can influence the prevalence of child labour and education trade-off. Data collection comprised of surveys with children aged 5 to 14 years, who were working for the past two months when the survey was carried out. In total, 1971 people in 410 households were included in the study. The empirical findings of the study reveal that if a carpet company has implemented social labelling, then there are higher chances of the decrease in child labour as well as increase in children's schooling. The study also says that the social labelling that NGOs are involved in has a substantial impact on former child labourers being sent to school. In addition, the study emphasises on the head of the family having good education because, as per the study, the likelihood of child labour reduces if the head of the family is knowledgeable and has good educational qualification.

Keywords: social labelling, poverty, education, child labour, child schooling, non-governmental organisations, carpet industry

23. A Study on Freed-Bonded Labourer (Mukta Kamaiya) in Nepal

Chaudhary (Tharu), Buddhi Ram. 2011. Master's thesis submitted to Hiroshima University.

<https://ir.lib.hiroshima-u.ac.jp/00031678>.

The thesis assesses the socio-economic status of freed bonded labourers and examines how their freedom affects the landlords' farm management. Primary data collection was done through a survey of 60 households each of Kohalpur Village Development Committee (VDC) of Banke district and Kalika VDC of Bardiya district, and 30 landlords each in the two districts were carried out in August and September 2010. In addition to demographic findings, the research finds that *Kamlahri* form of child labour is still prevalent in the region even after the abolishment of bonded labour. The thesis finds that 11 per cent of the households surveyed were still sending their children to work as Kamlahri, majority of them were girls. In other findings, 20 per cent of the Kamlahri did not get to go to school, while a majority of the Kamlahri (70 per cent) were working for just education and food. The research recommends that simply prohibiting the system will not have an impact on the real situation, instead, long-term educational programmes are necessary.

Keywords: child labour, bonded labour, kamlari, debt bondage, poverty, education, social policy, social vulnerability, legislation

24. Situation of Child Labor in Ghorahi and Tulasipur Municipalities of Dang District, Nepal

Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH) and Navajagaran Women and Children Protection Centre (NEWCPC) Dang. 2011. Dang: Ghorahi Municipality and Tulasipur Municipality.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/224934574_Situation_of_Child_Labor_in_Ghorahi_and_Tulasipur_Municipals_of_Daang_Nepal.

The study aims to gain information on the practices, attitude, and perception of child labourers, child labour sending families, and employers as well as to break down data on working children in the study area. Participatory community mapping, household survey, detailed survey, key informant interviews, in-depth interviews, and children's consultations were carried out. The study was conducted among 848 child labourers, 386 parents from child labour sending families, and 61 employers in Ghorahi Municipality, and 249 child labourers, 171 parents from child labour sending families, and 87 employers in Tulasipur Municipality. The study found that around 48.58 per cent of child labourers in Ghorahi and 57.43 per cent in Tulasipur were under the age of 14, which is against the law. Majority of children were working in sectors like domestic work, construction, agriculture, hotels, transportation, brick factories, rickshaw-pulling, grill/metal work industries, daily-wage labour, workshops and garages, street vending, shops, and various mines like coal, sand, etc. The majority of the child labourers claimed family poverty as the prime reason for engaging in child labour. Similarly, lack of opportunities for education, domestic violence, and the attraction of city life are some other reasons for their engaging in child labour. The study identified several issues such as long working hours, hazardous working conditions, underpayment and even non-payment to child labourers in the area, as well as health impacts of child labour. Child labourers and their parents also demonstrated very limited knowledge or no understanding about child labour and child rights. The study identifies major issues with the situation of child labour in the area and provides several recommendations like conducting awareness campaigns on child labour, collaboration with adult and youth workers for them to take the place of child labours to minimise, prevent, and eventually end child labour in Ghorahi and Tulasipur.

Keywords: poverty, education, social vulnerability, child labour, legislation, child protection, rights of children, hazardous working conditions, health impact

25. Isolated within the Walls: A Situational Analysis of Domestic Workers in Nepal

Gautam, Rudra Prasad and Jib Nath Prasain. 2011. Kathmandu: General Federation of Nepalese Trade Unions.

https://www.gefont.org/assets/upload/downloads/9745_Isolated.pdf.

The study aims to determine the prevalence of domestic workers, their difficulties, and

their socioeconomic condition. Another objective of the study is to understand the present situation of domestic workers in response to the unionisation process as well as aims to provide appropriate recommendations to safeguard domestic workers' rights. Both qualitative and quantitative methods were used to collect data in this study. Focus group discussion and case study were carried out and gathered only from the domestic workers. The study finds that poverty is the major reason for the large numbers of Nepali people to work as domestic workers. They work for long hours on a daily basis and are deprived of their basic rights. The research further finds that the majority of workers in this sector are children, and they generally come from families with poor economic backgrounds where they are considered as an asset and are sent away to earn. Similarly, employers were also found to condone the uncontrolled use of child labour in domestic services. The report ends with several recommendations such as mandatory registration of domestic workers in local bodies, start practising written agreement between employers and workers to have some kind of legal protection, etc. in order to regulate the sector of domestic work.

Keywords: Domestic work, child labour, legislation, gender, education, poverty

26. Successful Strategies and Experiences in Combating Child Bonded Labour in Nepal

International Labour Organization. 2011. Kathmandu: International Labour Organization. https://www.ilo.org/wcmstp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---sro-new_delhi/documents/publication/wcms_513727.pdf.

Evaluating the Sustainable Elimination of Child Bonded Labour Project (SECBL-II), the report outlines several strategies for successful resolution of the issue of child bonded labour, while also outlining challenges and the way forward. The study examined in what way every implementing partner was pulled into the project, how they performed their individual contributions as well as the results of that work. The study started out as an exploratory to know the viability of the SECBL-II models. It was followed by thorough investigation of the processes to explain the phenomenon (social and psychological impacts) and then study the most effective aspects. Project documents, progress reports made available by the ILO office in Kathmandu and field reports were reviewed at the beginning of the study. Field visits, interviews with ILO and field staff of implementing partners, local government officers, community members who are engaged in the project, including the beneficiary households, was also carried out. In order to determine the causes of positive outcomes, the study examined the accomplishment of both qualitative and quantitative programmes, acquired from focus group discussions in the district headquarters and in villages. The study finds some effective strategies to prevent children from being into bonded labour are: (i) employing a household survey and child labour tracking system to increase protection, (ii) integrated targeting to fight child bonded labour of the *haruwa* and *charuwa* system in eastern Tarai, (iii) organising an

indigenous socio-cultural support system and fostering social capital, (iv) boosting the ability of the community and service providers to implement law and safeguard against bonded labour, (vi) providing earning alternatives and training on vocational skills, (vii) mobilising support structures to help children go back to school.

Keywords: forced labour, child labour, debt bondage, haruwa, charuwa, intervention strategies, poverty, education, social vulnerability, legislation, employment opportunities

27. Nepal Child Labour Report (based on data drawn from the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008)

International Labour Organization and Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal. 2011. Kathmandu: International Labour Organization and Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal.

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-kathmandu/documents/publication/wcms_182988.pdf

The report expands on the demographic characteristics of the child labourers in the country. Based on the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008, the report includes an expansive range of information about issues regarding child work and child labour. The survey consisted of a nationally representative sample of 16,000 households chosen from 800 wards. This report was prepared by extracting only those households with children between the ages of 5 to 17 years. According to the findings of the report, around 40.4 per cent (3.14 million) of children in Nepal can be classified as children in employment. And among the classified children, 51 per cent (1.60 million) fall in the category of child labour. Similarly, a big majority of the child labour (0.62) million have been reported to being engaged in very risky, hazardous work. The report also looks into the major sectors where children are working and has identified the agricultural sector, services, manufacturing, and others as the biggest employers. Children are usually employed in small domestic factories, as domestic help in houses, as porters, rag pickers in restaurants, the transportation sector, and more. The report highlights that, depending on the sectors, children are exploited and are at a high risk of sexual exploitation.

Keywords: hazardous working conditions, education, poverty, migrant child workers, Nepal Labour Force Survey, sexual abuse, gender, domestic work, entertainment industry, transportation sector

28. Understanding the Socio-Economic and Hygienic Status of Child Labourers in Nepal

Joshi, S., S. Shrestha, R. Shrestha, and S. Vaidya. 2011. *Nepal Journal of Epidemiology*, 1(3): 90-94.

<https://doi.org/10.3126/nje.v1i3.5573>.

The study aims to evaluate the factors that make children enter the labour force, including their family demography, education, and their general health and hygiene. In this

descriptive study, interviews were conducted with 313 child labourers engaged in different industries. The interview was conducted on the basis of pre-tested questionnaire which emphasised on the socio-economic factors of child labour, the working condition, and the health of the child labourers. The study did not include children that were above the age of 16. The study finds that 83.4 per cent of child labour got involved in work due to poverty. Similarly, 36.1 per cent of those children made less than NPR 1000 per month. Furthermore, 23.6 per cent of the children came from a home with large family members, some with more than eight members. The study also finds that 30 per cent of those children have not obtained even a primary level of education. The overall hygiene of those children was found to be unsatisfactory.

Keywords: poverty, hygiene, health impact, social vulnerability, education, demographic study

29. Research and Activism Review: Sex Trafficking in Nepal: A Review of Intervention and Prevention Programs

Kaufman, Michelle. R. and Mary Crawford. 2011. *Violence Against Women*, 17(5): 651-665. DOI: 10.1177/1077801211407431.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/51059881_Research_and_Activism_Review_Sex_Trafficking_in_Nepal_A_Review_of_Intervention_and_Prevention_Programs.

This review paper examines the current anti-trafficking intervention and prevention programmes with an emphasis on sex trafficking from Nepal to India. Both governmental and non-governmental organisations' work are described and evaluated critically. Field work done by the first and second author from 2005-2008 and 2004-2008 respectively is the source of this review. Participant observation at anti-trafficking NGO offices and shelters; in-depth interviews with NGO staff, trafficking survivors, the head of the national police unit for trafficking prevention, and at-risk women; and analysis of survivor case files from one NGO were included as part of the fieldwork. The review delves into anti-trafficking programmes in Nepal, trafficked women's care and assistance, networking and advocacy in the general public to provide information and to change the laws and policies on anti-trafficking by the government. It also assesses if the intervention programmes in Nepal are working and the unintentional negative effect of intervention programmes.

Keywords: sex trafficking, violence against women, intervention, prevention

30. Trafficking of Women in Nepal: An Intersectional Analysis of Organisational Narratives

Mahat, Bhavana. 2011. Master's Thesis submitted to the University of Arkansas, Fayetteville, United States.

<https://core.ac.uk/download/pdf/72841077.pdf>.

The paper uses the intersectionality analytical framework to look at the organisational

narratives of the Nepali anti-trafficking workers to better understand the discursive aspects of sex trafficking. With eight interviews of outreach workers, counsellors, and field officers/supervisors working for NGOs such as Saathi, Change Nepal, Helpline, and Shakti Samuha, the paper explores the construction of the image of sex workers as victims and the understanding of the complex play of power and relations in the construction of that narrative. The research finds out personal and institutional narrative influences the organisational narrative of the anti-trafficking workers and while they are aware of multiple forms of discrimination, rarely are the intersectional discrimination of the sex workers discussed in various anti-trafficking programmes. The paper recommends the incorporation of an intersectional approach in anti-trafficking organisations and programmes to properly address and understand the issues of sex workers. *Keywords:* sex trafficking, intersectionality, organisational narratives

31. Small Hands Should Play, Not Work: A Theoretical Analysis of Interventions in Child Labor

Ringdal, Charlotte. 2011. Master's thesis submitted to the Department of Economics, University of Bergen.

<https://www.cmi.no/publications/file/4395-small-hands-should-play-not-work.pdf>

The thesis using economic modelling examines how initiatives like stricter laws, rules and regulations, more educational opportunities, international conventions, and product labelling impact the existence and prevalence of child labour. The researcher posits that some interventions like bans have chances of having a negative impact on children's overall well-being. The researcher has carried out an intensive literature review to outline the status of child labour, empirical research done on the topic, and range of interventions to combat child labour in the country. Then, the researcher also reviews the work of the Nepal GoodWeave Foundation, the organisation that labels carpets that are exported to other countries and supports maintaining the well-being of children through various education programmes and also contributes to preventing child labour by providing educational opportunities to the children of carpet workers. The study finds that GoodWeave, despite being a good programme, has drawbacks in terms of both its size and its capacity for monitoring.

Keywords: child labour, carpet factory, NGO intervention, hazardous working conditions, education, poverty, non-governmental organisations

32. Trafficking and Forced Labour in Nepal: A Review of the Literature

Sijapati, Bandita, Amrita Limbu, and Manisha Khadka. 2011. Kathmandu: Centre for the Study of Labour and Mobility.

https://www.ceslam.org/uploads/backup/Trafficking_Forced_Labour_Nepal.pdf

The study aims to collect and critically evaluate the current status of knowledge regard-

ing various types of forced labour and human trafficking that exists in Nepal and the ways in which it impacts various groups of people, both inside and outside the country. The research team reviewed the current status of knowledge on trafficking, types of bonded and forced labour, migrant labour as well as labour exploitation. The study also included field research in Western, Mid-Western, and Far-Western Regions to explore the issues relating to bonded labourers (*ex-kamaiyas*, *haliya*, Badis, and *kamlari*), and cross-border trafficking. Interviews with representatives of different NGOs, local government authorities, and community members were carried out as a part of the field research, and a stakeholders consultation workshop was conducted with academics and representatives from different national and international organisations and donor agencies working on issues related to trafficking and forced labour. The study consists of a comprehensive assessment of literature on bonded labour, forced labour, migrant labour as well as trafficking, and a significant portion of the report is an annotated review of the literature.

Keywords: bonded labour, forced labour, literature review, annotated bibliography, migrant labour, trafficking

33. 2010 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor – Nepal

United States Department of Labor. 2011. Washington, DC: US Department of Labor. <https://www.refworld.org/docid/4e8c39880.html>.

This country chapter is a compilation of progress and challenges of the Government of Nepal in its efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in the country in the year 2010. The chapter details how despite constant efforts by the government to increase schooling opportunities as a way to fight the worst forms of child labour, it still remains as one of the major problems. There are different sectors like agriculture, brick kilns, carpet industry, construction, mining, and stone breaking where children are working, that are dangerous and have adverse effects on their health. One of the major reasons for children involving dangerous works in a variety of such sectors is Nepal's low minimum age for such works. Moreover, children are still compelled into bonded labour. The chapter also reports that children working as bonded labourers also have likelihood of getting abused as commercial sex workers. The chapter then details legal framework on the worst forms of child labour, the status of enforcement of these laws, and government programmes and policies as well as social programmes on worst form of child labour. The chapter concludes with some suggestions to the government on viable future action in the field of laws, rules and regulations, coordination, implementation.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, worst form of child labour, government intervention, agriculture work, carpet factory, brick kiln, legislation, sexual exploitation, forced labour

34. The Status of Child Labour and Its Measures

BK, Man Bahadur and Purushottam Bista. 2012. Kathmandu: Nepal Government, Ministry of Labour and Employment.

https://www.academia.edu/30939371/The_Status_of_Child_Labour_and_Its_Measures.

The report is part of a national development plan of the Ministry of Labour and Employment for eliminating child labour and its impact on Nepal. It has analysed the condition of child labour in Nepal, reviewing the existing plans and policies, and recommendations of major stakeholders. The data for the study was collected through a desk review of policy documents, national surveys, previous reports, focus group discussions, and reports of consultation workshops. The study revealed that child labour primarily results from household vulnerability and gender-based discrimination plays a role in the creation of child labourers. Similarly, the report shows that an inaccessible and exclusionary education system is another push factor that perpetuates child labour and there is a large cost of child labour for the country as it leads to production of uneducated and unskilled adults in the long run. The study makes several recommendations to the government and concludes that the gap between policies and implementation is causing a huge case of inaction. It says that there is weak law enforcement, a lack of coordination among various organisations, and almost no political commitment to combating child labour.

Keywords: child labour, poverty, education, vulnerability, policy implementation, government intervention, legislation, gender, domestic work, sexual exploitation

35. Report on Child Labor in Chitwan: Status of Bharatpur and Ratnanagar Municipality and Urbanized VDCs

Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH) and Narayangarh Youth Club, Chitawan. 2012. Chitwan: Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH).

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/233987552_Report_on_Child_Labor_in_Chitwan_2012.

This study outlines the situation of child labour in the Chitwan district of the country. The study conducted in two municipalities and four rapidly urbanising VDCs of Chitwan explores the prevalence of child labour, their working condition, awareness, among others. The study uses surveys, group interviews, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews along with a literature review and community participatory mapping to understand the situation of child labour. In total, 655 child labourers, 15 parents, and 64 employers were interviewed as a part of the data collection. The study finds that child labourers were employed mostly in domestic work, hotels, construction, transport, and street vending. The research also reveals that most of the children (59 per cent) belonged to the ethnic community while 19 per cent belonged to the Dalit community.

Similarly, the report also finds that 60 per cent of child labourers are separated from their families and live with their employers. This leads to various issues of exploitation like long working hours, hazardous working conditions, under-payment or no payment. Financial poverty was cited by more than 91 per cent as the main reason for working, and many parents of the child labourers had very limited or were completely unaware of child rights and child labour. The report outlines the lack of awareness of child labour, the absence of rights and access to quality education for all, extreme poverty, rural-urban disparity, among others, as the major causes of child labour. The report recommends empowering and educating child labourers, providing the adult family members of child labourers with employment opportunities, strengthening child project mechanisms as a way to combat the problem.

Keywords: poverty, education, social vulnerability, child labour, legislation, child protection, rights of children, hazardous working conditions

36. Situation of Child Labor in Pokhara and Lekhnath City: A Study Report on Situation of Child Labor in Pokhara Sub Metro and Lekhnath Municipality

Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH), Pokhara Chamber of Commerce, and Industry Lekhnath Chamber of Commerce and Industry. 2012. Kaski: Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH). https://www.researchgate.net/publication/224934676_Situation_of_Child_Labor_in_Pokhara_Sub_Metro_and_Lekhanath_Municipal_of_Nepal.

The aim of this study is to identify the current situation of child labour in Pokhara Sub-metropolitan City and Lekhnath Municipality of Kaski district to implement interventions strategies to end it. This study uses various tools like rapid survey, detailed interview, consultation with children, and key informants along with review of existing literature to understand the situation of child labour in both the cities. The study found that in both the cities child labourers are mainly prevalent in domestic work, restaurants, and hotels with 58 per cent of child labourers in Lekhnath and 41 per cent of child labourers in Pokhara being below the age of 14. It also revealed various aspects of exploitation from long hours, hazardous conditions, very low or non-payment of wages, poor health conditions. The study also explored the causes of child labour and the majority of the respondents cited poverty as the main factor, followed by possible opportunities to get education. The study revealed that most of the children and parents were unaware about child labour and child rights. The paper also provides several recommendations including development of comprehensive and practically implementable policies and actions, focus on smooth reintegration and rehabilitation of child labourers among others.

Keywords: poverty, education, social vulnerability, child labour, legislation, child protection, rights of children, hazardous working conditions, health impact

37. The Bonded Labour System in Nepal: Musahar and Tharu Communities' Assessments of the Haliya and Kamaiya Labour Contracts

Giri, Birendra Raj. 2012. *Journal of Alternative Perspectives in the Social Sciences*, 4(2): 518-551.

Nepal still has the practice of bonded labour in the forms of *Haliya* and *Kamaiya* systems. Although outlawed by the government, people from various caste/ethnic groups, especially Musahar people are affected by the Haliya system while the Kamaiya system disproportionately affects the Tharu community. Similarly, child bonded labour has become more prominent in recent years with outlawing the practice by the government. This paper uses qualitative tools to examine the practice of bonded labour among children and presents both positive and negative aspects of their daily lives. With interviews with the working children themselves, the paper's finding reveals a more nuanced picture of bonded labour. While the bondage system is inherently exploitative, it also offers some children an opportunity to escape from their poverty-stricken, violent households. The study, while recognising the dangers of the bondage labour system, argues that abolishing it completely will push many children and families further into poverty and vulnerable to other forms of exploitation.

Keywords: poverty, bonded labour, haliya, kamiya, education, social vulnerability, sexual exploitation, gender, physical abuse, social network, livelihood strategy, debt bondage

38. Children Working in the Carpet Industry of Nepal: Prevalence and Conditions. Final report submitted to United States Department of Labor

ICF International. 2012.

<https://ecommons.cornell.edu/bitstreams/2064698a-3410-4954-ad42-552d60c57a2b/download>

This study looks at the widespread presence of working children and the prevalence and nature of child labour among those working children in the export-oriented handmade carpet industry in Nepal in 2008-2009. Using both qualitative and quantitative methods, the research included preliminary qualitative research followed by a cross-sectional sample survey. The survey estimates that in over 714 factories and 15,847 households engaged in Nepal's carpet industry, 10,907 workers are children, and according to Nepal's child labour legislation, the carpet industry is risky (hazardous), so all children working in the carpet industry fall under child labour. The study found that almost all children were overworked and exploited with factory-based children working an average of 11 hours 30 minutes per day. The factory-based working children were also at larger risk of trafficking. The large majority of working children in the carpet industry were working in households and lived with their parents and were mostly girls.

Keywords: carpet industry, child labour, forced labour, physical abuse, hazardous working conditions, overwork, gender

39. Eliminating Child Labour in Nepal: Facts, Figures, Commitments and Action

International Labour Organization. 2012. Kathmandu: International Labour Organization.

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-kathmandu/documents/projectdocumentation/wcms_182777.pdf.

The factsheet presents a compilation of information on child labour, including recent data, legal framework and legislation, national and international commitments, existing institutional mechanisms to combat child labour as well as gaps and challenges along with possible strategies. The paper reports that the drop in child labour in the age group 5-14 on the National Labour Force Survey 2008 grossly overshadows the increase in child labour in the age group 15-17. The factsheet points out the lack of proper legislative and regulatory framework as a major stumbling block in defining hazardous child labour and hence contributing to the increase of children working in sectors like the adult industry, sex industry, street vending, brick making, and so on. The paper suggests that the government also effectively implement the existing laws and policies and develop proper evaluation and monitoring mechanisms, among many other things, to properly address the issue of child labour.

Keywords: child labour, legislation, gender, sexual exploitation, hazardous working conditions, poverty, education, social vulnerability, entertainment industry

40. The Prevalent Practice of Kamaiya Bonded Child Labour in the Mid- and Far-Western Terai of Nepal

Maelanny, Purwaningrum. 2012. Master's thesis submitted to the Faculty of Law, University of Oslo, Norway.

<https://www.duo.uio.no/bitstream/handle/10852/34058/PurwaningrumxMaelannyx8012-HUMR.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y>.

This study attempts to look into the complex nature of the practice of the *kamaiya* bonded child labour system and how various socio-cultural factors contribute to it even today after its abolishment in 2000 by the Government of Nepal. This qualitative study includes interviews and group discussions with free *kamaiya* bonded child labourers, peers, teachers, and community leaders along with a secondary analysis of relevant legal and policy responses. The study found that while the government has legally abolished the bonded labour system, there is a huge gap in the implementation and proper rehabilitation of the freed *kamaiyas*. The widespread poverty, lack of resources, landlessness, education, and more make the *kamaiyas* vulnerable and they resort to bonded child labour for basic sustenance of life. The author also points out that false promises of education, proper living conditions and social acceptance of the practice contribute hugely to the problem.

Keywords: social vulnerability, debt bondage, child labour, forced labour, bonded labour,

education, poverty, government intervention, legislation, hazardous working conditions, sexual exploitation, domestic work, agricultural worker

41. Is Child Labour a Substitute for Adult Labour? The Relationship between Child Labour and Adult Illness in Nepal

Nepal, Apsara and Mani Nepal. 2012. *International Labour Review*, 151(1-2): 109-121.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/j.1564-913X.2012.00137.x>.

This article explores the relationship between adult illness and child labour. It looks specifically at the relationship between child labour and adult illness in the context of Nepal. Using the data from Nepal Living Standard Survey, 2003/04, the research shows that child labour can substitute for adult labour due to various circumstances including financial necessity and the adult falling sick. While many times a child will replace the sick adult by entering the workforce to help the family, sometimes the substitution can also be very indirect. The child may be involved heavily in household chores when the adult working at home enters the workforce to substitute for a sick adult. The authors write that if the cost is less, child labour can substitute for adult labour as well. They recognise factors like healthy adults, higher household incomes, access to good-quality schools, and the number of years adults spend at school as indicators that would help reduce child labour.

Keywords: Nepal Living Standard Survey, child labour, poverty, education, child protection, cost-benefit analysis, econometrics, labour substitution, health

42. A Rapid Assessment of Children Working in Teashops and Restaurants

Sharma, Ram Krishna, Shiva Sharma, and Kapil Gyawali. 2012. Nepal: World Education and Plan Nepal.

https://publications.worlded.org/WEIInternet/inc/common/_download_publication.cfm?id=13984&lid=3.

The report highlights that for over two decades, the issue of child labourers working in various industries in Nepal has been a focal point of policy and programme discussions. This report presents the findings of a rapid assessment conducted to uncover the current situation of child labourers in teashops and restaurants. The study involved households from 10 districts, comprising rural, semi-urban, and urban areas. Within these clusters, all teashops and restaurants were accounted for to gauge the extent of child labour involvement in this sector. The identified child labourers in teashops and restaurants were then interviewed using a structured questionnaire. The assessment team visited a total of 959 teashops and restaurants, ultimately interviewing 239 child labourers. The summary of the findings details, among others, bonded work without pay, excessive hours of work, work at very young age, and risky work. Based on the findings of the report, the report recommends numerous interventions both at macro and micro level.

For instance, poverty alleviation of households accompanied by the educational opportunities, several arrangements from the local government, civil society organisations, innovation strategies through the help of NGO and INGO intervention.

Keywords: child labour, socio-economic situation, child protection, legislation

43. A Rapid Assessment of Children Working in the Domestic Sector

Sharma, Shiva, Ram Krishna Sharma, and Kapil Gyawali. 2012. Kathmandu: National Labor Academy and School of Planning Monitoring Evaluation and Research.

<https://nepal.worlded.org/wp-content/uploads/2014/02/nbnp-ra-domesti-cl.pdf>.

This research looks into the scale and the extent of child labour in the domestic sector, including the conditions, hours of work, workload, and more. The study uses a mixed method of qualitative data collected on the basis of key informant interviews, case studies, and focus group discussions and quantitative data based on small set of surveys. The districts selected for the study were Kathmandu, Makawanpur, Jhapa, Sunsari, Ilam, Kaski, Myagdi, Dang, Banke, and Kailali. The main findings of the research include demographic detail of the child labourers, the wage and standard of living, cases of substance abuse, push and pull factors towards labour, and situation analysis of their working conditions in relation to bondage and long work hours. Majority of the child labourers (75 per cent) reported that possible access to school was the main reason for working. However, the study also found that in a lot of cases, children are forced to choose between being paid for their work or going to school. So only 24 per cent of the child labourers reported being paid and the rest availed of facilities such as food, stay, and education. The report recommends provision of better education opportunities, improved socio-economic condition, banning children below 10 years of age in domestic sector, government encouraging local government, civil society organisations working on issues related to children to declare their areas as a 'child labour free zone', and providing financial and technical support, among others.

Keywords: poverty, domestic work, social protection, education, hazardous working conditions

44. Nepal Country Programme Document 2013-2017

UNICEF Nepal. 2012. Kathmandu: UNICEF Nepal.

<https://tinyurl.com/yf8dduay>.

This programme document features a compilation of country statistics on the status of children in Nepal. It outlines the various country programmes of UNICEF from 2013 to 2017, highlighting the key achievements and challenges of UNICEF through the years. The report shows that while the overall poverty has been decreasing in Nepal for the last half a decade, two-thirds of children still lack basic standard of living, face harmful social norms like child labour, gender-based and sexual violence, trafficking, child mar-

riage, violent discipline, and many more.

Keywords: child labour, child protection, hazardous working conditions, social vulnerability, poverty, education, government intervention, NGO intervention

45. 2011 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor – Nepal

United States Department of Labor. 2012. Washington, DC: US Department of Labor.

<https://www.refworld.org/docid/5065941d13.html>.

This report outlines the progress and challenges faced by the Government of Nepal in eliminating the worst forms of child labour in the year 2011. The report reviews the legal framework on the worst forms of child labour, the status of implementation of laws, government programmes and policies, and social programmes addressing child labour, and concludes that Nepal made very little progress in its attempt to eliminate the worst form of child labour in 2011. The report highlights that there was no efficient implementation of 'Free and Compulsory' educational provisions but working to integrate the children who had previously not attended school. The educational institutes working on this reintegration programme did not receive enough funding despite the allocation by the government. Similarly, due to the lack of lists of hazardous work by the government, many children still work in very risky agricultural work and face commercial sexual exploitation. The report also showed that girls are disproportionately affected by the exploitation of labour, especially being the victim of sexual exploitation. The report recommends the Government of Nepal align its law and regulation with ILO Convention 182, properly allocate resources to implement protective measures against child labour, invest more resources in the implementation of laws and regulations, expand existing reintegration programmes for bonded child labourers, among others, to eliminate the worst forms of child labour.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, worst forms of child labour, government intervention, agriculture work, carpet factory, brick kiln, legislation, sexual exploitation, forced labour

46. Labor Brokerage and Trafficking of Nepali Migrant Workers

Verité. 2012. Verité.

https://verite.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/10/Humanity-United-Nepal-Trafficking-Report-Final_1.pdf.

The purpose of this study is to find out various labour-brokerage networks that take advantage of Nepali migrant workers that are both recorded and unrecorded. It also aims to find out the point where the exploitation takes place within the employment life cycle and also to understand the factors that heighten the susceptibility of migrant workers to exploitation. In-depth field and desk research was conducted in Nepal to collect the data. The study found both formal and informal labour agent networks that take

advantage of Nepali workers. Formal networks are centred on agencies that are legally recognised and are mostly based in Kathmandu as well as on individuals who represent employers from receiving countries in Nepal. These agents work with both registered and unregistered agents in the receiving country, who hire, sponsor, or manage the workers for the duration of their stay in the receiving country. Informally, people go village to village recruiting candidates as a sub-agent for labour brokerage agencies. Majority of Nepali worker's recorded abuses can be attributed to recruitment agencies in Kathmandu or recruiting agents in rural areas. Workers interviewed for this report stated that they did so because of fear of retaliation or of losing their jobs, which would prevent them from being able to pay off debt taken for migration. The report further states that all the components of trafficking and forced labour were present in case of Nepali migrant workers in Israel, Malaysia, and the UAE. The susceptibility for trafficking and forced labour was increased for the Nepali migrant workers who were engaged in the domestic service and construction sector and for those who were undocumented. The report's recommendations include adoption of no-fee recruitment system, ratification of international conventions relating to the rights of migrant workers, better regulation of migration, maintenance of data on returnees, initiating a task force on government corruption in relation to migrant workers, negotiation of bilateral treaties with countries that receive the migrants.

Keywords: human trafficking, policies, recruitment, migration, foreign labour, corruption, receiving countries

47. Forced Labour of Adults and Children in the Agriculture Sector of Nepal: Focusing on Haruwa-Charuwa in Eastern Tarai and Haliya in Far-Western Hills

KC, Bal Kumar, Govind Subedi, and Bhim Raj Suwal. 2013. Kathmandu: International Labour Organization.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/research_file_attachment/Nepal_FL%20of%20Adults%20%26%20Children%20in%20the%20Agriculture%20S.pdf

This report presents the results of the survey on the incidence of forced labour in Nepal. With data collected from 12 districts, seven in the central and eastern Tarai and five in the far-western hills, the study used a three-stage stratified sampling by including two groups, *Haruwa-Charuwa* and *Haliya* and non-*Haruwa-Charuwa* and non-*Haliya*, of households through probability sampling method. The report is part of a series of ten national studies conducted around the world to document the incidence of forced labour. The result of the survey revealed that 12 per cent of the people in the region were affected by forced labour and a third of total working children were engaged in forced labour. Similarly, two-thirds of children under forced labour did not have adequate food compared to 23 per cent of those not in forced labour. The study also showed that almost five per cent of children in forced labour were born in bondage. The report further explores a variety of reasons for parents to allow their children to work, such as supple-

menting the family income, paying off the family debt, and temporarily replacing an adult family member.

Keywords: haruwa, charuwa, haliya, forced labour

48. Child Labor in the Zari Industry: Action Research Report

Laesecke, Anne, Youraj Roka, Jalpa Pradhan, and Shankar Bimali. 2013. World Education and Child Development Society.

https://publications.worlded.org/WEIInternet/inc/common/download_pub.cfm?id=13991&lid=3.

This report outlines the situation of child labourers in the zari industry. Using an action research method, extensive field assessment was done in Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, and Lalitpur to collect data on child labour in zari industries. The findings of the research reveal that the zari industry is one of the most exploitative sectors of child labour where young boys are subject to multiple unacceptable working conditions like long working hours, debt bondage, malnourishment, torture, and exposure to sexual violence within the factory premises. The study also shows that children sometimes tend to be as young as five years old. The research finds three ways in which children are introduced to working in the zari industry. First, through middlemen (*dalals*) who manipulate children to work by telling them that working and gaining skills would increase the prospect of earning rather than going to school. Second, parents, especially in the Muslim community, consider going to school to have very few long-term benefits and believe learning skills to be much more beneficial so send their children to work in these factories. And third, children with one or both missing parents have to take over the work due to extreme poverty to support themselves and their families. The report recommends placing various child protection mechanisms to prevent exploitation, vocational training for rescued child labourers, supporting family livelihoods, advocacy efforts.

Keywords: zari industry, child labour, debt bondage, sexual violence, torture

49. Responding to Cross-border Child Trafficking in South Asia: An Analysis of the Feasibility of a Technologically Enabled Missing Child Alert System

Lannon, John and Edward F. Halpin. 2013. Thailand: Plan and Leeds Metropolitan University.

<https://eprints.leedsbeckett.ac.uk/id/eprint/544/1/RCBCT%20report.pdf>.

The report examines the issue linked to missing children and further explores the phenomenon of child trafficking. The Definition - Exploration - Modelling - Implementation - Review (DEMIR) system approach is used to provide a methodological foundation for feasibility research. The report emphasises that it is taking the form of highly secretive and clandestine trade where the root cause is not precisely identified. However, poverty is considered to be the major 'push' factor. In addition, poor socio-economic conditions,

structural discrimination comprising of class, caste and gender and domestic violence, migration, natural disasters, illiteracy, and vulnerability stemming from lack of awareness are other factors. Whereas ‘pull’ factors are considered to be the existing free market economy, particularly the economic reforms that is accelerating urbanisation, the demand for cheap labour including the demand for young girls for the adult entertainment industry and marriage. The scale of cross-border trafficking between Nepal, Bangladesh, and India makes it impossible for any single country to address it unilaterally. There are NGOs working in the rescue and rehabilitation of trafficked children, but their attempts are limited due to the existing political borders, sovereignty issues, and their own capacities, among others. Accordingly, the report considers the support of police administration for rescue operations as such actions involves known risks. Therefore, it requires the technical infrastructure and government support, including the effective information-sharing between the authorities and NGOs of respective countries. The report’s recommendation includes collaboration with government, especially with the main people in concerned ministries, and other organisations to deeply examine technical alternatives that are available, keeping the resources that are needed and important at regional and country level in order to advocate for the legal changes that are important to address the issue of cross-border trafficking and to promote required capacity building actions to minimise trafficking, among others.

Keywords: child trafficking, poor socio-economic conditions, discrimination, violence

50. Young Carpet Weavers on the Rights Threshold: Protection or Practical Self-determination?

O’Neill, T. 2013. In Hanson, K. and O. Nieuwenhuys (eds) *Reconceptualizing Children’s Rights in International Development: Living Rights, Social Justice, and Translations*. Cambridge: Cambridge University Press.

<https://bitly.ws/3gMZw>.

In this book chapter, by looking into children working in the carpet weaving industry in Nepal, Tom O’Neill examined whether attempts to protect children from exploitative work inadvertently violated their living rights. Through qualitative interviews with carpet-factory managers as well as weavers, along with participant observations in three factories, the author outlined the elaborate process through which handwoven carpets are manufactured, as well as its political economy, and argues that although exploitation and abuse were rampant within the industry, not all the children involved were passive victims. The chapter made the argument that while universal labour and industry standards regarding age limits are necessary, the often-neglected consequences of such standards lead to children being deprived of their right to self-determination and reinforce dependency on institutions, denying children from actively shaping their own future.

Keywords: child labour, carpet weaving, self-determination

51. Child Trafficking in Nepal: Causes and Consequences

Stallard, Roisin. 2013. ChildReach International.

https://www.academia.edu/30004438/Child_Trafficking_in_Nepal_Causes_and_Consequences_Roisin_Stallard.

The study looks at the current situation of child trafficking in Nepal and delves into the causes and consequences of it. The research was carried out in two districts, Nuwakot and Sindhupalchowk, with interviews of 484 people in 86 discussion groups from 22 schools. The research found four major causes of trafficking: high school dropout rate of girls from school, fake documentation, parents sending their children away for foreign employment, and children voluntarily deciding to travel overseas for personal situations. The study also looked into the national and international trafficking prevention mechanisms and their effectiveness. The study examined efforts and works by various NGOs and INGOs in the districts regarding child trafficking prevention. The paper recommends the Nepal government to regulate and improve the open border between Nepal and India to ensure the free movement of people while controlling child trafficking. It also mentions the lack of inclusion of legislation against child trafficking in the country. It recognises non-ratification of UN Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000) as a major stumbling block as many provisions cannot be implemented. The paper recommends implementing a comprehensive definition of trafficking into the existing legal framework so that all forms of trafficking are penalised and also expanding the definition of child according to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child and international standards.

Keywords: child trafficking, poverty, culture of silence, push and pull factors

52. Perceptions of Occupational Safety and Hazards Among Child Laborers in the Domestic Work

Thapa, Nisha and Dyuti Baral. 2013. Kathmandu: World Education.

https://publications.worlded.org/WEIInternet/inc/common/_download_publication.cfm?id=13989&lid=3.

The study explores how children employed in domestic work perceive hazards and the gap between their perceptions and established research findings on hazards. Additionally, it aims to understand the knowledge, attitude, and beliefs surrounding occupational risks within the child labour population. The report proposes that this understanding is crucial for developing intervention initiatives in terms of age effectiveness and culturally appropriate programmes. This small-scale research was carried out using samples of domestic child labourers in Kuponhole, Lalitpur, focused on the children studying in school, with only a few of those not in school. A descriptive and cross-sectional survey design was used for this study. An interviewer administered pre-tested structured questionnaire containing both open- and closed-ended questions. The report identifies the

characteristics of children working as child labourers in the domestic sectors, characteristics of the houses where children lived and worked, duration of employment, work responsibilities, injuries and hazards at work, and general observations on how children perceive work hazards, among others. The report further argues that, despite the recognition and emphasis on physical and psychological risk associated with domestic child labour, excessive workload, long working hours, low pay, and complex relationships with employers are all risk factors that can lead to physical long-term injuries and emotional damage among others.

Keywords: Occupational safety, hazards, child labourers, perceptions, domestic work, domestic servitude

53. Out of the Shadows Child Marriage and Slavery

Turner, Catherine. 2013. London: Anti-Slavery International.

https://www.antislavery.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/01/child_marriage_final-1.pdf.

The study by Anti-Slavery International examines the relationship between child marriage and slavery by reviewing over 50 reports and articles on child marriage. The study postulates child marriage as a shield behind which slavery occurs without any consequences. It talks about the possibility of work performed by the child's spouse as meeting the conditions set out in the ILO Convention on forced labour. The paper also talks about the recognition of the trafficking of children for sexual exploitation as forced labour by ILO regardless of its nature at its initiation, therefore, qualifying child marriage as forced labour. The study, therefore, argues that child marriage should be recognised as forced labour whenever it can be established. The paper also recommends the development of a more comprehensive approach to child marriage and its inclusion within the slavery framework whenever relevant to properly address the issue.

Keywords: poverty, education, sexual abuse, child marriage

54. The Global Slavery Index

Walk Free Foundation. 2013.

http://lft.ee/admin/upload/files/GlobalSlaveryIndex_2013_Download_WEB1.pdf.

Drawing from secondary sources and reports, investigations of non-governmental and international organisations, and journalistic reports that were reviewed by experts with personal knowledge of a country, a region, or an industry, this inaugural edition of the report sheds light on the modern-day practices of slavery (debt bondage, forced marriage, and sale or exploitation of children). The report provides a ranking of 162 countries around the world based on the data collected through representative random sample surveys and other data sources. The rankings of the countries are based on a combined measure of three factors: estimated prevalence of modern slavery by population, a measure of child marriage, and a measure of human trafficking in and out of a

country. Nepal ranks as the fifth worst country in the world, according to the index, and the report states that slavery exists in Nepal through the prevalence of child and forced marriage which is culturally accepted and tolerated. It also notes the absence and weakness of formal child protection systems in the country. The report links the presence of the forced labour system in Nepal to the inequalities present in the country across various ethnic groups and gender. The report argues that the lack of access to basic rights and infrastructure for the members of lower social castes, women, and children multiplies the risks of enslavement. The report highlights that more than 600,000 Nepali children are forced to work in inhumane conditions becoming the victims of sexual exploitation, and forced and enslaved labour. The paper also outlines the government's response to the problem as well as lists its recommendations to address the problems.

Keywords: poverty, education, forced labour, hazardous working conditions, social vulnerability, sexual exploitation, child marriage, domestic work, debt bondage, brick kilns, embroidery work, domestic work

55. Dreams for Sale: The Exploitation of Domestic Workers from Recruitment in Nepal and Bangladesh to Working in Lebanon

Allaw, Saada. 2014. Beirut: KAFA (Enough) Violence and Exploitation and Legal Agenda.

https://idwfed.org/en/resources/dreams-for-sale-the-exploitation-of-domestic-workers-from-recruitment-in-nepal-and-bangladesh-to-working-in-lebanon/@@display-file/attachment_1.

This study studies the process and practices that takes place in the recruitment of migrant domestic workers (MDWs) from Nepal and Bangladesh as well as their living conditions and work in the host country, Lebanon. Using both qualitative and quantitative techniques, 65 semi-structured interviews with Bangladeshi and Nepali workers working in Lebanon in 2013 along with interviews of representatives of placement agencies, Lebanese employers, public officials, private agents, non-licensed brokers, and recruit workers and a survey of 100 MDWs was also conducted. The study found that the majority of the MDWs interviewed as part of this study are victims of practices that are akin to human trafficking and forced labour. Their vulnerability and lack of knowledge is abused by concealing information, providing false information about working and living conditions, not taking consent and more. Together with the sponsorship (*kafala*) system that regulates the MDWs' residency and employment in Lebanon, the end result is the multi-faceted exploitation of the migrant domestic worker.

Keywords: Kafala, exploitation, migrant domestic workers, human trafficking, forced labour

56. Report to the Government of Nepal on the Situation of Human Trafficking: An Exploratory Study

Aronowitz, Alexis A. and Pritha Dahal. 2014.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/271507264_Report_to_the_Government_of_Nepal_on_the_Situation_of_Human_Trafficking_An_Exploratory_Study.

The report uses the Barrier Model, a conceptual framework which examines trafficking as a process, in understanding the challenges of trafficking in Nepal. With interviews of representatives from the Government of Nepal, international/inter-governmental organisations, non-governmental organisations, independent consultants, and personnel from various embassies, the report attempts to identify all the factors which give rise to human trafficking and support its continued existence in Nepal. Using this mapping tool, the Barrier Model seeks to aid the Government of Nepal and its partners in identifying which programmes are in place in addressing the seven nodes which are necessary to creating barriers to preventing human trafficking and aid the victims. The Barrier Model will also help identify in which geographical areas throughout the country programmes are operating. This exercise should be repeated annually to ensure complete and sustainable coverage in anti-trafficking initiatives. The study also recommends the Government of Nepal to make the trafficking laws victim-friendly, review the existing anti-trafficking laws, ensure systematic collection and management of data on trafficking as ways to combat trafficking.

Keywords: Barrier Model, mapping exercise, trafficking process

57. Human Trafficking in Indo-Nepal Border: Causes and Consequences

Bhutia, Sherap and Namrata Rai (Titimus). 2014. *Journal of International Academic Research for Multidisciplinary*, 2(4): 70-77.

<http://www.jiarm.com/MAY2014/paper13152.pdf>.

India, because of its large area, population, and shared land borders with countries like, Nepal, Myanmar, Bangladesh, and Myanmar, has a natural advantage for the exploiters. So this article talks about India occupying a central place in the South Asian economy and being an eye for the traffickers. As a large section of underprivileged people are exploited and there is a constant rise in underground crime of human trafficking, this paper explores the causes of the growing number of cases of human trafficking in Nepal and Bangladesh border and how it affects the host country, India. Reviewing the existing literature on the topic as well as by conducting group discussions, interviews with anti-trafficking NGOs, government officials, and victims, the paper identifies liberal foreign policies with Nepal and Bangladesh and lack of proper checking during incoming and outgoing transit of population as one of the main reasons for the increase in trafficking. Similarly, rampant corruption while issuing identity cards, voter cards, and ration cards is also making it easier for traffickers to create fake identity cards and traffic people.

Many times, due to fake identity cards or lack of authorised cards, anti-trafficking officials also have a hard time identifying victims and helping them. The paper says that with so many loopholes, lack of effective implementation of restrictive policies, many underprivileged children in India and outside are at a greater risk of being trafficked.

Keywords: child trafficking, identity, nationality, border

58. Going Home: The Reintegration of Child Domestic Workers in Nepal

Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH). 2014. Kathmandu: Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH).

<https://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/Going%20Home%20-%20The%20Reintegration%20of%20Child%20Domestic%20Workers%20in%20Nepal.pdf>.

The reintegration of child domestic workers in Nepal is documented in this report. It is a part of a broader three-country study that looks at the reintegration of homeless kids in Mexico and kids in residential care in Moldova. This study was conducted in three districts: Sindhupalchowk, Kavrepalanchowk, and Kathmandu, focusing on children aged eight to 18 years old. The research used various methods such as focus group discussions, semi-structured interviews, and participatory tools like timelines and drawings. The report reveals that poverty and the pursuit of improved education are the primary factors driving children into domestic work in Nepal. Impoverished family conditions, a lack of land or businesses, and a large number of children create limited access to quality education. In addition, the positive incentive for working as a domestic children as per the study is that the children's education fees are paid for and they are fed by the employer, and in some cases, the children are loved and defended by at least one member of the family but this positive aspect is negated by factors such as working for prolonged hours, excessive work, less hours to rest, and isolation. The majority of children decide to leave work and return home because they want to escape the mistreatment they faced from their employers and also because they miss their family and want to reunite with them. The report also reveals that for the majority of children in the study, reintegration has gone well and those who returned back to their parents were able to return back to their normal lives. The recommendations include making the employers aware about the illegality of child domestic labour and the punishments that they could face, broader discussion between parents, children, and those who are responsible for reintegration on how help could be provided for children to return back and stay at home, fund and support CSOs that are involved in this sector, among others.

Keywords: domestic worker, child labour, mistreatment, employer

59. You Get What You Pay For: Schooling Incentives and Child Labour

Edmonds, Eric V and Maheshwor Shrestha. 2014. *Journal of Development Economics*, 111: 196–211. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.jdeveco.2014.09.005>.

The article explores if promoting to attend school can prevent the children from engaging in dangerous forms of child labour. It specifically analyses two interventions by the Nepal GoodWeave Foundation(NGF): i) providing scholarship to cover expenses of school, ii) providing scholarship and an in-kind stipend subject to student's attendance in school, to see if these interventions contributed in preventing the participation of children from engaging in the carpet factories in Kathmandu. The sample size of 660 children was identified by NGF for intervention and through lottery they were divided into three groups—a control group, a scholarship group, and a stipend group who among other things, had attended school within the last 18 months of the study, had not received help in education from NGF or other sponsors, and those who belonged to families that were at higher risk of being involved in child labour. Along with the interventions, administrative data, survey were also used for data collection. The article reveals that the effect of these scholarships and financial support only lasts till the duration of the support. Furthermore, providing financial support to bear the expenses of school does encourage education, but only at the start of the school year, when most of the educational costs are incurred and it does not have much impact on preventing children from engaging in hazardous labour. The article further reveals that the stipend participation seemed to lessen participation of children in carpet weaving, with its biggest effect on girls, reducing their participation by 75 per cent and decreasing their likelihood of failing their grade by 66 per cent.

Keywords: child labour, education, scholarship, carpet weaving

60. Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, 2007: Its Implementation

Forum for Women Law and Development. 2014. Kathmandu: Forum for Women Law and Development.

<http://fwld.org/wp-content/uploads/2016/07/Human-Trafficking-and-Transportation-Control-Act-2007-ITS-IMPLEMENTATION.pdf>.

The report highlights the basic features of the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act 2007. The report also discusses the implementation aspects of the Act. Both open- and close-ended questionnaire were used to conduct interviews with 28 key informants consisting of police officers, court officials, lawyers, and individuals from non-governmental organisations. The report, while recognising the Act as a comprehensive and progressive benchmark legislation, also highlights its failure to provide for effective provisions dealing with the prevention of trafficking by mostly focusing on the prosecution of the crimes. According to the report, challenges in the implementation of the Act relate to the lack of understanding of the nature of human trafficking, lack of resources, obstacles in accessing information regarding the law, and a general lack of standard procedures and guidelines for the implementation of the provisions of the Act. The report also offers a number of recommendations relating mainly to the effective implementation of the Act.

Keywords: human trafficking, model legislation, implementation of law

61. Sex Trafficking and the Sex Trade Industry: The Processes and Experiences of Nepali Women

Gurung, Shobha Hamal. 2014. *Journal of Intercultural Studies*, 35(2): 163-181. DOI: 10.1080/07256868.2014.885415.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/07256868.2014.885415?scroll=top&needAccess=true>.

The article reports that over the past decade there has been an increase in girls' trafficking and sex trade industries in contemporary South Asian nations, particularly in Nepal, India, and Bangladesh. The article using snowball sampling method along with review of secondary sources has gathered socio-economic and demographic information of the trafficked women. The case studies presented are based on focus interviews and individual narrative collection with girls and women who were trafficked and forced to become prostitutes in Mumbai, India. Trafficking of women and girls for sex to brothels in India has been talked about broadly both nationally and worldwide. The article further shows how the intersection of larger structural conditions and micro-level factors has led to trafficking of women and girls. The article has examined the processes and circumstances that led to sex trafficking and the forced prostitution of women, utilising gender, intersectional, and globalisation/transnational perspectives. The article has studied reasons and situations under which women are compelled to get into prostitution as well as the elements that cause them to be vulnerable to sex trafficking. It also explores the way the political economy of Nepal, women's duties and status in Nepali society, gender enculturation and understanding, globalisation, and transnational transactions play a role in trafficking of Nepali people in India

Keywords: migration, globalisation, carpet factory, gendered culture, transnationalism, global networks, sex trafficking, intersectionality, Indian brothels

62. Work Related Injuries and Musculoskeletal Disorders among Child Workers in the Brick Kilns of Nepal

Joshi, Sunil Kumar, Pranab Dahal, Agya Poudel, and Helen Sherpa. 2014. *International Journal of Occupational Safety and Health*, 3(2): 2-7.

<https://doi.org/10.3126/ijosh.v3i2.10271>.

This study intended to identify the health problems faced by the children working in brick kilns in Nepal. This cross-sectional study of children aged 17 years and below included 101 cases and 64 controls in Bhaktapur and 97 cases and 43 controls in Sarlahi. The study finds that a lack of adequate physical infrastructure and poor working conditions with non-existent safety procedures have posed risk to physical, mental, and overall well-being of child workers. It further identifies that work-related physical ailments and discomforts are rampant among the workers in brick industries in Nepal. Musculoskeletal disorder-related pain and discomfort was experienced by 73 per cent

of working children in Bhaktapur and 58 per cent in Sarlahi. It also shows that working children were 8 times more likely to experience trouble or body pain compared to non-working children. The study further reveals that presence of poor physical environment and working conditions and practices has contributed to musculoskeletal injuries and problems, exposing working children to severe risks and health hazards.

Keywords: child labour, poverty, brick kilns, hazardous working conditions, musculoskeletal disorders, health impact

63. Bonded Labour: Tackling the System of Slavery in South Asia

Kara, Siddharth. 2014. New York: Columbia University Press.

This book uncovers the brutal reality of bonded labour in India, Nepal, Bangladesh, and Pakistan, shedding light on the legal, historical, and economic aspects of this reality. This ethnographic research spanning over eleven years shows the failure of abolishment laws and regulations in addressing the problem with bonded labour and describes the cruel treatment of labours in various tea plantations, rice fields, shrimp farms, carpet-making, glass-making, tobacco rolling, stone-cutting, and quarrying and more. The book also draws connections to the supply chain of the products to the consumer of the Global South, presenting a harrowing narrative of how the cycle is perpetuating. Kara's work provides a comprehensive analysis of bonded labour along with its relation to human trafficking, child labour, and global security. He also provided insights into the possible initiatives to combat the system of bonded labour in South Asia.

Keywords: poverty, forced labour, bonded labour, hazardous working conditions, carpet factory, legislation

64. Trafficking in Persons, Especially on Women and Children in Nepal: National Report 2012-2013

National Human Rights Commission. 2014. Kathmandu: National Human Rights Commission.

[https://www.nhrcnepal.org/uploads/publication/Report_of_Trafficking_in_Persons_\(Especially_on_Women_and_Children\)_National_Report_2012-2013-En.pdf](https://www.nhrcnepal.org/uploads/publication/Report_of_Trafficking_in_Persons_(Especially_on_Women_and_Children)_National_Report_2012-2013-En.pdf)

This annual report examines the situation and emerging trends of trafficking in persons (TIP) in Nepal, explore the connection between trafficking and foreign labour migration, monitor the anti-trafficking actions, gauge the law enforcement and judicial responses to trafficking in persons in Nepal, and suggest policies and programmes to fight trafficking in persons. The report finds that although the state of trafficking of persons is worsening, the reporting of crimes and punishment of perpetrators have been limited due to various factors, such as lack of knowledge, lack of trust towards the police, poor or non-existent rehabilitation programme.

Keywords: human trafficking, foreign labour migration, intervention

65. Status of Child Labour in Nepal. Child Labour at Hand Restaurants: A Case Study of Dipayal Silgadi Municipality, Doti

Ojha, Khem Raj. 2014. Master's thesis submitted to Tribhuvan University, Nepal.

<https://elibrary.tucl.edu.np/bitstream/123456789/13889/1/Full%20Thesis.pdf>.

This thesis attempts to identify the causes of child labour and looks into the wage variation between child and adult labour in hotels and restaurants. It brings to light the perceptions of employers about child labour. Data for the study was collected by interviewing 67 child labourers out of 115 labourers within the sample district. Additionally, random interviews with labourers and employers in the study area, along with participant observation, were also conducted. The study finds that poverty and lack of access to education are the main factors behind child labour. While female child labourers are exponentially exposed to sexual harassment, children working in these sectors also lack basic awareness regarding child rights.

Keywords: child labour, education, health impact, social vulnerability, domestic work, child rights

66. 2013 Findings on the Worst forms of Child Labour – Nepal

United States Department of Labor's Bureau of International Labor Affairs. 2014. Washington, DC. US Department of Labor.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/child_labor_reports/tda2013/nepal.pdf.

The country chapter is a compilation of progress and challenges of the Government of Nepal in its efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labour in the country in the year 2013. The government conducted a raid on embroidery factories employing child labourers and rescued 124 children from exploitative labour. In addition, the National Children's Policy, which protects children from physical, mental, and sexual abuse as well as exploitation, was approved during the reporting period. However, the report finds that the lack of compulsory education and legal protections for children ages 16 and 17 still leaves children vulnerable to the worst forms of child labour. Children continue to engage in the worst forms of child labour in dangerous forms of agriculture and commercial sexual exploitation. Resources for enforcement are insufficient and data on enforcement are also lacking. The chapter then details legal framework on worst forms of child labour, the status of enforcement of these laws, and government programmes and policies as well as social programmes on worst form of child labour. The chapter concludes with some suggestions to the government on viable future action.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, worst form of child labour, government intervention, agriculture work, carpet factory, brick kiln, legislation, sexual exploitation, forced labour

67. Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2014, Final Report

Central Bureau of Statistics. 2015. Kathmandu: Central Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF Nepal.

<https://www.unicef.org/nepal/media/486/file/MICS%202014.pdf>.

The Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey 2014 provides data from an equity perspective on women and children by showing disparities by sex, region, area, education, household wealth, and other characteristics. The data for the study is based on the interviews of 12,405 households in 15 sub-regions of the country. The report provides a comprehensive picture of women and children on various aspects—child education, nutrition and breastfeeding, child and maternal mortality, child protection, reproductive health, women’s literacy, and their access to media, among other variables. The data regarding child labour is presented in the section on child protection and shows that 37 per cent of children aged 5–17 years were involved in child labour, with 30 percent working under hazardous conditions. It also revealed that 41 per cent of children from rural areas were involved in child labour compared to 16 per cent from urban areas. Similarly, compared to 36 per cent of children attending school being involved in child labour, 47 per cent of children not attending school were involved in child labour. The study also showed that the relationship between a mother’s education and child labour was negatively correlated, and in Nepal, with the rise in migration, there has been an increase in the female-headed household in which children are not living with their biological mother further increasing their risk of trafficking, child labour, and sexual violence.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, demographic study, child protection, poverty, social vulnerability

68. Preparatory Study for Situational Analysis of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Nepal

CWIN and ECPAT. 2015. Kathmandu and Luxembourg: CWIN and ECPAT.

<https://ecpat.lu/document/preparatory-study-for-situational-analysis-of-commercial-sexual-exploitation-of-children-in-nepal/#::~:~:text=ECPAT%20LUXEMBOURG%20This%20study%20aims%20to%20provide,Commercial%20Sexual%20Exploitation%20of%20Children%20in%20Nepal>.

The report talks about the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in Nepal with the purpose of serving the findings as the basis for the study on ‘Situational Analysis of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Nepal’ at the national level. The study was conducted in Kathmandu, Pokhara, and Nepalgunj, using qualitative methods including 26 semi-structured interviews, 8 focus group discussions, and 33 key informant interviews (KIIs). The study employed purposive/snowball sampling techniques. The study reveals that there are various new types of commercial sexual exploitation of

children that are at nascent stage. Although trafficking of children, sexual exploitation of migrant child workers are still the important forms of CSEC, the growing technology has resulted in the usage of mobile phones, internet, social media in order to make the initial contact with children. Similarly, entertainment sectors such as dance restaurants, cabin restaurants, and massage parlours have become popular venues for trafficking of underage girls from various villages. These establishments are found throughout the Kathmandu Valley, urban areas, local tourist destinations, and transportation routes. In addition to this, children's involvement in adult entertainment stems from various motivations, such as for adventure, to find opportunities, family problems, economic disadvantages, and desire for education. And, those children are initially introduced to sex work through people who are introduced to them by friends and co-workers. The study also finds that age significantly impacts employment in the entertainment sector, with establishments preferring younger girls. As girls reach 30, demand decreases, and they are forced to quit.

Keywords: commercial sexual exploitation of children, adult entertainment industry, economic disadvantages

69. 'We are Looked Down Upon and Rejected Socially': A Qualitative Study on the Experiences of Trafficking Survivors in Nepal'

Dahal, Pranab, Sunil Kumar Joshi, and Katarina Swahnberg. 2015. *Glob Health Action*. DOI: 10.3402/gha.v8.29267.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/26584683/>.

For many trafficking survivors, successful reintegration into Nepali society is very challenging. There are many difficulties and hurdles in being accepted and supported by the community members after returning back. This paper explores the trafficking process, exploitation faced during sexual slavery, and the challenges they encounter in reintegration. This exploratory study uses qualitative methods to understand the process of victimisation of women caused by factors like poverty, illiteracy, lack of opportunities, and various social stigma. The paper identifies deceit, false hopes, and abduction as the most common methods for trafficking and police raids, rescue missions, and personal escape as the way to be free. The reintegration process is marred with isolation, stigma, uncertain livelihood, and lack of opportunities forcing the survivors further into poverty. The paper highlights the risk of (re)entrapment due to this vicious cycle.

Keywords: reintegration, sexual trafficking, stigma, victimisation

70. Kidney Trafficking in Nepal: A Study of Selected VDCs in Kavrepalanchowk District

Forum for Protection of People's Rights Nepal. 2015. Kathmandu: Forum for Protection of People's Rights Nepal.

https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/pbaac456.pdf.

This report provides insight into the kidney trafficking business in Nepal, which has been gaining momentum in the last few years. While it is illegal under Nepal's Human Body Organ Transplantation (Regulation and Prohibition) Act 1998 and Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, 2007 to extract human organs except as otherwise determined by law, several cases of illegal kidney transplantation have been reported in the last few years. This report was prepared by reviewing secondary literature along with interviews and focus group discussions with 36 donors and 206 community members in nine Village Development Committees (VDCs) from Kavrepalanchowk. While USAID's Combating Trafficking in Persons (CTIP) programme had been documenting cases related to the sale of kidney transplantation in the area, the legal and social challenges made it hard to determine if these cases could be categorised as organ trafficking. This also severely limited the amount of research conducted to see the connection between exploitation, deception, and trafficking. This study reported that most of the victims of kidney trafficking were from the poorest and the most marginalised sections whose vulnerability was exploited through fraud and deception by brokers. They were also sometimes not compensated as promised, and none of the victims' lives were improved economically through the payment. The study also revealed that many trafficking victims felt stigmatised by their families and communities, making them feel isolated and rejected. It also showed that the existing legal framework is not effective in addressing the kidney trafficking problem.

Keywords: Human organ trafficking, kidney, poverty

71. Sex Trafficking in Kathmandu's Entertainment Sector: Summary of Literature Review

Free the Slaves. 2015. Free the Slaves.

<https://freetheslaves.net/wp-content/uploads/2016/02/Kathmandu-Entertainment-Lit-Review-Dec-2015-PUBLIC.pdf>

This summary of the literature review covers major outlines of numerous literatures. It primarily touches on the research and reporting on human trafficking in Nepal, focussing mainly on trafficking in persons from Nepal to other countries. The summary argues that the large entertainment industry in Kathmandu and its ability to lure vulnerable people seeking employment and a better life that resulted in internal trafficking was largely ignored. After the 2015 earthquakes when many lost their livelihood and social protection and also due to the impact that the earthquakes had on the entertainment industry in Kathmandu, many became vulnerable to sexual exploitation and external trafficking. Studies have found that the entertainment and sex industry in Kathmandu have also served as 'training grounds' for many female workers to prepare them for Gulf countries and other destinations. The literature concludes by pointing out the lack of information and resources with regard to the situation of internal trafficking in Nepal and exploitation in the entertainment industry of Kathmandu.

Keywords: migration, poverty, policy, social protection system, exploitation, entertainment industry

72. Measuring Children's Work in South Asia: Perspectives from National Household Surveys

Khan, Sherin, and Scott Lyon. 2015. New Delhi: International Labour Organization.

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---sro-new_delhi/documents/publication/wcms_359371.pdf.

As child labour continues to plague South Asia, this report provides insight into the nature and extent of child labour and employment in South Asian countries. This comprehensive report brings together the data available from 2005/2006 to 2011/12 from national household surveys in the seven South Asian Countries. The report also highlights inconsistencies across the countries and highlights the gap in the statistical survey. The report estimates that there are 16.7 million (5- to 17-year-olds) children in child labour in South Asia, and of these 10.3 million are in the 5- to 14-year age range. In Nepal alone, there are an estimated 2 million child labourers within the 5-17 age range. Also, among South Asian countries with data, children in Nepal face the highest risk of being in child labour with over one-quarter (26 percent) of all 5- to 17-year-olds engaged in child labour. The report also argues that girls are particularly vulnerable to the negative impacts of child labour and they constitute a majority of the children in some of the most dangerous forms of child labour, including forced and bonded labour, commercial sexual exploitation, and domestic work outside of their home. And that rural children are generally more likely to be employed and less likely to be in school. The report ends with some policy recommendations and a way forward to mitigate these troubling findings. *Keywords:* child labour, hazardous working conditions, poverty, education, brick kilns, sexual exploitation, gender, forced labour, bonded labour, debt bondage, domestic work, social vulnerability, statistics

73. Factors Associated with Underweight among Children of Former-Kamaiyas in Nepal

Khatri, Resham B, Shiva R. Mishra, Vishnu Khanal, and Bishnu Choulagai. 2015. *Frontiers in Public Health*, 3(11). DOI:

[10.3389/fpubh.2015.00011](https://doi.org/10.3389/fpubh.2015.00011).

This study aimed to identify the factors associated with underweight-ness among the children of former *Kamaiyas*. This cross-sectional study was carried out in former *Kamaiya* families living in Banke district, through interviews with mothers of 280 children under 5 years of age. The height and weight of the children were also measured for the study. The study found that of the total children, 41.4 per cent were underweight, 55.7 per cent were stunted, and 18.6 per cent were wasted. It also revealed that female chil-

dren are more likely to be underweight than male children. The data showed that the children of former Kamaiya had a higher rate of underweight, stunting, and wasting than the national average. The paper recognised the overall poor socio-economic condition of the population as the major reason for the high rate of under-nutrition. Due to poverty, many children do not get the required amount of food, hampering their overall growth. The paper puts the situation of the children to be dire and recommends the government take swift action as soon as possible.

Keywords: forced labour, kamaiya, health impacts, nutrition, family of forced labourers, debt bondage, malnutrition, stunting, wasting

74. Trafficking of Women and Girls in Nepal: Study on Trends following the 2015 Earthquake

Pragya. 2015. Haryana, India: Pragya.

https://pragya.org/assets/images/publications_media/Publishing-Pragya_Trafficking_Nepal.pdf.

The everyday violence against women and girls at the household level tends to increase with economic and social crises and even political strife. This report highlights the spike in the crimes and abuses against women and girls after the earthquake of 2015. Reviewing various secondary literature and primary data collected from specific locations, this report attempts to identify patterns related to violence against women and girls in Nepal. The report found that gender-based violence, especially trafficking, has increased significantly after the earthquake. It also recognised discrepancies in various provisions against women constitutionally as well as the general attitude of discrimination as the major cause for the violence against women. The report recommends addressing gender inequality socially and structurally along with a special focus on earthquake- or crisis-affected households as major ways to address the problem.

Keywords: trafficking of women and girls, earthquake, structural discrimination, gender-based violence

75. The Lucrative Business of Children: A Study of Child Trafficking in Nepalese Orphanages

Saxe-Smith, Mira. 2015. *Independent Study Project (ISP) Collection*.

https://digitalcollections.sit.edu/isp_collection/2089.

This paper provides an overview of how orphanage-volunteer tourism has been negatively impacting the communities in Nepal. The report particularly focuses on the orphans themselves and their families who become subjected to various degrees of manipulation, deceit and abuse due to this industry. The study is centred on Kathmandu, and the information is collected through interviews with individuals associated with various non-governmental organisations, people involved in tourism, orphanages, and

child trafficking along with review of existing literature, media articles, laws and policies and related reports. The paper argues that the psychology behind such proliferation of orphanage ‘voluntourism’ in Nepal is something to be understood. It ends with the claim that such profiteering business is neither self-sustaining nor ethical, hence the volunteers should rather focus on undertaking such jobs at their own local orphanages than in Nepal.

Keywords: orphanage-volunteer tourism, child trafficking

76. Sex Trafficking Related Knowledge, Awareness, and Attitudes Among Adolescent Female Students in Nepal: A Cross-sectional Study

Shrestha, Roman, Pramila Karki, Asha Suwal, and Michael Copenhaver. 2015. PLoS One, 10(7): e0133508. DOI: 10.1371/journal.pone.0133508.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC4503642/>.

The study looks into the knowledge, awareness, attitudes, and factors regarding sex trafficking among the adolescent female students. This cross-sectional study among 292 adolescent female students with more than 10 years of age, was carried out between August to September in 2013, employing systematic random sampling from three high schools in Sindhupalchowk district of Nepal. Descriptive analyses were used to characterise the data in the first stage and multivariate logistic regression analyses were employed to explore factors connected to sex-trafficking awareness and associated attitudes. The study finds that 76 per cent of the students were aware of sex trafficking. About 95 per cent of the students stated that the media was the main source of their knowledge while 51 per cent of the students indicated that relatives/friends were the mediators of sex trafficking. Similarly, 60.4 per cent reported that victims were allured by the promise of better jobs. 48.6 per cent mentioned that adolescent females were the most vulnerable to sex trafficking. The findings from this study can be very helpful in designing anti-trafficking programmes, especially those designed to educate most at-risk, adolescent girls. It can also be a foundation for the development of behavioural change programmes to change the attitudes of adolescent girls towards sex trafficking.

Keywords: human trafficking, attitudes, awareness, knowledge, young girls

77. In Search of Pathways out of Poverty: Mapping the Role of International Labour Migration, Agriculture and Rural Labour

Sunam, Ramesh. 2015. *Journal of Agrarian Change*, 17(1): 67-80.

<https://DOI.org/10.1111/joac.12136>.

Rural poverty is one of the most critical issues of the Global South. There are multiple debates about the best possible ways to address it. While most research focuses on developing a diverse portfolio of agricultural and non-agricultural activities, some others suggest that their adverse incorporation into the local and international labour market

does not do much for them. This paper explores the ways the rural poor access foreign migration, farming, and labour as well as the reasons for some rural poor being able to escape poverty while others cannot. In this mixed method research, 54 in-depth interviews were conducted with farmers, labourers, migrants, village leaders, and other key informants such as local politicians, NGO workers, and teachers. Some of the major findings of the paper were that as poor people are not a homogeneous group but belong to different castes, genders, and ethnicities, their experiences and mobility differed due to these factors as well. Almost two-thirds of the rural families were able to escape poverty by diversifying their occupations with a family member going for foreign labour migration and others continuing agriculture. But one-third of the people, usually the ones that had to sell their land or get loans for foreign employment, were pushed further into poverty when they had to return home due to unfavourable circumstances.

Keywords: agriculture, forced labour, poverty, migration, social vulnerability, education, poverty reduction

78. Human Trafficking in Nepal: Changing Dimensions

Thapa, Palita. 2015. *Asian Journal of Women's Studies*, 21(4): 450-459.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/abs/10.1080/12259276.2015.1106859>.

Nepal has been one of the hotspots for human trafficking, with it being a source country, transit, and destination of trafficking. While historically, women and girls have been trafficked, there has also been an increase in trafficking of men and boys in recent years. The paper recognises poverty, domestic and gender-based violence, instability, social exclusion, harmful social norms, corruption, and lack of strong legal framework as some of the major reasons for the increase in human trafficking. The paper identifies sexual exploitation, foreign labour exploitation, bonded labour and servitude, trafficking of children and exploitation, organ trafficking, and child marriage as the major forms of trafficking in Nepal. The paper also outlines the role of government, national and international organisations, and others in combating human trafficking. While the paper acknowledges the efforts by the Government of Nepal in combating trafficking, it points out that it is not enough and there needs to be more effective implementation of the plans and policies. Similarly, the paper recommends a definition of trafficking by the Nepal government to align with the United Nations to include all forms of trafficking as well as strong coordination between various national and international agencies to combat the problem.

Keywords: sexual exploitation, migration, foreign employment, trafficking

79. Indentured Servitude to Post-Freedom Predicament: A Study of Oppression of Young Tharu Kamlari Women of Dang, Nepal

Basnet, Bhakta Bahadur. 2016. MPhil dissertation submitted to The Arctic University of Norway.

<https://munin.uit.no/bitstream/handle/10037/10174/thesis.pdf?sequence=2&isAllowed=y>.

This dissertation examines the difficult situation faced by Tharu *Kamlari* women, who were previously victims of bonded slavery that existed in the Dang district of western Nepal, following their emancipation in 2013. The life stories of young *Kamlari* women during their years of slavery as well as their experiences following their release from slavery are presented and analysed in this study. Multi-sited ethnographic approach is used in this study, collecting primary data through focus group interviews, interviews, and observation. The dissertation finds that *Kamlaris* were treated like commodities, and even after their freedom, their situation has not improved as expected. Because economic inequality is pervasive, *Kamlari* system continues to function behind closed doors.

Keywords: forced labour, *kamlari*, bonded labour, debt bondage, social vulnerability, poverty, gender, intersectionality

80. Street Children in Butwal Municipality: A Case Study

Bhusal, Shivalal. 2016. *Tribhuvan University Journal*, (29)1: 191-202. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.3126/tuj.v29i1.25969>.

This article reviews the condition of street children in Butwal Municipality. Data for the study was collected from the street children in Butwal Municipality. Contact was made directly with the street children on the street centres, market places, bus park and stations of those locations. Interviews and field observations were carried out to know the situation of street children in Butwal Municipality and FGDs with street children and their parents were also conducted in order to collect information. Seventy-two street children between ages 6 to 18 years were contacted and among them, interviews were taken with 68 children in various places of Butwal Municipality. The study found that most street children came from displaced poor families and from slums and squatter areas. Also, most street children were involved in rag-picking and other common jobs like collecting firewood, begging, street vending, working in hotels, domestic labour, and prostitution. The paper also argues that street children are individuals who have their own experience and life stories; hence, programmes and policies must be planned cautiously in order to meet specific needs. Finally, the paper recommends that preventive programmes and policies are needed to deal with the social and economic factors that make children leave their homes.

Keywords: street children, poverty, education, social vulnerability, hazardous working conditions, exploitation

81. 2015 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor – Nepal

Bureau of International Labor Affairs. 2016. Washington, DC. US Department of Labor. https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/child_labor_reports/tda2015/Nepal.pdf

The report brief is an overview of Nepal's moderate progress towards ending the worst forms of child labour in the country in 2015. The report states that in 2015, the Ministry of Labour and Employment began an initiative to carry out monitoring visits at 100 establishments in formal and informal sectors where child labour is more common without any announcement. Similarly, 22 Child Protection Officers and 53 Child Protection Inspectors were also appointed by the Ministry of Women, Children, and Social Welfare to examine and manage cases that involve children's rights violations. Government agencies after the earthquake of 2015 also took actions to minimise the susceptibility of children to human trafficking. However, the report ascertains that despite all these efforts, children involved in the worst form of labour including commercial sexual exploitation, children involved in dangerous tasks in various sectors, particularly brick production is still very much prevalent in Nepal. The report finds that the lack of compulsory education and legal protections for children ages 16 and 17 still leaves them vulnerable to the worst forms of child labour. The budget allocated by the Department of Labour and other resources such as labour inspectors, trainings available are still inadequate to implement the laws on labour, including child labour. The brief concludes with some suggestions to the government like ratifying the Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons, eradicating hindrances to education, providing adequate resources to collect and publish information on labour law implementation actions.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, worst form of child labour, government intervention, agriculture work, carpet factory, brick kiln, legislation, sexual exploitation, forced labour

82. Women Migration to Gulf Countries and Vulnerability of Trafficking

Chapagain, Jaya Shor. 2016. *Sambahak, Human Rights Journal*, 1: 67-76.

https://www.nhrcnepal.org/nhrc_new/doc/newsletter/Human_Rights_Journal_Sambahak.pdf

During the time of conflict and economic crisis, migration might occur out of one's own will or be forced, it might be regular or irregular. Migrant workers are considered as one of the major drivers of development in many countries across the globe. On a micro level, it helps to lower poverty, reduce malnutrition, improving health facilities and help children to receive quality education in the family. However, it has made it difficult to protect the rights of women migrant workers because they are often subjected to various types of abuses such as torture, forced labour, slavery, forced pregnancy, rape and death. Human value and labour rights are disregarded by the *Kafala* system that exists in GCC countries. *Kafala* gives the employer complete power and authority over

the mobility of the worker; employees are not even able to change jobs or leave the country without employer's permission. Nepal government should create mechanisms to protect the migrant labourers in Nepal as well as in the country of destination. Laws protecting migrant workers like those pertaining to agent fees, overtime compensation, working hours, communication, holidays, and grievance mechanisms are disregarded by both Nepal and the receiving countries. Additionally, labour attaches are needed to manage labour in accordance with Foreign Employment Act, 2007 in the country of destination countries and certain elements such as Sections 19, 22 and 24 of this Act have to be closely reviewed and implemented in order to ensure bank payments, using Nepali airports only, and free of cost to migration.

Keywords: Kafala, remittance, abuses, Foreign Employment Act

83. The State of Children in Nepal 2016

Government of Nepal. 2016. Lalitpur: Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Central Child Welfare Board.

<https://www.ccwb.gov.np/uploads/Resource/CCWB%20Publication/report/state%20report%202073%20.pdf>

This annual report comprises data and legal information on the situation of children in Nepal in the year 2016. It has been prepared on the basis of the updates, information, and activities regarding children of the fiscal year 2015/16, collected from various sources. A wide range of topics, including children's status, demographic data, and laws and legislation enacted for their welfare are covered by the report. Citing the national report 2013-2015 of the National Human Rights Commission, the report states that there are 13,715 children in Kathmandu Valley and 14,618 children outside the valley employed in the brick production industry. The report further states that poverty, debt, relatively cheap labour, labour shortage due to mass out-migration of working population are some of the root causes of child labour in Nepal. It ends with the various government actions focusing on improving the situation of child labourers in the country.

Keywords: child labour, brick kilns, legal information

84. Trafficking Survivors Return Home: Case Study of Nepal

Gozdziaik, Elzbieta M. 2016. USA: Institute for the Study of International Migration, Georgetown University.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/305640027_Trafficking_Survivors_Return_Home_Case_Study_of_Nepal

This report attempts to understand the overall experiences of trafficking survivors after their return to their homes, to answer the questions like people who return back, how they return, is the situation same as the one that made them to be trafficked, needs like education, work, mental and physical health, if they get facilities that will help them

to blend in the society, stigmas that are prevalent especially for the victims of sexual exploitation and abuse, the threats for being re-trafficked, and the degree to which there is pervasiveness of being re-trafficked. The report is driven by the rigorous literature review and field work in Kathmandu done in December 2015. Two FGDs with female survivors of trafficking, in-depth interviews with IOM representatives and many NGOs helping the returned victims were done. Informal talks and participation observation were also conducted with the labour migrants travelling from Kathmandu to Dubai and from Doha to Kathmandu. The report is developed upon earlier field research done in 2010 and 2013 in Tarai and Kathmandu and the data collected during that time has also been included in it. The report finds that families and communities stigmatise women who were trafficked for sexual exploitation. It puts a spotlight on stigma as a hindrance to reintegration. The paper stresses that whether the identity of returned women is kept confidential or revealed has a significant impact on the discrimination and social rejection that women trafficking victims face from the society. The report ends with recommendation for funders and managers of programmes and includes suggestions like helping government to enforce national and international laws relating to re-establishment of trafficking survivors, focusing on giving technical support and building capability of the local government and local NGOs, forming coordination and information-sharing instruments, emphasising more on vocational trainings, employment, and income generation, etc.

Keywords: human trafficking, victims, survivors, stigma, reintegration

85. 'Our Time to Sing and Play': Child Marriage in Nepal

Human Rights Watch. 2016. USA: Human Rights Watch.

https://www.hrw.org/sites/default/files/report_pdf/nepal0816_web.pdf.

The study reviews the situation of child marriage in Nepal, emphasising on its prevalence, causes, and consequences. Research was conducted in 14 districts —Banke, Bara, Chitwan, Gorkha, Kailali, Kathmandu, Morang, Nawalparasi, Rupandehi, Saptari, Sarlahi, Sindhupalchowk, Siraha, and Sunsari of Nepal in March, April, and September 2015. Interviews were conducted with 149 respondents, with the majority of them being married children and young adults who got married when they were children. The study finds that child labour, poverty, lack of education access, lack of food, love marriages, etc. are some factors that drive child marriage. Similarly, early pregnancy, health issues due to early pregnancy, ending of education, sexual and domestic violence, etc. are some consequences of child marriage. The study states that one of the effects of child marriage is child labour, emphasising that having to work was the most common reason the married child gave for not going to school to study. The report also cites that girls represent 60 per cent of children that are engaged in dangerous work and they have higher chances of working as compared to boys (48 percent versus 36 percent). This is seen to hold in the case of child marriage, since a daughter-in-law is usually viewed as

a free domestic worker as well as to girls who did love marriages as they spoke of their husbands' parents pressurising their son to get a bride to do the household works. The report further states that it is girls and women who usually fulfil all or majority of the domestic worker's responsibility in their house by doing works like cleaning, cooking, washing clothes, fetching water, caregiving, and other works that are usually unpaid, time-taking, and underappreciated. The report's recommendations include making sure that the national laws align with the international standards and rights on child marriage, reforming national law forbidding child marriage, increasing awareness laws on child marriage and the effect of child marriage.

Keywords: child labour, child marriage, child protection, hazardous working conditions, social vulnerability, poverty, education, domestic work

86. Checkpoints for Companies: Eliminating and Preventing Child Labour

International Labour Organization. 2016. International Labour Organization.

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/---publ/documents/publication/wcms_456960.pdf.

This document consists of all the texts of the mobile app named Checkpoints for Companies Eliminating and Preventing Child Labour. The app was developed by the ILO to foster rights at work, support decent work opportunities, improve social protection, and strengthen dialogue on work-related issues. The document has 18 checkpoints altogether which have been segregated into six categories. Every checkpoint offers best practice recommendations to take action against child labour.

Keywords: child labour, companies, checkpoints, safety

87. Manav Bechbikhan Tatha Wosarpasar Niyantran Ain, 2064 ra yesko Karyan-bayanmaa Dekhiyekaa Samasya Haru

Kunwar, Tek Narayan. 2016. *Sambahak, Human Rights Journal*, 2: 114-137.

https://www.nhrcnepal.org/uploads/publication/Nepal_NHRC_Human_Rights_Journal_Sambahak_Vol2.pdf.

This article talks about the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, 2064 and the problems that are seen in its implementation. The article summaries the scenario of human trafficking in the context of Nepal and then goes on to explaining the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, 2064 and its implementation. The context of effective implementation of the act, definition, crime and the punishment, existing legal difficulty in defining the accused, about forcing people into prostitution, punishment for human trafficking and transportation, confidentiality of complainant and the informant, the context of proving the statement, arrangement regarding rescue, reintegration and reconciliation, protection of the witness, problem in determining the punishment, etc. has been explained in the article. The article ends with the recommen-

dation to enhance the laws to protect the rights of the victims of trafficking.

Keywords: Human trafficking, Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, punishment

88. Trafficking in Persons: National Report 2015/2016

National Human Rights Commission. 2016. Kathmandu: National Human Rights Commission.

https://nhrcnepal.org/uploads/publication/TIP_National_Report_2015_2016.pdf.

The report aims to examine the situation and emerging trends of trafficking in persons in Nepal, explore the connection between trafficking and foreign labour migration, monitor the anti-trafficking actions, gauge the law enforcement and judicial responses of TIP in Nepal, and suggest suitable policies and programmes to fight trafficking in persons. The report finds that around 23,200 people were victims of trafficking. Among them 6,100 were trafficked, 13,600 were victims of attempted trafficking, and the whereabouts of 3,900 were still not clear. Among the victims of trafficking, 98 per cent were female and 50 per cent were children. However, only few cases were reported to the authorities and even less reached courts. Many, mostly female, continue to be exploited in the entertainment industry in Kathmandu.

Keywords: human trafficking, foreign employment, adult entertainment industry, prosecution, rehabilitation, institutional reform

89. The Mental Health of Sexually Trafficked Female Survivors in Nepal

Rimal, Retina and Chris Papadopoulos. 2016. *International Journal of Social Psychiatry*, 62(5):487-495.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/0020764016651457>.

The report aims to study the prevalence of depression, anxiety, and post-traumatic stress disorder (PTSD) symptoms and their explanatory factors among female sex trafficking survivors who are supported and provided shelter by two non-governmental organisations (NGOs) in Nepal. Sixty-six female sex trafficking survivors were selected using purposive sampling. Similarly, Hopkins Symptoms Checklist-25 was used to measure the symptoms of anxiety and depression and PTSD Checklist Civilian Version was used to measure the symptoms of PTSD. As per the article, the sample as a whole had scores over the limit scale of 87 per cent, 85.5 per cent, and 29.7 per cent for anxiety, depression, and PTSD respectively. Long workday and HIV-positive status during the trafficking period is found to be substantially linked with at least one outcome measure. The findings provide more evidence of the harm caused by sex trafficking to the victims, especially in terms of their likelihood of developing clinical depression and/or anxiety. Continuous efforts and effective as well as prompt interventions are required in order to prevent trafficking.

Keywords: sex trafficking, mental health, depression, anxiety, depression

90. Environmental and Occupational Pollutants and Their Effects on Health among Brick Kiln Workers

Sanjel, Seshananda, Steven M. Thygerson, Sanjay N. Khanal, and Sunil Kumar Joshi. 2016. *Open Journal of Safety Science and Technology*, 6: 81-98.

DOI: [10.4236/ojsst.2016.64008](https://doi.org/10.4236/ojsst.2016.64008).

Through a review of existing literature, the paper sought to determine the various health problems and occupational risk factors faced by brick-kiln workers in Nepal. The authors noted that brick-making was mostly prevalent in Bhaktapur and Sarlahi districts. The authors also highlighted that the literature suggesting that workers in brick kilns included children under the age of 17. The review also found that those working in brick kilns, both adults and children alike, were exposed to harsh working and living conditions which often lead to injuries, discomfort, and acute pain. The paper also discussed the various long- and short-term health impacts endured by workers, from heat stress and malnutrition, to respiratory issues and musculoskeletal problems stemming from repetitive movements. The review also noted the high likelihood of injuries from lacerations to bruises from dropped bricks.

Keywords: brick kiln emissions, occupational exposure, respiratory problems, musculoskeletal disorders

91. Protecting Children in Brick Kilns: Stories of Children and their Families

Save the Children Nepal. 2016. Kathmandu: Save the Children Nepal.

<https://nepal.savethechildren.net/sites/nepal.savethechildren.net/files/library/Brick%20klinlow.pdf>.

The report is a compilation of narratives of relevant stakeholders, former child labourers in brick kilns and brick kiln owners, whose lives were impacted by the project interventions. The narrative takes the form of testimonials. It briefs about the project 'Protection of Children Working in Brick Kilns in Nepal' (November 2013– October 2016), which was a three-year project funded by Save the Children and Comic Relief and was implemented in three districts Bhaktapur, Ramechhap, and Kavrepalanchowk in partnership with Child Development Society (CDS) with the aim to help eradicate child labour from brick kilns in Nepal. The project also aimed to provide families with poor economic conditions in the three districts with alternate sources of income so that they can remain in the village and children can finish their education. It also advocates for policies and legislation to enhance the working and living conditions of workers at the brick kilns.

Keywords: child labour, brick kilns, hazardous working conditions, non-governmental organisations, NGO intervention, education, livelihood strategies, poverty

92. Trafficking in Persons Report: Nepal

US Department of State. 2016. Washington, DC: US Department of State. 281-283.

<https://2009-2017.state.gov/documents/organization/258876.pdf>

The report states Nepal as a Tier 2 Country. Nepal is considered a country whose government does not fully meet the (US) Trafficking Victims Protection Act's minimum standards but is making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards. The report states that Nepal is a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children who are victims of sex trafficking. The report emphasises how the susceptibility of people of Nepal increased since the earthquake in April 2015. It also points out that some government officials may have assisted the trafficking by including false information in the passports and other documents of people in return for bribes. Although the Government of Nepal does not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking, it is making significant efforts to do so. The government continued to prosecute offenders, raise awareness, adopt migration guidelines, and develop policy to reduce the financial burden on Nepali migrants. However, the government's effort to identify and protect the victims is still insufficient. The recommendations offered by the report include strengthening and increasing investigations, prosecutions, and convictions; opposing all forms of trafficking; enforcing victim witness protection provision of the related Act; implementing low-cost recruitment policy; ensuring victims are not punished for unlawful acts; lifting bans on female migration; and ratifying the 2000 UN TIP Protocol.

Keywords: human trafficking, policies, prosecution, trafficking victims, earthquake

93. Child Labour in Nepal: A Case Study of Lower Caste Children Involved in Brick Kilns of Kathmandu Valley

Pokhrel Bhattarai, Indira. 2017. University of Helsinki, Finland.

<https://helda.helsinki.fi/items/5652be2f-5ebf-4143-824b-7e6aa8cea372/full>

The paper attempts to find the causes of engagement of children from lower castes in labour activities. It also delves further into the sub-caste of these children from lower-caste, their physical working situations in brick kilns, the ways in which these children are exploited in their workplace, and the factors that encourage them to perform their jobs precisely. The study was based in three districts: Kathmandu, Bhaktapur, and Lalitpur of Kathmandu valley. A total of 60 respondents were included for the study with 10 from two brick kilns each in each district were taken using the purposive sampling method. Furthermore, surveys, interviews and observations were conducted with those 60 respondents in order to gather primary data. The paper finds that it is poverty that makes children from the lower caste get involved in brick kilns. Additionally, these children are offered advance payment by the owners/naikes of the brick kilns that tempts them to engage in the brick-kilns works. The paper further states that the caste discrimination that exists in society where they work for very little pay or even have to work for

free is another reason that makes these children engage in the brick-kilns sector.

Keywords: brick kilns, lower caste, poverty

94. Turning People into Profits: Abusive Recruitment, Trafficking and Forced Labour of Nepali Migrant Workers

Amnesty International. 2017. London: Amnesty International Ltd.

<https://www.amnesty.org/en/documents/asa31/6206/2017/en/>.

This report highlights how Nepali migrant workers are subject to routine exploitation at various stages of the migration cycle in the face of failure to implement policies and enforce legal frameworks designed to protect the migrants. Over 14 months in 2016/17, the researchers interviewed 127 prospective and returnee migrants from eight districts, 22 private recruitment agency officials and four village-level agents, government officials from 18 districts, 11 national officials and representatives of the Nepali Embassy in Malaysia. The report finds that Nepali migrant workers are routinely subjected to exploitation through the manipulation of recruitment debts, confiscation of identity documents, and deprivation of work contracts and receipts. Starting from the exploitation by the recruitment agencies, many migrant workers suffer a wide range of human rights abuses during their time abroad and are mostly unable to benefit from legal remedies upon return. The government has not been able to fully enforce domestic legislation and policies, and the legal and institutional fragmentation pose further challenges in ensuring protection of migrant workers. The report's recommendations include, among others, full operationalisation of free-visa free-ticket policy, stronger implementation of the related legislation, improved access of the workers to the Migrant Worker Welfare Fund, application of rights-based approach to labour migration issues, ensuring treatment of migrant workers in accordance with the international labour standards.

Keywords: labour migration, free-visa free-ticket policy, exploitation, social protection system, access to justice, legal remedy

95. Her Freedom, Her Voice: Insights from the Freedom Fund's Work with Women and Girls

Bailey, Chloé. 2017. UK and US: The Freedom Fund.

https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/FF_WOMENANDGIRLS.pdf.

The report draws lessons from Freedom Fund-supported interventions in the area of human trafficking and exploitation, particularly of women and girls. The report reveals that women and girls are more likely to be affected by exploitative conditions, and thus effective strategies to address gender dimensions become relevant. The report also highlights some of the mechanisms that have been used by the Freedom Fund-supported interventions in addressing the issue of trafficking. Interventions include awareness-raising activities that keeps women at the centre, strengthening of women and girls'

‘agency’ to influence and make decisions relating to their lives, creation of peer groups of adolescent girls in order to build their confidence to challenge social and cultural norms, community engagement programmes, rescue women and girls from situation of slavery, provide mental health support, support women and girls to achieve leadership role in their societies. The report also identifies a future course of action in the form of the need to connect frontline efforts with national and regional movements, work with men and boys to change discriminatory behaviour, invest in civil society capacity and female leadership, and identify effective forms of economic support.

Keywords: migration, migrant workers, human rights, women and girls, trafficking, restitution, leadership, policy intervention, mental health, community engagement

96. 2016 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor – Nepal

Bureau of International Labor Affairs. 2017. Washington, DC: US Department of Labor.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/child_labor_reports/tda2016/Nepal-2016Report.pdf

The report brief is an overview of Nepal’s moderate progress towards ending the worst forms of child labour in the country in 2016. The report states that the Nepal government agreed to carry out its first nationally representative survey studying forced labour among child workers and adults. Similarly, a training curriculum that incorporated a child labour component, and the Green Flag Movement campaign, was formed and implemented by the Nepal Police and was extended to five more wards. However, the report ascertains that despite all these efforts, children involved in the worst forms of labour including commercial sexual exploitation, children involved in dangerous tasks in various sectors, particularly brick production, is still very much prevalent in Nepal. The budget allocated by the Department of Labour and other resources such as labour inspectors and training available are still inadequate to implement the laws on labour, including child labour. Additionally, policy addressing all relevant types of child labour, including dangerous forms of child labour is still lacking. The brief concludes with some suggestions to the government like ratifying Palermo Protocol on Trafficking in Persons, eradicating hindrances on education, eradicating hindrances to education for children with disability, providing adequate resources to collect and publish information on labour law implementation actions.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, worst forms of child labour, government intervention, agriculture work, carpet factory, brick kiln, legislation, sexual exploitation, forced labour

97. Trafficking of Women in Nepal and Their Vulnerabilities

Diyali, Sushmita. 2017. Master's thesis submitted to Clark University, United States.

https://commons.clarku.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1152&context=idce_masters_papers#:~:text=Sushmita%20Diyali,-Around%20the%20world&text=The%20women%20and%20girls%20are,criminal%20activity%20in%20the%20earth.

This thesis explores the prevalence of discrimination against across the globe as well as in Nepal and how women are being subjected to forced labour, sexual exploitation, and slavery. Using qualitative approach as the method, the paper says that Nepal is still lags behind in these matters and sex exploitation is one of the problems that Nepal faces. The paper finds that women in Nepal are denied human rights because of various existing issues which make them vulnerable to trafficking in India and other neighbouring Gulf countries. These women are pushed to do forced labour and are sold into brothels where they begin working as a commercial sex worker. Furthermore, this paper suggests ideas such as a strict investigation committee at the border between Nepal and India with detailed information of travellers, digital tracking system to monitor people entering Nepal, opening rehabilitation centres for the trafficking survivors, etc. to control trafficking of women in Nepal.

Keywords: human trafficking, women, exploitation, human rights, vulnerability

98. State of Children in Nepal 2017

Government of Nepal. 2017. Lalitpur: Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare, Central Child Welfare Board.

<http://www.ccwb.gov.np/uploads/Resource/CCWB%20Publication/report/State%20Of%20Children%20In%20Nepal%202017%20%7BEnglish%20Version%7D.pdf>.

This report encompasses data and legal information on the status of children in Nepal in the year 2017. The report has been made on the basis of updates, activities, information of the fiscal year 2016/17 and the recent statistics available from different sources. The report deals broadly with the status of children, demographic information on them, and laws and legislation introduced for their welfare. It also incorporates data on child protection, which has sections on child labour, street children, and child marriage, among others. The report details that even though Child labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 1999 was enacted by the Government of Nepal in order to create child labour-free society, it only completely forbids the children below the age of 14 years for any type of work. The National Population Census of Nepal has states that 1,04,714 children (56,267 boys and 48,447 girls) are engaged in work as a whole. Additionally, as per Nepal Multiple Indicators Cluster Survey (NMICS), 2014, 37.4 per cent children of age between 5 and 17 years are child labourers as a whole. The report ends with details of several government actions centred toward improving the situation of child labourers in the country.

Keywords: child labour, legislation, domestic work, hazardous working conditions, informal labour sector

99. Human Trafficking in Nepal: Post-Earthquake Risk and Response

Gyawali, Bishal, June Keeling, and Per Kallestrup. 2017. *Disaster Medicine and Public Health Preparedness*, 11(2): 153-154. DOI:10.1017/dmp.2016.121.

<https://www.cambridge.org/core/journals/disaster-medicine-and-public-health-preparedness/article/human-trafficking-in-nepal-postearthquake-risk-and-response/46AD62FB1A0E9EC6818EFAFC3FE55E9>.

The article centres on the earthquake-induced human trafficking situation. The death of 8,500 people, thousands of injuries, dislocation as well as other concealed consequences due to the 2015 earthquake and its aftershock demands attention on things like the increased risk of human trafficking. The paper advocates for a strong response from stakeholders such as donors, civil society organisations, and government agencies against human trafficking in the wake of natural disaster like earthquake, given that these illegal trades are exacerbated by natural disaster. The paper emphasises that in order to organise the response for disaster relief and to provide the assistance to people in both rural and urban areas, responsibility should be clearly included in the mandate of the relief and rehabilitation mechanisms established at the national level.

Keywords: earthquake, human trafficking, public health

100. Global Estimates of Modern Slavery: Forced Labour and Forced Marriage

International Labour Office. 2017. Geneva: International Labour Office.

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/@dgreports/@dcomm/documents/publication/wcms_575479.pdf.

The report studies the problem of forced labour and forced marriage in a global context. By forced labour, the estimate specifically explores and identifies the areas of the private economy where various forms of forced labour are used by private individuals, groups, companies, and state-enforced force labour, sexual exploitation of adults by force and commercial sexual exploitation of children. The report estimates that in the private economy in 2016, 16 million people were involved in forced labour, where more women than men are impacted by such imposition in forced labour that is done privately. It further highlights that half of those who were subjected to forced labour were put in the situation due to debt bondage. Such victims of dual vulnerability also had to suffer multiple forms of forced labour from employers or recruiters as a method of stopping them from being able to get out of the situation. As the study is global in nature, the data is not disaggregated by country. But a total 2000 nationally representative household survey was carried out in Nepal to acquire data on forced labour in the private economy and forced marriage.

Keywords: child labour, forced labour, forced marriages, communication, advocacy

101. The Migrant Recruitment Industry: Profitability and Unethical Business Practices in Nepal, Paraguay and Kenya

International Labour Organization. 2017. Geneva: International Labour Organization.

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_574484.pdf.

This study combines three case studies based on Nepal, Kenya, and Paraguay. It studies recruitment from Nepal to Malaysia and in Middle East countries, migration and recruitment from Paraguay to Brazil, and recruitment from Kenya to countries in the Middle East. The research in Nepal was conducted with 42 qualitative semi-structured interviews, 14 interviews with the owners or directors of recruitment agencies, 16 (recruitment) brokers (three-quarters of whom lacked license), 7 interviews with key informants (including government officials, trade union and civil society representatives, human rights defenders, and other experts) and 6 Nepali male migrants who returned back home. The report explains why the migration is arranged largely by the recruitment industry in certain national contexts than the others, analyses how recruitment firms and brokers benefit from arranging labour migration, and explores the way and the reason why recruitment firms get involved in immoral/abusive business practices.

Keywords: labour migration, migrant workers, human rights, exploitation, recruitment agencies

102. Hazardous Child Labor in Nepal: The Case of Brick Kilns

Larmar, Stephen, Patrick O’Leary, Cheryl Chui, Katherine Benfer, Sebastian Zug, and Lucy P. Jordan. 2017. *Child Abuse & Neglect*, 72: 312– 325. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1016/j.chiabu.2017.08.011>.

The study presents a review of literature delineating interventions for children that are employed in brick kilns in Nepal and also provides the initial case study findings of one of the recent interventions in Kathmandu Valley. The study states that dangerous child labour is a critical problem in Nepal, especially in the brick kiln sector. It further states that despite of various interventions to address child labour carried out in Nepal, research to assess the success and to form additional progress in interventions which incorporates strong and sensible child protection practices to guarantee the well-being of all children is still lacking. The paper also highlights the strength of employing foundational child protection principles and also speaks for the development and application of future plans and activities supported by wide civil society principles within the framework of child rights and protection.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, poverty, education, brick kilns, child rights

103. Causes, Processes and Vulnerability of Sexual Trafficking in Nepal

Maharjan, Kabin and Madhu Kumar Thapa. 2017. Kathmandu: United Mission to Nepal (UMN).

https://www.umn.org.np/download_files/AHT-Report-English.pdf.

The report analyses the socio-economic and cultural aspects of the victims prior to their trafficking. The study also examines the relationship between the perpetrators and the victims prior to the act of trafficking with a view to understanding the context, reasons, and motivations that made the victims vulnerable to trafficking. The study also examines the nature of the trafficking network and the processes generally followed by traffickers. Twenty-eight female trafficking survivors were interviewed in total. Their ages ranged from nine to 38 years when they were initially trafficked. In order to not influence the authenticity of data, six out of all cases were removed from the dataset before analysing because it showed other forms of trafficking than sexual, which is the major emphasis of the study. Therefore, analysis was based on the sample size of 22 cases. The findings of the study delve on the livelihood assets and vulnerability mapping, victim's human assets, physical assets, natural assets, social and financial assets, aspiration and behaviours of victims associated with vulnerability, traffickers' approaches to psychological and behavioural tactics during the recruitment, recruiter's relationship with victim's family, transportation process, tactics used during transportation, trafficking and sale in the final stage, and gender perspective. The report calls for preventive strategies which should invest in resources in two aspects: structurally induced vulnerability and individually induced vulnerability.

Keywords: livelihood assets, vulnerability, traffic survivor/victims, sex trafficking, prevention, recruitment and transportation

104. What is the Prevalence of and Associations with Forced Labour Experiences among Male Migrants from Dolakha, Nepal? Findings from a Cross-Sectional Study of Returnee Migrants

Mak, Joelle, Tanya Abramsky, Bandita Sijapati, Ligia Kiss, and Cathy Zimmerman. 2017. *BMJ Open*, 7(8). DOI: [10.1136/bmjopen-2017-015835](https://doi.org/10.1136/bmjopen-2017-015835).

The study intends to identify dangerous conditions in which people who are migrating experience and these experiences are associated with the mental and physical health of those people. Interviews were conducted among 194 men from Dolakha districts on their experiences from pre-departure to return. The International Labour Organization's forced labour dimensions, (1) unfree recruitment; (2) work and life under duress; and (3) impossibility to leave employer, was used to evaluate forced labour among the 140 of those who returned within the past 10 years. The study found that the respondents had worked in factories, as labourers/porters or in skilled employment, while abroad. Similarly, among the returnees who returned more recently, 44 per cent faced unfree recruitment, 71 per cent faced work and life under duress, and 14 per cent experienced

the impossibility of leaving their employer. Therefore, an overall 73 per cent of respondents faced forced labour during their latest labour migration. The study also found that forced labour was more pervasive among those who had taken loan to migrate, whereas it was a little less pervasive among those who had migrated more than one time. Nonetheless, the ratio of the ones that experienced forced labour was still high. The paper concludes that forced labour is usually faced during recruitment and in the country of destination and better guidance is needed for migrant workers to assess the agencies and brokers and to get their facilities at the country of destination.

Keywords: forced labour, international migration, hazardous working conditions, recruitment processes, duress, health impact, mental health

105. Armed Conflict and Human Trafficking in Nepal

Mishra, Sadhna. 2017. *IOSR Journal Of Humanities And Social Science (IOSR-JHSS)*, 22(7): 74-81.

<http://www.iosrjournals.org/iosr-jhss/papers/Vol.%2022%20Issue7/Version-1/L2207017481.pdf>.

The purpose of this study is to identify the reasons that are responsible for the trafficking of women and girl children during the time of Maoist insurgency as well as the condition post-conflict. It examines the way armed conflict negatively impacts the lives of women and also examines the policies and laws initiated by the Nepal government to fight human trafficking. The study uses a secondary method of data collection and uses research articles, books, and various government documents to collect data. The study finds that both trafficking during the time of conflict and trafficking post-conflict are alike. However, conflict contributes to increasing the whole factor of trafficking.

Keywords: armed conflict, human trafficking, women

106. Environment, Human Labour, and Animal Welfare – Unveiling the Full Picture of South Asia’s Brick Kilns and Building the Blocks for Change

Mitra, Dakhina and Valette, Delphine. 2017. Geneva: International Labour Office, The Brooke Hospital for Animals, and The Donkey Sanctuary.

https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_norm/---declaration/documents/publication/wcms_542925.pdf

The purpose of this report is to increase the understanding of the brick-making industry in South Asia, focusing specifically on four countries: Afghanistan, India, Nepal, and Pakistan. The methodology of the report includes systematic literature review and document analysis of more than 120 published and unpublished documents including research reports, academic journal articles, news articles, and technical assessments. Interviews were taken with 20 organisations and initiatives working in the brick kiln sectors. The report outlines the overall functioning of brick kilns, along with their envi-

ronmental, social, and health-related impacts. It emphasises the critical connection between human, animal, and environmental sector and accentuates the major difficulties encountered currently by the industry along with the economic, social, political, and cultural difficulties to change it. A sub-section of the report focuses on the use of human labour in the brick kilns—mostly child labour and forced labour. The study details that workers working in bonded and forced labour situations in brick kilns are estimated to be up to 68 per cent out of 4.4 million to 5.2 million brick kiln workers in South Asia. Around 19 per cent of brick kiln workers recorded across the region are under the age of 18. The report also details that while prohibited by law, hazardous work by children in brick kilns continues in Nepal. The report concludes with a segment on challenges and opportunities in the current policy responses toward working in brick kilns, and also provides some pertinent recommendations.

Keywords: child labour, forced labour, brick kilns, hazardous working conditions, health impact, debt bondage

107. A Close Look at Indo-Nepal Cross-Border Child Trafficking

Patkar, Pravin and Priti Patkar. 2017. New Delhi: Media House and Caritas India.

https://caritasindia.org/wp-content/uploads/2017/08/A-CLOSE-LOOK-AT-INDO-NEPAL-CROSS-BORDER-CHILD-TRAFFICKING_Book.pdf

The report explores child trafficking and anti-trafficking interventions across the Indo-Nepal border, aiming to advance directions for future interventions. Illegal migration, smuggling and human trafficking are widespread between Nepal and India due to open and porous borders and absence of immigration laws between them. Therefore, cross-border trafficking of a person continues to remain highly disguised. The study was carried out using field observations along Indo-Nepal border in Gorakhpur district—formal and informal border gates, the actual border, Gorakhpur Railway Junction, Gorakhpur City, bus depots, and transportation hubs. Representatives from several offices, organisations, and representatives were interviewed and focus group discussion held among others. The study revealed that the past few years have seen a widespread increase in the trafficking of boys from Nepal to India through the land border at Gorakhpur and other locations, and the trafficking of boys in comparison with girls should not be neglected. It was broadly found that one of the reasons for trafficking of children is for the work in circus establishments. A common sight was the Nepali child artists performing in Indian and other circuses. Although child right activists from Indian metropolises were able to bring such incidents considerably down in the last decade, it persists. Such observations were corroborated by most of anti-human trafficking civil society organisations of Nepal. The report’s recommendation includes active participation of civil society representatives, education and training of border security forces and police, implementation of protocols and SOPs on safe migration, minimum requirements, post-rescue operations, and repatriation developed by numerous multi-disciplinary teams.

Keywords: child trafficking, intervention, Nepal-India border, circus

108. Socio-Economic Conditions of Child Labor in Nepal: A Case Study of Bardaghat Municipality, Nawalparasi

Paudel, Sunil. 2017. PhD dissertation submitted to Central Department of Economics, Tribhuvan University.

<https://elibrary.tucl.edu.np/bitstream/123456789/1998/5/Final%20thesis%20.pdf>.

The aim of this paper is to determine the socio-economic status of the parents of children who are involved in labour and find out the causes and consequences of the rising child labour in Bardaghat Municipality, Nawalparasi district. The data was collected through survey, field visit, and observation of 55 child labourers working in the various sectors like brick kilns, domestic help, hotel, agricultural sectors, shops, etc. The paper reveals that the child labourers in the labour market of Bardaghat come from a family with low economic background where the family have a hard time fulfilling their basic livelihood needs. These children also come from a society that is socially backward. The paper further reveals that illiterate parents, poverty, lack of basic needs at home, large family size are the reasons behind increase in child labour in Bardaghat Municipality. The paper recommends the implementation of proper plans and policies by the NGOs and INGOs working in the children's sector, creating awareness among parents regarding the rights of children and the provisions regarding child labour in Nepal, providing skill-oriented programs where child labour is most prevalent and affected from.

Keywords: socio-economic conditions, illiteracy, child labour

109. Socio-Economic Impact on Trafficking of Girls/Women for Sexual Exploitation: A Study in Sindhupalchowk District

Shrestha, Anila. 2017. *NUTA Journal*, 5 (1&2): 8-16. ISSN: 2616 - 017x.

<https://www.nepjol.info/index.php/nutaj/article/view/23451/19859>.

This paper aims to explore the factors that influence women/girl trafficking and also evaluate various social factors like awareness, education, and economic factors like poverty. The study is based on Sindhupalchowk district and both qualitative and quantitative methods are used. The sample size is 30 and data was collected through interviews with rescued women and girls, using both open- and close-ended questionnaires as well as interviews with key informants. The research finds that most of the women trafficked from Sindhupalchowk district belong to Tamang community, followed by Sherpa community, and Kami community. The victims of trafficking come from low-economic background with shortage of food to survive. The assumption of a bad relationship with family as one of the reasons for females' involvement in prostitution has been found wrong in this study where the majority (86.67 per cent) of respondents in this study were found to have a good relationship with their family. The study also finds that poverty, lack of education, money attraction, good food and clothes, etc. are some of the major factors responsible for trafficking of women and girls in Sindhupalchowk district. The paper's

recommendation includes employment and self-employment opportunities to girls and women, creating awareness in the general public regarding trafficking, and providing various vocational training to empower women.

Keywords: human trafficking, girls, women, economic impact, gender discrimination, sexual discrimination

110. Gharelu Baalshramikako Saamaajik, Arthik, ra Shaikshik Awastha (in Nepali) [Social, Economic and Educational Status of Domestic Child Labour.]

Shrestha, Sumana. 2017. Master's Thesis submitted to Tribhuvan University.

<https://elibrary.tucl.edu.np/bitstream/123456789/10144/1/cover%283%29.pdf>

The study attempted to bridge the knowledge gaps regarding the social, economic, and educational circumstances of children engaged in domestic labour in Nepal and identify the key challenges and obstacles faced by them. Additionally, the author hoped to help policymakers and relevant stakeholders make better informed decisions regarding policy and intervention strategies to address the plight of children in domestic service. Based on a descriptive research design, the study relied on a purposive sampling of 31 respondents under the age of 16 engaged in domestic labour in Damak Municipality of Jhapa district and utilised mixed methods of data collection (questionnaires and KIIs). The paper found that children in domestic service often lacked education, belonged to large families with limited resources and conservative beliefs. The prime motivations for children engaging in domestic labour were the opportunity to enrol in school and financially helping their families. Furthermore, the author also found that children in domestic work were faced with humiliation and abuse, lack of opportunities, overwork which often left them with little time to study, and long-term physical and mental effects. The paper also provided details regarding the way employers treat children working in domestic service, especially regarding the quality of living accommodations.

Keywords: child labour, domestic work, access to education, socioeconomic factors

111. Child Labor in Brick Factories of Bhaktapur District: A Child Rights Perspective

Thapa, Santosh. 2017. Master's Thesis submitted to Faculty of Humanities and Social Science, Mid-Western University, Surkhet.

<https://bitly.ws/3gVFD>.

The thesis aims to investigate the reasons behind child labour, the effects of Gorkha earthquake on child labourers working in the bricks manufacturing sectors, as well as the working conditions of children employed in the brick manufacturing factories of Bhaktapur district. The primary data was collected through interview, case study, and direct observation with 40 child labourers (10 girls and 30 boys) working in the brick factories in Bhaktapur. The thesis finds that poverty is the major cause of child labour

in Nepal. It further says that children working in those brick factories had insufficient access to food and shelter and they were working in very difficult weather conditions which impacted their physical, psychological, social, and educational development. The research recommendation includes developing effective supervision system by the government to curb child labour and abuse, initiating public awareness on the rights of children, creating awareness among the employers regarding the rights of children, and encouraging them to provide the children with education, good wages and facilities.

Keywords: child labour, earthquake, hazardous work, brick kilns

112. Country Programme Document: Nepal

UN Economic and Social Council. 2017. UN Economic and Social Council (ECOSOC).

<https://webarchive.archive.unhcr.org/20191027032140/>

<https://www.refworld.org/type,COUNTRYREP,,NPL,599300a84,0.html>.

The Country Programme Document is a proposal for the period of 2018 to 2022, presented to the Executive Board of United Nations Children’s Fund for discussion and approval. It is an overview of the rationale of the programme, as well as priorities such as nutrition, education, health, and child protection. Though not specifically on child labour, the report details that that the worst socio-economic deprivations are found in Central Tarai and the Mid- and Far-Western areas (provinces 2, 6, and 7) as shown by Child Deprivation Index created by UNICEF and also putting various efforts in children and future generations is very crucial to make sure that they are able and prepared to support the country’s development. Therefore, the programme aims to help to make the child protection system strong within the new federal structure by increasing the comprehensive case-management process and actively supporting the recruitment of professional child-protection personnel. Furthermore, the programme aims to address violence and exploitation of children through the development, revision and application of essential laws and regulations regarding child labour, child trafficking, violent discipline, child marriage, and gender-based violence.

Keywords: child labour, NGO intervention, child protection, gender, child marriage

113. Socio Economic Status and Its Impact on School Going Domestic Child Workers in Kathmandu District

Upadhyay, Surya Kumar. 2017. *Nepalese Journal of Development and Rural Studies*, 14(1&2): 124-128.

<https://www.nepjol.info/index.php/njdrs/article/view/19655>.

This exploratory study aimed to examine the economic status of the school-going domestic child workers (DCWs) along with their living standard and the root cause of the problem. The study carried out in Shanti Bidhya Griha Higher Secondary School, Kathmandu, interviewed 50 DCW attending the school and used the existing data on child

labour to provide a comprehensive understanding of DCWs' condition. The paper found that most of the DCWs belong to rural areas and are from low-income families. And although they go to school, they spend more time working than studying every day. The article also reports that many of the children are paid very less to no enumeration and their living conditions are very poor. The study recommends a clear and proper framework of laws and regulation to effectively address the problem as well as provision of free living facilities with free education in appropriate environments to provide children with equal opportunities.

Keywords: domestic work, child labour, legislation, education, poverty, government intervention

114. Trafficking in Persons Report: Nepal

US Department of State. 2017. Washington, DC: US Department of State. 292-296.

<https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/02/271339.pdf>.

The report categorises Nepal as a Tier 2 Country. Nepal is considered a country whose governments do not fully meet the (US) Trafficking Victims Protection Act's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards. The report states that the government demonstrated increasing efforts compared to the previous reporting period by increasing the number of trafficking investigations and victim's identification and allocating double the budget to provide victim case-services to female victims of violence as well as victims of trafficking. The government carried out awareness-raising activities and cancelled the licences of over 400 foreign employment agents. Despite all these efforts, the government does not forbid all forms of trafficking and Nepal's laws continue to lack standard operating procedures (SOPs) on victim identification. The report also offered a number of recommendations including increasing investigations, prosecutions and convictions, opposing all forms of trafficking, enforcing victim witness protection provision of the related Act, implementing low-cost recruitment policy, lifting bans on female migration, and ratifying the 2000 UN TIP Protocol.

Keywords: trafficking, policies, prosecution, trafficking victims

115. Causes of Child Labour in Nepal: An Analysis from Economic Perspective

Acharya, Krishna Raj. 2018. *Contemporary Social Sciences*, 27(2): 78-89. DOI: [10.29070/27/57467](https://doi.org/10.29070/27/57467).

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/331380592_Causes_of_Child_Labour_in_Nepal_An_Analysis_from_Economic_Perspective.

The purpose of this paper is to describe the economic causes of child labour in Nepal. More specifically, it focuses on exploring the economic background of families in terms of the ownership of land and the link between the profession of father and mother and

child labour. Data was collected from 235 child labourers in tea shops, carpet factories, rag-picking, agriculture, brick kilns, motorcycle repairs centres and other fields of employment in Kathmandu and Bharatpur, by using structured questionnaires. The research finds that though there are many factors that result in child labour such as family type, family income, landholding size, loan status of family, class category, parent's education and occupation, caste/ethnic, religious background, an important determining variables of child labour is low family income. Similarly, second important reason for child labour is food deficiency. A strong association was also found between child labour and landholding size of household. The report concludes by cautioning that child labour, especially in hazardous activities, translates into a less healthy and hence less productive adult labour force in the long run.

Keywords: child labour, household characteristics, poverty, education, health impact, food deficiency, hazardous working conditions

116. Child Labour in Hotels and Restaurants: A Case Study of Working Children in Dhading Bensi, Nepal

Dahal, R.H., Lagan Rai, and Chiranjivi Acharya. 2018. *Journal of Global Economics, Management and Business Research*, (10) 2: 112-23.

<http://www.ikpress.org/index.php/JGEMBR/article/view/3707>.

This study sketches the situation of child labour in hotels and restaurants in Dhading Bensi. The data for this study was collected from 70 respondents. The study found out that there are around 50 per cent of age 13-14 and 41.42 per cent of child labourers of age 11-12 in the child labour market. Similarly, most of the child labourers had agriculture background, their families were engaged in agriculture. Poverty, school drop-out or not receiving formal education, illiterate parents, having to support the parents financially, long distance between home and school, shortage of educational material, parent's negligence, death of parents, etc. are some pull factors, and income and food availability, nice shelter are some pull factors in child labour, as per the findings of the study.

Keywords: push and pull factors, child labour, hazardous working conditions, physical abuse, poverty, education, work in restaurant

117. Bonded Child Labour in South Asia: Building the Evidence Base for DFID Programming and Policy Engagement

Haythornthwaite, Shavana and Wendy Olsen. 2018. The University of Manchester, UK. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5a9d512ae5274a7bd0047f8c/FINAL_DFID_BCL_Report_0203.pdf

The report seeks to identify the current situation and trends of bonded child labour in South Asia, the main forces of bonded child labour in different country contexts and the types of interventions which have been most effective in decreasing bonded child

labour. The countries in focus are Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Bhutan, India, Myanmar, Nepal, Pakistan, and Sri Lanka. The report identifies that there is a research gap in South Asia regarding the sensitivity and, in certain cases, the illegality of bonded child labour. The report also reveals 37 per cent of the children between the age of 5-14 years are found to be working as child labourers in Nepal. Similarly, a combination of social, economic, and cultural causes is seen as the causes of child labour in every case. The main cause of child labour is the viewing of child labour as a cheap form of labour in industries where these child labourers are engaged informally. Also, the growth in child labour in Nepal in the period could be attributed to the Nepal civil war and past waves of refugees who came to Nepal from Bhutan. It also argues that early child marriage at times is linked with child sex trafficking, but it also happens in traditional within-lineage marital patterns. In Nepal, brick kilns is considered one of the worst profession for bonded child labour, followed by carpet industry. The report also lists legal interventions and the work of non-governmental organisations to combat bonded child labour, reviews social labelling and socio-economic context of child labour, and lists opportunities for their reintegration and rehabilitation.

Keywords: forced labour, child labour, debt bondage, intervention strategies, poverty, education, social vulnerability, legislation, hazardous working conditions, brick kilns, carpet factory, child marriage, reintegration, rehabilitation

118. Parental Absence and Agency: The Household Characteristics of Hazardous Forms of Child Labour in Nepal

Kamei, Akito. 2018. *Journal of International Development*, 30 (7): 1116-1141. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1002/jid.3371>.

This paper examines the factors that lead children into dangerous forms of labour by using information from the first Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey, 2014 that includes a module on working condition of children, which contains data on 12,973 children aged 5 to 14 from 6938 households. The paper finds that children from poor economic background, among all of the children involved in child labour, have a higher likelihood of being involved in dangerous forms of child labour. Similarly, factors such as lack of parental care, father's absence because of death can lead to increased risk of children involving in dangerous forms of labour.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, worst forms of child labour, poverty, social vulnerability, household characteristics

119. Nepalmaa bechbikhan tatha wosarpasar sambandhi aaparadh ra piditko nayayemaa pahuch (in Nepali) [Crimes Related to Human Trafficking and Transportation and Victim's Access to Justice]

Kuwar, Tek Narayan. 2018. *Sambahak*, *Human Rights Journal*, 8: 131-164.

https://www.nhrcnepal.org/uploads/sambahak/210409045658_Sambahak_8_Issue_Jestha_2075.pdf.

This article summaries the issue of human trafficking and transportation, national and international laws against them, and the situation of justice being served to the victims of trafficking and transportation in Nepal. Judicial outlook on the issue of human trafficking including the statement of the victim not being considered as a proof unless the claim has been proved by some other proofs, about the receiving capacity of the victim's statement, about the defendant's statement, about implicating the co-accused, about the weightage of the proof, about being pleading guilty if the victim's statement is proved, about validating the opposition statement, the situation of being pleading guilty of human trafficking, about using the territorial rights and the rights of outside territory, about the instruction given by the court regarding the prosecution, etc has been explained in this article. Similarly, the article points out the weaknesses in the existing laws against human trafficking and transportation. The article ends with recommendations to enhance the laws, acts, and regulations against human trafficking and transportation.

Keywords: human trafficking, transportation, laws, judiciary

120. Modern Slavery Prevention and Responses in South Asia: An Evidence Map

Oosterhoff, Pauline, Raudah Yunus, Charity Jensen, Francis Somerwell, and Nicola Pockock. 2018. London: Department for International Development.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5c0e42f7ed915d0c736a1e2e/MS_Evidence_Map_Report_final.pdf.

This Evidence Map seeks to identify the nature of interventions that attempt to prevent, mitigate, or respond to modern slavery, where such interventions are clustered, and where they are missing, and the target populations of such interventions in Pakistan, Bangladesh, and Nepal. The map was generated by searching for scientific publications on modern slavery, followed by screening of reviewers. The map finds that no systematic reviews focusing on modern slavery as a whole in the study countries or in the South Asian region were found. However, reviews were found on specific types of modern slavery, most commonly including child labour and sex trafficking. Between 2008 and 2018, 19 studies were conducted on child labour in Nepal, and very few on bonded/forced labour.

Keywords: forced labour, child labour, modern slavery, Evidence Map, government intervention, sex trafficking

121. Sex Trafficking in Nepal

Sapkota, Bishnu. 2018. *Research Nepal Journal of Development Studies*, 1(1): 28-31. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.3126/rnjds.v1i1.21271>.

https://www.researchgate.net/profile/Sapkota-Bishnu/publication/328108827_Sex_trafficking_in_Nepal/links/60589d19299bf173675ed465/Sex-trafficking-in-Nepal.pdf.

The purpose of this paper is to explore the problems related to sex trafficking and the possible way to eradicate it in Nepal. The article emphasises that factors such as severe poverty, unemployment, illiteracy, weak law enforcement, and open border between Nepal and India are the prominent factors for human trafficking. Similarly, compared to before, the earthquake of 2015 contributed to the increase of susceptibility of women and children to human trafficking.

Keywords: sex trafficking, human rights, social welfare

122. Status of Child Labour in Hotels of Hetauda Sub-Metropolitan City

Sapkota, Tika. 2018. *Journal of Business and Social Sciences*, 2(1): 132-146. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.3126/jbss.v2i1.22836>.

<https://www.nepjol.info/index.php/jbss/article/view/22836>.

The study is a review of the socio-economic situation of child labourers in hotels and restaurants in an urban metropolitan city in Nepal and major problems associated with them. Primary data is collected from field surveys using structural questionnaires, and secondary data from books, journals, research reports, magazines, newspapers, and other sources. Of the total children employed in hotels of Hetauda Sub-Metropolitan, 300 child workers have been selected purposively. The study gathered information on the socio-economic condition of the child workers, their working condition, root cause of them being labourers, and problems faced by them. The study found that the children belonged to various castes and ethnicities and came from almost every part of the country. Similarly, the majority of the children came from poor economic backgrounds, had a stepmother, and illiterate family members. The children were found marginally illiterate. The paper concludes that household poverty is the major cause of child labour as a whole but several other factors like big family size, death of bread earners of family, social injustice, uneven access to resources, illiteracy, etc. also plays a part in them entering the labour market from an early age.

Keywords: social vulnerability, child labour, education, poverty, legislation, hazardous working conditions, health impact, work in restaurant, education

123. We Must Do Better: A Closer Look at the Contextual Factors that Drive Child Labour and Discipline in Nepal, Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2014: Further Analysis Report

United Nations Children's Fund Nepal. 2018. *UNICEF Nepal Working Paper Series WP/2018/002*. Kathmandu: UNICEF Nepal.

<https://www.unicef.org/nepal/media/1491/file/We%20must%20do%20better.pdf>.

The report is a compilation of the results of further analysis of the Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey (MICS) 2014. The analysis was done to put spotlight into the trends and statistics on the child labour and child discipline, including the degree to which children carry out economic activities and household work for longer period than that is appropriate, the way many children work in dangerous environment, and the way many of them are caused to experience violent way of disciplining. The data for this study was acquired from MICS 2014, and it focused on some specific parts of the survey including those relating to child labour and discipline. Out of 56,539 household members that were surveyed in 2014 MICS, 21,857 comprised children aged 1 to 17 years who were the sample of interest for this analysis. The children who were the sample of interest were the children and relatives of the head of the sample households, as well as other children, including domestic workers who were under 18 and had been living under the same roof for the past six months. This report finds that in the MICS 2014, more than one in three children of age 5 to 17 were involved in at least one kind of child labour. Before the survey, more than 80 per cent of the sampled children of age 1 to 14 years had experienced some form of violent discipline in their households. Similarly, the majority of children experienced psychological abuse while more than 50 per cent had also experienced physical abuse. Furthermore, in comparison to the Tarai plains, for the sample children, child labour was found to be more pervasive in the hill and mountainous areas, while on the other hand, some form of violent discipline of children was found in every geographic area except for the Kathmandu Valley. As per the report, the fact that there are still discrepancies between international and national norms on child labour in Nepal, despite the initiation and reinforcing of rules and regulations to forbid the exploitation of and violence against children, is a significant contributing factor to the persistence of child labour and violence against children in Nepal.

Keywords: child labour, poverty, education, household characteristics, social vulnerability, hazardous working conditions, corporal punishment, Nepal Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey

124. 2017 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor – Nepal

US Department of Labour. 2018. Washington, DC: US Department of Labor.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/child_labor_reports/tda2017/Nepal.pdf

The report brief is an overview of Nepal's moderate progress towards ending the worst forms of child labour in the country in 2017. It states that the government passed the

Labour Act in 2017 that bans forced labour and sets punishment for violation of forced labour. Similarly, the government has also implemented child labour monitoring system in Panauti Municipality and also carried out the first nationally representative survey, investigating forced labour among children and adult workers. Despite all these efforts by the government, the study finds that children are still involved in the worst forms of labour, including commercial sexual exploitation, in Nepal. The budget allocated by the Department of Labour and other resources such as labour inspectors, trainings available are still inadequate to implement the laws on labour, including child labour. The brief concludes with some suggestions to the government like eradicating hindrances on education, especially for girls and children with disability, disclosing information on things done by the coordinating bodies in the sector of child labour.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, worst forms of child labour, government intervention, agriculture work, carpet factory, brick kiln, legislation, sexual exploitation, forced labour

125. Trafficking in Persons Report: Nepal

US Department of State. 2018. US Department of State. 317-320.

<https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/01/282798.pdf>.

The report states Nepal is a Tier 2 Country. Nepal is considered a country whose governments do not fully meet the (US) Trafficking Victims Protection Act's minimum standards but are making significant efforts to bring themselves into compliance with those standards. The report states that the government demonstrated increasing efforts compared to the previous reporting period by increasing the number of trafficking investigations, prosecutions, and convictions. Similarly, the government also supported NGOs to open two rehabilitation homes, 19 emergency shelters, and 19 community service centres for female victims of gender-based violence. It also formed 312 Local Committees for Controlling Human Trafficking (LCCHTs) and released a directive to recruitment agencies to provide information showcasing their compliance with the low-cost migration policy. Despite all these efforts, the government failed to meet the minimum standards in various key sectors. Nepal's laws continue to lack standard operating procedures (SOPs) on victim identification and referral to rehabilitation services as well as do not forbid all forms of forced labour and sex trafficking. The report also offered a number of recommendations including, amendment of the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act to align the definition of human trafficking with the 2000 UN TIP Protocol, increasing investigations, prosecutions and convictions opposing all forms of trafficking, including bonded labour, transnational labour trafficking of Nepali males, victim witness protection provision of the related Act, implementing low cost recruitment policy, lifting bans on female migration, and ratifying the 2000 UN TIP Protocol.

Keywords: human trafficking, policies, prosecution, trafficking victims, due process

126. Nepal 2018 Human Rights Report.

US Department of State. 2018. US Department of State.

<https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/03/NEPAL-2018.pdf>.

The report presents the human rights situation of Nepal in the year 2018. The report presents a wide array of human rights issues of the year and identifies cases of human rights violations and also progress made in the acknowledgment and protection of human rights by the state. Reports of illegal or arbitrary killings, including extrajudicial killings, torture, unlawful detention by the government, site blocking, criminal defamation laws, meddling with rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of association, including NGO laws which are overly restrictive, restrictions on freedom of movement for refugees, particularly Tibetan residents, serious acts of corruption and the use of child labour, forced labour and compulsory labour, are some important human rights issues included in this report.

Keywords: human rights, trafficking, domestic violence, gender-based violence, freedom

127. The Global Slavery Index: Nepal

Walk Free Foundation. 2018. The Minderoo Foundation Pty Ltd.

<https://cdn.walkfree.org/content/uploads/2023/04/13181704/Global-Slavery-Index-2018.pdf>.

Predictive modelling is employed by the 2018 Global Slavery Index, using information from nationally representative surveys and the Walk Free Foundation Vulnerability Model, in order to assess the prevalence of modern slavery. This index puts spotlight on two important external drivers of slavery: extremely restraining regimes and conflict-related circumstances. As per this Index, in Nepal, 6 in every 1000 people were estimated to be the victims of some kind of slavery. Similarly, Nepal is placed as a CCC category country, implying limited government support and criminalisation of modern slavery, by the Index with the response rate of Nepal government placed at 38.7. Additionally, the Index estimates that in Nepal, the susceptibility to modern slavery is 44.1.

Keywords: slavery, vulnerability, government, conflict, repressive government

128. Brick Kilns of Nepal: A Non-Governmental Organization Perspective

Shrestha, Shilpa. and S.M. Thygerson. 2019. Open Journal of Safety Science and Technology, 9: 1-6.

https://www.scirp.org/pdf/OJSST_2019013116291997.pdf.

This paper reviewed the practices of Better Brick Nepal (BBN), an NGO which seeks to promote ethical business practices in the brick manufacturing industry and eradicate child labour and other forms of forced labour in brick kilns in Nepal, under the Global Fairness Initiatives. Based on a qualitative study of six brick kilns (two that were associated with BBN and four that were not), the authors relied on informal observations and

interviews to assess the BBN brick kilns that adhered to the ethical standards of workers' rights, health, and safety. The paper also sought to collect indoor and outdoor air samples to gauge air pollution as well as other contaminants. The authors observed no instances of child labour, forced or bonded labour being used in the brick kilns associated with BBN as opposed to the non-BBN kilns. The authors also noted that BBN kilns were able to retain a higher number of workers compared to the non-BBN kilns because of access to healthcare, paid leave, free lunches, and monetary bonuses.

Keywords: brick kilns, air pollution, public health, child labour

129. 2019 Annual Report

Aasaman Nepal. 2019. Aasaman Nepal.

<https://aasamannepal.org.np/wp-content/uploads/2021/04/asn-annual-report-2019.pdf>.

This annual report covered the accomplishments and learnings of Aasaman Nepal, a Janakpur-based NGO, which focuses on helping under-privileged children and youth, particularly girls and those belonging to marginalised groups, in the year 2019. The report also highlights that the NGO works in partnership with various government agencies, INGOs, NGOs, CSOs, and CBOs to achieve its objectives of serving under-privileged communities, particularly children, in Province 2. Aasaman Nepal facilitated education and child protection programmes and advocacy in the area of focus which were two municipalities each in Rautahat, Siraha, and Saptari districts of Madhesh Province (Province 2). This included programmes focused on girl education as well as ending child labour and forced labour. Other areas of work included health and nutrition, governance, as well as disaster risk relief and livelihood. The NGO reports that, through their good governance project, they provided emergency relief materials to around 4431 households. The organisation also claims that it benefited 33,964 young girls and provided them with formal and informal schooling through Aasaman Nepal's education programme.

Keywords: children, youth, underprivileged groups, marginalized communities, women, child labour

130. Health Problems among Child Labour in the Brick Industries of Nepal

Banstola, S., S.R. Acharya, and Y.C. Shin. 2019. *Journal of Public Health and Epidemiology*, 6(1): 1083.

<https://austinpublishinggroup.com/public-health-epidemiology/fulltext/ajphe-v6-id1083.php>.

The study was carried out to evaluate the work-related injuries and musculoskeletal disorders among 225 child workers of age from 5 and up to 17 years in brick kilns of Tanahu district, Nepal. An analytical cross-sectional descriptive study was done in brick industries of Tanahu. Random selection of three brick kilns was done from the cluster

of six brick kiln factories in the district. Sample sizes were selected through simple random and purposive sampling, taking the health problems and work-related injuries faced by the child labourers into account. Then, semi-structured interviews and focus group discussions were conducted with the child labourers. The study found that the child labourers had faced health problems during the previous month such as fatigue or exhaustion, minor cuts or bruises, and body pain. Similarly, more than half of the respondents suffered from breathing difficulties, and more than half suffered musculoskeletal disorders. The paper concludes that prolonged working hours, heavy workload, and dangerous working conditions in brick factories exposes them to the risks and dangers that might lead to disorders relating to muscles and bones, injuries, and other health issues. Among those sampled in brick kiln factories, the concept of industrial hygiene, safety, and ergonomics were absent.

Keywords: child labour, poverty, hazardous working conditions, musculoskeletal disorders, health impact, brick kilns

131. Bal Adhikaarko Sandarbhamaa Madhesi Dalit Balbalikako Avastha (in Nepali) [Status of Madhesi Dalit Children in the Context of Child Rights]

Bishwokarma, Binod Kumar. 2019. *Sambahak, Human Rights Journal*, 12: 39-63.

https://www.nhrcnepal.org/nhrc_new/doc/newsletter/Human_rights_Journal_vol12-min.pdf.

The Government of Nepal has promulgated a number of legislations relating to the rights of children. However, implementation of such legislation has been poor. The dire situation that Madhesi Dalit children find themselves in is a burning example of the failure of the state to uphold its international treaty obligations and also implement the laws. Additionally, Madhesi Dalit children have also been unable to benefit from the services provided by NGOs and INGOs. In the absence of the protection from the state, many Madhesi Dalit children are at risk of being trafficked, sexually exploited, child labour, and other forms of inhuman abuses. The dire situation of Madhesi Dalit children is also exacerbated by the superstition in Madhesi society that prevents children from being heard.

Keywords: child rights, exploitation, trafficking, Madhesi, Dalit, sexual abuses, enforcement of law

132. Report on the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2017/18

Central Bureau of Statistics, Nepal. 2019. Kathmandu: National Planning Commission.

https://cbs.gov.np/wp-content/uploads/2019/04/NLFS-III_Final-Report.pdf.

The Central Bureau of Statistics in 2017/18 carried out the Nepal Labour Force Survey (NLFS III), which examines the country's status of labour, including unemployment, employment ratio, and gender-wise breakdowns. The report includes a section on both

child labour and forced labour. The survey gathered work activities of children who were of age 5 years or older, but it does not distinguish the cases of child labour among them. The survey gathered work activities of children who were of age 5 years or older, but it does not distinguish the cases of child labour among them. However, the survey discovered that around 7,000,000 children of ages between 5 and 17 years worked for payment. The survey also discovered that 31,338 people are working as forced labourers in Nepal during the time of the survey. These people, the majority of whom were male (56 per cent), have been involved in forced labour for 2.6 years out of the last 5 years. It is estimated that 17 per cent of those are children. Similarly, the construction sector is the sector with the highest percentage of forced labour, followed by forestry and agriculture. The report cautions that the result of this study should not be interpreted as suggestive because of the limited number of cases in the sample and because the NLFS sample was not created particularly to identify forced labour.

Keywords: forced labour, working children, Nepal Labour Force Survey, gender

133. Gender Bias and the Sex Trafficking Interventions in the Eastern Border of India–Nepal

Chetry, Pooja and Rekha Pande. 2019. *South Asian Survey*, 26(2): 117–138. DOI: 10.1177/0971523119862476.

https://www.researchgate.net/publication/335059960_Gender_Bias_and_the_Sex_Trafficking_Interventions_in_the_Eastern_Border_of_India-Nepal.

The article examines gender bias and interventions to combat sex trafficking in the eastern border of India and Nepal. It tries to understand various factors including the socio-economic situation which restricts women's migration and also documents the initiatives taken by anti-trafficking organisations and investigates the experience of intercepted women. It attempts to show the gender biasness that is present in the interception method used as a method of intervention to combat trafficking in persons. The fieldwork was carried out from August to October 2017. Interviews were conducted with three non-governmental organisations (NGOs), namely Tiny Hands, India and Tiny Hands, Nepal and Maiti Nepal. The study participants consisted of 82 respondents of which 17 were victims of trafficking intercepted at the borders, 14 were now rescued by the NGOs, and 19 were anti-trafficking agents intercepting girls at the border. The intercepted girls fall under the age group of 30 years. Besides these, interviews were also conducted with 20 staff members of the 3 NGOs ranging from project coordinators to secretaries of the anti-trafficking organisations in form of personal interviews with semi-structured questionnaires having open-ended questions. The article finds that the anti-trafficking activists stop and obstruct a woman or a girl in suspicion of her being a possible victim of sex trafficking when she is crossing the border all alone or in groups with just other women and this kind of interception usually happens within 3 km range from Panitanki, India's border with Nepal at Kakarbitta, to stop girls and women mi-

grating illegally and in an unsafe way. In order to get the information and confirmation regarding her travel and identity, the cross-questioning is done. The article's recommendation includes keeping compulsory check post in the border area by the Indian and Nepali government for registration and recording of people that pass by the area.

Keywords: border, prevention, human trafficking, women, interception

134. Nepal Labour Market Profile 2019

Danish Trade Union Development Agency. 2019.

[https://ituc-nac.org/public/uploads/files/contents/LMP_Nepal_2019_\(Final_version1\).pdf](https://ituc-nac.org/public/uploads/files/contents/LMP_Nepal_2019_(Final_version1).pdf)

A thorough summary of Nepal's labour market conditions has been presented in this Labour Market Profile. It aims to provide a picture of the structures, developments, and challenges in a country's labour market by explaining trade unions, employers' organisations, tri-partite forums and institutions, national labour legislation, breach of trade union rights, status of workforce, education, economy and social protection. The Danish Trade Union Development Agency sub-regional offices with collaboration with other partner organisations collect specific types of data and information relating to key indicators by using a unique data-collection tool and also relies on national statistical institutions and international data banks as well as academia and media sources. Within the workforce thematic area, the profile reviews the status of child labour in the country. The profile details that although the percentage of child labour is gradually decreasing every year, 22 per cent of child are still involved in labour in Nepal. It is estimated that 38 per cent of these children are involved in dangerous work, with 60 per cent of them being female. Moreover, Nepal has higher rate of child labour than the rest of Asia and Pacific. The paper argues that the child labour is prevalent in Nepal due to the societal inequalities that are aggravated by racial and social discrimination. In Nepal, agriculture-related works, domestic work, stone-breaking, and work in entertainment sector are the most prevalent forms of child labour. The profile also highlights the kind of dangerous work the child labourers in Nepal are required to get involved in.

Keywords: poverty, child labour, hazardous working conditions, education, social vulnerability

135. Prevalence of Minors in Kathmandu's Adult Entertainment Sector

Dank, Meredith, Kyle Vincent, Andrea Hughes, Niranjana Dhungel, Sunita Gurung, and Orla Jackson. 2019. US and UK: The Freedom Fund.

<https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/Prevalence-of-minors-in-Kathmandu-adult-entertainment-sector-FINAL-print.pdf>

The report reveals that, over the past few years, there has been a notable increase in the number of establishments making up the adult entertainment sector (AES). These ven-

ues are recognised as locations where the sexual exploitation of young people occurs. The forms of exploitation within these venues span a spectrum, ranging from situations where workers are coerced into flirting with customers to participating in intimate activities and sexual acts. The research encompasses a group of 600 workers under the age of 21, who are currently working in the AES. It employs two well-tested statistical methods for gauging the size of hidden populations: respondent-driven sampling in conjunction with a mark-and-recapture approach. Additionally, the study employs 50 in-depth interviews that have yielded insights into the nature of employment in the AES. The study's findings reveal that the current population of minors working in the AES in Kathmandu Valley is approximately 1,650, with a margin of error of ± 23 . Furthermore, the study indicates that minors constitute 17 per cent of the overall workforce within the AES. Additionally, the majority of employees (62 per cent) began their work in this sector when they were under 18. The report concludes that there may have been a decline in the numbers of minors working in the AES as compared to the earlier estimates. Nevertheless, there are still a large number of minors working in the sector. A sector characterised by significant instances of sexual exploitation and physical abuse, affecting individuals below the age of 17 and those slightly older, remains a distressing concern. While few other job opportunities exist for young individuals, especially girls and to a lesser extent boys, they continue to find themselves drawn into this exploitative sector. This study has furnished a reliable estimate to the prevalence of the issue and deep insight into the nature of work in AES. Consequently, the research presents several recommendations to aid those involved in this industry and to persistently combat the issue as a whole.

Keywords: adult entertainment sector, minors, sexual exploitation

136. A Little Help May Be No Help at All: Size of Scholarships and Child Labour in Nepal

Datt, Gaurav and Leah Uhe. 2019. *The Journal of Development Studies*, 55(6): 1158-1181. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1080/00220388.2018.1487052>. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/00220388.2018.1487052?scroll=top&needAccess=true>.

The study aims to collect evidence on whether (and how) in the case of income transfer programmes, the size of the transfer influences the impact on child labour. The subject of the study included 5,988 households and 28,484 individuals, including 9,282 children [data from Nepal Living Standards Survey 2010]. This paper finds significant effects in the impact of scholarship-based transfers on child labour in Nepal. High-value scholarships decrease 8- to 16-year-old girls' total work hours by one-third, largely reducing their hours in paid and unpaid economic activities with little impact on domestic chores. Low-value scholarships have no impact at all. The findings reveal the scope for calibrating transfer size to achieve greater child labour impacts in developing countries.

Keywords: education, government intervention, NGO intervention, scholarship programmes, poverty, child labour, Nepal Living Standards Survey

137. History of Abuse and Neglect and Their Associations with Mental Health in Rescued Child Labourers in Nepal

Dhakal, Sandesh, Shanta Niraula, Narayan Prasad Sharma, Sabitri Sthapit, Eleanor Bennett, Ayesha Vaswani, Rakesh Pandey, Veena Kumari, and Jennifer Yf Lau. 2019. *Australian and New Zealand Journal of Psychiatry*, 53(12): 1199-1207.

<https://pubmed.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/31185738/>.

The study aims to evaluate the level of childhood mistreatments and mental health issues related to it among the young Nepalis who have been rescued from child labour. The study administered translated versions of selected modules from the Juvenile Victimization Questionnaire, the Youth Inventory, and the Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire to 103 young people aged 12-18 years, who were rescued from child labour and trafficking and were residing in out-of-home care organisations. Employees of the care homes that look after the youth also filled out the Adolescent Symptom Inventory and the Strength and Difficulties Questionnaire. Seventy-two per cent of the individuals in the study have been maltreated at some point in their lives. Anxiety disorders and traumas were frequently recorded, particularly in the children who were the victims of maltreatment.

Keywords: child labour, forced labour, mental health, health impact, sexual exploitation, physical abuse

138. Around the World: Children's Lack of Access to Fundamental Rights in Nepal and the Effects the Nepalese Legal System has on Poverty, Health, Education, Child Labor, Child Trafficking, and Child Marriage

Ealey, Lily. 2019. *Children's Legal Rights Journal*, 39(2): 184.

<https://lawecommons.luc.edu/cgi/viewcontent.cgi?article=1187&context=clrj>

The paper examined poverty, health, education, child labour, trafficking, and child marriage in Nepal to assess the state of children in the country and how existing Nepali laws affect them. Through a review of literature on the different sectors, the paper argues that the lack of educational and health-care support in Nepali law centred on children puts them and their families at a higher risk of exploitation. The author also asserts that a weak policing mechanism to implement and uphold any child labour, child trafficking, and child marriage laws also fails to protect children in Nepal.

Keywords: child labour, trafficking, child marriage, fundamental rights, child rights

139. Child Marriage in Nepal: Stakeholders' Perspective

Gautam, Kamal. 2019. *Journal of Health Promotion*, 7: 1-6. DOI: org/10.3126/jhp.v7i0.25489.

<https://www.nepjol.info/index.php/jhp/article/view/25489>.

This article is about child marriage from the stakeholder's point of view. It aims to investigate about the conditions, effects, and plans of the stakeholders in the context of child marriage in Nepal. The stakeholders comprise of teachers, school-going girls, women, health post staff, and local politicians. The article includes both qualitative and quantitative methods and interviews and FGDs were also used as the tools of data collection. Purposive sampling was used to select 114 respondents, among which 100 were girls and women of age 15 to 25 years, 8 were schoolteachers from local schools, 2 staff (male and female) from local health post, and 3 elected ward members including the ward chairperson. The study was conducted in Sadanbutta village of the Panini Gaupalika of Argakhachi district. The study found out that in the research site, close people such as father, relatives, friends were responsible for child marriage. Similarly, lack of opportunity and difficulty in becoming independent were some of the effects that respondents had to face. Also, it was found that early age childbirth due to early marriage resulted in complications during and post-partum complications in mothers and in the overall health of women.

Keywords: child marriage, complications of child marriage, stakeholders' perspectives

140. The Trafficking of Girls and Young Women in Nepal: Evidence for Prevention and Assistance

Kiss, Ligia, Anthony Davis, David Fotheringham, Alys McAlpine, Nambusi Kyegombe, Ludmila Abilio, and Joelle Mak. 2019. UK: Plan International.

<https://plan-uk.org/file/plan-trafficking-report-nepal-v3pdf/download?token=TkBnPz5O>.

This country report is sourced from a research report titled 'The trafficking of girls and young women: evidence for prevention and assistance'. The migration and trafficking pathways of girls and young women have been explained in this report. The research finds out that most of the women and adolescent girls had decided to move or have been persuaded to do so frequently as a coping strategy, livelihood strategy, or aspirational endeavour. Also, young women and girls are usually duped or forced into exploitative work during migration process, and poor economic conditions and limited income opportunities is one of the major drivers of migration and risk of trafficking.

Keywords: human trafficking of girls and women, poverty, exploitation, discrimination, forced labour

141. Problems and Solutions of Nepalese Human Trafficking in India

Kumar, Aman. 2019. *Research Nepal Journal of Development Studies*, 2(1), 63-70. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3126/rmjds.v2i1.25233>.

<https://www.nepjol.info/index.php/rmjds/article/view/25233>.

This article studies the problems and solutions of trafficking from Nepal to India. The researcher conducted in-depth interviews with security personnel of the Sunauli border of both Nepal and India. Per this article, the problems of human trafficking emerge from issues like poverty, open borders, labour migration, bad governance, exclusion, city attractions, and active traffickers. Similarly, job opportunities inside the country, programmes to alleviate poverty, rural education, inclusion and participation, secured borders, etc. are some of the factors that are critically needed in Nepal in order to reduce problems of human trafficking.

Keywords: human trafficking, problems, solutions

142. Scoping Study on Modern Slavery Nepal.

Murray, Fraser, Samanthi Theminimulle, Milan Dharel, and Bibhu Thapaliya Shresta. 2019. Development Alternatives Incorporated.

https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/media/5e579ec7d3bf7f06fc9e0c7b/DFID_Study_on_Modern_Slavery_Nepal_.pdf.

The objective of this scoping study is to increase knowledge regarding the types and possible prevalence of modern slavery in Nepal and to also comprehend how it may be effectively combated. The data was collected through key informant interviews with people who have worked with the victims of the following three categories: the ones who have faced some major forms of modern slavery, the ones belonging to the groups and communities that are more susceptible to the modern slavery, and the ones who are staying/living in the places where modern slavery are relatively common. Sindhupalchowk, Sunsari, Siraha, Saptari, Dhanusa, Morang, Dhading, and Kaski districts were the areas of study where two gender-balanced research teams of one local and one international researcher collected the data. Traditional bonded agriculture labour, forced marriage, human trafficking, child trafficking and labour, commercial sexual exploitation, exploitative labour are the various forms of modern slavery prevalent in Nepal. Further, the study reports that Nepal is now not just the source but a transit point for human trafficking, one of the forms of modern slavery. The study's recommendation includes using the federalisation process as an opportunity to restore, enhance or to initiate various significant structures to deal with different types of modern slavery, creating awareness at the grassroot level in the community, family, and individual level regarding how to recognise, report, and find help in the context of human trafficking, promoting birth registration, document of identification to reduce the chances of getting exploit by the brokers and employers, etc.

Keywords: modern slavery, exploitation, vulnerable communities, awareness

143. Socio-Economic Situation of Child Labour in Brick Factory of Saptari District

Nepali, Kamal. 2019. Master's Thesis submitted to the Central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University.

<https://elibrary.tucl.edu.np/bitstream/123456789/17136/1/Full%20Thesis.pdf>

This thesis aims to examine the socio-economic status of children working in the brick-kiln sectors of Saptari district of Nepal as well as to examine the environment in which these children work and determine the issues that they have to face. Data was collected through interviews with 48 children working in four brick kilns in Saptari district. The thesis finds that a large number of children come from a low-income household that relies on work like domestic help or agriculture as their primary sources of income and many of them own little to no land at all. Furthermore, those children work in unhealthy and dangerous conditions and are subjected to exploitation. They also had various physical impacts such as headache, joint pain, fever, eye irritation, burns due to working in the brick kilns. The thesis also found that many of the children experienced some kind of harassment, abuse and exploitation in the workplace.

Keywords: brick kilns, child labour, working condition

144. Baalmajdur Bidyarthiko Sikaeko [sic] Awastha (in Nepali) [The Learning Status of Student Child Labourers]

Niraula, Kesab. 2019. Sukuna Multiple Campus, Morang.

<https://elibrary.tucl.edu.np/bitstream/123456789/9753/2/chapter%281%29.pdf>

The thesis aims to assess the learning statuses of child labourers, analyse the reasons for child labourers dropping out from the school and attempts to discover and suggest the ways to improve the situation of child labourers. The study site is Biratnagar Municipality of Morang district, and both qualitative and quantitative methods are used. The sample size is 18 respondents including a total of three principals (one from each school), six teachers (two from each school) and nine students working as child labourers (three from each school) from three secondary schools. Interviews and questionnaires were used to collect the data. The thesis finds that the admission rate of children in secondary level is reducing each academic year. Similarly, a lack of knowledge among parents regarding child labour, large family size, sickness of children's family members, weak financial condition, practice of using children as free labour, existing discrimination in school, school environment not being child- and disabled-friendly, and failure in class examination are the reasons for children's engagement in child labour and as well as the reason for their drop-out from the school. The thesis's recommendation includes implementing economic upliftment programmes targeting extremely poor communities of rural areas, carrying out further research on things like the reasons for children dropping out from school, and the roles that parents, teachers, and principals can play

to reduce the dropout rate.

Keywords: child labour, education, school dropout, poverty

145. Child Labor in the Eateries along the Prithvi Highway of Nepal

Rai, Shyam Kumar. 2019. Available at Social Science Research Network.

<http://dx.doi.org/10.2139/ssrn.3545137>.

https://papers.ssrn.com/sol3/papers.cfm?abstract_id=3545137.

This article aims to study the causes and consequences of child labour in eateries along the Prithvi Highway in Nepal, while also reviewing the working condition and risks of the labourers in the eateries, and actions of government and non-governmental organisations against it. For the research, 214 eateries along the Prithvi Highway from Naubise to Muglin Bazar were studied, and 43 child labourers aged 10 to 18 years were found from 39 eateries. Interviews and both participatory and non-participatory observations were conducted with 29 respondents, or 67 per cent of total child labourers. Key informant interviews were also done with municipal officers, police, and non-government organisations. The study found that the lack of food, shelter, clothes, lack of awareness of the parents and the child labourers, lack of education, family conflict, polygamy, punishment towards children, and attraction of money were the major cause of child labour in eateries. Similarly, child trafficking, road accidents, physical and sexual exploitation, and health problems were the major risks of child labourers. The study provides several recommendations for the government and other agencies for intervention against the problems in receiving foods, shelter, clothes.

Keywords: poverty, education, child labour, work in restaurant, hazardous working conditions, health impact, sexual exploitation, physical abuse

146. Human Trafficking Trends

Sapkota, Bishnu. 2019. *Research Nepal Journal of Development Studies*, 2(1): 126-136.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3126/rnjds.v2i1.25276>. <https://www.nepjol.info/index.php/rnjds/article/view/25276>.

The main aim of this study is to examine the beginnings of global trend of human trafficking. The paper highlights the dynamics of trafficking, i.e., it is a person in trafficking when someone is recruited, transported, transferred, harboured, or received by the use of force, coercion, abduction, cheating, misusing power and authority, or by offering or receiving payments or benefit to obtain the agreement of someone in control of another with the aim of exploitation. The study used secondary sources such as journals, books, articles, thesis, reports, etc. as a method of data collection. The study argues that there is no single explanation as the cause of human trafficking because it involves a large number of players from different backgrounds. The study says that further research is needed on the field of human trafficking and different organisations involved in the sec-

tor should come together, collaborate, share relevant information so that there can be more work and contribution in prevention of trafficking.

Keywords: human trafficking, India and South Asia, Nepal

147. Seasonal Child Labour in Nepal's Brick Kilns: A Study of Its Educational Impact and Parents' Attitudes Towards It

Sharma, Binita and Megh R. Dangal. 2019. *Journal of Education and Work*, 32(6-7): 586-597. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1080/13639080.2019.1673886>. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/13639080.2019.1673886>.

This article examines how having to work in Nepal's brick kilns impacts the classroom performance and achievement of the child labourers, while also exploring parents' perspectives towards it. To this end, a field study within select brick kilns was conducted among child labourers as well as adults whose offspring had previously worked as child labourers. Forty-four male child labourers and 21 parents (either father or mother) whose children had worked in brick kilns at some point in their lives were the subjects in study. Information was collected through semi-structured interviews, in-depth interviews, and focus group discussions. The study finds that most child labourers spend a portion of their earnings to support their own education or their siblings' education, which helps in the educational continuity. But the seasonal migration of child labourers in search of work in the brick kiln sector affects their chances of going to school, which lowers their performance in the classroom as well as their final grades and increases the drop-out rates. The article concludes that even though child labour may have immediate financial rewards, which the poor families might take as an easy path to get out of poverty, its effect on education and well-being of children are lifelong.

Keywords: child labour, brick kilns, education, livelihood strategies, poverty, school performance

148. Shattered Dreams and Stolen Childhood: A Study of Child Labour and Child Rights in Restaurants and Hotels of Pokhara, Nepal

Upadhyay, Prakash. 2019. *Janapriya Journal of Interdisciplinary Studies*, 8: 125-135. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3126/jjis.v8i0.27305>.

<https://www.nepjol.info/index.php/JJIS/article/view/27305>.

With the assumption that child labour is prevalent, and even increasing in urban areas of Nepal despite many interventions and commitments, the study aims to find out how much child labour violates the rights of child. The study uses both qualitative and quantitative approaches. Field study was conducted from December 2-30, 2018 in Pokhara with 80 child labourers working in hotels and restaurants selected for the study using purposive random sampling. A survey was used to collect quantitative informa-

tion which supplemented the qualitative information collected through interviews with child labourers and restaurant/hotel employers, direct observation and case studies on personal experiences, valuation of child rights, relationships and lifestyle. The condition of child labourers is shocking as family breakdown and violation of the rights of children by employers has prevented prospects of healthy adulthood of children under a vicious circle of exploitation, deprivation, and abuse. The study also finds that child labourers experiences sexual harassment and violence from employers, senior employees as well as customers. There are also instances where child workers have been underpaid or not paid at all. Child labourers also face heavy workload, long hours, and physical punishment. The study found that most of the employers showed an ignorance of child rights, and that most children working in the restaurants and hotel sector were willing to be rehabilitated, if given the chance.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, poverty, education, sexual exploitation, overwork, work in restaurant

149. 2018 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor – Nepal

US Department of Labor. 2019. Washington, DC: US Department of Labor.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/child_labor_reports/tda2018/Nepal.pdf.

The report is an overview of Nepal's moderate progress towards ending the worst forms of child labour in the country in 2018. It states that the Nepal Labor Force Survey initiated by the government can be helpful to get important information on child labour, including the number involved in dangerous work. It further states that revisions to the Child Labour Act of 2002 is drafted by Nepal, intending to make sure that the list of dangerous job for children is thorough and complete and to raise the minimum age of entry for dangerous work to 18. Similarly, a new National Child Labour Elimination Committee was established by the government with the aim of coordinating efforts to address child labour and also created National Master Plan to end child labour, especially the worst forms of child labour and all forms of child labour by the year 2022 and 2025 respectively. The Government of Nepal has also initiated some other programmes like Social Security Fund programme and Decent Work Country Program in order to help the workers and their families and to fight child labour, but despite all these, children involving in worst forms of labour, children involving in dangerous tasks in various sectors, is still very much prevalent in Nepal. The budget allocated by the Department of Labour and other resources such as labour inspectors, trainings available are still inadequate to implement the laws on labour, including child labour. The brief concludes with some suggestions to the government like gathering and publishing data on child labour, worst forms of child labour, and especially on dangerous works, eradicating hindrances on education, especially for girls and children with disability, initiate social programmes that will help children who are working in the brick kilns as well as children who are the victims of commercial sexual exploitation.

Keywords: child labour, hazardous working conditions, worst form of child labour, sexual exploitation, agriculture work, carpet factory, brick kiln

150. Trafficking in Persons Report: Nepal

US Department of State. 2019. US Department of State. 341-345.

<https://www.state.gov/wp-content/uploads/2019/06/2019-TIP-Report-Narratives-N-S.pdf>

The report states Nepal as a Tier 2 Country, i.e., Nepal did not fully meet the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking but is making significant efforts to do so. The report states by identifying a higher number of male trafficking victims than in prior years and funding a law enforcement division especially focused on crimes related to human trafficking, the government showed more efforts in comparison to the previous reporting period. Despite this, the government fell short of meeting the minimum standards in different key sectors. Nepal's laws do not ban all forms of forced labour, and the government also inordinately focuses on female trafficking victims even though there are large numbers of Nepali male trafficking victims abroad. The report also offered a number of recommendations including, amendment of the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act to align the definition of human trafficking with the 2000 UN TIP Protocol, finalising and providing training to frontline responders on standard operating procedures (SOPs), prosecutions, and convictions against all forms of trafficking, including transnational labour trafficking of Nepali males, enforcing victim witness protection provision of the related Act, implementing low cost recruitment policy, lifting bans on female migration, and ratifying the 2000 UN TIP Protocol.

Keywords: human trafficking, policies, prosecution, trafficking victims, due process

151. 2019 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Nepal

US Department of State. 2019. US Department of State.

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2019-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/nepal/>

The report presents the human rights situation of Nepal in the year 2019. The report presents a wide array of human rights issues of the year and identifies cases of human rights violations and also progress made in the acknowledgment and protection of human rights by the state. Reports of illegal or arbitrary killings, including extrajudicial killings, torture, unlawful detention by the government, website blocking, criminal defamation laws, meddling with rights of peaceful assembly and freedom of association, including NGO laws which are overly restrictive, restrictions on freedom of movement for refugees, particularly Tibetan residents, serious acts of corruption and the use of child labour, forced labour and compulsory labour are some important human rights issues included in this report. Neither the ones that committed human rights abuses during the time of conflict nor security officials accused of exercising extreme force to control protest in recent years have faced significant consequences. With regard to traf-

ficking of persons, the report cites NGOs in stating that despite progress, there were not enough resources and training to assist victims of trafficking and violence. The report further states that the government offers treatment, protection, and psychosocial and legal support to survivors of gender-based violence kept centres in 17 districts, rehabilitation centres in eight districts and hospital-based one-stop crisis management centres in 17 districts. The report further states that as per gender experts, the coordination among police and different other institutions like NHRC, community mediation centres, National Women's Commission have improved in recent times.

Keywords: human rights, human trafficking, domestic violence, gender-based violence, freedom

152. Assessing the Condition of Domestic Child Workers Aftermath of Nepal Earthquake in Besisahar Municipality, Lamjung

Baral, Chhabi Ram. 2020. Patan Pragya, 7(1):10-21.

DOI: <https://doi.org/10.3126/pragya.v7i1.35256>.

The paper examines and explores the actual situation and issues of domestic child workers involved in domestic work in the aftermath of the 25 April 2015 earthquake in Besisahar Municipality, Lamjung district. A mixed-method research design was used for data collection where 50 domestic child workers (20 boys and 30 girls) of age between 5-17 years were selected through purposive sampling. Structured questionnaires along with secondary sources were used to get the details regarding domestic child workers in Besisahar Municipality. Poverty was found to be one of the major causes of children being involved in domestic child labour as it was difficult for them to even fulfill their basic needs, i.e., food, clothing, shelter and health. Furthermore, family situations, low level of family income, and no landholdings also forced children to opt for domestic child labour. As childhood is a time for children to socialise and explore themselves, the study advocates for access to educational opportunities in order to improve the overall life standard of children. Lastly, it also recommends making the most of potential of the adults instead of children to improve the economic situation of poverty-stricken families.

Keywords: domestic child workers, problems, health, future aspiration

153. The Situation of Child Labour in Nepal: An Analysis (With Reference to Karnali Province)

Bk, Man Bahadur and Dambar Bahadur Rokaya. 2020. Surkhet: Ministry of Social Development, Karnali Province.

https://www.academia.edu/44093193/The_Situation_of_Child_Labour_in_Nepal_An_Analysis_With_Reference_to_Karnali_Province

The book is a translated version of the book published in Nepali in 2019 which gives an overview of child labour in the global context and Nepal including the Karnali province by putting together contemporary information on child labour. Globally, around 152 million children worldwide and about 47.8 per cent of children in the context of Nepal are involved in some form of child labour. Along with the status of child labour, it also focuses on the educational status of children engaged in child labour and its various forms, children involved in various forms of child labour according to geography and ethnicity, their working hours, and so on, especially highlighting the Karnali province. Moreover, it also points out the national and international legal provisions against child labour in Nepal along with its problems, challenges, and causes such as economic poverty, lack of strict legal instruments, poor structure and weak implementation, conflict, and family separation and lack of child protection, lack of quality education and lack of educational environment, and so on. Lastly, it urges to advance programmes and activities related to child labour by coordinating, collaborating, and cooperating with all three-tier of the government and the concerned stakeholders. It also suggests all three-tier of the government to take collective initiatives for the effective implementation of plans and policies for visible results.

Keywords: Karnali, child labour, challenges, plans and policies

154. Bricks in the Wall: A Review of the Issues That Affect Children of in-Country Seasonal Migrant Workers in the Brick Kilns of Nepal

Daly, Angela, Alice Hillis, Shubhendra Man Shrestha, and Babu Kaji Shrestha. 2020. *Geography Compass*, 14(12).

<https://compass.onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/pdfdirect/10.1111/gec3.12547>.

This paper looks thematically into the issue of child labour and migration through a review of literature from Nepal and South Asia from 2010-2020. It looks into the effect of internal migration on the children and focuses on two key themes and eight sub-themes that emerged from this review– seasonal in-country migration to brick kilns and impacts on children (reasons for children to enter into migrant work, left-behind children, remittances, the role of gender on work and education) and the situation of children working in Nepali brick kilns (living conditions, working conditions and occupational ill-health, psychosocial distress, child protection). The review revealed that there is a very little focus given to the issue of child labour in seasonal migration as most of the study just see it as an outcome of overall migration. The paper also reports that in recent years, there has been very little study regarding the effect of it on families and children.

Keywords: brick kilns, child labour, education, migration, Nepal

155. Children's Migration to Brick Kilns in Nepal: A Review of Educational Interventions and Stakeholder Responses to Child Labour

Daly, Angela, Alice Hillis, Shubhendra Man Shrestha, and Babu Kaji Shrestha. 2020. *Vulnerable Children and Youth Studies*, 16(3): 221–231.

[DOI:10.1080/17450128.2020.1867334](https://doi.org/10.1080/17450128.2020.1867334).

This paper reviews the existing literature and database on educational interventions to support the children of migrant families working in brick kilns and examines the roles and responsibilities of various governments, non-governmental organisations, employers, and other stakeholders in helping reduce the hazardous impact on the child labourers. Reviewing 67 papers, including peer journal articles, organisational reports, national data and others, the paper reports that the educational interventions for the children mainly focus on access to school and non-formal education as well as livelihood support and child safeguarding. However, it argues that there needs to be more coordinated effort in line with local strategy for the overall development of the children. The paper stresses on the importance of including the perspective of the children and parents in designing and implementing the interventions.

Key words: migrant families, education, child labour, brick kilns, Nepal

156. Decent Work for Sustainable Development in Post-Crisis Nepal: Social Policy Challenges and a Way Forward

Dhakal, Subas P. and John Burgess. 2020. *Social Policy Administration*, 1-15.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/epdf/10.1111/spol.12619>.

The research aims to fill the research gap on the formulation and application of suitable social policies in developing nations in line with the Decent Work agenda of the International Labour Organisations. The research method includes document analysis including the 2015 constitution, various acts, policies, and post-conflict and post-disaster strategies of Nepal. The study findings show that despite the efforts to incorporate Decent Work agenda, there is lack of strategic directions to address a capacity shortage that is specific to the informal sector and outbound labour migrants. The paper provides comprehensive analytical contributions to the assessment of social policies implementation propelled by global priorities in developing countries with weak governance frameworks.

Keywords: social protection, Decent Work, hazardous working conditions, informal labour sector, social policy, labour migration, sustainable development

157. ECPAT Country Overview: A Report on the Scale, Scope and Context of the Sexual Exploitation of Children, Nepal

ECPAT International. 2020.. Bangkok: ECPAT International.

<https://ecpat.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/05/ECPAT-Country-Overview-Report-Sexual-Exploitation-of-Children-in-Nepal-2020-ENG.pdf>.

This report talks about the situation of child exploitation in Nepal. It talks about different issues surrounding sexual exploitation like online sexual exploitation, sale and trafficking of children for sexual exploitation, child marriage, forced marriage, sexual exploitation in travel and tourism sector, etc. It also dwells on national as well as international laws on sexual exploitation of children. The report's recommendation includes ratifying different international, regional protocols such as UNWTO Framework Convention on Tourism Ethics, Palermo Protocol, Optional Protocol on a Communications Procedure; modifying National laws such as penal code, Motion and Picture Censorship Act; aligning all laws to include sexual exploitation of children; making sure that male victims also have equal right to justice; building opportunities for free legal support to child victim of sexual exploitation; involving children comprising the victims in planning; and enforcing action plans impacting children and youths etc.

Keywords: child exploitation, child marriage, forced marriage, child trafficking

158. Report on Employment Relationship Survey in the Brick Industry in Nepal

International Labour Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, and Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal. 2020. Nepal. International Labour Organization, United Nations Children's Fund, and Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal.

<https://www.unicef.org/nepal/media/11896/file/Employment%20Relationships%20in%20the%20Brick%20Industry%20in%20Nepal%20.pdf>.

This report on the Employment Relationship Survey in the brick industry aims to produce relevant statistics on the prevalence of forced labour, bonded labour, and child labour in the Nepali brick industry. The paper employed mixed method research design and conducted research in 301 brick kilns, covering 4,210 households. Using three sets of structured and semi-structured questionnaires, the paper interviewed the brick-kilns workers and employers to learn the details about their demographics, child labour and forced labour, work performed, facilities received and more. According to their findings, an estimated 34,593 children between the age of five and 17 are living in the brick kilns, with around 17,738 of them working there. They also found that 44.5 per cent of the children living in the brick kilns were working in hazardous conditions which posed risk to their health and safety. The paper also recommends the prevention, protection and prosecution strategies to combat child labour.

Key words: brick kilns, child labour, hazardous work

159. Child Labour and Early Marriage as Human Rights Issues in Nepal

Joshi Ratala, Dinesh Prasad. 2020. Sambahak, Human Rights Journal, 15: 170-181.

https://www.nhr-cnepal.org/uploads/sambahak/210409045033_sambahak_vol_15.pdf.

Nepal has signed several international treaties and become a member of several international organisations to show its commitment towards protecting the fundamental rights of children at an international level. Similarly, Nepal also has adopted several domestic policies to address the specific issues of child labour and child marriage. Regardless of the country's international commitment as well as domestic legal provisions, Nepal remains susceptible to the violation of children's fundamental rights. The country's hostile socio-economic condition, as well as the pressure exerted by socio-cultural factors, hamper the promotion of child rights in Nepal. Child labour and child marriage have emerged as two important human rights issues in the country. Connecting the issues of child labour and child marriage in the broader development goals that strive to promote quality education and economic empowerment can be the best solution. Rather than imposing laws explicitly based on the principles of inalienable rights, the eradication of these malpractices is possible through the timely interventions that focus on balancing 'human need' and 'human privilege'.

Keywords: child labour, child marriage, exploitation, human rights

160. Social Norms, Labour Intermediaries, and Trajectories of Minors in Kathmandu's Adult Entertainment Industry

Oosterhof, Pauline and Elizabeth Hacker. 2020. *CLARISSA Working Paper 1*. Brighton: Institute of Development Studies.

https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/bitstream/handle/20.500.12413/15396/CLARISSA_Working_Paper_1.pdf?sequence=1&isAllowed=y.

This paper attempts to understand the reasons for the existence of commercial sexual exploitation of children in adult entertainment sector (AES) in Nepal. It emphasises how social and cultural norms strengthen and support the physical and structural realities of the industry. Two scoping visits were done in Kathmandu to collect data. The report finds that the social norm of conflating beauty with youth results in customers wanting for girls under 18 years of age. Furthermore, the young single women who work in the AES tend to be subjected to sexual harassment due to what appear to be gender and sexuality norms that results in minors being forced to engage in sexually exploitative settings. The study also says that many children migrate to Kathmandu to contribute to the family income and are from poor, marginalised and broken families who had been abandoned by abusive boyfriends, husbands, or their own families and they were trying to find means of living and were involved in AES.

Keywords: adult entertainment sector, commercial sexual exploitation of children, norms, exploitation

161. The Need for Integrated SOPs to Combat Human Trafficking along India–Nepal border

Banerjee, Sreeparna and Anikha Ashraf. 2021. Observer Research Foundation. Last accessed, 8 August 2023.

<https://www.orfonline.org/expert-speak/need-integrated-sops-combat-human-trafficking-along-india-nepal-border/>.

This article explores how the open border between Nepal and India has given rise to unabated trafficking ever since the Peace Treaty that took place between the countries in 1950. The article highlights India as a major transit country for trafficking of people from Nepal and identifies border towns in Indian states, such as in Uttar Pradesh, Bihar, and West Bengal as key areas for traffickers to carry out their activities. This article puts forward suggestions for both the countries to urgently address the existing gaps in cross-border management by formulating integrated SOPs to curb the deep-seated chain of trafficking.

Keywords: human trafficking, border, cross-border trafficking

162. Child Domestic Work: Summary Framing Paper

Blagbrough, Jonathan. 2021. UK and US: The Freedom Fund.

https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/ChildDomesticWork_2021_11.pdf.

The report situates child domestic work, taking global prevalence, causes, and drivers into consideration. It further considers the positive and negative impacts of child domestic work, highlighting it as a survival strategy, a stepping-stone to a better life as well as child domestic work as a danger to health, wellbeing, and future prospects. The report further emphasises that enhancing the well-being of children and young people in domestic work necessitates policy-makers and practitioners to take a comprehensive approach to their situations. This involves considering and responding to such practices in conjunction with various other children’s rights issues such as sexual exploitation and child marriage. The report further examines the ramifications of knowledge and findings for interventions aimed at supporting child domestic workers and preventing harm, such as organisations like ILO, in a series of reports detailing ‘good practices’, often well before the impact of the work has properly been assessed. Thereby, the report spotlights on essentialising the meaningful participation of girls and young women, draws attention to child domestic work that should not be seen in isolation from other children’s right issues, points out that understanding child domestic work in context of gender, age- and class-based norms, importance of engaging with employers and their families, illuminates that restraint is needed around the labelling of child domestic work, underscores that regulation is powerful tool but is not a panacea, and finally pin-points that caution should be exercised in spotlighting formal education as the principal alternative.

Keywords: child domestic work, causes, drivers, slavery, gender

163. Changing State and Prevalence of Child Labour in Carpet and Garment Industries in Nepal: Findings from a Nation-Wide Survey

Child Development Society. 2021. Lalitpur: World Vision International Nepal and Child Development Society.

https://www.wvi.org/sites/default/files/2021-11/Change%20State%20and%20Prevalence%20of%20child%20Labour_Nationwide%20Survey_0.pdf

The purpose of this study was to collect emerging evidence and information concerning the prevalence and magnitude of child labour in the carpet and garment industries in Nepal. The study is intended to guide policy changes and administration that would effectively reduce or eliminate the pervasiveness of child labour in different forms within the carpet and garment industries by 2022 as envisioned by the Government of Nepal (GoN). The study covered 473 industries across the country, which included 290 carpet and 183 garment industries. With 303 sample industries, Kathmandu forms the majority of the sample, followed by Lalitpur and Bhaktapur districts with 81 and 74 sample industries, respectively. Interviews using semi-structured questionnaires were conducted with the manager/operators and workers of the industries. The findings of the study suggest three attributes of the involvement of child labour in the carpet and garment industries: (i) the settings of the two industries that pertain to and develop the condition for the immersion of child labour, (ii) features and attributes of the workforce employed in the two industries and the context that cause child labour to enter into the scene, and (iii) the junctures and pervasiveness of child labour and the circumstances undermining their wellbeing.

Keywords: carpet industries, garment industries, child labour

164. Breaking the Child Labour Cycle through Education: Issues and Impacts of the Covid-19 Pandemic on Children of In-Country Seasonal Migrant Workers in the Brick Kilns of Nepal

Daly, Angela, Alyson Hillis, Shubhendra Man Shrestha, and Babu Kaji Shrestha. 2021. *Children's Geographies*, (19)5: 622–628. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1080/14733285.2021.1891406>.

This study delves into assessing the situation of child labourers who are working in brick kilns in Nepal. It focuses its attention, however, on the inter-linkage between the seasonal child migrant workers, impact of the work on their education, and the Covid pandemic. The study states that after the nation-wide devastation caused by the earthquake in 2015, demand for bricks suddenly increased. This ensued opportunities not only in the construction works but also in the brick factories, attracting mass of workers from marginalised areas and communities from around there. The study finds that an estimated, 28,000 children are working in hazardous conditions in the brick kilns of Nepal, of which 20 per cent are children under the age of 16. Among the total, up to 6,000 children work for more than 15 hours a day and for 7 days a week. The study fur-

ther finds that during the Covid lockdown, loss of income due to closure of brick kilns directly impacted their livelihood and access to education as well exacerbated their vulnerability to health hazards. Parental migration is identified as a key factor for children engaging in brick factories. The study argues that inequalities in education are intensified by emergencies. It relates this argument with the situation of the working children and finds that children were impacted hard by the pandemic due to their inaccessibility to digital technology, lack of social protection as well as a complex right to education and politicisation of the education system. The study concludes with the remark that ensuring access to education for children in vulnerable situations is a key to protecting the lives and promoting positive development of children engaged in brick kilns. This study was based on review of literature.

Keywords: earthquake, migration, child labour, educational access, brick kilns, Covid-19

165. Unpacking Human Trafficking from Neoliberalism and Neoconservatism Paradigms in Nepal: A Critical Review

Dhungel, Rita. 2021. *Molung Educational Frontier*, 11: 188–211. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.3126/mef.v11i0.37854>.

This theoretical review paper investigates the phenomenon of trafficking women and children in Nepal, a consequence of oppression and socio-economic marginalisation, and unravels human trafficking from the paradigms of neoliberalism and neoconservatism. The author conducted a critical review of secondary data, encompassing qualitative and quantitative studies and NGO publications. However, it does not claim to present a comprehensive or methodological analysis of the available evidence. The paper does not discuss human smuggling but instead provides a thorough analysis of the factors contributing to human trafficking in Nepal and then explores it through lenses of neoliberal and neoconservative ideologies. Starting with a concise overview of human trafficking in Nepal, the paper later explores the global frameworks linked with the issue. Thereby, briefly assessing the ‘4 P’ strategy (prevention, protection, prosecution, and partnerships) related to anti-human trafficking initiatives, pinpointing gaps in current practices and policies. The paper concludes by critically discussing the implications for the field of social work. The paper also stresses the necessity for anti-trafficking intervention programmes and strategies to be both accountable and aligned to the specific community’s aspirations, strengths, wisdom, and experiences. It emphasises the importance of considering external and internal influences contributing to trafficking. It stresses the necessity for participatory action research, which involves trafficking survivors in constructive discussions, enabling the creation of holistic approaches to combat human trafficking in Nepal.

Keywords: anti-human trafficking discourses, gender inequalities, injustice

166. Working Conditions and Problems of Domestic Child Labour in Kathmandu Metropolitan City

Duwadi, Pampha. 2021. *Voice of Teacher*, 6(1): 93-104. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.3126/vot.v6i1.44071>.

<https://www.nepjol.info/index.php/vot/article/view/44071/33270>.

The paper puts spotlight on the social problems, especially the working conditions of child labour in Kathmandu Metropolitan City. The objective of this paper is to pinpoint the main problems faced by domestic child workers from a developmental point of view. The study was carried out in ward 16 of Kathmandu Metropolitan City and is based on both qualitative and quantitative methods; case study methods have been taken up for the paper, which includes semi-structured interview, key informant interviews, observation as a tool for primary data collection. Ten domestic child labourers were interviewed, and they were selected through purposive sampling. The domestic child labourers seem to have been engaged in various household works by the employers without enough or any payment at all. The children had been abused and misused by the employers under the pretence of giving them a good life and education. The study also discovered that guardians and relatives acted as intermediaries to employ the domestic child worker.

Keywords: domestic child labour, employer family, physical and mental abuse, exploitation

167. Illicit Organ Removal in Nepal: An Analysis of Recent Case Law and the Adequacy of Human Trafficking and Transplantation Frameworks

Gawronska, Sylwia. 2021. *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 9(4): 546-567. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1080/23322705.2021.1946655>.

This paper examines the adequacy of Nepali legal frameworks pertaining to organ transplantation and human trafficking in combating illicit organ removal. The study carried out a series of in-depth interviews with the legal representatives of victims of illicit organ removal, following the analysis of six cases of illicit organ removal that were prosecuted between 2013 and 2019. The study reveals gaps and inconsistencies existing in the application of transplant and human trafficking frameworks. It points out a lack of legal framework to address and prosecute human trafficking for the purpose of organ removal as an organised crime. The study also recommends ways to strengthen legislative and policy responses to better address illicit organ removal in Nepal and the protection of its victims.

Keywords: organ removal, organ trafficking, organ trade

168. Human Trafficking in Nepal: Submission for The UN Universal Periodic Review, 37th Session Of The UPR Working Group (Jan-Feb 2021)

Helena Kennedy Centre for International Justice. 2021. United Kingdom: Sheffield Hallam University.

<https://uprdoc.ohchr.org/uprweb/downloadfile.aspx?filename=8088&file=EnglishTranslation>.

This report details the main forms of human trafficking and its causes in Nepal and analyses the activities that the government of Nepal has undertaken with reference to the recommendation given by the previous Universal Periodic Review and also analyses if the government has made any progress in opposition to human trafficking. As per this report, child trafficking, organ trafficking, and sex trafficking are some of the major forms of trafficking that takes place in Nepal. It further says that child trafficking is common and one of the most alarming areas of human trafficking in Nepal. Citing ‘Friends of WPC Nepal’, the report states that around 12,000 to 15,000 girls between the age of 6 to 16 are trafficked to India from Nepal every year, and majority of those girls eventually work in the sex industry in India. Similarly, women from rural areas are tricked into getting engaged in prostitution in bars and massage parlours that serve as brothels in Kathmandu. In the context of organ trafficking, the report states that the problem of organ trafficking is growing in Nepal with up to 70,000 kidneys obtained illegally every year. The major cause for these trafficking in Nepal is reported to be the 2015 earthquake and economic instability caused by it. The report states that Nepal government’s passing of Nepal Children Act 2075 in replacement of the previous children’s act of 1992 is one of the major progresses made by the government to protect children from being trafficked. The report concludes with recommendations like ensuring the ratification of Palermo Protocol, increasing awareness on organ trafficking, forming more control over the border with India, etc.

Keywords: human trafficking, earthquake, organ trafficking, children trafficking

169. I Must Work to Eat: Covid-19, Poverty, and Child Labor in Ghana, Nepal, and Uganda

Human Rights Watch. 2021. United States: Human Rights Watch.

<https://www.hrw.org/report/2021/05/26/i-must-work-eat/covid-19-poverty-and-child-labor-ghana-nepal-and-uganda>.

This report studies how Covid-19 has contributed in the increase of poverty and child labour that was decreasing significantly in Nepal, Ghana, and Uganda. In Nepal, structured interviews were conducted in Nepali and Hindi with 25 children of low-income households (14 boys and 11 girls) in Bhaktapur, Nepalgunj, and Lalitpur. The report finds that Covid-19 negatively impacted the income of families of almost all of the children that were interviewed and to cope with the financial issues, the majority of the children started working during the pandemic. Those children worked in sectors like

carpet factory, brick kilns, construction, mechanics, etc. and majority of them worked for prolonged hours in a hazardous condition, resulting in physical problems such as eye strain, dizziness, fatigue, etc. Of these children, the majority of them went back to school but continued working too after the school reopened. The report includes a series of recommendation to the government, donors, and the companies regarding education, social protection, and child labour, and some of them are: ensuring free universal access to good quality of primary and secondary education, making sure that children have decent standard of living and getting enough social security, guaranteeing the alignment of national law with the international standards, particularly by gradually implementing universal child allowances for all households with kids, initiating global fund for social security to help low- and middle-income countries by the donors, carrying out due diligence by the company, throughout the company's worldwide supply chain to guarantee that the company is not supporting child labour or any other form of violations, etc.

Keywords: Covid-19, poverty, child labour, social protection

170. Nepal Child Labour Report 2021 (Based on the data drawn from Nepal Labour Force Survey 2017/18)

International Labour Organization (ILO) and Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal. 2021. Nepal: International Labour Organization (ILO) and Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal. https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-kathmandu/documents/publication/wcms_784225.pdf.

As outlined in the report, child labour has emerged as an important alternative for impoverished rural families with social and economic disadvantages. This report is based on the data from Nepal Labour Force Survey III (2017/18). The survey methodology and questionnaire were designed in collaboration with the ILO. The survey was subjected to multiple pre-tests and refined according to feedback from each pre-test. These pre-tests were carried out across various ecological belts as well as urban and rural locations. The major findings of the report include child labour incidence stands at 18 per cent for children aged 5 to 13, and 10 per cent for those aged 14 to 17, whereas female (17 per cent) are more likely to be engaged in child labour compared to male. Likewise, the highest prevalence of child labour is observed in Karnali Province (24.6 per cent), followed by Sudurpaschim Province (20.9 per cent), Province 1 (17.6 per cent), Gandaki Province (16.1 per cent), Lumbini Province (15.8 per cent), Province 2 (11.5 per cent), and the lowest in Bagmati Province (8.9 per cent). Child labour is more prevalent in rural areas (20.4 per cent) compared to urban areas (12.1 per cent). The report suggests that poverty is a significant driver of child labour. The study's findings give rise to several policy considerations. For instance, the existing policy allowing children to work for up to 36 hours needs to be re-evaluated.

Keywords: child labour, poverty, intervention, action plan, standard of living

171. Shifting Norms Among Customers Who Frequent Adult Entertainment Venues in Kathmandu, Nepal: Results from a Normative Change Campaign

Jordan, Lucy P, Clifton Emery, Orla Jackson, and Xiaochen Zhou. 2021. The University of Hongkong, Terre des homes, and The Freedom Fund.

<https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/Shifting-norms-Kathmandu-evaluation-WEB-compressed.pdf>.

This study evaluates the growing social and normative change campaigns and its efficacy, especially of the ‘18 minus’ campaign that aimed to change harmful social norms among Nepali men below 35 years of age that results in the exploitation of minors in the adult entertainment sector. The campaign focused on changing the perspective, behaviours of people regarding the commercial exploitation of children. Videos, posters, audios, and other media were used in the campaign that reached millions of people. The study evaluated the campaign’s effectiveness using a baseline and endline evaluation, focusing on five major norm outcomes: preference of young companion, fantasy beliefs about teenage girls, awareness about exploitation inside adult entertainment sector (AES) venues, acceptance of other male customers with young girls, and admitting sexual history with young girls, that were first targeted by the campaign. The study was conducted in three stages: project planning and preparation was done in the first stage where questionnaires were made, pilot study was conducted in the second stage where the developed questionnaire was tested, and data collection was conducted of baseline and endline surveys targeting the adult male customer of AES in particular location. The sample size was 1024 (baseline 436, endline 588). The report finds that the campaign had a positive effect in reducing the norm of choosing young companions. While there was a positive effect on spreading awareness about the exploitative state of women working in the AES, reducing the norm of having fantasy beliefs regarding teenage girls did not have any clear effect. Similarly, there was no visible effect on changing the view of other men with young teenage girls. And, the effect of the campaign on reducing the acceptance of purchasing from young teenage girls is unresolved. The report recommends spreading information to customers, service providers as well as the owners regarding laws that state CSEC as illegal as a part of future interventions. It also recommends considering peer groups as target audiences in future intervention programs.

Keywords: commercial sexual exploitation of children, adult entertainment industry, young teenage girls, customers

172. Kathmandu Modern Slavery Statement 2021

Kathmandu Pty Limited. 2021. Melbourne: Kathmandu Pty Limited.

<https://modernslaveryregister.gov.au/statements/file/8a047ec7-89ec-4682-b561-bf2d-54227fac/>.

This statement attempts to explore the pattern, processes, and perception as to how

modern slavery is perceived, and the extent of its prevalence worldwide. It reveals that as the corporate entities cannot escape their fiduciary obligation to make profits and their quest to maximise returns at the cost of cutthroat competition among suppliers, such situations create ideal conditions for modern slavery to thrive, which the statement terms a ‘Benefit Mindset’. It presents a cursory picture of some of the countries where modern slavery still exists, and Nepal is one of them. In the context of Nepal, it states that Kathmandu is moving away from the model of social compliance based on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) due to the Benefit Mindset taking over the corporate sector. The statement argues that unless there is a tangible change in the perception of the companies, or a whole shift in the paradigm of the psychology, i.e., from separateness [the trend of viewing workers as separate individuals] to interdependence, the pathway for transforming business culture to purpose-driven [considerate about the wellbeing of affected all] innovation ecosystems is impossible. This document also reveals that the risk of slavery in Nepal is high as the Global Slavery Index estimates 171,000 people are enslaved within the country itself. It also touches upon the issue of Kamalari, stating that even though the practice is already banned, it still exists in some of the Tharu communities. The statement further characterises Nepal as a source, transit, and destination country for men, women, and children in modern slavery chain and that the Covid pandemic has further exacerbated this scenario. The statement ends with a list of actions taken by the project to assess and address the risks of Modern Slavery. *Keywords:* Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR), modern slavery, Benefit Mindset

173. Preventing Trafficking and Protecting Vulnerable Young Women Through Economic Empowerment, Cross-Country Report: Ethiopia, Nepal and Tamil Nadu, India

Lo, Yuki, Shomsia Ali, Richard Johnson, and Seth Opuni. 2021. US and UK: The Freedom Fund.

<https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/Preventing-trafficking-of-young-women-through-economic-empowerment-compressed.pdf>.

The report highlights that promoting economic empowerment in the form of having a ‘good job’ is a key strategy in combating human trafficking. Furthermore, the report points out that several economic empowerment initiatives tend to steer women into traditionally ‘feminine’ occupations, such as sewing, jewellery crafting, hairdressing, beauty, food processing and selling. These jobs often lack security, are low paid and unregulated, and not seen as desirable career paths. In response, this study explores what non-traditional avenues of employment exist, ascertain the existing support services, and identify additional requisites to assist at-risk women. The research team engaged with 226 stakeholders, which encompassed 147 young women and trafficking survivors across deliberately diverse settings: urban areas in Ethiopia, urban locales in Nepal, and the rural setting of Tamil Nadu, India. Through in-country interviews and discussion

groups within respective countries, the research revealed that there are viable introductory positions for young labourers in the hospitality, tourism, retail, health-care, and construction industries. Employers in these industries exhibited a notable interest in recruiting young individuals. Nevertheless, despite the existence of these employment options, they were not necessarily accessible to young women and survivors from vulnerable backgrounds due to a variety of challenges, including: social norms, cultural practices, lack of formal identification, being overlooked, stigma of being a survivor, and underlying vulnerabilities, among others. Finally, the research recommends a series of measures to enhance the efficacy of both anti-trafficking as well as economic empowerment programmes. These recommendations encompass anti-trafficking organisations, training and employability providers, and local government and private funders, among others.

Keywords: Trafficking prevention, economic empowerment, social norms, cultural practices

174. The Psychological Health and Well-Being of Children Working in the Brick Industry: A Comparative Study

Pellenq, Catherine, Susan Gunn, and Laurent Lima. 2021. *Safety Science*, 140.

<https://www.sciencedirect.com/science/article/pii/S0925753521000965>.

This comparative study, carried out in Nepal, Afghanistan, Pakistan, and Bangladesh, attempted to examine the nature and extent of the psychological differences between children and adolescents working in brick kilns and a comparison group of non-working children across the four countries. The study also sought to validate an instrument capable of deriving this information for use in future population-based surveys. The four-country dataset was based on surveys from 915 working children and 638 non-working children as a control group. Through Factor Analysis, six key dimensions of psychological well-being which were relevant to working children were identified: stress, self-esteem, supervision, emotionality, personal security, and sense of mistreatment. Additionally, the study also utilised multivariate linear regressions to statistically model the effects that children's work had on these dimensions in relation to the relevant sociodemographic factors. The authors framed their study on the basis of Martin Woodhead's theoretical framework on psychosocial impacts of child work. The authors found that child labour had negative effects on all the measured dimensions, with girls being affected most significantly. Further, none of the expected positive effects of work, like higher self-confidence as a result of work or helping the family, were found through this study. The authors highlight that while migration and work-related injuries had very little influence on the trend of working children, school attendance had a mediating or psychologically protective effect on the children engaged in labour. The authors conclude that examining the nature and severity of the psychological stress endured by underage workers could inform both policy and interventions in the future.

Keywords: child labour, young workers, occupational safety and health, psychosocial well-being, brick kilns, developing countries

175. Minors in Kathmandu’s Adult Entertainment Sector: What’s Driving Demand?

Risal, Subas and Elizabeth Hacker. 2021. USA and UK: The Freedom Fund.

https://ecpat.org/wp-content/uploads/2021/08/The-Freedom-Fund_Minors-in-Kathmandu-Entertainment-Sector.pdf.

The purpose of this research is to understand the attitude, perception, and motivation of people who use, own, and manage places where commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) takes place. It also reviews laws and policies encompassing CSEC as well as other laws that are pertinent and which may safeguard children. The study was conducted in two stages: informal group discussion, KIIs, focus group, and literature review was done in the first stage, and the main data collection was done in the second stage where a total of 62 in-depth interviews were conducted with customers, managers, and owners of the venue. The research found out that the culture that accepts and defends exploitation is pervasive and widely accepted. The interviewees agreed that having a physical relationship with children is despicable, but everyone gave excuses and shifted the blame to others for CSEC—customers accused the owners for deliberately hiring the minors, owners accused the girls for lying their age, managers accused the government for their weakness to implement the laws that forbids the minors from working in these sectors. Furthermore, the reason for customers preferring children as per the finding is the embodiment of beauty in the girls that are in their mid to late teens. Similarly, the owners of larger venues like dance bars were relatively more aware about the existing rules and regulation against child labour and CSEC than the owners of smaller venues. Few of the owners thought hiring workers under 16 as illegal while others thought these laws were applicable to workers under 18.

Keywords: commercial sexual exploitation of children, adult entertainment sector, minors

176. Optimizing Screening and Support Services for Gender-Based Violence and Trafficking in Persons Victims

Social Science Baha. 2021. Kathmandu: The Asia Foundation.

https://asiafoundation.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/05/Optimizing-Screening-and-Support-Services-for-Trafficking-in-Persons-Victims-in-Nepal_English-Report.pdf.

This report originated from a study spread across three South Asian countries— India, Nepal and Sri Lanka. This report originated from a study spread across three South Asian countries— India, Nepal, and Sri Lanka. The study aimed to identify promising practices and obstacles related to integrating or separating services for victims of human trafficking and gender-based violence (GBV) with an overarching goal of improving the

efficiency and effectiveness of screening and service delivery for victims of trafficking in persons (TIP) and GBV across diverse contexts. The research carried out in Nepal encompassed the capital city, Kathmandu, along with three peripheral districts bordering India, namely Morang and Sunsari in Province 1, and Banke in Lumbini province. Before commencing the fieldwork, an extensive review of the available literature on TIP and GBV, primarily focused on Nepal, was undertaken. Additionally, an analysis of pertinent legal and policy frameworks was carried out. Interviews and focus group discussions were held with a diverse range of individuals and entities. These included GBV and TIP survivors; representatives of shelter homes, NGOs, INGOs; and government service providers; law enforcement personnel stationed at the border; and immigration officials, government officials, as well as prosecutors and judges. The report principally delves into the situational analysis on GBV and TIP, looks into the understanding of TIP and GBV in Nepal, examines protection mechanisms afforded through legal framework, access to services for TIP and GBV victims, and explores the integration of services. The report provides extensive policy recommendations for shelter homes and service providers, law enforcement agencies, and government officials.

Keywords: gender-based violence, Trafficking in Persons, situation analysis, legal frameworks

177. Menace of Human Trafficking in Nepal

Thapa, Kavita. 2021. *International Journal of Scientific and Research Publications*, (11)8: 30-37. DOI:

<http://dx.doi.org/10.29322/IJSRP.11.08.2021.p11605>.

This paper is an attempt to examine how the traffickers and brokers were involved in human trafficking during the Covid-19 pandemic, which exacerbated the vulnerability and disrupted the livelihoods of the already vulnerable populations. It focuses its objective on understanding the tendency of human trafficking, its routes, major destination and transit countries, highly affected communities and areas, purpose of human trafficking, their consequences, and possible solutions to the problem. The study finds that such trafficking is carried out for a number of purposes such as slavery, forced marriage, street begging, and organ trade among others. The paper presents a set of recommendations based on these findings.

Keywords: Covid-19, organ removal, trafficking during the pandemic, human trafficking

178. Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Nepal: Shifting forms of Abuse

The Freedom Fund. 2021. UK and US: The Freedom Fund.

<https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/Commercial-sexual-exploitation-of-children-in-Nepal-Final.pdf>.

The report draws attention to the commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC), a

widely recognised problem in Kathmandu. It emphasises that, over the last decade, there has been a proliferation in the number of establishments making up the adult entertainment sector (AES). It emphasises that there has been a dual approach of prevention and protection measures, alongside advocating to the government for improved regulation of the adult entertainment sector. Nevertheless, there are anecdotes of instances of CSEC reductions in the AES, there could be shifting forms of abuse occurring online and in other locations. The report is based upon interviews with 121 key informants, field observations, and document analysis. The report finds that street children are highly vulnerable to commercial sexual exploitation, and guesthouses, private apartments, homestays, catering houses were frequently disclosed as locations where CSEC takes place. Apart from that, the report found that online child sexual exploitation is another growth market for CSEC and argues that child abuse at the hands of tourists is a further under-investigated problem in Nepal. Although not comprehensive, the findings of the report clearly indicate that the nature and settings of CSEC occurrences are undergoing transformation, and that further research and policy responses are needed to determine the full scope of these shifts. To help curb this development, the report proposes a range of measures to be undertaken by relevant entities, like authorities, NGOs, and researchers. Some of these recommendations encompass legal measures, monitoring and surveillance, capacity building, and awareness raising among others.

Keywords: commercial sexual exploitation of children, abuse, adult entertainment sector, interventions, legal measures, monitoring and surveillance

179. Vulnerability to Human Trafficking in Nepal from Enhanced Regional Connectivity

The World Bank. 2021. Washington, DC: World Bank.

<https://documents1.worldbank.org/curated/en/981551639049704664/pdf/Vulnerability-to-Human-Trafficking-in-Nepal-from-Enhanced-Regional-Connectivity.pdf>.

The report draws attention to trafficking in persons as a form of modern-day slavery involving the recruitment, harbouring, or transportation of people into an exploitative condition by means of violence, deception, or coercion. For the purpose of this study, the primary research was undertaken using FGD, in-depth KIIs, and ethnographic observations, with snowball and purposive sampling techniques. Data were collected from a range of stakeholders, consisting of vulnerable groups, community members, NGOs, CBOs, government officials, and public transport stakeholders among others. The study site covered three transport corridors: Corridor 1 (Kathmandu-Naubise-Mugling), Corridor 2 (Birgunj-Pathlaiya), and Corridor 3 (Pathlaiya-Dhalkebar), which cut across nine districts in Nepal: Kathmandu, Dhading, Chitwan, Bara, Rautahat, Dhanusha, Mahottari, Parsa, and Sarlahi. The report finds that various patterns are emerging in border areas that are making it challenging to address illegal and criminal activities, including human trafficking. Some of these are: (i) multiplicity of routes and ease of travel, (ii) ex-

istence of historical trade relations including consumer market, and (iii) relatively thin presence of law enforcement agencies. Further, the risk of trafficking is accelerated due to factors such as poverty, gender-based violence, social norms and cultural practices, unemployment, illiteracy, and aspirations for better work among others. When it comes to road connectivity, these vulnerabilities may hinder people from fully benefiting from the opportunities that roads offer, leading them to seek alternative livelihoods that could expose them to the dangers of trafficking. After analysing the vulnerabilities and capabilities of different stakeholders in combating human trafficking, the study found that addressing the involved vulnerabilities and risk factors requires intervention at both the policy and project implementation levels. The study proposes recommendations in seven areas, including policy and legislative reforms, public outreach, capacity building, border-control strengthening, coordination and partnerships, advocacy for policy changes, research and data collection, and World bank-funded project-specific actions.

Keywords: trafficking in persons, road networks, connectivity, migration, border

180. 2020 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labor- Nepal

United States Department of Labor. 2021. Washington, DC: US Department of Labor.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/child_labor_reports/tda2020/2020_TDA_BigBook_Online_optimized.pdf

The report is an overview of Nepal's moderate progress towards ending the worst forms of child labour in the country in 2020. It states that the government ratified the Palermo Protocol to Prevent, Suppress, and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children and also released the Report on Employment Relationship Survey in the Brick Industry in Nepal, which details the pervasiveness of child labour, forced labour, and bonded labour in the brick industry. Similarly, the Government of Nepal in order to help with the enforcement of Second National Master Plan on the Elimination of Child Labour to end all forms of child labour by 2025 and the worst forms of child labour by 2022, created an action plan as well. But despite all these, children involving in worst forms of labour, children involving in dangerous tasks in various sectors, is still very much prevalent in Nepal. The budget allocated by the Department of Labour and other resources such as labour inspectors, trainings available are still inadequate to implement the laws on labour, including child labour. The brief concludes with some suggestions to the government like gathering and publishing data on child labour, worst forms of child labour, and especially on dangerous works, initiate social programmes that will help children who are working in the brick kilns as well as children who are the victims of commercial sexual exploitation, increasing the number of labour inspectors in accordance with the ILO's technical advice.

Keywords: child labour, forced labour, sexual exploitation, hazardous working conditions

181. 2021 Country Reports on Human Rights Practices: Nepal

US Department of State. 2021. Washington, DC: US Department of State.

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-country-reports-on-human-rights-practices/nepal/>.

Section 7 (b and c) of this report details the prohibition of forced or compulsory labour, child labour and informs the minimum age for employment. Per section 7(b) of this report, even though Nepal's law prohibits forced labour of all forms, things such as harbouring, transporting, recruitment of people through deception, force, or violence is not considered illegal. Similarly, the government has not been able to implement the law effectively, and Nepal is still a country of source, transit, and destination for children who were the victims of forced labour. The government's implementation of the law banning bonded labour was inadequate, and help such as financial aid, educational opportunities was not offered either by the government in order to reintegrate the recently freed girls and women into society. Likewise, section 7(c) of this report states that 14 and 17 is the minimum age for work and hazardous work set by the law respectively, and children working in mines, factories and 60 other forms of dangerous work are forbidden by the government. But despite the passing of these laws, the department of labour has not been able to effectively enforce them.

Keywords: legislation, child labour, forced labour, worst forms of child labour

182. 2021 Trafficking in Persons Report: Nepal

US Department of State. 2021. United States: US Department of State.

<https://www.state.gov/reports/2021-trafficking-in-persons-report/nepal/>.

The report details the effort made by the Nepal government to eradicate human trafficking and the steps that the government still needs to meet in order to fully eradicate human trafficking in Nepal. The report states that Nepal still remains on Tier 2 because although it is making significant efforts, it is not fully compliant with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking. The government's significant effort includes eliminating the ban on some female migration abroad, holding two former officials guilty of corruption-related acts that contributed to vulnerabilities in the recruitment of foreign workers, continuing to increase awareness on trafficking, recruiting more people for the Anti-Trafficking-in-Persons Bureau, etc. Similarly, the government's law not penalising all type of sex and labour trafficking, woefully insufficient effort of officials to identify and protect victims of trafficking, victims of transnational labour given the scope and the seriousness of the issue, direct involvement, carelessness, and lack of cooperation of the official authority in trafficking offences, etc. are some of the main areas that the government is lacking to fulfil the minimum standard. The report's recommendation includes amendment of the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act (HTTCA) to penalise all forms of sex and labour trafficking and aligning it with the 2000 UN TIP Protocol, investigating the official involvement in crimes related to trafficking, and holding the culprit accountable, increasing investigations, prosecutions,

and conviction of every trafficking offence, etc. among others.

Keywords: human trafficking, Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act (HTTCA)

183. The Legal Framework of Orphanage Trafficking in Cambodia, Nepal and Uganda: Enhancing Identification, Prosecution & Prevention (Summary Report)

van Doore, Kate and Rebecca Nhep. 2021. Queensland: Griffith University.

https://bettercarenetwork.org/sites/default/files/2023-08/prosecuting_orphanage_trafficking_3_country_summary_report.pdf

This summary report provides a glimpse of orphanage trafficking, as defined by the report, the recruitment and/or transfer of children to residential care institutions for the purpose of exploitation and profit, that is rampant in lower- to middle-income countries. This summary report, based on review of literature, is gleaned from the study of cases from Nepal, Uganda, and Cambodia. The report reveals that such trafficking of children not only perpetuates child abuse and in-house exploitation at the orphanages but it also strongly underpins practices of fraudulent inter-country adoptions. The report states that in Nepal in 2020, there were 489 functional child care homes, the number was 533 in 2019, that housed 11,350 children. In some of these institutions, children were forced into manual labour, begging as well as entertaining visitors to attract donations. This report also highlights various cases of child sexual abuse taking place at such organisations and was perpetrated by many Nepali and non-Nepali volunteers as well as by the director of organisations themselves. In context of Nepal, the report further identifies legal gaps in dealing with these issues, for instance, existence of vague terms such as ‘use of someone into prostitution’, and the clash between the four existing laws that are relevant to these issues, which inherently deter the prosecution of the cases thereby hindering the control in orphanage trafficking.

Keywords: orphanage trafficking, orphanage tourism

184. Estimating Young Women Working in Kathmandu’s Adult Entertainment Sector: A Hybrid Application of Respondent Driven Sampling and Venue Site Sampling

Vincent, Kyle, Meredith Dank, Orla Jackson, Sheldon X. Zhang, and Weidi Liu. 2021. *Journal of Human Trafficking*, 10(1): 87-102. DOI: 10.1080/23322705.2021.2007461.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/23322705.2021.2007461#:~:text=The%20resulting%20estimation%20was%20that,women%20in%20this%20service%20sector.>

The article aims to determine the prevalence of young women, specifically those aged 17 and younger, working in the adult entertainment sector within Kathmandu Valley. The article employed a hybrid approach involving respondent-driven sampling, venue-based studies and a mark-and-recapture estimation strategy. A group of 600 female workers

were included through respondent-driven sampling, and a subset of female workers surveyed within the sampled venues. This innovative method aimed to reach the ‘hidden’ population, forming a representative sample, and enable an inference procedure that overcame the limitations present with either strategy. The resulting estimation procedure involved sample weighting, multiple imputation-based techniques, and mark-recapture estimation procedures in order to obtain accurate estimates of the population size and attributes. The resulting estimation indicated that approximately 1,650 young women are employed in adult entertainment venues in Kathmandu Valley, accounting for approximately 17 per cent of all women in this sector. This study comprises the most rigorous statistical estimation of young women working in the adult entertainment sector to date, serving as a foundational reference for future anti-human trafficking interventions and informing the methodology of subsequent studies.

Keywords: child abuse, sexual abuse, quantitative methods, adult entertainment sector

185. Trafficking Borders

Bhagat, Ayushman. 2022. *Political Geography* 95: 102598. Elsevier Ltd. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1016/j.polgeo.2022.102598>.

This article postulates the concept of ‘trafficking borders’ as spaces of restriction and negotiation that is contingently produced, encountered, and escaped along the mobility routes of the targets of trafficking discourse. This conceptualisation is based on the empirically informed articulations that are derived from the participants’ experiences in their attempt to actualise the migration process. In doing so, the author finds/positions the (liminal) spaces or locations of migration, such as households, communities, government offices, Indo-Nepal state borders, emigration detention and deportation centres, and airports, as trafficking borders from where the process of their labour mobility starts, or their right to migration is curtailed. It is in these spaces that the various forms of control imposed by state/non-state mechanisms, and other institutions, including family, are exposed, and anti-trafficking practices, as well as escape the struggles and strategies by the prospective migrants, are revealed. Hence, the author argues for the need to give close attention to these spaces in order to effectively curb the ever-evading trafficking and mobility practices.

Keywords: human trafficking, trafficking borders, participatory action research

186. Implementation of the Anti-Child Trafficking Framework in Nepal: An Impaired Diffusion Process

Dhakal Adhikari, Shovita and Pawan Adhikari. 2022. *Development in Practice*, 33(2): 180-189. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.1080/09614524.2022.2114429>.

<https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/full/10.1080/09614524.2022.2114429>.

The study delineates evidence revealing that there is a persistent gap between policy

adoption and practices on anti-child trafficking at grassroots level in Nepal. In order to collect data, 60 semi-structured interviews were conducted with key stakeholders that are engaged in anti-trafficking interventions in Nepal. The study finds out that there is limited collaboration and communication between the stakeholders, implying that these actors have been influenced by institutionalised socio-cultural ideologies. Accordingly, the status of children has been disenfranchised, which curtailed their meaningful participation in policy-making and restrained their voices. The understanding of child trafficking and the design of interventions have been essentially shaped by constructing ideal victims as innocent, passive, and naïve. The paper argues that the global frameworks and policies have been affected by the existing specific socio-cultural context of the country. Consequently, victims are getting only a nominal benefit. Furthermore, the study found three major factors that are affecting the implementation of diffused anti-trafficking policies and frameworks—socio-cultural and regulatory barriers, the opaque definitions of trafficking and migration, and constraining resources.

Keywords: child trafficking, diffusion policies, socio-cultural norms

187. Reducing Vulnerability to Forced Labour and Trafficking of Women Migrant Workers from South- to West-Asia’.

ELDidi, Hagar, Chloe van Biljon, Muzna Alvi, Claudia Ringler, Nazmun Ratna, Sawsan Abdulrahim, Patrick Kilby, Joyce Wu, and Zahid ul Arefin Choudhury. 2022. *Development in Practice*, 33(2): 156-167. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1080/09614524.2022.2059448>. <https://www.tandfonline.com/doi/epdf/10.1080/09614524.2022.2059448?needAccess=true&role=button>.

This article evaluates the vulnerability that migrant women experience and emphasises on effects of past initiatives in order to identify their potential and success in decreasing trafficking and forced labour. Eighteen in-depth interviews were conducted with key informants selected from academia, government, NGOs, inter-national agencies which are engaged in migration and those interviews were carried out in English from August to October 2020. The study finds that women encounter various hazardous circumstances when migrating, including interactions with recruiters in the country of origin, accumulating debt, pre-departure formalities and training, non-payment of wages, and mobility restrictions. It further says that the prevention measures to eliminate vulnerability of women migrants has a mixed success rate. The paper suggests that helping migrants build networks and connect with other migrant workers can minimise the problems faced by migrant workers in the country of destination.

Keywords: labour migration, women, forced labour, exploitation

188. Nepal's Human Trafficking Routes: Mapping Destinations for Migrant Labour Using Collective Data

Freedom Collaborative, Aaprabasi Mahila Kamdar Samuha Nepal (AMKAS), and Pravasi Nepali Coordination Committee (PNCC). 2022. Freedom Collaborative.

https://winrock.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Nepals-Human-Trafficking-Routes_Final.pdf.

This report highlights the journey of migrants with Nepal as the country of source. The data sources for this report are two CSOs: Aaprabasi Mahila Kamdar Samuha Nepal (AMKAS) and Pravasi Nepali Coordination Committee (PNCC) and data has been collected through the information provided by these two CSOs. The submitted data included the points like city and country of origin, city and country of destination/exploitation, transit places, means of transportation, forms of exploitation, sector of exploitation and modes of exploitation. The findings of the report include 498 routes with Nepal as their country of origin. Afghanistan, Bangladesh, Cyprus, India, Iraq, Jordan, Kuwait, Lebanon, Malaysia, Oman, Poland, Qatar, Saudi Arabia, Turkmenistan, and the United Arab Emirates are few of the countries that the Nepali CSOs have documented incidents of migrants moving to and majority of the data shows Kathmandu Airport as the one transit location. The report ends with the suggesting ways in which the available data on the report can be utilised by the stakeholders. The suggestion includes the utilisation of the data to recognise the communities that are at risk and recruitment hotspot of trafficking in order to improve target prevention programmes, to recognise the transit points to plan better monitoring, to reach out and for planning intervention as well as to support the development of public-private partnerships and law enforcement/border protection, etc. among others.

Keywords: civil society organisations, human trafficking, source, migration

189. Life Stories from Kathmandu's Adult Entertainment Sector: Told and Analysed by Children and Young People

Hacker, Elizabeth and Ranjana Sharma. 2022. *CLARISSA Research and Evidence Paper 4*. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies. DOI: 10.19088/CLARISSA.2022.005.

https://opendocs.ids.ac.uk/opendocs/bitstream/handle/20.500.12413/17796/CLARISSA_REP_Childrens_Narrative_Analysis_Nepal.pdf?sequence=1.

This report incorporates findings from participatory research from the ground that will help people understand how to put an end to the worst forms of child labour. The study was conducted in Kathmandu where 400 life stories of children were collected and those stories were collected by young people and children, out of which 50 stories were collected by children and the rest 350 were collected by young people. Out of these, 200 children were working inside establishments associated with adult entertainment sector (AES), while the other 200 were from outside of AES. The study identified major hotspots

of AES in Kathmandu, which included transportation hubs, centres for entertainment, locations hosting glamorous venues such as dance bars and clubs, areas close to the airport, entry and exit points from the Kathmandu valley, and small-scale AES hubs. Similarly, the primary reasons for children's involvement in AES were poor economic conditions of their families, family debts, domestic violence within the family (physical abuse by parents or step-parents towards the child, beatings by the father, verbal abuse by the mother, intimate partner abuse), polygamy or multiple marriages of parents, family issues/negligence (parents living separately, neglect by the father or stepmother, lack of proper supervision and guidance for children from parents), parental addiction to alcohol, parental death, and family health issues; these factors also strongly compel children to come to Kathmandu. The report also finds that children come to AES sectors through unknown intermediaries or influence of friends where they often face sexual, physical, and verbal abuse as well as labour exploitation.

Keywords: adult entertainment sector, child labour, exploitation, poor economic condition, intermediaries

190. Child Labour and Social Protection in Nepal (Policy Brief)

International Labour Organization. 2022. Lalitpur: International Labour Organization.

https://www.ilo.org/wcmstp5/groups/public/---asia/---ro-bangkok/---ilo-kathmandu/documents/publication/wcms_864661.pdf.

This policy brief looks at the extent to which social protection is supporting the reduction and prevention of child labour in Nepal and provides recommendations on how to further leverage the national social protection system to better protect children. The brief emphasises that 1.1 million children in Nepal, comprising 15 per cent of the population of age group 5-17, are engaged in child labour. It also highlights that the prevalence of child labour is often linked to poverty, informality, lack of social protection, and educational exclusion. Furthermore, shocks like natural disasters, health crises, environmental disasters, political instability, and economic risks contribute significantly to the prevalence of child labour. The brief lays emphasis on the role of social protection in addressing child labour. It highlights that providing consistent income, support, and health-care access, social protection helps prevent households from turning to child labour as a coping strategy during economic or health challenges. Effective child-focused protection involves a mix of contributory and non-contributory approaches, including cash and in-kind transfers, that enhance family income security and improve children's access to education and healthcare. Moreover, the brief sheds light on child-centred social protection initiatives in Nepal. These include financial aid such as social security allowance, child grants, disability benefits, ethnicity-based support, and survivor pensions. Likewise, non-monetary aid like school meals and scholarship programmes are also included. It also states approximately 65.7 per cent of children between the ages of 0-14 received at least one social protection benefit during the FY 2020/21. There was

no large difference in coverage across gender, with girls having slightly better coverage than boys.

Keywords: child labour, social protection, poverty, legal provisions, institutional mechanisms, income support, in-kind support, legal frameworks

191. Nepal: National Research Agenda, Building the Evidence Base for Informed Policy Action against Child Labour, Forced Labour, and Human Trafficking

International Labour Organization. 2022. Kathmandu: International Labour Organization.

https://rtaproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/RTA_NEPAL_Research_Agenda_EN_WEB_20230329.pdf.

This brochure provides a glimpse of how research, in terms of their methods and objectives, around child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking are conducted in Nepal. In doing so, this brochure dives into its analysis by dividing the existing research, studies, and reports into five broad thematic areas such as those looking into risk factors for vulnerability, assessment of what works and what does not, making use of technology and artificial intelligence in data collection, process and analysis, monitoring and measurement, and those that focus on economic, environmental, and social costs of child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking. It highlights a big gap in data availability and lack of proper consideration on existing administrative and other data to inform the understanding of the issues. It also identifies a need for ethical data collection along with multi-stakeholder discussions in generating data on the identified priority areas.

Keywords: child labour, forced labour, human trafficking, data analysis, data collection

192. Hidden in Plain Sight: A Study of Child Labour and Human Trafficking in Rautahat, Nepal.

Islamic Relief Worldwide. 2022. Birmingham, UK: Islamic Relief Worldwide.

<https://jliflc.com/wp-content/uploads/2020/08/HumanTrafficking-2020-LR.pdf>.

This report sheds light into the precarious situation of child labour and of human trafficking vis-a-vis highlighting the efforts of the Islamic Relief and partner organisation in order to reduce child labour and trafficking in the area. This study focuses on a rural Tarai district, Rautahat, in Nepal, where inter-generational form of human trafficking and child labour is widely prevalent. The data is derived primarily from case studies and interviews of the respondents that included at-risk children and survivors of child labour and human trafficking in February 2020. This study finds that children who were trafficked were lured by the false promise of employment. But later, they fell into the trap of debt bondage and had to bear mental and physical violences, such as regular beatings, sleep deprivation, and starvation among others. Report further finds that the climate change and cultural norms and practices have also been other major factors that underpin trafficking and child labour in Nepal. The report ends with a series of recom-

mendations aimed at government, academics, and various other stakeholders in detail.
Keywords: human trafficking, debt bondage, child labour, exploitation, physical abuse

193. A Media Analysis of Changes in International Human Trafficking Routes from Nepal

Kharel, Arjun, Sadikshya Bhattarai, Prajesh Aryal, Sudhir Shrestha, Pauline Oosterhoff, and Karen Snyder. 2022. *Working Paper 570*. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies.

<https://respect.international/wp-content/uploads/2022/06/A-media-analysis-of-changes-in-international-human-trafficking-routes-from-Nepal.pdf>.

The study examined how the media depicted different actors engaged in human trafficking from Nepal to analyse the documented shifts in international trafficking routes from Nepal since 2015. This study is based on the content analysis of 480 news articles published in six national newspapers in Nepal from 2016 to 2020, combining it with existing literature and interviews with newspaper reports and editors. The study finds that a large majority of the reported sex trafficking victims were females, while the victims of labour trafficking were evenly split between males and females. This differs from the actual distribution of male and female Nepali migrants, where male migrants constitute over 80 percent of those obtaining labour permits for overseas employment. The analysis of news articles revealed that India remains the top destination and transit country for trafficking, consistent with its historical status. Countries in the GCC, North America, Europe, Southeast Asia, and Australia have emerged as new destinations while Myanmar along with some countries in Europe, Africa, and Latin America have emerged as new transits for human trafficking from Nepal. Likewise, media reports that revealed information about interceptors disclosed that security agencies like Nepal Police and Armed Police Force in most instances, followed by anti-trafficking NGOs. Most news articles simply reported incidents without exploring elements involved in trafficking. Both government and private media reports emphasised the failure of the state, human rights issues, poverty, and economic deprivation in their reporting. Nevertheless, government media tended to use the poverty and economic deprivation frameworks more often and were less inclined to use the frames of state failure and human rights compared to private media. The study recommends the allocation of resources for investigative journalism and training of reporters on robust reporting, including critical gender analysis, in order to improve the reporting of human trafficking in Nepali media. Furthermore, the report calls for a need for coordination between government agencies and revision of counter-productive policies that will help to curb human trafficking and encourage safe migration for employment.

Keywords: human trafficking, media analysis, trafficking routes, gender, labour migration, labour trafficking, sex trafficking, trafficking in persons

194. A Transformative Journey of a Brick Worker (Labor) to Brick Pedagogue: An Evocative Autoethnographic Exploration

Manandhar, Netra Kumar, Bal Chandra Luitel, Binod Prasad Pant, and Indra Mani Shrestha. 2022. *International Association of Autoethnography and Narrative Inquiry*. 279-290.

[link](#)

This conference paper is an autoethnography where the author has presented his personal journey from brick worker to an educator and has tried to explore the way he transformed himself from brick worker to an educator. The author has shared his story of working as a child labourer in the brick factory while also completing his education journey at the same time. Talking about his journey on becoming an educator, the author argues for education that has ‘potential to make learning meaningful by connecting real-world of students’.

Keywords: brick worker, educator, autoethnography, brick kiln

195. Getting Work: The Role of Labour Intermediaries for Workers in Nepal and the International ‘Adult Entertainment Sector’

Oosterhoff, Pauline, Karen Snyder, and Neelam Sharma. 2022. *IDS Working Paper 580*. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies. DOI: 10.19088/IDS.2022.075.

<https://www.ids.ac.uk/publications/getting-work-the-role-of-labour-intermediaries-for-workers-in-nepal-and-the-international-adult-entertainment-sector/>.

This working paper investigates the role of labour intermediaries, their aspirations, and their viewpoints regarding the advantages and drawbacks associated with facilitating work in the adult entertainment sector (AES). The research objective was to understand these encounters in order to formulate effective policies and interventions to prevent human trafficking, addressing labour and sexual exploitation. The report employed a victim-centred participatory approach and conducted interviews with 33 individuals who identified themselves or were recognised by others as labour intermediaries. Considerable attention has been dedicated to the issue of trafficking and exploitation of women and girls in Nepal and abroad. Against this background, criticism is often directed at informal businesses, eateries, traditional music bars (known as *dohoris*), dance bars, massage parlours, guesthouses, and hotels. In Nepal’s anti-trafficking efforts, this varied array of businesses is often categorised as AES. The paper further delves into the involvement of labour intermediaries, their aspirations, and their perceptions about advantages and drawbacks of facilitating employment within AES and other employment. Some labour trajectories into specific venues within AES involve severe forms of exploitation and human trafficking. Therefore, it is useful to gain an understanding of labour intermediaries’ views along these trajectories regarding their responsibilities, choices, and authority in aiding people to work with dignity. The report argues that since they have an interest and expertise in the AES, it is important to consider their outlook and

experiences.

Keywords: human trafficking, labour trajectories, labour intermediaries, brokers, labour migration, sex trafficking, trafficking in persons, adult entertainment sector

196. Nepali Women at Risk from Misguided Anti-Trafficking Strategies (Policy Briefing)

Oosterhoff, Pauline, Karen Snyder, and Neelam Sharma. 2022. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies. DOI: 10.19088/IDS.2022.073.

<https://respect.international/wp-content/uploads/2023/01/Nepali-Women-at-Risk-from-Misguided-Anti-Trafficking-Strategies.pdf>

This policy brief highlights how the use of the term adult entertainment industry (AES), used in anti-trafficking narratives, stigmatises some of the businesses and especially the women and other workers employed in those sectors. It asserts that such use of the stigmatised term/label also misinterprets labour intermediaries who help businesses get employees and workers find jobs in informal industries. The brief also argues that this practice of labelling businesses has left women with few options for safe employment in Nepal as well as for foreign labour migration. It further argues that use of the vague terms such as ‘AES’ and ‘AES hotspot’ reduces opportunities in effective policy-making and creates hindrance to support legitimate enterprises, and safe and dignified work, which would reduce human trafficking and labour abuses. The brief, hence, suggests easy registration and monitoring of the businesses as an alternative to control trafficking and irregularities prevalent in the informal labour sector, instead of labelling and categorising them. It ends with a list of recommendations for the Nepal government, donors, researchers, and international NGOs working in anti-trafficking.

Keywords: adult entertainment industry, human trafficking, anti-trafficking, AES hotspot, informal sector

197. Social Background and Current Status of Domestic Child Labour in Peripheral City

Rai, Gira. 2022. Master’s Thesis submitted to the Central Department of Sociology, Tribhuvan University.

<https://elibrary.tucl.edu.np/bitstream/123456789/18500/1/All%20thesis%281%29.pdf>

This dissertation looks into the status of the domestic child labour by employing case studies method. Using the data from the primary research conducted at Naikap in Kathmandu Valley with seven respondents—child domestic workers— and review of existing secondary data, the paper looks into the various demographic details of the children working as domestic workers, their educational status, factors contributing to their vulnerability and the nature of their current work. The paper features anecdotal stories of the children to elaborate further their conditions and reveals that the children suffer

from overwork, are paid very low wages, have insufficient or lack of medical care, and have no break during holidays or provision for leaves. The paper also finds that children are subjected to physical/verbal abuse and punishments by employers and have to live in very poor conditions with no love and affection from anyone.

Key words: Child Labour, domestic labour, abuse, overwork

198. Children and Young People Forum on Ending Child Labour Regional Consultation—South Asia, Context, Proceedings & Emerging Pointers

Raj, Nikhil, Roopashree Shanker, and Prasoon Singh. 2022. World Vision International.

https://www.wvi.org/sites/default/files/2022-11/Children%20and%20Young%20People%20Forum%20on%20Ending%20Child%20Labour_Report.pdf.

This regional consultation report highlights the key recommendation, centred around Sustainable Development Goal (SDG) 8.7 and reaffirmed by the Durban Declaration (DD) 2022, as suggested by the participants and stakeholders during the summit. These recommendations call for the inclusion of young person in the framework for effective elimination of child labour, additional commitments, and meaningful collaborations among the stakeholders, and the engagement of employees from local companies in the process. This report emphasises the need of additional collaboration among the development partners, government, civil society, worker organisations, academia, and others to eliminate child labour, forced labour, human trafficking, and modern slavery by 2030 as envisioned by the SDG 8.7 and the DD. It stresses that such engagements and collaboration help facilitate better identification of vulnerable groups and improve their access to social protection. The report also highlights the important role of child clubs and street plays, in building public awareness and disseminating information around ill effects of child labour, child rights, and legal provisions.

Keywords: Sustainable Development Goal (SDG), child labour

199. To Mitigate Human Trafficking in Nepal, Increase Financial Inclusion

Rimal, Suswopna and Prashamsha Simkhada. 2022. Nepal: The Asia Foundation.

<https://asiafoundation.org/2022/04/13/to-mitigate-human-trafficking-in-nepal-increase-financial-inclusion/>.

This article talks about the deep-rooted phenomenon of human trafficking that exists in Nepal and how economic exclusion leads people to the risks of trafficking, exploitation, and bonded labour. As per this report, in Nepal, financial exclusion of socioeconomically and geographically marginalised people is one of the most serious issues. People are subjected to debt bondage because the process of taking out loans from banks and formal institutions is complicated, which results in people opting to take loans from informal lenders at high interest, eventually landing themselves into debt bondage. Furthermore, these borrowers in order to pay off their loans, ultimately, turn to desperate

economic measures that increase the risk of them being exploited and trafficked. It also talks about how Covid-19 has increased the economic burden of people, especially of those who work as a daily wage worker, brick kiln workers, female worker in the entertainment sector, etc. The report, citing UNICEF Covid-19 Child and Family Tracker, says that 50 per cent of the household in Nepal during Covid-19 lost their source of income as well as many families did not have any savings to overcome the financial burden, putting their children at the risk of having to engage in work in order to support the family. The report concludes by suggesting the Nepal government to further work on policies and programmes to incorporate financial inclusion at all three levels of government.

Keywords: Covid-19, financial burden, financial inclusion, exploitation

200. Labour Trajectories and Aspirations of Nepali ‘Adult Entertainment Sector’ Workers

Snyder, Karen, Pauline Oosterhoff, and Neelam Sharma. 2022. *IDS Working Paper 579*. Brighton, UK: Institute of Development Studies. DOI: 10.19088/IDS.2022.074.

<https://www.ids.ac.uk/publications/labour-trajectories-and-aspirations-of-nepali-adult-entertainment-sector-workers/>.

The working paper delves into the labour trajectories and aspirations of individuals employed in Nepali adult entertainment sector (AES), along with examining the intermediaries facilitating the workers. The research objective was to understand the experiences in order to devise more effective policies and interventions to prevent human trafficking and mitigate labour and sexual exploitation. The methodology employed in the study included a review of existing literature, interviews conducted with AES workers, and on-site observations in areas with reported instances of human trafficking. The report finds that workers with international experience tended to be older than workers who had only worked in Nepal (31.8 years old versus 24.2 years old). The educational attainments of the study participants exhibited a wide range of diversity. There is no single AES venue in so-called ‘hotspots’ as all the venues are seamlessly integrated into the local community’s daily life and geography. Many of these venues have no relation to commercial sex or sexual services and often close well before commencement of entertainment or restaurants open up for dinner. The primary motivations cited by participants for seeking work outside their home were ‘survival’, ‘financial problems’, and ‘financial crises’. The report’s recommendations include, among others: acknowledge that *dohori* entertainment constitutes a segment within the diverse realm of Nepali creative industry; advocate for increased investments to strengthen the creative industry’s capacity in serving various preferences and financial capacities while also fostering the inclusive development of talent across all genders and backgrounds. It is suggested that business leaders, including managers, group leaders and proprietors bear the responsibility and the authority to set boundaries and accountability for customers through the implementation of guidelines or establishment-specific code of conduct aimed at minimising

harm, rather than outlawing alcohol sales and consumption.

Keywords: human trafficking, labour trajectories, labour intermediaries, brokers, labour migration, sex trafficking, trafficking in persons, adult entertainment sector

201. Gender Inequality and Modern Slavery: How to Break the Cycle of Women and Girl's Exploitation

The Freedom Fund. 2022. UK and US: The Freedom Fund.

https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/GenderInequalityModernSlavery-Web_2020_02.pdf

The report highlights that a comprehensive and multi-layered response is required to provide assistance to women and girls who are victims, survivors, or at risk of modern slavery. Accordingly, the report hopes that the ideas presented can contribute to an efficient, inclusive, and empowering approach in combating and eradicating the exploitation of women and girls. The report uncovers key areas where gender disparity and discrimination increase the risk of exploitation, trafficking, and abuse faced by women and girls. These include lack of access to decent work, vulnerability to trafficking and mistreatment, exposure to violence and abuse, and lack of access to education and training. The report contends that anti-slavery interventions must incorporate gender-specific strategies, such as raising awareness, promoting women's leadership roles, and leveraging the collective power to empower women in confronting gender inequality and discrimination, while also safeguarding against exploitation and trafficking. Furthermore, it argues that instigating systemic transformation to tackle the fundamental roots of gender inequality and modern slavery is imperative to break the cycle and ultimately bring about the cessation of both gender inequity and modern slavery. The report's key recommendations include, among others, supporting women and girls to meet their basic needs, tackle debt bondage, support women and girls into decent work, support migration for women and girls, support initiatives to address sexual violence and abuse and more.

Keywords: gender inequality, modern slavery, exploitation, human trafficking, abuse, vulnerability, safer migration

202. 2021 Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour: Nepal

US Department of Labour. 2022. Washington, DC: US Department of Labour.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/child_labor_reports/tda2021/Nepal.pdf

The report highlights that, in 2021, Nepal made some progress in its endeavours to eradicate the most severe forms of child labour. The government released data from the 2018 Nepal Labour Force Survey, which estimated that 1.1 million children were involved in child labour. Additionally, in 2021, Nepal took steps to combat online abuse of children and formed new Child Protection Committees. The government repatriated

trafficking victims and expanded education access through The New School Education Plan. Nevertheless, children still face some of the worst forms of labour, including commercial sexual exploitation, forced begging, and dangerous tasks in the brick kilns. Despite various initiatives, Nepal falls short of meeting international standards for child trafficking and child labour prohibition. The report briefly details the prevalence and sectoral distribution of child labour (statistics of children's work and education, overview of children's work by sector and activity; legal framework for child labour), ratification of international conventions on child labour, laws and regulations; enforcement of laws on child labour— agencies responsible for child labour law enforcement, labour law enforcement efforts related to child labour; criminal law enforcement—criminal law enforcement efforts related to child labour; coordination of government efforts on child labour and government policies on child labour— key policies related to child labour; social programmes to address child labour. Finally, the report suggests government actions to eliminate child labour and the bases of suggestion relies on the findings of the report that has been discussed.

Keywords: child labour, abuse of children, child rights, human trafficking, labour laws, legal framework

203. Final Evaluation of the Sakriya Project: Civil Society Action to End Exploitative Child Labor in Nepal

US Department of Labor. 2022. US Department of Labor.

https://publications.worlded.org/WEIInternet/inc/common/download_publication.cfm?id=25316&lid=3.

The project aimed to improve the capacity of civil society to comprehensively understand and tackle child labour in Nepal's brick, embroidery (zari), and carpet-weaving industries. The project involved partnering with 15 Nepali partner NGOs with strong presence in the targeted sectors. These NGOs are situated in 15 districts in provinces 2, 3 and 5 of Nepal. Over the project duration, each NGO operated within three municipalities in their district and collaborated closely with three respective municipal governments. The intended design of the Sakriya project closely corresponds with the priorities and roles laid out in the Government of Nepal's National Master Plan for the Elimination of Child Labor (NMPECL). The Sakriya project also aligns with the Ministry of Labor, Employment and Social Security's (MoLESS) initiative of the Declaration of Child Labor-Free Municipalities. The project successfully achieved most of its anticipated results, each of the 15 partner NGOs enhanced their capacity in at least 3 out of 7 capacity areas concerning the identification and documentation of child labour issues.

Keywords: child labour, brick industries, zari, carpet factories, civil society, local partners

204. 2022 Trafficking in Persons Report

US Department of State. 2022. United States: US Department of State.

<https://np.usembassy.gov/2022-trafficking-in-person-report/>.

The report highlights the effort made by the Nepal government to eradicate human trafficking and the criteria that the government still needs to meet in order to fully eradicate human trafficking in Nepal. The report states that Nepal is still on Tier 2 because although they are making significant efforts, they are not fully compliant with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking. The government's significant effort includes growing investigation and identification of more trafficking victims, sanctioning of new rule to strengthen safeguarding of victims of crime, including those who have survived human trafficking. In addition, the government's law not penalising all type of sex and labour trafficking, woefully insufficient effort of officials to identify and protect victims of trafficking, victims of transnational labour given the scope and the seriousness of the issue, official involvement in trafficking offence, careless and lack of cooperation of the official authority still remains as an issue. The government still allowing Nepali migrant workers to pay recruitment fees and other associated costs, with few actions to safeguard migrants against exploitation, are some of the main areas that the government is still lacking to fulfil. The report's recommendation includes increasing manpower, resources, trainings in the Department of Foreign Employment (DOFE) to carry out complete implementation and monitoring of low cost recruitment policy, amendment of the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act (HTTCA) to penalise all forms of sex and labour trafficking aligning it with the 2000 UN TIP Protocol, increasing the availability and capability of victim care, especially for men, boys, and workers who have been exploited abroad, including housing and repatriation, investigating the official involvement in crimes related to trafficking, and holding the culprits accountable, increasing investigations, charges and conviction of every trafficking offence, etc. among others.

Keywords: sex and labour trafficking, migrant workers, exploitations, Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act

205. Still More to Do: Child Labour in the Brick, Zari Embroidery, and Carpet Industries

World Education. 2022. World Education.

<https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/Still%20More%20to%20Do%20report%20-%20July%2026%202022.pdf>

This report is a compilation of the findings from three separate reports on the brick, zari, and carpet industries across 49 local government areas in Nepal. Under World Education's Sakriya Project, around 15 NGOs assisted in the data collection process, conducting surveys, collecting case studies, and reviewing local government policies. While all

participating NGOs received the same training, they utilised different research methods of data collection based on study areas and local priorities. The study found a larger-than-expected number of children engaged in child labour across all three sectors. Additionally, the NGOs also found a significant number of children working in other sectors like transportation, agriculture, domestic work, and small restaurants. The study found 9,496 children working in brick kilns, 532 in carpet factories and 295 children on home-based looms, and 178 working in embroidery workshops. According to the data collected, poverty, lack of opportunities, debt labour, fragmented family structures, migration, and lack of trust in conventional schools were some of the factors which pushed children into work. The report also highlighted the harsh working conditions that the children were subjected to, encouraged by poor enforcement of labour laws and standards. Children working in these industries also faced other issues like poor living conditions, limited access to drinking water, poor air quality, and a high probability of developing respiratory problems, among others. Moreover, in certain cases, like the home-based looms, parents and local governments do not perceive children's engagement as labour, rather they consider it vocational training and therefore less harmful. Further, the report also specified that the children working in zari workshops had returned from India due to Covid-19 restrictions and lockdowns. With the country still reeling from the aftermath of the 2015 earthquakes, the effects of the Covid-19 pandemic, as well as climate change, the report found that children engaging in labour continues to be rampant. Knowledge and enforcement gaps were attributed to the transition to a federal system of governance as well as migration making data gathering and enforcement more challenging.

Keywords: child labour, brick kilns, zari embroidery, carpet industry, home-based looms

206. Legal Knowledge and Child Labour in Nepal: Does Knowing the Law Make a Difference?

Baul, Tushi and Susan L. Oysterman. 2023. *Development Policy Review*, 41(5): e12700. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1111/dpr.12700>.

<https://onlinelibrary.wiley.com/doi/abs/10.1111/dpr.12700>.

The study examines if parents that are supplying and the employers that are demanding the child labour, being aware about the laws relating to child labour and the minimum age of working set by the government, causes a change in child labour in any way. The data was collected in the communities in Tarai and mixed methods have been used to analyse the inter-dependence between legal understanding, adherence with law related to child labour, and pervasiveness of child labour. Similarly, two novel data sets: a large household survey of parents and children and a small survey on brick kilns have also been conducted. The study finds that parents and employers have more chances of adherence to the law when they are aware of it. Similarly, the understanding of the law

is also important as it is observed that when people know the law and reckon that it is suitable, more adherence is seen in them. The paper recommends making parents and employers aware of the laws and regulations as it is an easier and cheaper way to reduce child labour as compared to implementing the law.

Keywords: law, regulation, child labour, parents, employers, brick kilns

207. ‘Who Is Not an Agent Here?’: The Collateral Damage of Anti-Trafficking in Nepal

Bhagat, Ayushman. 2023. *Antipode*. 55(1): 70-89. DOI: 10.1111/anti.12882.

<https://www.ncbi.nlm.nih.gov/pmc/articles/PMC10092724/>.

In this article, the author investigates how individuals who defy their state’s restrictive policies on labour migration produce a form of stigma that not only affects them but also the places where they reside. Drawing insights from participatory action research conducted in Nepal, the author illustrates how residents of a specific location strive to undo the stigma by adopting various practices amidst restrictive anti-trafficking and migration regimes. The author conducted a scoping study in Nepal from June to July 2017, where he was engaged with various stakeholders such as anti-trafficking/migration NGOs, civil society organisations, UN agencies, trade unions, and government departments in Kathmandu and Sindhupalchowk districts. These initial discussions provided insights into how trafficking research is perceived in Nepal, revealing issues such as repetitive research findings, gaps in knowledge about migrant routes, and lack of community involvement among others. This process instigated a snowballing which eventually led the author to a research site in the mountainous region inhabited by the Tamang people. The author reveals a novel practice wherein potential labour migrants engage in negotiations and receive money from their preferred mobility facilitators to aid their unauthorised labour migration. This monetary transaction potentially criminalises prospective labour migrants, their family members, licensed and non-licensed recruitment agents, community leaders, anti-trafficking advocates, and government officials among others. Highlighting the unintended consequences of anti-trafficking in Nepal, the author asserts that exchanging money to facilitate unauthorised migration extends the scope of classifying citizens as traffickers.

Keywords: human trafficking, traffickers, stigma, migration, participatory action research

208. Harnessing The Transformative Power of Skill Development Programs for Survivors of Trafficking

Chaudhury, Anasua Basu Ray, Lipi Ghosh, AKM Ahsan Ullah, Diotima Chatteraj, and Sreeparna Banerjee. 2023. *T20 Policy Brief*. Observer Research Foundation (ORF).

https://www.orfonline.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/05/T20_PolicyBrief_TF6_Skilling-Trafficking_FinalForUpload.pdf.

This policy brief presents an assessment of the situation of trafficked women across South Asia. It reports that the majority of women who are trafficked consist of workers from the vulnerable and largely informal sectors such as domestic work, hospitality, and sex work. Hence, it centres its focus on how the countries, specifically G20, can employ their efforts to curb such trafficking as well as bring the survivors of human trafficking back into society's mainstream by helping them reconnect with sources and means of their livelihood. The brief advances ideas of market-relevant skills training and skill development programmes, as practised by government and non-government organisations, as sustainable solutions for survivors to resume their life, thereby preventing them from being re-trafficked. The brief also points out the gaps existing in both data, and the legislative measures that countries have applied to respond to the problem. It ends with a number of recommendations targeted towards the G20.

Keywords: human trafficking in South Asia, human trafficking, poverty, informal sector, female trafficking

209. Prosecuting Orphanage Trafficking in Nepal

Doore, Kathryn E Van; Rebecca Nhep and Anju Pun. 2023. *Institutionalised Children Explorations and Beyond*, 10(1): 23-31. DOI:

<https://doi.org/10.1177/23493003221145746>.

<https://journals.sagepub.com/doi/abs/10.1177/23493003221145746>.

Numerous studies have been published on the occurrence of orphanage trafficking in Nepal. Examining the methods conducted in these researches, it has been found that they are failing to explore into the legal responses. This article examines Nepal's legal framework pertaining to the prosecution of orphanage trafficking. It evaluates existing legal structures for pursuing legal action and recommendations for Nepal to enhance their anti-trafficking laws, encompassing orphanage trafficking, and conforming to global legal standards.

Keywords: Orphanage trafficking, legal framework, reform, anti-trafficking

210. The Relations between Climate Change and Child Labour in Agriculture-Evidence on Children's Work Trends After Climate-Related Events in Côte D'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Nepal and Peru

Food and Agriculture Organization of the United Nations. 2023. Rome: FAO

<https://www.fao.org/documents/card/en?details=cc6244en>.

The paper explores relationship between climate change and child labour, specifically in agriculture sector in Côte D'Ivoire, Ethiopia, Nepal, and Peru. It delves into the impact of climate change in child labour across various socio-cultural context in these countries. Employing both qualitative and quantitative methods, the data for the study was collected through household surveys and interviews with leading experts from the

respective countries. The data were then used to estimate robust econometric models that control well-known determinants of child labour. The paper found that there was increased incidences of child labour for girls during the dry spells but decreased incidences for boys in Nepal. Similarly, the work hours for girls during heavy rains decreased while increasing for the boys. However, the research overall shows the relationship between climate change and its direct impact on child labour in all the four countries to be minimal.

Keywords: climate change, child labour

211. Samriddha Nepal ra Ujjwal Bhawishyaka Laagi Baalshram Mukta Sthaaniya Taha Abhiyaan [Local Level Campaign for Ending Child Labour for Prosperous Nepal and Bright Future]

Swatantra Abhiyan Nepal. 2023. Swatantra Abhiyan Nepal.

https://swatantrataabhiyan.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/balshram_mukta_san_bboklet1-min.pdf

The report discussed the situation of child labour in Nepal as well as the policies and interventions that could be introduced by local governments to eradicate child labour and exploitation. Through a comprehensive policy review, the report explored the legal definition of children, the various causes of child labour, the rights of workers, child rights to protect them against exploitation, and the laws and regulations in Nepal designed to combat child labour. The report also examined the international protocols and conventions to which Nepal is a signatory as well, including child labour- and exploitation-related objectives of the Sustainable Development Goals. The report acknowledges that eradicating child labour and exploitation requires a collaborative approach, with the various stakeholders coordinating their efforts in tandem. The report recommended local governments to establish support mechanisms, including monetary funds to protect children, conduct inspections to identify the current situation of children as well as the prime causes of child labour, and create plans to address them such as improving the quality of and access to education. The report also acknowledged that efforts to combat human trafficking benefit victims of child labour as well and suggested the need for better data collection and avenues for arbitration and legal remedies at the local level. Furthermore, it also suggested the need for improved monitoring and relief as well as intervention programmes centred on reintegration and reunion.

Keywords: child labour, local government, child rights, exploitation, human trafficking, interventions

212. 2023 Trafficking in Persons Report: Nepal

US Department of State. 2023. Washinton, DC: US Department of State.

[https://np.usembassy.gov/2023-tip-report/.](https://np.usembassy.gov/2023-tip-report/)

The report talks about the effort made by the Nepal government to eradicate human

trafficking and the criteria that the government still needs to meet in order to fully eradicate human trafficking in Nepal. The report states that Nepal is still on Tier 2 in anti-human trafficking list because although they are making significant efforts, they are not fully compliant with the minimum standards for the elimination of trafficking. The government's significant effort includes formation of training instructions by Anti-Human Trafficking Bureau (AHTB) to investigate crimes related to trafficking, introduction of a new policy that enables migrant workers who were previously unregistered to reclaim their legal registration to work overseas. Similarly, the government's law not penalising all type of sex and labour trafficking, the long-overdue draft amendments not finalised by government, fewer traffickers convicted by government, and official involvement in trafficking offence, careless and lack of cooperation of the official authority still remains as an issue. Incompletion of SOPs for victim identification by the government and no information on whether any victims who were identified were forwarded to services by the government are some of the main areas that the government is still lacking to fulfil. The report's recommendation includes amendment of the Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act (HTTCA) to penalise all forms of sex and labour trafficking and aligning it with the 2000 UN TIP Protocol, completing SOPs for identification of victim while educating the front-line responders to increase the number of victims of trafficking who are referred to services, increasing investigation and prosecutions, including those of allegedly involved officials and pursue for proper punishment of the convicted traffickers, including lengthy jail terms, etc. among others.

Keywords: human trafficking, Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act, exploitation

213. Illuminating Causes and Barriers Underpinning Forced Labour in Nepal-Malaysia Migration Corridor

Wahab, Andika, Abdul Hamid Abd Murad, and Romil Shamsudin. 2023. *SINERGI: Journal of Strategic Studies & International Affairs*, 3(1): 50-65. DOI: <https://doi.org/10.17576/sinergi.SI1.2023.04>.

<https://sinergiukm.my/jou/index.php/sei/article/view/26/72>.

The article focuses on examining the reason and obstacles underlying forced labour among the migrant workers in Nepal-Malaysia corridor. It employs an all-inclusive approach, studying different stages of the migration process including the pre-recruitment, pre-departure, and post-arrival. Workers' survey was conducted in hybrid mode with 76 Nepali workers in Klang Valley, Penang, and Johor of Malaysia; in-depth interviews with 13 Nepali community leaders, 5 leaders in Nepal, and 28 Nepali workers was conducted in order to collect data. The paper reveals different key issues in recruitment and employment process, such as lack of working experiences before migrating to Malaysia, lack of information on migration, lack of proper pre-departure orientation training, lengthy recruitment process, lack of information of grievances mechanisms, employers

withholding worker's document, lack of due diligence of recruitment before migrating to Malaysia and of migrant workers upon their arrival in Malaysia, Nepali workers getting hired by the outsourcing companies rather than their immediate employers, etc. The paper's recommendation includes strengthening decision-making process and policy enforcement at every stage of migration pathways, bilateral agreement between Nepal and Malaysia to handle these problems, educating the workers sufficiently before signing the contract of employment, conducting suitable job matching to make sure that they are in the right place in the Malaysian labour market, among others.

Keywords: Nepal-Malaysia migration, migrant workers, forced labour, obstacles, labour market

214. Shramik Baalabaalikaako Shikshama Pahuch (in Nepali) [Working Children's Access to Education]

Dulal, Muna. 2076 BS. Master's Thesis submitted to Tribhuvan University.

<https://elibrary.tucl.edu.np/bitstream/123456789/19455/2/cover%20page.pdf> .

The study was conducted to assess working children's access to education, their family life, and the obstacles to accessing education. The paper also discussed possible interventions to overcome these challenges, including the role of policymakers and various stakeholders regarding the key themes of child rights, education, and child protection. Using mixed methods of data collection, and a descriptive research design, the study was conducted across 14 wards in Phidim Municipality of Panchthar district and relied on purposive sampling of 10 children engaged in child labour as well as four guardians of child labourers. The paper found that a majority of the children were employed in hotels and restaurants, while the others worked in shops, a motorcycle repair centre, and as a public transport worker. Regarding their family circumstances, they tended to belong to indigenous ethnic groups, had either deceased or absent parents, and belonged to low-income households. The author also identified some of the causes for working children's lack of access to education including: poverty, social acceptance of child labour/lack of awareness about child rights, and weak implementation of existing policies, laws, and regulations. The study also found that while intervention programmes like school-enrolment drives have been organised, schools have not been successful in retaining students and most have gone back to work instead.

Keywords: child labour, access to education, child rights, child protection

215. An Analysis of the Situation of Trafficking in Nepal

Center for Legal Research and Resource Development (CeLRRD). n.d. New Delhi: SARI/Q.

https://ksl.edu.np/resource/assets/uploads/resource/d9462-baseline_survey_on_trafficking.pdf

The study was carried out with the aim of finding out the factors contributing to female vulnerability, their population, and the area dominant in female trafficking. Eight districts were selected through purposive sampling for the study. Structured interviews were conducted to collect information on economic conditions of household and literacy and other status of women and children. In the study, variables such as age, economic status, literacy, and marital status were identified as contributing factors for the vulnerability to trafficking. The study also finds that a larger population of unmarried girls aged between 5-25, who belonged to the poor economic status were found to be more vulnerable to trafficking. The study suggests for a more concerted effort to reduce and eradicate such vulnerability of the girls to trafficking.

Keywords: girl trafficking, female vulnerability

216. In-Country Research and Data Collection on Forced Labor and Child Labor in the Production of Goods: Nepal

Macro International Inc. n.d. Washington, DC: US Department of Labor.

https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/research_file_attachment/Macro%20In-Country%20Research%20in%20Nepal.pdf

This document is a largely redacted, descriptive field notes of a researcher based on their observation and interviews of child labourers in brick kilns, stone quarry, carpet factory, and embroidery units in Kathmandu Valley in 2008. The field notes include observation notes, interview transcripts, researcher's notes as well as description of goods that are produced by the labour of children. Questions include education level of the labourers, their age, financial conditions, debt incurred, nature of work, feeling of safety, etc. while at the workplace. They are also asked if they are abused. The description also includes notes of interviews with representatives of trade unions, the United Nations, the Government of Nepal, and several undisclosed non-governmental organisations.

Keywords: poverty, education, hazardous working conditions, physical abuse, carpet factory, brick kilns, stone quarry, embroidery work

3. Legal and Policy Frameworks on Child Labour, Forced Labour and Human Trafficking

Background

This is a review of legal and institutional frameworks and provisions related to the elimination of child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking in Nepal. The reviews of both federal and provincial level frameworks were carried out to identify how and to what extent the issues and concerns related to child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking have been prioritised and mainstreamed. This matrix also includes reviews and analyses of some relevant sectoral policies and plans such as those relating to education (child labour), social protection (child labour and forced labour), employment, migration, health, trade, investment policy and agriculture policy, urban development policy, disability and children-related policy, youth policies, etc. It also reviews some relevant international instruments and Covid-19 related policies that (might) have a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking. The plans, policies, and programmes, thus, reviewed have been summarised below:

3.1. Legal framework for combating child labour

There are various national and international legal instruments in place to prevent child labour as well as to tackle forced labour and human trafficking in Nepal. These conventions have been significant while advocating for the rights of the labourers. The international conventions that Nepal has ratified to combat child labour are: ILO Convention No. 138 (on minimum age), ILO Convention No. 182 (on worst forms of child labour), ILO Convention No. 29 (on forced labour), ILO Convention No. 105 (on abolition of forced labour), UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC), UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, UN CRC Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography, and (Palermo) Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children.

The Government of Nepal has formulated various national laws and policies to eliminate the prevalence of child labour. In this context, several provisions have been formulated by the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 2000 to address the issue of child labour. The Section 3(1) of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 2000 mandates 14 years as the minimum age for admission to employment and the same Act has mandated 17 years as the minimum age for engaging in hazardous work. The Section 3(2) of the Act also prohibits the worst forms of child labour. Similarly, Schedule-1 of the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act, 2000 identifies different hazardous occupations for children, and the prohibition of the worst form of labour has been addressed in this Schedule as well. Article 39(4) of the Constitution of Nepal, prohibits

employing children in any factory, mine, or other forms of hazardous works. Section 4 of the Child Labour Rules, 2006 mandates the employer to provide information like age of the child, nature of the work to the labour office, before recruiting a child, in order to assess the child's capacity to perform their work. Similarly, Section 5 of the Rules mandates the employer to provide various information such as working hours of the child, photocopy of the appointment letter mentioning the kind of works that the child will be engaging in, and if quarter is provided to the child to stay. In addition, Section 5 of the Labour Act, 2017 forbids employing minors for any work that violates the national laws. Similarly, Labor Offices have the authority, responsibility, and duty under Section 94(g) of the Labour Act, 2017 to look into whether minors have been engaged in any work, to rescue any such children that are discovered right away, and to take appropriate legal action against the employer.

Articles 31(1) and 31(2) of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015 and Section 20(1) of the Act Relating to Compulsory and Free Education, 2018 provides for receiving compulsory and free education until basic level and free education till secondary level from the state. Article 39(2) of the Constitution guarantees the right to education for every child and Section 6(1) of the Act Relating to Compulsory and Free Education, 2018 mandates every local level to provide free basic level education level to every child who has completed four years but not thirteen years of age. Likewise, Section 3(17) of the Act Relating to Children, 2018 states that it is the responsibility of family or guardian to not involve children in any kind of labour that might affect their health, education, physical, or mental development. To eliminate issues like child labour and child marriage, Section 82(14) of the Children's Regulation, 2078 BS has defined one of the roles of the child welfare officers is to establish child-friendly schools at the local level. Similarly, Section 48(h) of the Act Relating to Children, 2018 specifies that those children who are earning their living by being engaged in forced or bonded labour or labour that are hazardous or that breach the existing law are the ones that are in need of special protection. These laws and policies have been helpful to prevent child labour and protect the rights of children to some extent. However, the government still needs to work on the existing policy gaps to ensure the overall wellbeing of children.

To this end, the Government of Nepal has adopted the National Child Policy, 2080 BS that seeks to protect the rights of child that is enshrined in the Article 39 of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015 as one of the Fundamental Rights and Duties. Specifically, Strategy 11.6 of the National Child Policy, 2080 BS in order to end physical abuse on children, abuse through electronic media, child labour, trafficking and sale of children emphasises on strengthening federal-, provincial-, local-level and community stakeholders, as well as raising awareness regarding the issue at all levels. Furthermore, Working Policy 12.4.1 of strategy 11.6 emphasises on effectively operating child rights and protection mechanisms, media, private sectors, and community-based organisations and networks of federal, provincial and local level to end physical abuse on children, child labour, trafficking and sale of children, and Working Policy 12.4.3 mentions providing prompt

protection to children who are in danger from physical abuse, abuse through electronic media, child labour, child trafficking, or human trafficking.

Key Institutions

The key institutional stakeholders responsible to protect child rights and to eliminate child labour include the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MoLESS); the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens (MoWCSC); the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA); and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). These institutions have formulated relevant laws, policies, and programmes and work in coordination with each other to ensure the well-being of children as well as safeguard their rights, including through enforcement of existing policies and monitoring of the same among others.

MoLESS is the main governing institution for labour and employment. The ministry is responsible for formulating laws and policies to regulate the labour scene in Nepal. It is also responsible for devising and implementing policies to eliminate child labour from the country. Similarly, the MoWCSC is responsible for formulating relevant laws, policies, institutional mechanisms and programmes to ensure the rights of women, children, senior citizens, people with disability, and sexual and gender minorities.

Similarly, the MoHA maintains overall security and ensures effective implementation of policy, law, plans, and regulations. It is also responsible for safeguarding and promoting the human rights and civil liberties of every citizen and also regulates trafficking of children from Nepal to other countries, for which it also coordinates with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the MoLESS.

And finally, the Office of the Special Rapporteur (OSRT), constituted under the NHRC, investigates cases of trafficking in persons (TIP). It focuses on cases involving women and children in particular. Among others, the OSRT is mandated to monitor the incidence of trafficking; coordinate national, regional and international efforts to combat trafficking; generate high-level commitment aimed at improving the human rights situation of women and children in Nepal; develop indicators for monitoring the situation of TIP; facilitate to maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date national database system; and publish annual reports on the situation of TIP. It also works in coordination with the national human rights institutions of many other countries.

Key Coordination Mechanism

The National Child Rights Council is the key coordination mechanism working on the protection and promotion of children's right and eliminate child labour in Nepal. It is headed by the Minister for Women, Children and Senior Citizens. Out of its 23 members, 12 members are the representatives from federal ministries and commissions, secretaries of the Ministry of Social Development from all seven provinces, government institutions including National Planning Commission and Nepal Police under MoHA and four members are nominated by the Government of Nepal from civil society and the Execu-

tive Director of the Council serving as a Member Secretary. The council, in coordination with all three tiers of government, works to operate child protection systems (Child Helpline Services 1098 and Missing Child Response Services 104), provide policy advice and facilitate capacity-building program. The council also strives to rescue, safeguard and manage children who have been the victims of risks and violence.

3.2. Legal framework for combating forced labour and human trafficking

National Laws and Regulation on Forced Labour and Trafficking

The Government of Nepal has enacted laws and policies against forced labour and human trafficking. Section 7 of the Military Service Regulation, 2069 BS mandates 18 years of age as a minimum age for voluntary state military recruitment. Similarly, Section 7 of the Military Service Regulation, 2069 BS and Article 39(6) of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015 prohibits the forced recruitment of children by (state) military. Article 39(6) of the Constitution of Nepal, 2015 prohibits the Military Recruitment of children by non-state armed groups too. Likewise, Section 213 of the National Penal (Code) Act, 2017 has a provision against kidnapping or hostage-taking of any person with the intention of committing rape or unnatural sex, trafficking or enslaving, or subjecting to forced labour, engaging into prostitution. Similarly, Section 219 of the same Act prohibits sexual intercourse with a woman without a consent and with girls below the age of 18 years even with their consent, and Section 225 of the National Penal (Code) Act, 2017 prohibits any form of sexual abuse on children.

Such legal instruments aim to eliminate forced labour and TIP. However, the government needs to ensure effective implementation of laws and policies to protect the rights of labourers and provide decent working conditions.

Key Institutions

The key institutional actors responsible for working for the elimination of human trafficking include the Ministry of Home Affairs (MoHA); the Ministry of Women, Children and Senior Citizens (MoWCSC); the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security (MoLESS); the Ministry of Foreign Affairs (MoFA); and the National Human Rights Commission (NHRC). All these institutions work independently as well as in coordination with the relevant line agencies for the effective implementation of laws, policies, and programmes related to human trafficking.

The MoHA, through Human Trafficking Investigation Bureau (HTIB), and Women, Children, and Senior Citizen Service Directorate (WCSCSD), and Nepal Police, receives complaints and carries out investigations related to human trafficking and smuggling and crime against women and children. Similarly, the MoWCSC is mainly responsible for formulating relevant laws, policies, institutional mechanisms and programmes to ensure the rights of women, children, senior citizens, people with disability, and sexual and gender minorities.

The Complaints Registration and Investigation Section in the Department of Foreign Employment (DoFE) under the MoLESS is mandated to receive complaints against individuals and recruitment agencies from migrant workers or their family members in order to control human trafficking and smuggling that occurs in the course of foreign employment. Complaints against recruitment agencies are directly dealt with by DoFE and those against individuals are forwarded to the Foreign Employment Tribunal.

Similarly, the Department of Consular Services under the MoFA, in coordination and cooperation with Nepali diplomatic missions abroad, has been rescuing and repatriating victims of human trafficking and smuggling in various destination countries. In addition, Nepali diplomatic missions in Qatar, Kuwait, and Saudi Arabia have also been operating ‘safe houses’ to provide shelter to victims. Furthermore, stranded Nepalis or those who have been facing abuse and exploitation are also given shelter in the embassy premises in other destination countries.

Furthermore, the Office of the Special Rapporteur (OSRT) constituted under the NHRC, as mentioned above, investigates cases of TIP. It focuses on cases involving women and children in particular. Among others, the OSRT is mandated to monitor the incidence of trafficking; coordinate national, regional, and international efforts to combat trafficking; generate high-level commitment aimed at improving the human rights situation of women and children in Nepal; develop indicators for monitoring the situation of TIP; facilitate to maintain a comprehensive and up-to-date national database system; and publish annual reports on the situation of TIP. And finally, the Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation works for the management of bonded labourers, as well as landless and deprived families and aims to ensure their livelihood and basic rights.

Key Coordination Mechanism

The institutional stakeholders have coordination mechanisms in place to work in collaboration with relevant government agencies. This mechanism includes Human Trafficking Investigation Bureau (HTIB) of Nepal Police and Women, Children, and Senior Citizen Service Directorate (WCSCSD) of Nepal Police under MoHA; National Committee for Controlling Human Trafficking (NCCHT) and District Committees, Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Division, National Child Rights Council, Child Labour Elimination Committee, Labour and Employment Office of MoLESS; municipalities and rural municipalities.

The Human Trafficking Investigation Bureau (HTIB) of Nepal Police receives complaints related to human trafficking and smuggling and carries out investigations in coordination with the relevant ministries and line agencies. Similarly, the Women, Children, and Senior Citizen Service Directorate (WCSCSD), formerly known as the Women’s Cell, the Women, Children and Senior Citizen Service Centres (WCSC) was established under the Crime Investigation Department of the Nepal Police to strengthen the capacity of the police in handling cases relating to trafficking. It is responsible for

investigating and preventing crimes against women and children. Currently, a total of 244 WCSCs have been established in the country, and checkpoints have also been set up in 20 places in the Nepal-India border and in 10 strategic highway locations.

Likewise, the National Committee for Controlling Human Trafficking (NCCHT) has the mandate to formulate and submit the necessary policies, plans, and programmes against human trafficking and transportation and implement them; assist those stranded in foreign countries and repatriate them to Nepal in coordination with organisations working in the sector; update records relating to human trafficking and transportation; and monitor the implementation of obligations under international as well as regional treaties relating to human trafficking and transportation to which Nepal is a party to. Similarly, district committees have been formed in all 75 districts by the Fiscal Year 2016/17. These committees have the mandate to rescue those at risk of being trafficked, to recommend to the concerned bodies the issuance of necessary documents in case rescued victims do not have authentic identification documents, and to form and mobilise committees to control human trafficking and transportation at the local level. They are also required to monitor rehabilitation centres in the district, raise awareness, and implement programmes, policies, and plans formulated by the national committee.

Similarly, the Human Trafficking and Transportation Control Division carries out various activities in coordination with various ministries, departments, committees, and national and international non-governmental organisations and networks for the control of human trafficking. It also manages the secretariat of the National Committee. Likewise, the National Centre for Children at Risk (under the National Child Rights Council), located in Kathmandu, has been operating in partnership with various institutions, including the Nepal Police and the Social Welfare Council. In order to provide relief and immediate assistance to missing, helpless, and distressed children, the centre has been operating a free helpline (toll free no 104). In addition to this helpline, child helplines (toll free no 1098) are also in operation in 12 districts in the country.

The National Master Plan for Elimination of all forms of Child Labour (2018-2028) outlines the roles and responsibilities and coordination mechanisms of various institutions at the federal, provincial, and local levels. Child Labour Elimination Committee, established under MoLESS, has the key role in the implementation of the national master plan. The committee is required to coordinate with Child Labour Elimination Sub-Committee, Child Labour Elimination-related National Master Plan Implementation Unit, Child Labour Elimination Committee Secretariat, Child Labour Elimination Contact Point in related agencies, Civil Society and Stakeholders' Network, and District-level Child Labour Elimination Unit and Network to carry out its activities related to awareness campaigns, monitoring and evaluation, and preparation of reports. Similarly, MoLESS takes the overall responsibility to implement the master plan and formulate relevant laws and policies to eliminate child labour. The ministry coordinates and collaborates with the relevant government and non-government organisations, including trade unions, employers, and private sector, to carry out its activities at all three levels.

MoLESS also coordinates with the Labour and Employment Offices at the local level to monitor and inspect workplaces and investigate the cases related to child labour and send them for union, employers, and private sector to carry out its activities at all three levels. It also coordinates with the Labour and Employment Offices at the local level to monitor and inspect workplaces, and investigate cases related to child labour and send them for prosecution. Similarly, the ministry coordinates with the municipalities and rural municipalities to identify the cases of child labour and support them in rehabilitation, rescue the children at risk, create awareness programmes, and document data related to child labour. The municipalities and rural municipalities also work for the elimination child labour, forced labour and human trafficking at the local level, as per the direction of the Local Government Operation Act, 2017.

3.3. Policies and programmes on child labour, forced labour and trafficking

The Government of Nepal has adopted different development plans, policies, and programmes that include provisions for the elimination of child labour, forced labour and trafficking. The government has developed these policies in alignment with the national priorities and aims to achieve all the commitments made at both the national and international levels to ensure child rights. Similarly, the government has also formulated policies to ensure the livelihood of bonded labourers as well as to combat trafficking and provide the survivors with effective rehabilitation measures.

The government, through its 15th Plan (2076/77-2080/81), intends to achieve all the commitments made at the international level with regard to protecting child rights. Similarly, there are plans to include the issues of child labour, child marriage, violence against children and girls, and trafficking of children in school curriculums to make children aware about their rights.

The Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security in recent years among its various objectives and goals in its annual development programmes also focuses on ensuring rights of child through various activities. For example, in its Annual Development Programme of FY 2080/81 BS, in order to eliminate child labour, it has plans on conducting interaction programmes with stakeholders regarding child labour-free local level declaration programme, providing conditional grants for declaration of child labor-free local level, interaction programme with local level and the stakeholders to implement Procedure for Declaration of Local Level as Child Labour Free Zone and implementation of National Plan on the Elimination of Child Labour. It also plans on conducting monitoring and inspecting of child labour in industries and businesses. Similarly, through the Annual Development Programme 2079/80 BS, the government had planned and budgeted for rescuing, rehabilitating, and reintegrating child labourers in coordination and cooperation with the federal, state, and local level, as well as the private sector. The government also planned to make labour audits compulsory in all government and private institutions. In addition to this, there was also to be monitoring and inspecting of child labour in industries and businesses. The Annual Development

Programme 2077/78 BS outlined the government's plans to organise trainings and orientation programmes among the local-level government officials to make them aware about protection of children and elimination of violence against them. Similarly, awareness and orientation programmes was also to be carried out among school children to create awareness about drug abuse and child marriage. The government also planned to formulate child-related plans and policies at the local level. Some other planned activities of the government included continuation of day-care facilities for children within the premises of Singha Durbar and establishment of day-care centres at the provincial level. Another priority area of the government was the management of temporary service centres for women and girls affected by violence. Similarly, the employees of children's homes and rehabilitation centres were also to be provided with training and orientation programmes to sensitise them about child rights. The government also enhanced immediate rescue and management of street children, children in emergencies, and children without any caretakers. The government made efforts to reconcile missing children back to their parents, and those children whose families could not be identified were to be rescued and rehabilitated at shelter homes for children. The Annual Development Programme of FY 2076/77 BS included the plans of the ministry and its related departments to expand employment opportunities and labour management to protect the basic human rights of the workers. It also planned to develop a model for labour inspection and provide training for labour inspectors to ensure decent work as well as effective implementation of labour laws and policies.

There are some other national policies and programmes in place to ensure the well-being of children and to make the state accountable to protect their rights.

The Foreign Employment Act, 2007, which is the primary legal instrument that regulates foreign employment from Nepal, prohibits children below the age of 18 to go for foreign employment. Similarly, the National Master Plan for Elimination of All Forms of Child Labour (2018-2028) prohibits the involvement of child labourers in domestic work, portering work, agricultural sector, human trafficking, drugs transporting, brick kilns, embroidery work, mining work, entertainment sector including sexual exploitation, industries including chemical factories, begging, collection of medicinal plants, construction sector, and hotel and restaurant sectors. It also outlines the fundamental role of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security, and other line ministries, including the Ministry of Women, Children, and Senior Citizens; the Ministry of Education, Science and Technology; the Ministry of Federal Affairs and General Administration; the Ministry of Health and Population; the Ministry of Communication and Information Technology; the Ministry of Foreign Affairs; the Ministry of Agriculture and Animal Development; and the Ministry of Land Management, Cooperatives and Poverty Alleviation, to work alongside the objectives to eliminate child labour from the country. It states that the concerned ministries should devise plans and programmes to work against child labour and work in coordination with the National Planning Commission, the Nepal Health Research Council, and the Social Welfare Council.

The master plan also outline the role of provincial governments to formulate laws and policies to eliminate child labour in alignment with the legal and institutional provisions at the federal level. The governments at the local level should shoulder the responsibilities to monitor the prevalence of child labour and take necessary actions. They are also required to conduct programmes to eliminate child labour as well as create awareness at the community level. The government at all three levels should work in collaboration with the civil society organisations and private sectors for the effective implementation of the master plan.

Similarly, the Guidelines on Local Committee and Municipality Committee against Human Trafficking (Formation and Mobilisation) (2013) has mandated the formation of the committees at the local level. Such committees are required to, among others, recommend concerned bodies to issue the required documents if there are no official documents certifying the identity of rescued victims, raise public awareness against human trafficking and smuggling, and to implement programmes, policies, and plans formulated by the district committee.

According to the Standard Operating Procedures to Counter Cross Border Trafficking in Persons: India-Nepal, for First Responders (2017), the First Responders include border guards, police/Anti- Human Trafficking Units, NGOs, airport and land transport authorities, immigrations authorities, shelter homes, and civilians. It outlines the existing formal and informal repatriation processes between India and Nepal. Similarly, the Standard Operating Procedure on Prosecution and Adjudication in Trafficking in Persons (TIP) Cases (2011) outlines the role of public prosecutors in the various stages from investigation through post-prosecution and the trial process, in terms of protecting the human rights of TIP victims to make the prosecution process effective. It also outlines the procedure to be followed in the court for the effective administration of justice and aims to provide guidance for establishing coordination among government lawyers, courts, legal practitioners, and civil society actors in order to ensure fulfilment of the duties and responsibilities by each stakeholder.

3.4.. Protection, withdrawal, and remediation policies on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking

The government has developed guidelines on operation of children search and helpline numbers for the immediate search, rescue, and relief of children and prevent them from kidnapping, trafficking, violence, and sexual abuse through the help of free helpline services. Similarly, the government also has guidelines on the occupational safety and health of the workers involved in brick kilns to protect them from hazardous working conditions and to protect their labour rights.

The Guidelines on Operation of Children Search Number 104 (2019) aims to recommend legal action to protect, prevent, and act against the offenders. The guidelines further specify the involvement of Children Search and Rescue Number 104 Operation National Coordination Committee, Children Search and Rescue Province Coordina-

tion Committee, and Children Search and Rescue District Coordination Committee for the effective operation and management of the search number. Similarly, the Children Helpline Number 1098 Nepal Operation Procedure (2019) provides a ground for the concerned government agencies and non-government organisations to work in collaboration to protect the rights of children. There are provisions of the federal, provincial, and local governments to provide financial support to the agencies operating helpline numbers for the purpose of rescue, counselling rehabilitation, family reunification, and protection of children. The operation procedure also outlines the need to conduct awareness programmes, information dissemination, monitoring activities along with maintaining the record of vulnerable and rescued children, and enhancing the access of helpline services to protect the children at risk.

As per the Guidelines on Occupational Safety and Health of the Workers in Brick Kilns (2018), the brick-kiln labourers are entitled to provision of drinking water, accommodation, relaxation room, first-aid services, toilet and bathroom, and safety gears. They can work for up to eight hours a day and 48 hours a week and receive appropriate compensation in case of injuries. If there are minor children between the ages 16-18 at work, the employers should ensure that they do not lift weights over 25 kg and 20 kg for male and female children respectively. The women workers should be given separate breaks for feeding/breastfeeding their children. The employers are required to provide a separate room for breastfeeding if there are 50 or more women employed, and day-care centres with a capable caregiver and sufficient playing materials if there are children who accompany their parents at work. The children of school-going age should be sent to public schools located nearby or to formal and informal learning centres operated by non-government organisations.

The Guidelines for Psychosocial Counselling for Stakeholders Involved in the Campaign Against Human Trafficking (2012), issued by MoWCSC, have been formulated as a guidance tool for stakeholders providing psychosocial counselling to TIP victims. Among others, the guidelines specify the qualifications and training required in order to serve as psychosocial counsellors to TIP victims and the dos and don'ts for counsellors in the various stages of providing counselling.

Similarly, the Guidelines for the Operation of Rehabilitation Centre (2011) stipulates that the provision of safe accommodation and food, clothing, psychotherapy and psychosocial counselling services, legal services, education, and vocational training, rehabilitation and family reunion, and repatriation should be provided free of cost to the victims of trafficking. Furthermore, the guidelines provide detailed specifications on various aspects relating to the establishment, operation and management of rehabilitation centres, including the minimum standards for physical infrastructure and the provision of various services.

The National Minimum Standard for the Care and Protection of the Victims of Human Trafficking and Transportation (2011) outlines that service providers should provide care and protection services to victims in two stages, depending on the condition

and needs of the victims. In the first stage, service providers are required to ensure provision of primary care services such as first aid, legal aid, psychological counselling, provision of food and shelter, ensuring safety of victims, and testing victims for various infections (such as HIV, tuberculosis). Subsequently, the second stage is to provide additional services such as education, skill-based training, income generation/employment opportunities. The national minimum standard also stipulates that service providers are required to obtain informed consent of victims before they carry out rescue and repatriation operations.

3.5. Education policies and programmes with a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking

The section below discusses the education policies of the Nepal government that have a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and trafficking. The government has initiated various policies and programmes to ensure children's access to quality education throughout the country.

The School Sector Development Plan (2016/17–2022/23) was formulated with the objective of ensuring access and quality of education by realising the needs of the students and promoting learner-centred teaching methods. It aims to enhance enrolment of children in vulnerable conditions, including those affected by child labour, trafficking, child marriage, and other harmful societal and cultural practices, and those belonging to marginalised communities.

Similarly, there is a provision of day meal for endangered and marginalised communities from all over Nepal, and for the children from the Karnali region and the girl students. Scholarships are available for the students with disabilities, students from low-income communities such as Dalit, Chepang, and Raute Community, conflict-affected students, and martyrs' children. Scholarships are also available for underprivileged (bipanna lakchit chhatrabriti), also known as Pro-Poor Target Group Scholarship, for girls who are studying in the Science Stream in grades 11 and 12.

Realising the needs of the children post-Covid, the government drafted Guidelines to Facilitate Students' Learning through Alternative Means (2020) to improve access to education during the pandemic. According to the guidelines, students are classified into five categories: students who are beyond all kinds of access to distance-learning resources, students having access to radio, students having access to television, students having access to computer without internet connection, and students having access to internet or information and communication technology. The government planned to manage community-learning centres or provide education at schools by maintaining physical distance for those without appropriate means of learning. The government will also provide education through radio and television for those students without computer/internet connection. Similarly, the government will also ensure that the students with computer, but no internet will get the reading materials in the form of CD and pen drive.

Similarly, the Ministry of Education, Science, and Technology in collaboration with Good Neighbors International organises audio lessons on English, Science, and Social Studies subjects to the students of grades 6, 7 and 8 through Kantipur FM. In collaboration with the Association of Community Radio Broadcasters, audio lessons are organised as compulsory subjects to the students (grades 9 and 10). Likewise, the ministry in coordination with the E-Learning Portal, *Sikai Chautari*, features digital content like interactive learning games, videos of classroom lessons, audio, and e-book for the students (grades 1 to 10).

3.6. Social protection policies and programmes with a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking

The government provides child grants as part of the social security allowance to vulnerable children in some parts of the country to improve their nutrition. Nutrition grant is provided to children as Social Security Allowances where there is a provision of allowance for the Dalit children under the age of five throughout the country to receive NPR 532 per child per month. Similarly, all the children under the age of five in 25 districts of Nepal (Humla, Jumla, Mugu, Kalikot, Dolpa, Acham, Bajhang, Rautahat, Mahottari, Sarlahi, Siraha, Doti, Jajarkot, Bajura, Saptari, Bara, Dhanusha, Rasuwa, Rukum East, Rukum West, Rolpa, Kapilvastu, Baitadi, Salyan, Dailekh) also get the same amount of allowance.

The government has extended the coverage of the social security scheme and included workers from the informal sector in the scheme. As per the Guidelines for the Social Security Schemes for Informal Sector Workers and Self-Employed Persons (2079), the workers in the informal sector have to contribute 20.37 per cent of their basic salary where 11 percent has to be paid by the workers and the local government contributes 9.37 per cent on their behalf. Out Of that 20.37 per cent, 10.37 per cent goes to accidental and disability protection, medical care, maternity benefits scheme, and dependent family protection scheme, and 10 per cent of the contribution goes to oldage protection scheme.

The Procedural Guidelines on Social Security Schemes for Labourers Engaged in Foreign Employment and Self-Employment in Foreign Land (2079) includes procedures for covering migrant workers in the Social Security Scheme. The migrants, as per the provisions, have to contribute at least 21.33 per cent of their basic salary. They are entitled to accidental and disability protection scheme, dependent family protection scheme, and old age protection scheme where 7.48 per cent of their contribution goes to accidental and disability protection scheme and dependent family protection scheme and 13.85 per cent goes to the old age protection scheme.

3.7. Active labour market policies and programmes with a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking

Creation of employment opportunities within the country is one of the priority areas of the Nepal government. There have been efforts at all three tiers to create jobs locally and to retain youths within the country. There are also plans and programmes targeted towards the marginalised groups and returnee migrant workers to provide employment and self-employment opportunities to integrate them into the national labour markets. However, the government still needs to work to make such programmes effective and to ensure access among people.

According to the Right to Employment Act, 2018, the provincial and local government will generate employment activities targeted to the unemployed people with minimum employment. Such employment programmes will prioritise people with poor economic background, women, Dalits, and the families of martyrs and persons forced to disappear. Similarly, there is also a provision of 'Unemployment Support Programs' through which the provincial and local governments will conduct various activities, including information dissemination related to employment opportunities, skill-development trainings, and provision of soft loans through banks and financial institutions to promote self-employment. The people who receive skill training will be assigned a job by the Employment Service Centre. In case the government is unable to provide jobs to the unemployed persons listed in the Employment Service Centres, they will get a livelihood allowance equivalent to fifty per cent of the minimum wage received for 100 days of work as fixed by the ministry [MoLESS].

The Prime Minister Employment Programme, introduced through the budget of the fiscal year 2018-19 to create 500,000 new job opportunities within the country and discourage labour migration, aimed to create jobs by commercialising agriculture and developing irrigation, potable water, river control, forestry, tourism, transport infrastructure and other public construction projects within the federal and subnational governments.

Similarly, the Annual Development Programme of FY 2019/20 incorporated the plans of the Ministry of Labour, Employment and Social Security and its related departments to expand employment opportunities and labour management to protect the basic human rights of the workers. It also planned to develop a model for labour inspection and provide training for labour inspectors to ensure decent work as well as effective implementation of labour laws and policies. Likewise, the Foreign Investment Policy 2015 incorporates issues related to decent work and emphasises on the need for a tripartite mechanism between the government, workers, and employers to address problems arising at work and to ensure social security of the workers.

The National Youth Policy, 2072 has taken into consideration some issues about labour and employment, including decent work, safety for female migrant workers, and the need to ensure safety, health, and decent work to protect the rights of the workers

and to eliminate violence and discrimination prevalent at workplaces. Similarly, the National Urban Development Strategy, 2017 has prioritised the need of investment for the development of enterprises and infrastructures, such as road construction and transportation, to increase employment opportunities within the country as well as to enhance productivity and growth of the labourers. The strategy, however, does not have any reference to the issues of child labour, forced labour, and trafficking. In addition to this, as many youths have lost their job due to the Covid-19 pandemic, all the seven provinces, in their provincial budget of 2020/21, planned to create employment opportunities by promoting self-employment and entrepreneurial activities, as well as providing skill development trainings to youths and returnee migrants.

Prioritising Decent Labour, Productive Employment and Prosperity along with Sustainable Social Security, MOLESS's Five-Year Strategy for 2022–2027, in its objective includes elimination of all forms of exploitation including child exploitation. In its Strategic Pillar 3, the strategy focuses on the implementation of the National Master Plan for Elimination of All Forms of Child Labour (2018-2028). In the same pillar, it further states on focusing on formalising the informal labour gradually, step by step.

3.8. Advocacy policies and programmes with a bearing on child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking

The government does not have a separate policy to specifically advocate for the issues related to child labour, forced labour, and human trafficking. However, advocacy measures are inherent in most of its laws, policies, and programmes. The government coordinates with national and international non-government organisations to raise the issues at national and international levels. The trade unions have also implemented some projects and programmes to that end, although in very limited ways and irregularly.

For instance, the National Master Plan for Elimination of All Forms of Child Labour (2018-2028) aims to enhance the capacities of relevant stakeholders to create a favourable environment to eliminate child labour and conduct programmes for social rehabilitation and reintegration of children. There is also a strategy to strengthen coordination and networks between the stakeholders for increased partnerships to abolish child labour.

Various NGOs have been providing various services to victims of trafficking including interception, rescue, repatriation, and family reunification, rehabilitation/shelter home facilities including provision of essentials such as food and clothing, health-care services, formal and non-formal education, legal aid, psychosocial counselling, capacity development and life skills training (including vocational training), and financial/monetary assistance. The Alliance against Trafficking in Women and Children in Nepal (AATWIN) is a national-level network of NGOs, formed in June 1997, to 'strengthen the campaign against human trafficking' and for the protection of human rights of women and children in particular. At present, the membership of AATWIN consists of 40 NGOs. Notably, several organisations affiliated with AATWIN, such as Maiti Nepal, Saathi,

ABC Nepal, Himalayan Human Rights Monitors (HimRights), Common Platform for Common Goal (CoCoN), and Social Service Centre Nepal (SOSEC Nepal), have border units that conduct cross-border surveillance through checkpoints and patrols. Several NGOs including Shakti Samuha and Maiti Nepal also work in coordination with the police in Nepal and India for the repatriation of Nepali nationals trafficked to India and other countries.

Various INGOs (including Winrock International, The Asia Foundation, Plan International), bilateral and intergovernmental agencies (World Bank, the Government of Japan, Terre des hommes Netherlands, AEIN Luxembourg), and United Nations agencies including the United Nations Children's Emergency Fund (UNICEF) have been working in concert with the Government of Nepal and Nepal-based NGOs to promote advocacy and implementation of various anti-human trafficking initiatives throughout the country. In addition, INGOs such as Winrock International, Lungta Project, NoVo Foundation have also been providing funding for the operation of various shelter homes and service centres run by NGOs.

