## Technical Cooperation Project Summary

**Project Title**  
**Brighter Futures Program: Combating Child Labor through Education in Nepal, Phase II**

**Region/Country**  
ASIA/Nepal

**Project Duration**  
September 30, 2005 – September 30, 2009 (completed)

**Fiscal Year & Funding Level**  
- **FY 2005:** USD 3,500,000
- **FY 2007:** USD 345,000
- **Matching funds:** USD 729,500

**Problem to be Addressed**  
The Government of Nepal’s Master Plan for the Elimination of Child Labor targets 16 worst forms of child labor to be eliminated in a seven-year period. Child labor is deeply embedded in the cultural, social, and economic scenarios and history of Nepal. While the root of child labor lies in poverty, other factors such as ethnicity, geography, and civil conflict contribute to the problem.

**Results**  
The project withdrew 19,882 children and prevented 16,787 children from work in ten hazardous sectors: porters, recyclers/rag-pickers, domestic servants, carpet factory workers, mine/quarry workers, former bonded laborers (engaged in several occupations), brick factory workers, transport workers, restaurant-entertainment workers (vulnerable to trafficking), and children affected by the civil war. The project targeted a total of 27 districts.

**Project Objectives**  
Development Objective: Worst forms of child labor (WFCL) in Nepal reduced through the following four immediate objectives:

- Greater parental and community participation in formal, non-formal and vocational education for children removed from WFCL and children at risk of WFCL;
- Improved quality, relevance and access to educational programs for children withdrawn from or at risk of WFCL;
- Reduced barriers to the success of children withdrawn from or at risk of WFCL in formal and alternative school systems; and
- National education policy dialogue reflects the needs of children engaged in WFCL and children at risk of becoming child laborers.

**Summary of Activities**  
- Developed community mobilization strategies to support schools and reduce child labor and build commitment of education policymakers for increased parent and community participation in decentralized management of education;

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U.S. Department of Labor, International Labor Affairs Bureau
• Conducted participatory research to determine local strategies and educational interventions to combat child labor;
• Expanded and strengthened parent-teacher associations (PTAs), trained school management committees to improve education quality, and provided matching funds for school improvements;
• Provided greater access to gender sensitive non-formal education (NFE) programs for girls as well as NFE options that enabled working youth to continue learning, and facilitated transition for NFE program graduates into other training opportunities;
• Generated greater awareness and policy support for girls education;
• Engaged children and parents in curriculum development, developed specialized education content for specific occupations, engaged NFE Center in development of workplace skills curriculum, and promoted improved assessment and equivalency for NFE and vocational education;
• Built the educational capacity of NGOs involved in rescue and rehabilitation of child laborers, and provided school support to children reintegrated in home communities;
• Disseminated best practices on the role of education in the rehabilitation of child workers;
• Integrated basic vocational skills into formal and transitional education programs; and
• Used targeted experimentation and study to address specific educational barriers for child laborers and children at risk.

GRANTEE
World Education

IMPLEMENTING PARTNERS
Community Legal Resource Centre; Porters Progress Nepal; Community Women Development Center; Change Nepal; Ama Milan Kendra; Women Awareness and Prevention Center; and 34 other local organizations.

CONTACT INFORMATION
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