



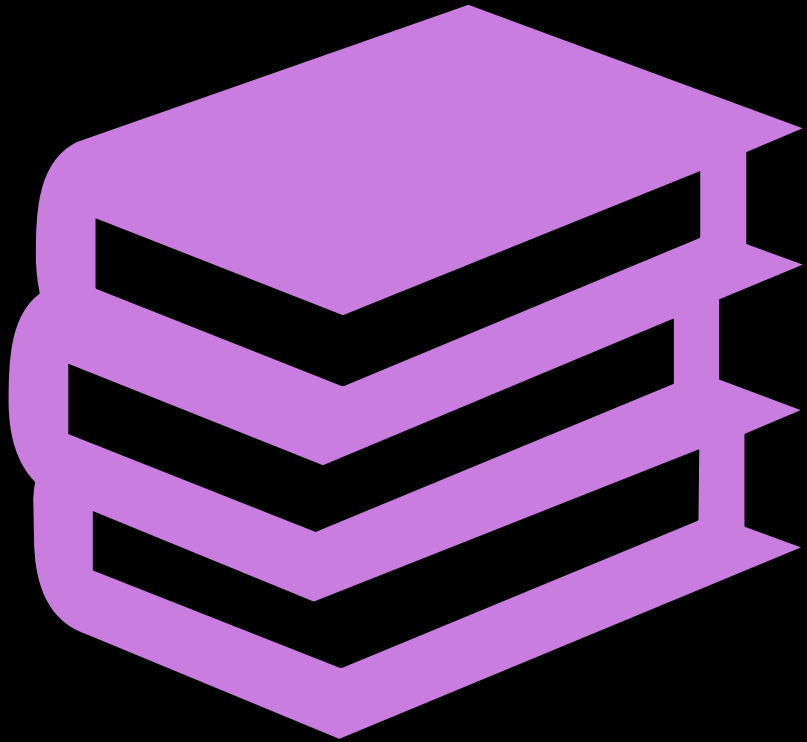
Child Labor in the Supply Chain in Banana Crop Agriculture in Carmen, Davao del Norte

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Ateneo de Davao University**

Highlights

*Research Document Version 2: On the process
of review for Certification*



Background of the Study



Statement of the Problem

1. General demographic characteristics of child laborers participating in banana supply chain



Statement of the Problem

2. Views on child labor and the perceived factors that contribute to it



Statement of the Problem

3. Location of the child laborers in the banana supply chain



Statement of the Problem

4. Experiences of child laborers in the banana supply chain in terms of:
 - a. Demand and supply factors
 - b. Supply chain environment
 - c. Key players and entities involved
 - d. Processes, Hazards, Benefits
 - e. Phases, Activities, Channels
 - f. Supply chain activity, products, and services

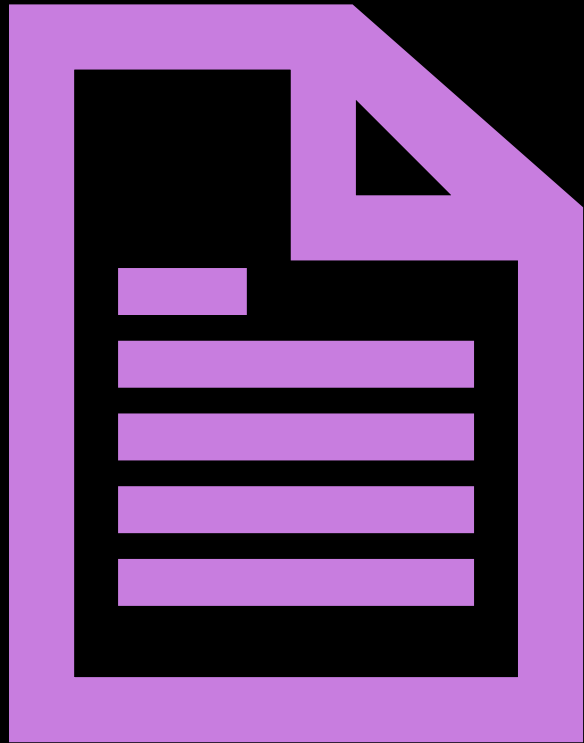


Statement of the Problem

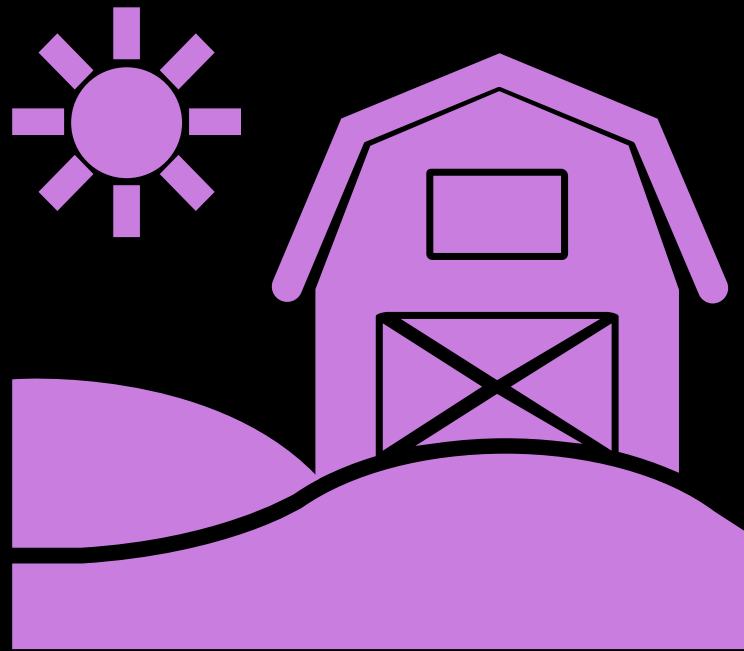
5. Good practices, challenges, and recommendations in addressing child labor issues in agricultural supply chain

Scope and Limitations of the Study

- Qualitative research design
- focused on child labor in the coconut supply chain in Aleosan, North Cotabato specifically in the following barangays: 1) Dualing and 2) Barangay Katalicanan.
- Purposive sampling
- In-depth interviews and key informant interviews
- Data collection period: December 2020 to February 2021



Operational Definition of Terms



Location of children in the identified crop agriculture

- place and sites of participation of child laborers in the banana supply chain

Supply chain environment



setting in the supply chain environment in banana crop agriculture as described by the child laborers and the key informants.



geographic context



interplay of the networks and elements in the banana supply chain covering activities such as but not limited to farming, processing, distribution, and retail.

Supply chain activity, products and services

- tasks performed by the child laborers in banana supply chain
- specific product or commodity produced
- expected output from the child laborers

Phases in the supply chain

various stages in the
banana supply chain where
child laborers are involved



Demand factors

- perceived causes, circumstances, or conditions in the banana supply chain system that trigger the demand for child labor

Supply factors

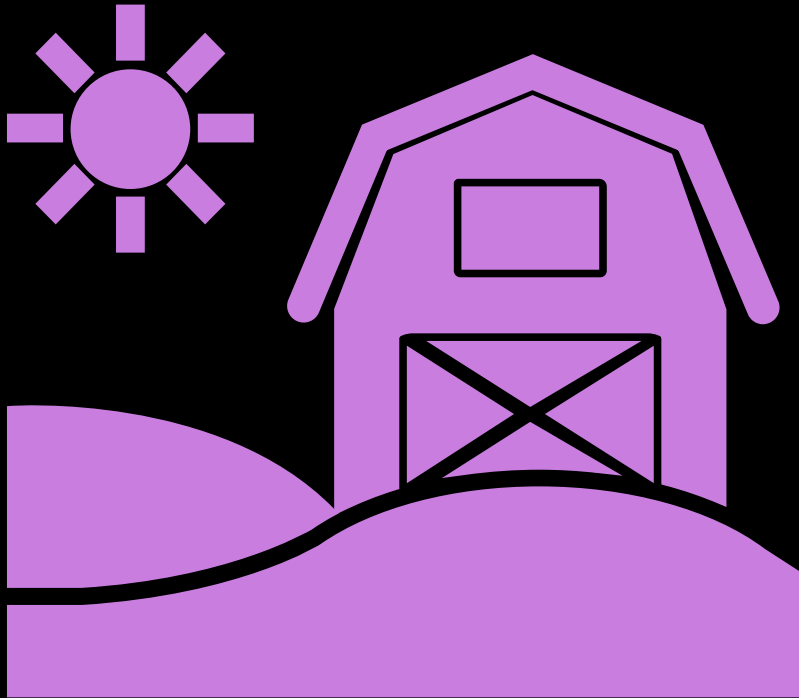
- perceived causes, circumstances, or conditions in the banana supply chain system that trigger the supply of child labor





Process and channels

- procedures, steps or protocols, routes, or avenues in the banana supply chain in which child laborers are involved based on the narratives of child laborers and key informants.



Key players and entities involved

various stakeholders involved in the
banana supply chain

Good practices

- refer to the perceived positive mechanisms and policies that promote child protection and acceptable conditions of work in the banana supply chain



A large, light-colored puzzle piece in the shape of a person stands out against a bright yellow background. Other puzzle pieces are visible around it, some partially cut off by the frame. The lighting creates soft shadows, giving the pieces a three-dimensional appearance.

Challenges

difficulties encountered by
the child laborers in the
banana supply chain



Respondents' recommendations

- suggestions of the child laborers and the stakeholders on how to combat child labor



Methodology

Research Design

Qualitative

Descriptive



Sampling

- Purposive sampling

Respondents

**10 child laborers
(Barangay Magsaysay)**

**10 child laborers
(Barangay Alejal)**

**3 key stakeholders
(Barangay Magsaysay)**

**3 key stakeholders
(Barangay Alejal)**



Research Locale

- Carmen, Davao del Norte
- Barangay Magsaysay
- Barangay Alejal

Data Collection Strategies

Key informant
interviews

In-depth
interviews



Data Collection Period

January - February 2021

Data Analysis Procedure

Thematic analysis

Ethical Considerations

Privacy

Anonymity

Confidentiality

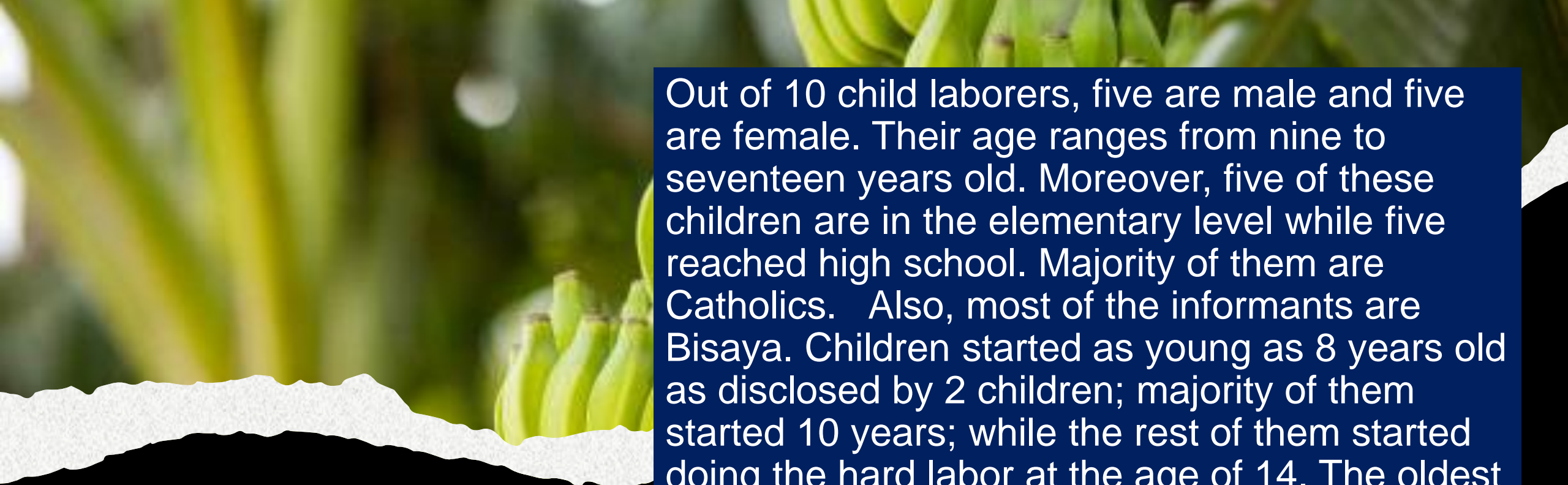
Consent Forms

Assent

**Adherence to
Covid-19 health
and security
protocols**



Research Findings



Demographic profile of child laborers interviewed

Out of 10 child laborers, five are male and five are female. Their age ranges from nine to seventeen years old. Moreover, five of these children are in the elementary level while five reached high school. Majority of them are Catholics. Also, most of the informants are Bisaya. Children started as young as 8 years old as disclosed by 2 children; majority of them started 10 years; while the rest of them started doing the hard labor at the age of 14. The oldest among the respondents is 17, female, and has been involved in the banana supply chain for 7 years now. Furthermore, the smallest family size of these children is four while ten is the largest. One of them dropped out from school.

Municipality		
Age	Total	%
Carmen	115	25%
Alejal	106	23%
Boy	83	18%
Girl	23	5%
Magsaysay	9	2%
Boy	6	1%
Girl	3	1%
Sto. Tomas	343	75%
Salvacion	238	52%
Boy	150	33%
Girl	88	19%
San Miguel	105	23%
Boy	75	16%
Girl	30	7%
Grand Total	458	100%

Distribution of Children At-Risk and Engaged in Child Labor by Gender (BUILDCA2P enumeration of children at risk and engaged in child labor in Carmen and Sto. Tomas Davao del Norte)

Davao Del Norte		
Age range	Total	%
5 to 7 years old	10	2%
8 to 10 years old	63	14%
11 to 13 years old	141	31%
14 to 16 yearsold	187	41%
17 years old	57	12%
Total	458	100%

Distribution of Children At-Risk and Engaged in Child Labor by Age (BUILDCA2P enumeration of children at risk and engaged in child labor in Carmen and Sto. Tomas Davao del Norte)

Form of Education	Total	%
Formal School	439	96%
Non-Formal School	19	4%
Grand Total	458	100%

**Distribution of Children At-Risk and Engaged in Child Labor by School Participation
(BUILDCA2P enumeration of children at risk and engaged in child labor in Carmen and Sto.
Tomas Davao del Norte)**

Municipality/Barangay						
Crops	Banana	%	Rice	%	Total	%
Carmen	115	25%	0	0%	115	25%
Alejal	103	22%	0	0%	103	22%
Boy	83	18%	0	0%	83	18%
Girl	22	5%	0	0%	22	5%
Magsaysay	9	2%	0	0%	9	2%
Boy	6	1%	0	0%	6	1%
Girl	3	1%	0	0%	3	1%
Santo Tomas	25	5%	318	69%	343	75%
Salvacion	14	3%	224	49%	238	52%
Boy	10	2%	140	31%	150	33%
Girl	4	1%	84	18%	88	19%
San Miguel	11	2%	94	21%	105	23%
Boy	10	2%	65	14%	75	16%
Girl	1	0%	29	6%	30	7%
Grand Total	140	31%	318	69%	458	100%

Distribution of Children At-Risk and Engaged in Child Labor in the production of Banana, Corn and Rice Age (BUILDCA2P enumeration of children at risk and engaged in child labor in Carmen and Sto. Tomas Davao del Norte)



Demographic profile of key stakeholders interviewed

Out of the 6 stakeholders, four are male and two are female. These stakeholders fall in the age range of 25 to 60. Three of them are barangay officials, two are parents of child laborers, and one is a public school teacher.



Views on Child Labor

- **“Child labor means working at a very young age”**
- **“Child labor is a violation of children’s rights”**

“Para sa akoo, dili gyud kay naa gyud baya sila’y rights.” (For me, I’m not in favor because they really have their rights) – KII Teacher

“Right to play, right to education, ana gyud baya unta.” (Right to play, right to education, supposed to be.) - KII Teacher

“Ma enjoy gyud nila unta dapat. Diba naa mana siya sa republic act.”
(They should enjoy their childhood; it is stated at the republic act.) - KII Teacher

“Dili jud saktong tungod kay ang bata dapat mag eskwela” (It is not right because children should be in school) – KII Teacher



Perceived Factors that Contribute to Child Labor

1. Not enough food for the family
2. Economic difficulty
3. Compassion for the family
4. Personal choice
5. Child labor as an obligation
6. Idleness
7. Child laborers as substitute breadwinners
8. Parental consent given to some child laborers
9. Child labor equated to appreciation of hard work
10. Preparation for adult life
11. Peer influence

Not enough food for the family

“Nagtrabaho ko tungod kay malooy ko saakong parents, og wala pud mi makaon” (I work because I felt pity for my parents, and we don’t have food to eat.) -11/M

“...ako nalang kay walay mahimo si mama kay wala’y makaon” (I work, my mother cannot do anything because we don’t have food to eat). -11/M

“...dili na makaabot ... sa among utang. Unya dili pa gyud mi kakuan og bugas usahay kay naa pa man mi utang. Dili nami kakaon” (It’s insufficient to pay our debt. And we cannot buy rice because we still have debt which means we are unable to eat.) -9/F Magsaysay

Economic Difficulty

“Bayad sa utang” (Payment for debt) -15/M

“Nanarbaho kay lisud” (Need to work because life is difficult) -14/M

“...kasagaran ana nila nanarbaho tungod gyud kay sa kawad-on.”
(Most of them are working because of poverty.)-KII Teacher

Compassion for the family

“...na CS akong mama...gusto ko makahatag ug kwarta sa akong mama kay akong papa nagkalisod naman sa utang” (My mom had caesarian delivery...I want to be able to give money to my mother because my father is buried in debt) - 9/F

Personal choice

“...naa baya pud uban no na bata pa kayo sila unya murag gusto napud nila ba naing-ana na lang ilang tarbaho kay wala sila nagtinarong og iskwela. Unya murag naanad na lang pud sila siguro.” (There are other kids who are very young it seems like they want to work instead of going to school because they are not doing well anyway. And it seems like they got used to it.) – 17/F

“Usa ka nindot nga pang lantaw sa mga bata nga maski sa ilahang mga pangidaron maski sa mga bulohaton nila dili ta angayan ana nga trabaho is gisudlan nila tungod ra pud sailing mga interest ug wala napugos.” (From the standpoint of the children, despite their age, and the things they do, and as they know the work is not suitable for them, they join because of their interest, not that they are forced.) - KII/SK

Child labor as an obligation

“...kay nay puy uban pugson gyud sila sa ilahang ginikanan motrabaho para makakuan sila makatabang...” (Some were forced by their parents to work so that they can help the family.) 17/F

“Napugos ko ug pagpatrabaho ngano sege ra man ug laag mag binugoy man” (I was forced to let them work because if not, they will sneak and rebel.) -KII/Parent

“Mo ingon ang nga wala mang ka nag module panarbaho na lang dira makatabang paka...” (Some parents tell their kids since you don't have module today, go work so you can help) – KII Teacher Alejal

Idleness

“May manangtarbahoana lang kaysa mag-sige ka gpungko. Wa kay makuha pud. Naa ba diay muhatag saimo’g piso dira maglingkod ra ka nawa man. May manangmulihok ka ba.” (It’s better to work than just sit around all day, you can’t get anything from that. No one will give you one peso to sit all day. It’s etter to do something) -17/F

Child Laborers as Substitute Breadwinners

“Usahay naay 8 or 10 ang edad ana. Magtrabaho man sa sagingan kay kauban man sa iyang mama. Ang amahan wala naman nagtrabaho run, naa ra sa balay, tigulang na man gud.” (Sometimes, there are 8 or 10 years old involved. They work at the banana farm with their mother because their father is already old, so he has to stay at home.) 9/F

“Kanang murag wala na silage e inasuportaan sa ilang mama ba. Mao pudna among una kuan, murag gipasagdan sila, sila na lang pud ang mulihok pud para mabuhi pud sila.” (They were not supported by their mother and doesn’t care about them. That is why they need to move their feet to survive.) -17/F

Parental consent given to some child laborers

“Tugutan ko sa akong mama ug papa nga manarbaho”. (My mother and father allowed me to go to work.) -15/F

“Musugot ra man sila [parents]”. (They would just allow us.)
-15/F

Child labor equated to appreciation of hard work

“umm mayo ilang ginabuhay, kay biskan pa og... kanang... murag... dili pa kayo sila kabalo sa tarbahuon sa kuan sa... kasagingan, murag ilaha gyud ng gusto gyud nila na makabalo sila kay para makatabang sila sa ilahang ginikanan ba” (Yes. What they’re doing is good, because even though they don’t know the work in the banana plantation, they still want to learn so that they can help their parents.) -17/F

“maayo man kay bahala og kanang wala sila nakahuman at least murag nitabang pud sila sa ilang ginikanan ba. Kanang murag nibawi-bawina lang pud sa pagtabang kay wala man sila nag-iskwela.” (It’s good. It’s good because... it’s good because even though they did not finish school they still helped their parents. It’s like they compensate by working for not being in school) -17/F Magsaysay

Preparation for Adult Life

“Gina take nila ang pagpanarbaho nga usa training” (They consider working as training) -KII Parent

“Gusto nila makatuon sa trabaho, para inig dako nila kabalo na sila.” (They want to learn the work so that when they grow up, they know already.) –KII

“Ultimo ginikanan mismo ba moingon ay mas maayo ng manarbaho para makabalo sila kung unsa kalisod ang manarbaho” (Their parents say that it’s better for them to work so that they will know how difficult it is to work.)
– KII Parent

Peer Influence

“...gusto man nako mutrabaho kay naa akoang mga barkada ba. Ingon-ana. Naa sila. Nagtarbaho na sila ana na time.” (I want to work because my friends are there, they are working) -17/F

“...Naibog kay nagtrabaho ang mga amigo...” (I get jealous because my friends are working) –15/M

Location of Child Laborers in the Supply Chain in Banana Crop Agriculture



LOCATION OF CHILD LABORERS THE SUPPLY CHAIN IN CROP AGRICULTURE

THEME 1: PREPARATORY PHASE

- CLEARING

THEME 2: PLANTING

THEME 3: MAINTENANCE

- FERTILIZER APPLICATION
- WEEDING
- DELEAFING
- WATERING
- SPRAYING
- FLOWER INJECTING
- "SUKSUK"
- LABELLING OF FRUITS
- PROPPING

THEME 4: HARVESTING

THEME 5: PACKAGING

- POST-HARVEST
 - DE-HANDING
 - WASHING/CLEANING
 - SELECTION/GRADING
 - WEIGHING
 - STICKER LABELLING
- PACKAGING
 - SPRAYING
 - "SUKSUK"
 - VACUUMING
 - PILING



Removal of weeds


“O, manglimpisa.” (Yes, clearing weeds)– 15/M
Magsaysay

“...oh kanang limpisahan sa nimo siya tas ikuan nimo kanang murag or i-block-block. ana. Iblock-block sa unya pakanalan.” (Yes, you must remove the weeds then you identify the block, then dig for canal.)

– 17/F Magsaysay

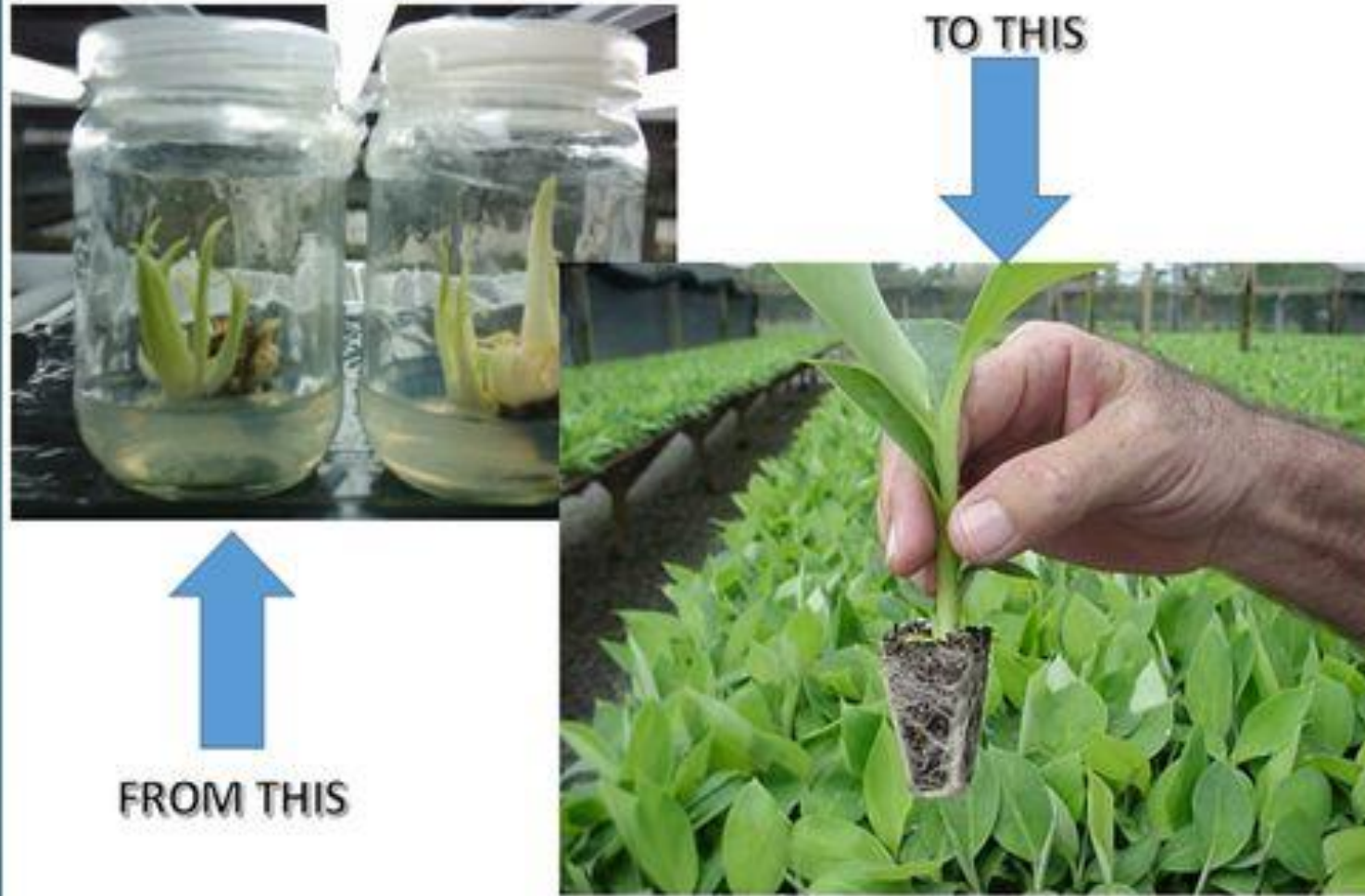


Blocking and digging of canal

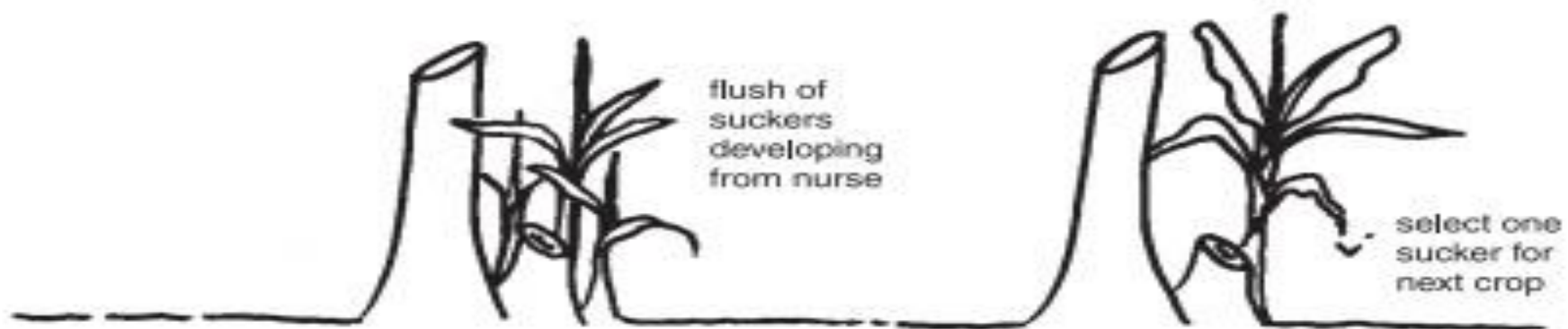
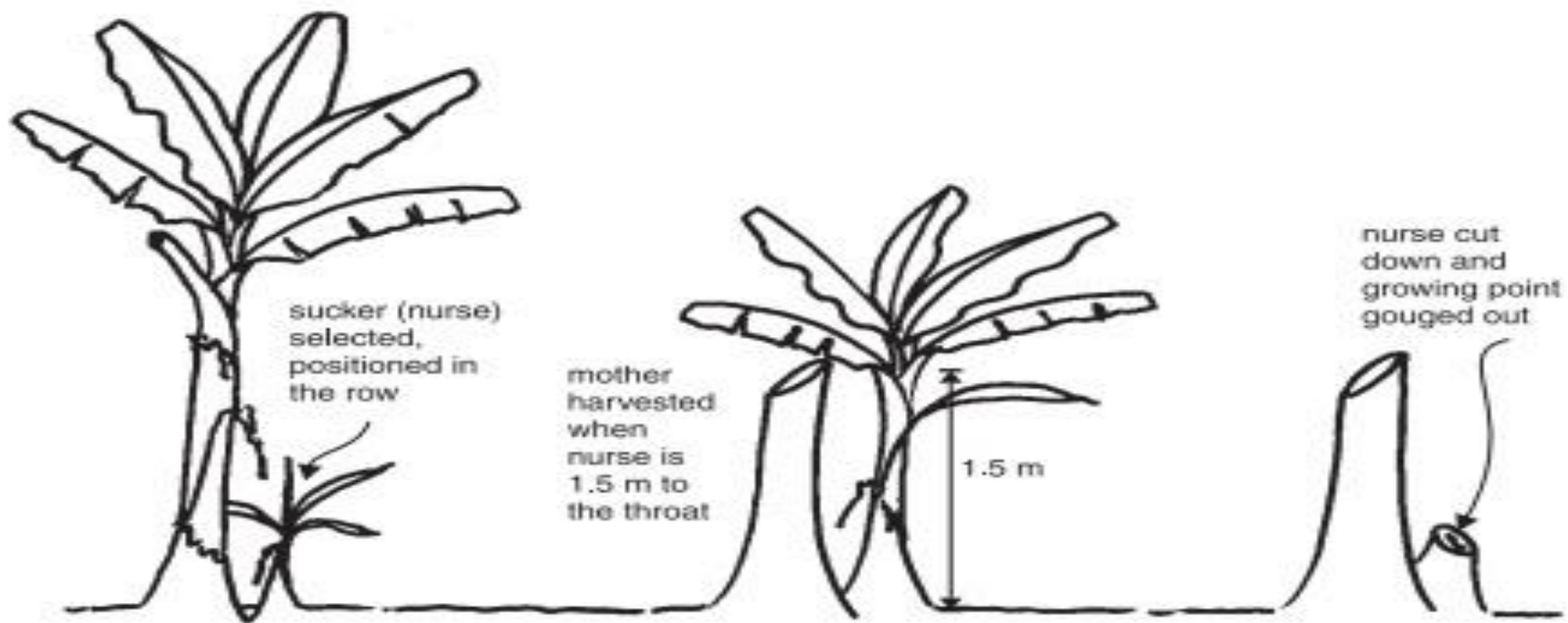


“...uban kanalan nila, butangan nila ug stick paramag linya ang saging, similyahinayan, linya linya nila ug tanom, stickan nila, gikan sa pagtanom abot na 9 months bago mag bunga gikanpagtanom...” (Some put dike, then put stick for aligning for the planting of banana, from planting it’s about 9 months before it bears fruits.) – KII Parent Magsaysay

Sticking



Tissue Cultured Banana plant



“Mag-abuno para mudagko ang saging.” (Put fertilizer so that the banana will grow bigger.) – M11 Magsaysay

“Abunohan nimo pag-murag motubo na nasiya, abunuhan...ting-abuno kung ting-ulan...” -17/F





“... pagpadulong didto kanang pagabuno ba, adto ang mga bata mahulogan sila ug roller mag bitay” (While putting fertilizers, some children might get hurt by the roller). – KII Parent



Round weeding



Hori-hori

“Round weeding ba. Nang ginalimpyuhan ang punuan sasaging.” (Round weeding, that is when you maintain the banana trees clean by weeding the area around the crop.) -17/F Magsaysay





“Magdeleaf...Nagbali mi og dahoon sa saging.” (De-leafing, we will cut leaves of the banana tree.)– 11/M Magsaysay

De-leafing



Watering



“Mag spray sa sagbot duol sa saging.” (Spraying the grass near the banana tree.) – 11/M

spraying

BANANA BELL INJECTION

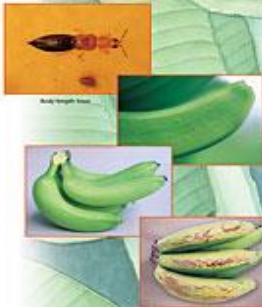
Why

To control insect pests that damage the developing bunch as the bell emerges. This pest control method is an important part of integrated pest management of bananas.

Banana Scab Moth



Banana Flower Thrips



Banana Rust Thrips



How

Insecticide mixture is injected into the emerging bell. The mixture flows down inside the bell protecting the developing bunch. It is important to inject the bell while it is still upright.

If the bell is injected when leaning or hanging down, the mixture will run to the outside of the bell, providing little protection to the bunch.

The length of time when bells are at a correct stage for injection can vary, from 3 to 10 days, depending on the rate of plant growth.

Always follow label directions when using agricultural chemicals.

Bell

Developing Bunch

When



Correct Stages for Injection



Too Late



“Kanang kuan sa saging, puso. O Butngag medisina. Ma-injeck nya magflower. Tuskolon ra siya og daku kaayong dagum sa puso” (Injection on the banana blossom. Yes, inject some chemicals to bloom. It is poked with a large needle) – 11/M Magsaysay



Suksuk

“Suksukan ang saging. Sa buligog cellophane.” (Inserting cellophane to each bunch of bananas.) – 15/M



“Magsuksok ug magbagging. Mangatanggal man tong mga cellophane nga gibutang nila...Abunohan na pud.” (Insert and bagging. The cellophane that they put will eventually be removed, then fertilize it again.) – 11/M Magsaysay



Tagging for age control



Tagging for age control – week wise

“Magbutangog ribbon, kanang cellophane nga nay color sa ubos sa saging”(11F)



“Mamutol og kawayan” (We cut bamboo trees)
–M15







**Experiences of
Child Laborers
in the Banana
Supply Chain**

Demand Factors

1

Local market

2

International
market

3

Need to reach
quotas

4

Shortage in
the farm
workforce in
local banana
farms

5

Hiring process
of child
laborers is not
necessary

6

Child laborers
have better
endurance
than adults

“Maka pasmo-pasmo pa sila kay nag agad saka daghanan sa pagdali sa quota sa planta” (Sometimes they skip their meal just to reach their quota at the plantation.)

“Kung kulang jud og tao sa sangingan manguha og tao kay ang importante naa motrabaho.” (Because there is limited manpower, they will just hire anyone. The most important thing is that there are people who will do the work.)

– M14 Alejal

“Informal lang ang pag apply nila. Wala siyay mga application letter.”
(They just informally apply, they don't require an application letter)

“Wala nay apply ngapamaagi kay direktso ra nasa amo trabaho dayun”
(There is no need to apply, you just work directly.)

“So gina-contact lang” (So, they contact them directly.)

“Ang mga bata dali ra ilahang trabaho kay humok man ilang kamot anad na man sila.” (The work of the children is easy because while they have soft hands, they are used work.)

Supply Factors

1

poverty

2

obligation to
help parents

3

Lesser evil
principle

4

Early farm work
exposure means
better skill
acquisition

Poverty

- “...*kasagaran ana nila nanarbaho tungod gyud kay sa kawad-on.*” (Most of them are working because of poverty.)-KII Teacher Alejal
- “*Nanarbahona kay ipalit og pagkaon.*” (They are working to buy food)–KII Parent Magsaysay

Obligation to help parents

“...na CS akong mama...gusto ko makahatag ug kwarta sa akong mama kay akong papa nagkalisod naman sa utang” (My mom had caesarian delivery...I want to be able to give money to my mother because my father is buried in debt) - 9/F

“...kay nay puy uban pugson gyud sila sa ilahang ginikanan motrabaho paramakakuan sila makatabang...” (Some were forced by their parents to work so that they can help the family.) 17/F

“Giadtuan ko sa akong maestra. Ana siya, nganong sige daw kog absent? Ana ko, naa lang koy trabaho... Gusto ko makahatag og kwarta sa akong mama.” (My teacher went to my house and asked me why I keep on missing school. I just answered because I have a job. I want to be able to give money to my mom.) – 9/F
Magsaysay

Lesser evil principle

“Mao gani. Kana siya mam istoryahan taka mao dyod na napugos ko ug patrabaho sa iyaha kay laagan, nadakpan na siya mam , nadakpan nadamay sa lungkab so mao na para diri nako siya pirmaninte para makita gyod nako siya pirmi. Nakadesisyon ko bahala na kay akong bana dili gyod unta mosugot kay underage magtrabaho asa may problema nato mag bisyo siya tungod sa iyang edad ba o wala ta kabalo sa barkada daghan mga bugoy. Napreso na kay nadamay sa dunggab.” (I tell you ma’am, I was just forced to let him work so that he stops strolling around. He was already apprehended due to a stealing case. Although my husband disagreed with me because of his age, his friends influenced him. He was jailed due to a stabbing incidence.)

- Parent

Early farm work exposure means better skill acquisition

“maka kuan ko na akua ra gyud kay mas kuan pud baya pud no na kanang makabalo ka na bata paka mga tarbaho ba kaysa dako na ka makabalo, lisod na kaayo” (This is my own decision because I want at the young age to know varied kinds of work so that time will come it will not be hard for me to adjust in such field of work.) – 17/F Magsaysay

“Naga uban ang bata sa pagpanarbaho sa mga ginikanan. So, mas daghan ang mga bata na ma-involve.” (The children join their parents with their work. So, the more children will be involved) KII



Supply Chain Environment

- “Dangerous work environment”
- “Muddy work area”
- “Poorly maintained farmland”
- “Unsafe banana fields”
- “Sudden change in weather conditions”

Dangerous Work Environment

“Aksidente, unya kana nginig-alsa sa bulig basig mabikil. Ana kasagaran masinati, kay bug-at gud ang bulig. Unya pila ka bulig unya balik-balik nanila padulong sa gawas.” (Accidents, when they lift bunches of bananas, they might get injured. That is common to them because every bunch of anana is very heavy, and they need to do it over and over to bring those outside.)

“Kung naka pas-an na pod ma slide delikado gihapon sa area ang mas kapoy ug bug-at.” (Also, while carrying heavy loads, they might slip. It’s tiring and heavy).

“Ma slide, madatugan sa bulig labina dagko” (If slipped, they might get crushed by the bunch they carry.)

“Mag spray sa sagbot duol sa saging.” (Spaying the grass near the banana tree.)– 11/M
Magsaysay

Muddy work area

“Lapokon ang area sa sagingan.” (The area of the banana farm is muddy.) – 17/F

“Layu og lapok ang dalan.” (It is far, and the road is muddy.) - 11/M

“Okay man siya ma’am, pero kung panahon nga in-ani ulan-ulan, murag dili jud siya safe kay basin ma slide sila sa lapuk.” (It’s actually fine but if the rain comes, it would not be safe since they might slip on muds.) – KII

“Wala po’y hangin nga mo sulod sa sagingan.” (There is limited air passing through the banana farm.) – 16/M

Poorly maintained farmland

“Unya mag depende baya ng sagingan sa tag-iya kung limpyado.”

(The banana farm depends on the owner’s cleanliness.) – KII Barangay Kagawad

“Kay ang uban ana walay limpisa” (Some farms don’t do land clearing.) – KII Purok Leader

- *“Kasagbutan”* (Meadows.) – 16/M

Unsafe banana fields

- “*Naa poy bitin nga mo soksok sa dahon sa saging.*” (There are snakes in between the banana leaves.) – KII Parent
- “*Pero mao lagi na, daghag lamok, mao gyud na ang kalaban ug bitin.*” (But the thing is there are a lot of mosquito and snakes.) – KII Parent
- “*Daghan mga chemicals dira, og mga mananap.*” (There are any dangerous chemicals, and animals there.) – KII Parent
- “*Ang uban magtiniil na basin naay makatunok.*” (Some worked barefooted they might step on debris.) – KII Barangay Kagawad
- “*Wala diay ta kabalo nay mga bildo.*” (We don’t know, there might be some debris.) – KII Barangay Kagawad Magsaysay

Sudden Change in Weather Condition

- *“Naay ma aksidente labi na pag ulan ug init ang panahon.”* (There are accidents especially when it’s raining or even in hot weather.)
- *“So, ma delay delay ug masakit pod sila tungod sa ulan init.”* (They also get sick because of the sudden weather changes.)



Key Players and Entities Involved

- “Help out”
- Relatives of child laborers
- “Beneficiaries”/Landowner
- Quality inspector
- Leaders of the community

Processes, Hazards and Benefits

PROCESSES

- land preparation, planting, maintenance, harvesting, and packaging.

Hazards



Farm tool hazards



Sudden change of weather



**Physical limitations
(Occupational hazards)**



Long working hours

“Delikado pud siya unya nay puy mga kuan man gud mga batanga inabuhat dir isa area nga dili jud angay buhaton sam gabatan-on ilabina kanang mga mag deleafing kay mag gamit man jud ang mga hait ngamgamit pang tangal sam gaunas gud.” (It is dangerous, there are children who are working even if it is not suitable for them especially de-leafing because you need to use sharp blades to cut those leaves.)

“Mangasamad gyud na kasagaran” (Mostly they get injured.)

“Tapos kung dili gyud ka kompleto ug mga gamit manga samad gyud ka.” (If you don’t have the complete equipment, you will surely get injured.)

“Harvester pag cut gani dilkado ma sipyat” (Harvester; cutting is dangerous because they might cut themselves)

“Naay ma aksidente labi na pag ulan ug init ang panahon.” (There are accidents especially when it’s raining or even in hot weather.)

“Ma slide, madatugan sa bulig labina dagko” (If slipped, they might get crushed by the bunch they carry.)

“So ma delay delay ug masakit pod sila tungod sa ulan init.” (They also get sick because of the sudden weather changes.)

“Aksidente, unya kana nginig-alsa sa bulig basig mabikil. Ana kasagaran masinati, kay bug-at gud ang bulig. Unya pila ka bulig unya balik-balik na nila padulong sa gawas.” (Accidents, when they lift bunches of bananas, they might get injured. That is common to them because every bunch of banana is very heavy, and they need to do it over and over to bring those outside.)

“Kung naka pas-an na pod ma slide delikado gihapon sa area ang mas kapoy ug bug-at.” (Also, while carrying heavy loads, they might slip. It’s tiring and heavy).

“Sa isa ka adlaw dira, na gyud sa mga 8 hrs gyud siguro.” (They spend the whole day, more likely 8 hours.)

“Whole day pud siguro, depende pud siguro sa saging sa isa ka area.”
(Maybe whole day, it depends on the banana area.)

“Maka pasmo-pasmo pa sila kay nag agad sakadaghanan sa pagdali sa quota sa planta” (Sometimes they skip their meal just to reach their quota at the plantation.)

“Daghan mga chemicals dira, og mga mananap. Usahay gabie na mouli.” (There are dangerous chemicals and animals. Sometimes they go home late.)

Benefits

income



“...kuan 50php...Palit ug pagkaon. Palit ug sud-an usahay...” (Fifty pesos... to buy food, to buy viand) – 9/F

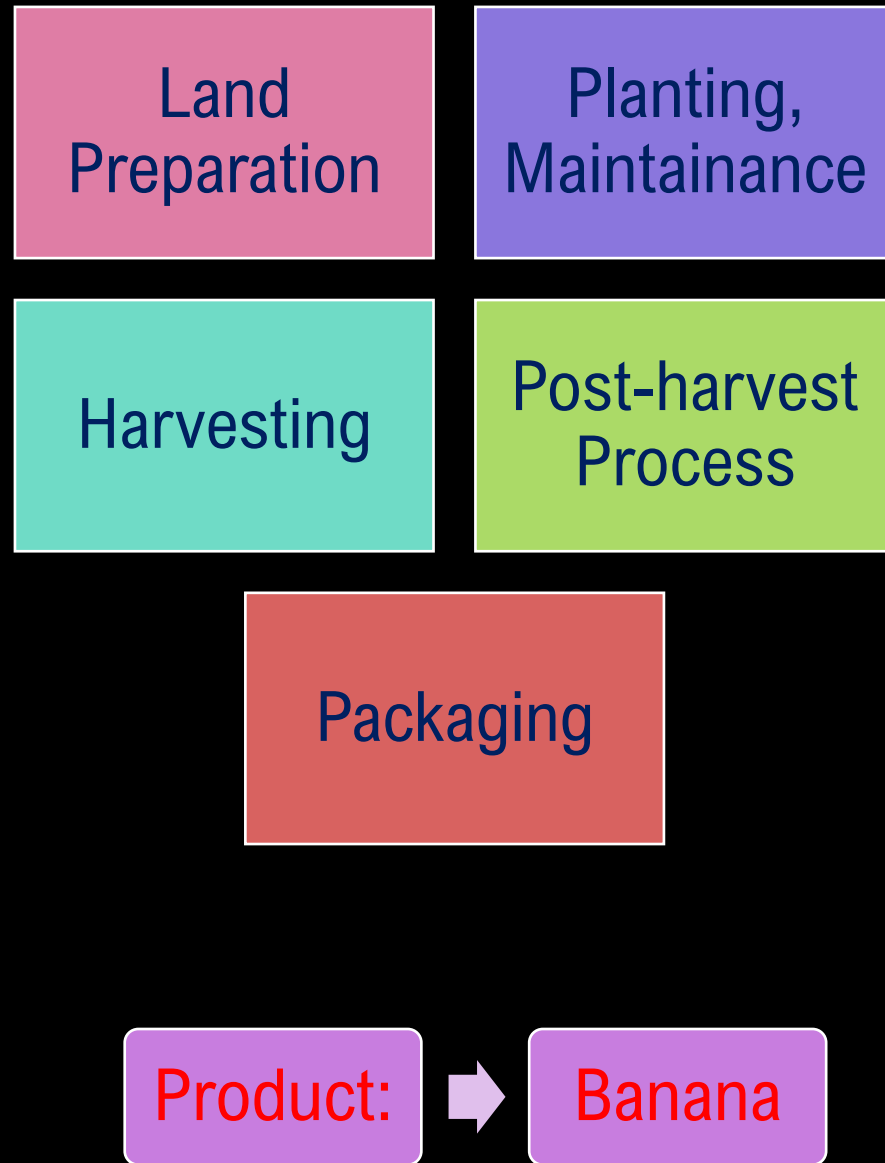
Box foaming: “Tag 10 ang boxes, unya tungaon pa dyud na nila sapulo” (Each box costs 10 pesos, then they will divide it by 10).

“Kadaadlaw uy kay ang harvest diri schedule man... Dili man straight ang harvest nay tulo ka adlaw. Naay isa ka hektarya mao nanggina maintain sa bata ug harvest tag 10 ang bulig niya sayo na sila mahuman.” (Everyday because it is harvesting season here. Harvesting is not every day, we harvest for 3 days. Kids will maintain harvesting a 1-hectare farm at Php10 per bunch of bananas and they will finish harvesting early) - KII

Phases, Activities, and Channels

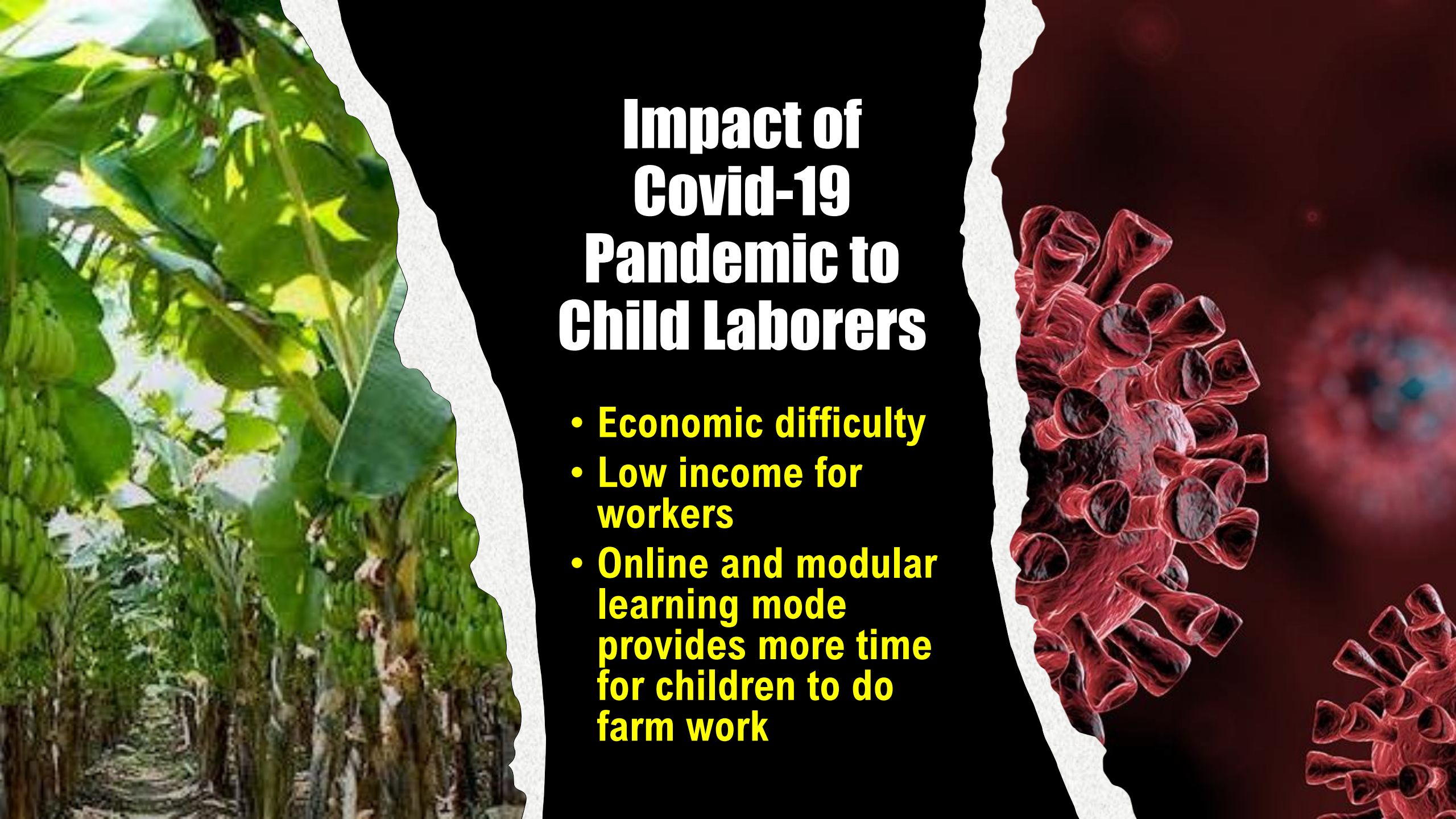
- 1) buyer's consultation and local owner consultation*
- 2) inception of the buying process.*

Activities, Products and Services



Banana		
Tasks	Total	%
Boy	109	24%
Planting	14	3%
Use fertilizer application	25	5%
Cleaning	10	2%
Packing	18	4%
Peeling	37	8%
Harvesting	5	1%
Girl	32	7%
Peeling	22	5%
Use fertilizer application	7	2%
Bunch covering	2	0%
Grand Total	140	31%

Task of Children At-Risk and Engaged in Child Labor in banana production (BUILDCA2P enumeration of children at risk and engaged in child labor in Carmen and Sto. Tomas Davao del Norte)



Impact of Covid-19 Pandemic to Child Laborers

- **Economic difficulty**
- **Low income for workers**
- **Online and modular learning mode provides more time for children to do farm work**

“Ning gamay ang kita kay daghan ang trabahante” (The income dropped because they were too many employees.)

“Kulang ang kita ni mama kay pandemic, lisud mangita go pagkaon maong motabang ko og panarbaho” (Mother’s income is not enough during this pandemic, it is hard to look for food, that is why I worked to help.)

“Ning gamay ang supply sa saging mao ngning gamay pud ang ning gamay ang kita.” (The banana’s supply decreases which cause the income to drop as well.)

“Mura bag naging advantage pud saila hagud nga modular kay mas naa sila’y panahon nga mag harvester nagyud noon ana sila. Kay katong time nawala pay pandemic, mas daghan man gyud silag time nga musulod sa klase. Unya mas matutukan siya sa teacher. Naa mi direct na communication sa ilaha.” (Seems like it became an advantage for them that they were modular they had a lot of time now, that’s why there is a bigger chance for them to become a harvester. Before when there is no pandemic, they really had a lot of time spent in class. The teacher can monitor the children since she has a direct contact with students.)

“Covid man karun, tan-aw nako daghan mang undang sa pageskwela kay motabang sa ilang mga ginikanan. walay covid-covid manarbaho jud.” (Because it is covid-19, I think lot of children will stop attending school to help their parents. Covid-19 is not a reason anymore, but the need to work.)



Good Practices

- **Farm accident liability**
- **Some parents show concern while child laborers are in the farm**



Challenges in addressing child labor in banana supply chain

- **Some negligent parents**
- **Sometimes farm work is prioritized than school work**
- **Plummeting of banana prices**
- **Occupational challenges**

Murag gipang kuan pud sila na mga gipangetchapwerana lang ba na lang mao nang maningkamot ang mga bata nga bissag unsa na lang na raket manglimpisa ba, mangabuno ba, mag pikas bag saging mga inana. Motarbaho basta makakwarta lang gyud sila.” (The reason most of the children go to work is because their parents don’t care for them. The children just wanted to work to earn to do work such as cleaning, fertilizing, and bagging. The purpose is to support themselves.) -17/F

“Kay usahay nakalimot man ka kuntahay karon nagtrabaho ka unya imong module wala pa naansweran, unya kanang halaabinakug naansweran na nako to bayati, maonang mag dali-dali ka si ma gud koy gitrabaho ato gud ana ana dayon ka kay naa kay trabahoato. Usahay innodayon ngano wala pa man nimu naansweran? Anaon naman ka ikaw naman puy harvest unya. kay nga now animog ihuna ang module. Tingpasahayba.”
(Yes. Sometimes I forgot that I did not answer it yet which I thought I did. But due to busy hours working in the field it always closes to the deadline of submission still you need to do your work in the field without answering your module) – 17/F
Magsaysay

“Wala kaayoy income. Barato kaayo ang saging.” (There is lesser income. The banana is a lot cheaper.) - 11/F
Alejal

“Yes, kay pandemya man ug Chinese New Year sad maam barato kay dili sila mamalit. ni barato ang palit [sa saging].” (Yes, because of the pandemic and Chinese New Year, the Chinese will not purchase. Also, it is cheap. The selling price got cheaper.)

“Opo mga 30 kilos man gud na ay 15 diay ako maam 30.” (Yes around 30 kilos no- 15 kilos in one box. Mine is 30 kilos.) – 11/M Alejal

“Wala man tuy bug at, sakit lang mag tindog kay dugay. Dugay man gud mahuman ug kay daghan. Dili magtindog lang dyud ko ani kay tindog man tanan wala may mu lingkod.” (It is heavy task, but it is tiring since you must stand up long hours. You will finish in a long time since there is a lot in terms of quantity. Since everyone is standing you also must be with them and stand up.) – 11/M Alejal



Respondents' Recommendations

- **Proper monitoring of child laborers in farms and plantations**
- **Orientation on parental responsibilities towards children**
- **Prioritize child laborers' education**



Implications

- The results of this study have implications on existing literature and future studies on child labor. Moreover, the results of this study have certain practical implications in eliminating child labor cases in the province of Davao del Norte.
- The findings and recommendations of this study can be used to influence the existing practices on child labor elimination initiatives of government and private institutions.
- The data in this study may be used in mainstreaming child labor agenda into the programs of the local government units specifically the Barangay/Municipal Council for the Protection of Children and other local special bodies for child protection.



Recommendations

- Information drive on child protection laws and policies to child labor households and significant key stakeholders
- Livelihood programs for households of child laborers
- Free medical services for children engaged in child labor for accidents and illnesses acquired during work hours