



**Child Labor In The  
Supply Chain In  
Rice Crop  
Agriculture In  
Valencia, Bukidnon**

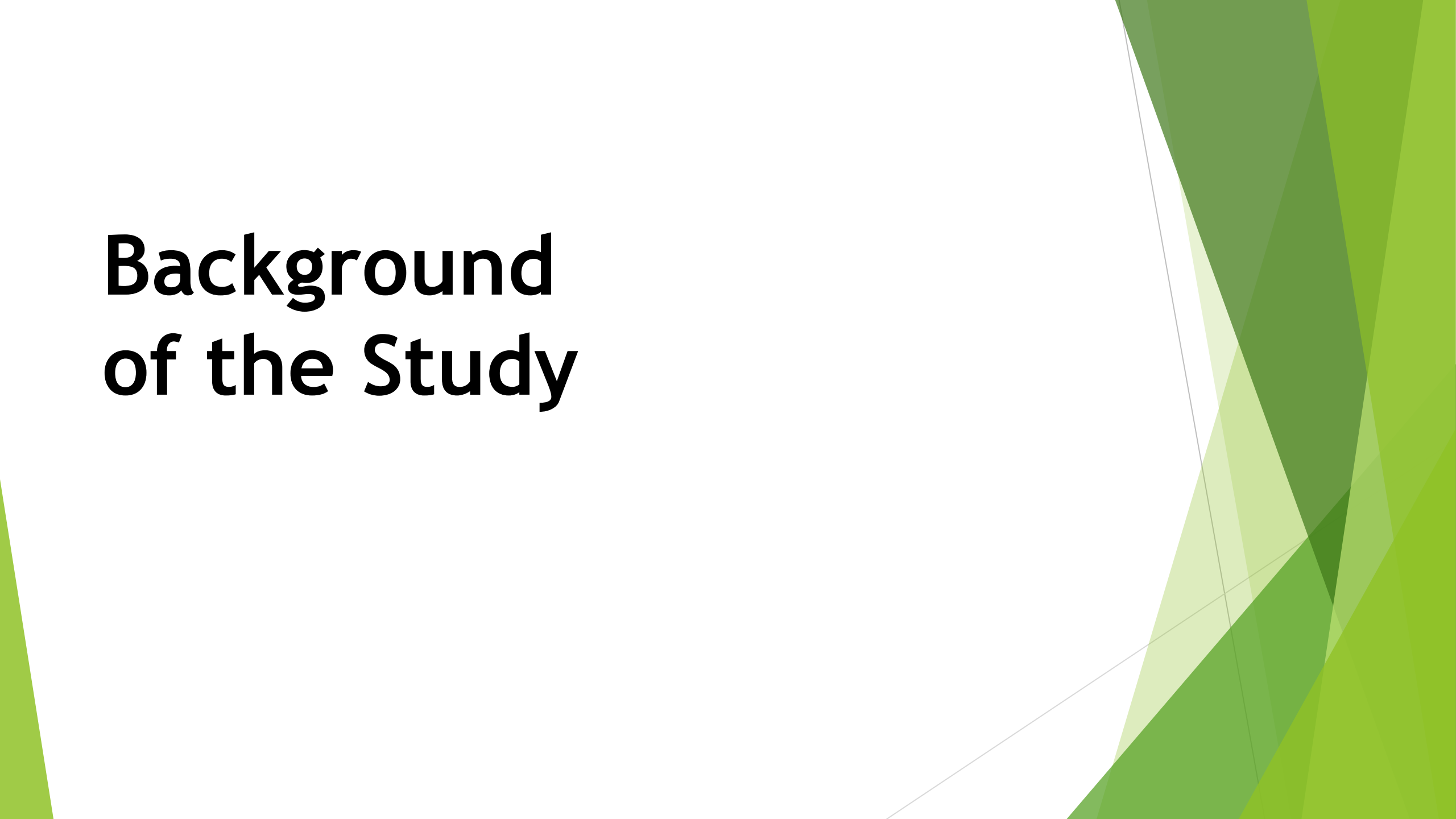
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University**

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

# **Background of the Study**



# STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

**What are the general demographic characteristics of the informants in the rice crop supply chain?**



# STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

**What are the views on child labor and the perceived factors that contribute to child labor?**



# STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

**Where is the location of the child laborers in the supply chain in rice crop agriculture?**



# STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

What are the child labor experiences in the supply in rice crop agriculture in terms of the following dimensions:

- ✓ Demand and supply factors
- ✓ Supply chain environment
- ✓ Key players and entities involved
- ✓ Processes, Hazards, Benefits
- ✓ Phases, Activities, Processes, Channels
- ✓ Supply chain activity, products and services



# STATEMENT OF THE PROBLEM

**What are the good practices, challenges and recommendations in addressing child labor issues in the rice supply chain?**





# **Operational Definition of Terms**



# Location of children in the identified crop agriculture

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



# Supply chain environment



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



geographic context



interplay of the networks and elements in the rice 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 the rice supply chain**
- **specific product or commodity produced**
- **expected output from the child laborers**

# Phases in the supply chain

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

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The phases may refer to stages such as  
but not limited to planning, procurement  
of materials, transformation of materials  
into finished products, distribution of  
products to end customers, and return  
of materials.



## **Demand factors**

- perceived causes, circumstances, or conditions in the rice supply chain system that trigger the demand for child laborers based on the narratives of child laborers and key informants.



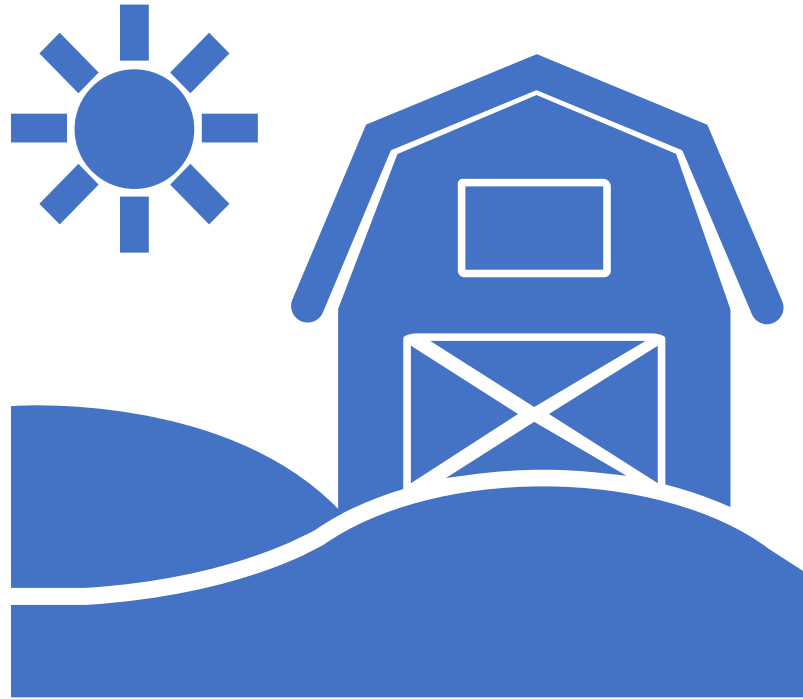
# Supply factors

- perceived causes, circumstances, or conditions in the rice supply chain system that trigger the supply of child laborers based on the narratives of child laborers and key informants.



# **Processes and channels**

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



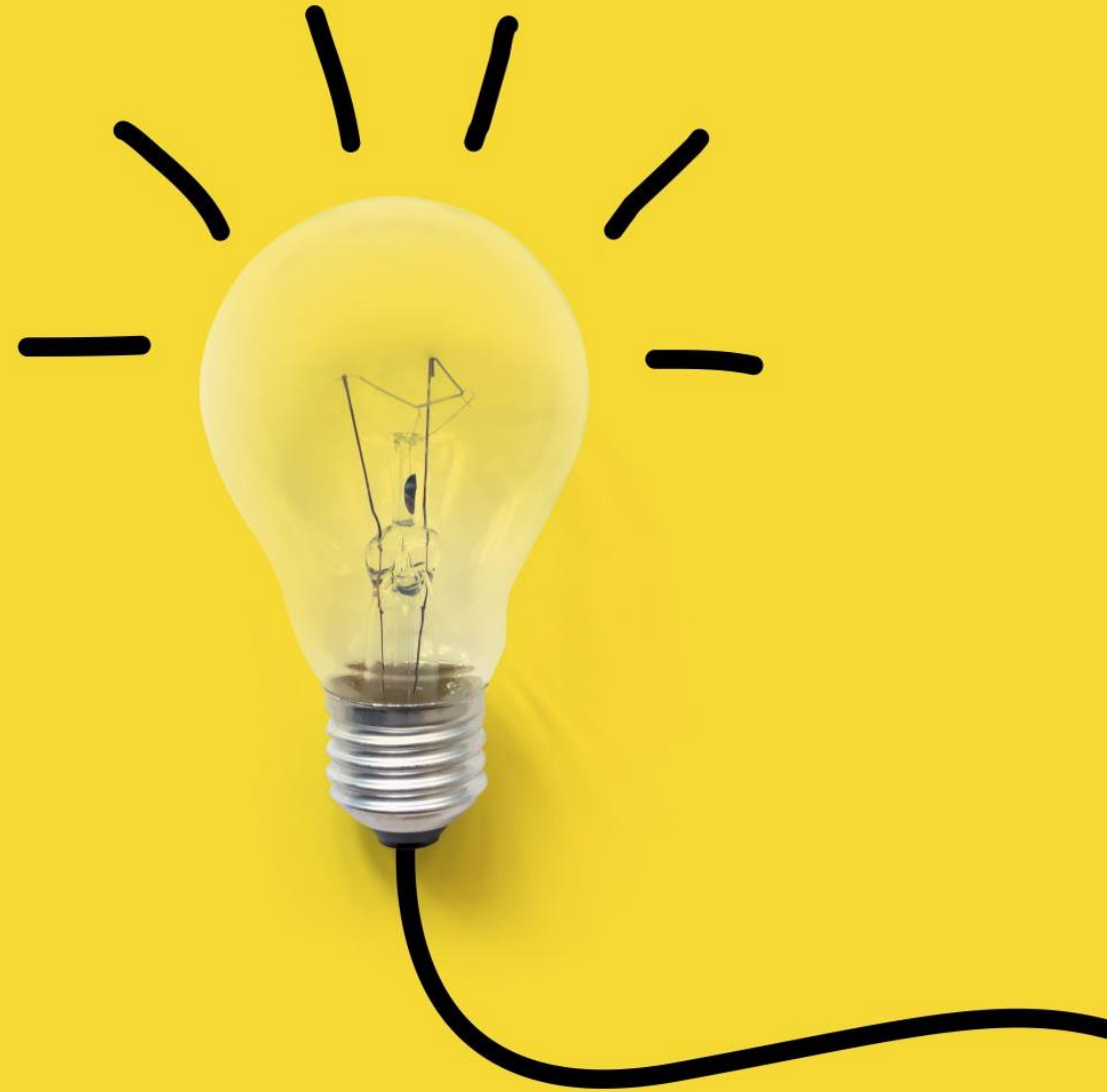
# Key players and entities involved

various stakeholders involved in  
the rice supply chain



# Good practices

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





# Challenges

difficulties encountered by the child laborers in the rice supply chain



# Respondents' recommendations

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

# **Scope and Limitations of the Study**

- Qualitative research design
- focused on child labor in the rice supply chain in Malaybalay City, Bukidnon specifically in the following barangays: 1) Barangay Dagatkidavao and 2) Barangay Kahaponan.
- Purposive sampling
- In-depth interviews and key informant interviews
- Data collection period: November to December 2020

The background features a series of overlapping, curved layers in various shades of blue and white, creating a sense of depth and movement. The layers are arranged in a way that suggests a stack of pages or a dynamic, flowing structure. The overall color palette is cool and professional.

# Methodology

# RESEARCH DESIGN

QUALITATIVE

DESCRIPTIVE



# SAMPLING

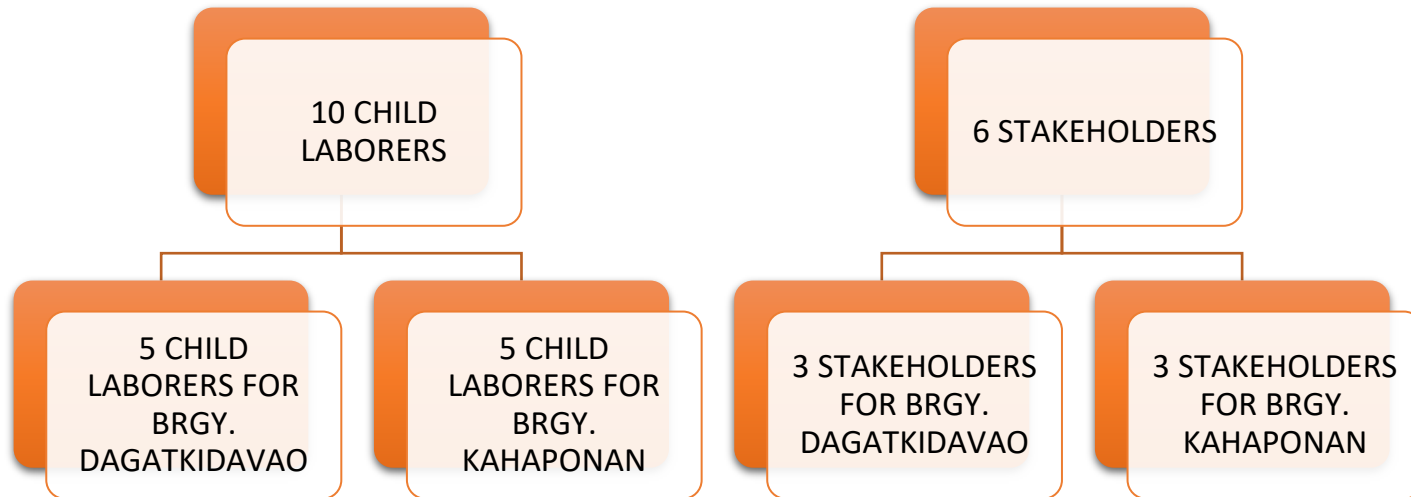
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PURPOSIVE



# UNITS OF ANALYSIS

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# RESEARCH LOCALE

- **MALAYBALAY, BUKIDNON**
  - **BRGY. DAGATKIDAVAO**
  - **BRGY. KAHAPONAN**



# DATA GATHERING

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NOVEMBER-DECEMBER OF 2020



# DATA ANALYSIS

- **Thematic Analysis**



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# ETHICAL CONSIDERATIONS

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INFORMED  
CONSENT

ASSENT

CONFIDENTIALITY

PRIVACY

TRUTHFULNESS

BENEFICENCE

NON-  
MALEFICENCE

JUSTICE

COVID-19  
PROTOCOLS



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**FINDINGS...**



# SOCIO-DEMOGRPAHIC PROFILE OF CHILD LABORERS

## 10 CHILD LABORERS

6   
MALES

4   
FEMALES

<b>AGE RANGE</b>	<b>10-17 YEARS OLD</b>
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<b>LENGTH OF SERVICE</b>	<b>3-6 YEARS</b>
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<b>HIGH SCHOOL</b>	<b>ELEMENTARY</b>
6	4

<b>ILONGGO</b>	4
<b>CEBUANO</b>	3
<b>MANOBO</b>	2
<b>ILOCANO</b>	1

**Table 1.1. Distribution of Children At-Risk and Engaged in Child Labor by Gender**

<b>Municipality</b>	<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Malaybalay</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>65%</b>
Barangay Mapulo	426	32%
Boy	238	18%
Girl	188	14%
Barangay Silae	423	32%
Boy	242	18%
Girl	181	14%
<b>Valencia</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>35%</b>
Barangay Dagatkidavo	170	13%
Boy	139	11%
Girl	31	2%
Barangay Kahaponan	294	22%
Boy	181	14%
Girl	113	9%
Grand Total	1313	100%

source: BuildCa2P Project's enumeration of children-at-risk and engaged in Child Labor in agriculture specially in the production of banana, corn, and rice in Malaybalay and Valencia, Bukidnon

**Table 1.3. Distribution of Children At-Risk and Engaged in Child Labor by School Participation and Age**

<b>Form of Education</b>	<b>Bukidnon</b>		<b>Total</b>	<b>%</b>
<b>Type of Education/Age</b>	<b>Malaybalay</b>	<b>Valencia</b>		
<b>Formal</b>	<b>819</b>	<b>459</b>	<b>1278</b>	<b>97%</b>
8	69	5	74	6%
9	66	11	77	6%
10	97	23	120	9%
11	94	31	125	10%
12	87	44	131	10%
13	105	80	185	14%
14	94	76	170	13%
15	67	74	141	11%
16	81	77	158	12%
17	57	38	95	7%
<b>Non-Formal</b>	<b>30</b>	<b>5</b>	<b>35</b>	<b>3%</b>
8	1	0	1	0%
13	4	0	4	0%
14	3	0	3	0%
15	11	1	12	1%
16	5	3	8	1%
17	6	1	7	1%
<b>Grand Total</b>	<b>849</b>	<b>464</b>	<b>1313</b>	<b>100%</b>

source: BuildCa2P Project's enumeration of children-at-risk and engaged in Child Labor in agriculture specially in the production of banana, corn, and rice in Malaybalay and Valencia, Bukidnon



# SOCIO-DEMOGRAPHIC PROFILE OF STAKEHOLDERS

**6 STAKEHOLDERS**

**3**   
MALES

**3**   
FEMALES

**AGE RANGE 26-60 YEARS OLD**

BARANGAY OFFICIALS	2
PARENTS	2
PESO MANAGER	1
CSWDO STAFF	1

# VIEWS ON CHILD LABOR

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Child labor is a way to augment the financial needs of the family

Child labor is a means to teach the value of work and responsibility

Child labor is training for children to become financially independent



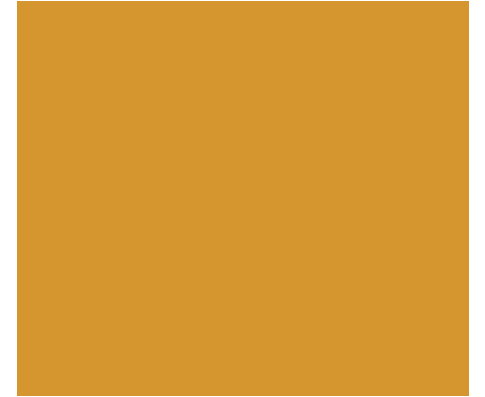
# QUOTABLE QUOTES...

- *“Gusto ko makatabang sa akong ginikanan para makadugang sa among panginabuhi adlaw adlaw labaw na sa pag eskwela”*
- (I want to help my parents so I can add income to augment our daily expenses, especially in our school expenses).

Child laborer, informant 2

- *“At least bata pa sila ma anad na sila ug trabaho manarbaho sila ug dili sila makakuha ug white collar job. At least kung naa sila sa farm nahibalan na nila mabuhi na sila”.*
- (They need to get used to work while they are still young. If they cannot get a white collar job, at least they can survive because they know how to work in the farm).

Stakeholder, informant 5



# Quotable quotes...

“Ako nalipay kay gawas sa makatuon sila mo-income pud sila. Bayaran man pud sila sa pagpanarbaho, instead tagaan nimo sila ug allowance naa na silay kaugalingon allowance. Makatuon gyud sila kay puhon puhon kung sila na ang mag-manage sa uma, maka balo na gyud sila.”

(I'm happy because they are learning how to earn their own income. They get paid because they are working. Instead of us giving them allowance, they already have their own allowance. They really learn through that, and when the time comes that they are left to manage the farm, they already know what to do).

Stakeholder, informant 5

# PERCEIVED FACTORS THAT CONTRIBUTE TO CHILD LABOR

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Families' lack of income

Early exposure of children to farming activities



# Quotable quote...

*“Tungod sa kalisod pud sa pagpanginabuhi mao na nga nisulod na lang pud sila (bata) unya ang uban wala na ka-eskwela. Diha na sila nanginabuhi (umahan) tungod sa kaning sa kapobrehon”.*

(It is because of poverty that they (children) started working in the farm and as a result some of them were no longer able to attend school. They are now trying to make a living by working in the farm, and this is because of poverty).

Stakeholder, informant 4

# Location Of Child Laborers In The Supply Chain In Rice Crop Agriculture

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Land preparation (power tiller, construction and repair of dikes)

Transplanting

Harvesting (manual or mechanical; threshing of palay)



## “Turtle” (Power tiller)

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- This is part of land preparation
- Operator and assistant
- Usually, the child laborer is the assistant
- Whole day process
- Payment- P1000 for both operator and assistant





# Construction and repair of dikes

- Usually done by two persons
- Fee is P600-P800
- Takes 2-2.5 hours to finish



# Transplanting

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- 20 persons for a hectare
- Fee- P7,500-P8,000 divided equally among the 20 laborers (adults and child laborers)



# Harvesting

- Manual
  - Requires 25 persons
  - Cutting
  - Bundling
  - Hauling



# Mechanical Harvesting

Harvesting can be done within 3 hours per hectare

5 persons- 1 operator and 4 baggers (child laborers)

Payment- P6,500 per hectare which will be divided to the 5 workers.



# Threshing

Done through an axial flow thresher

Payment- sharing yield between workers and farm owner/ cash- P8,000 per hectare



THRASHING RICE - DANGAL - SEPT 2012

Photo: David de la Hija

<b>Age of Child Laborer</b>	<b>Activity</b>
9-14 years old	Dike repair, bundling of crops
16-17 years old	Transplanting, operating a power tiller, threshing, cutting of matured palay

**EXPERIENCES OF  
CHILD LABOR IN  
THE SUPPLY CHAIN  
IN RICE CROP  
AGRICULTURE**



## DEMAND FACTOR

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**Cheap  
Labor**





# SUPPLY FACTORS

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- **A ready and organized Labor Force**
  - 20-25 workers (children and adults)
- **Child labor viewed as “training for personal growth”**
- **Modality of schooling allows participation of children in farm work**



# Quotable quotes...

*“Kung kauban ka sa grupo nga ting-tanum o harvester, magpaspas pud sila kay mo-reklamo unya ang uban. Naa nay grupo sa mananumay ug mangagrabay. Naay lider. Maghibalanay na sila kung nay trabahoon.”*

If you are part of the group assigned to plant or harvest, you have to work hard so your teammates will not complain. There is already an organized group of planters and harvesters, and we have a leader. We inform one another if there is a work opportunity

- *(organized labor force)*

Child laborer, informant 6



# Quotable quotes...

*“Dako gyud na siya (modular learning) ug diperensya. Naay mga bata nga magtrabaho sa kay modyul lang bitaw na. Unahon pa to ang trabaho kaysa sa kanang iyahang modyul.”*

(There is big difference now with modular learning. There are children who prefer to work first instead of answering their modules).

*(modular education)*

Stakeholder, informant 3



## SUPPLY CHAIN ENVIRONMENT

### Physical descriptions

Open lands (without shade, exposed to the sun)

Distance (can be near or far their homes)

Cropping season (May-August/October-January); busiest



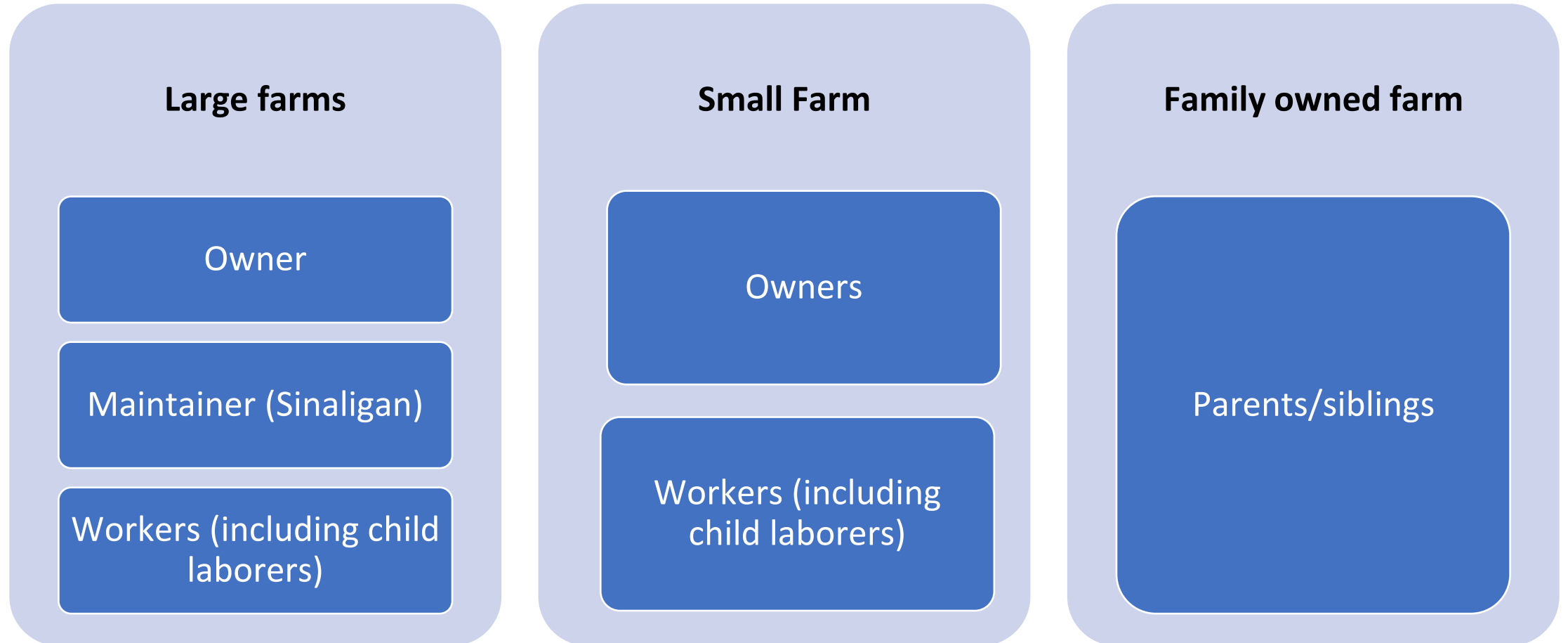
## KEY PLAYERS AND ENTITIES INVOLVED

Farm owner-owns the rice field, pays for the labor.

Maintainer (*Sinaligan*)- identifies specific farm activity to be done, contacts laborers, gets 20% of the yield after deducting the thresher and harvesters' shares.

Labor Force(adult workers, child laborers)- involved in farm activities from land preparation to transplanting to harvesting

# Common set-up of workers in rice crop agriculture





## PROCESSES

Hiring/recruitment process

Straightforward and informal



# HAZARDS

- ← Physical hazards
  - ← Body pain and muscle pain as a result of farm activities, made worse by insufficient food
- ← Natural hazards
  - ← Weather conditions and dangerous animals
- ← Chemical hazards
  - ← Exposure to fertilizers and herbicides without protective gear
- ← Mechanical hazards
  - ← Mechanical accidents/malfunctions
- ← Other risks
  - ← Walking barefoot in the mud exposes children to accidents (slipping, stepping on broken glass)





# **BENEFITS**

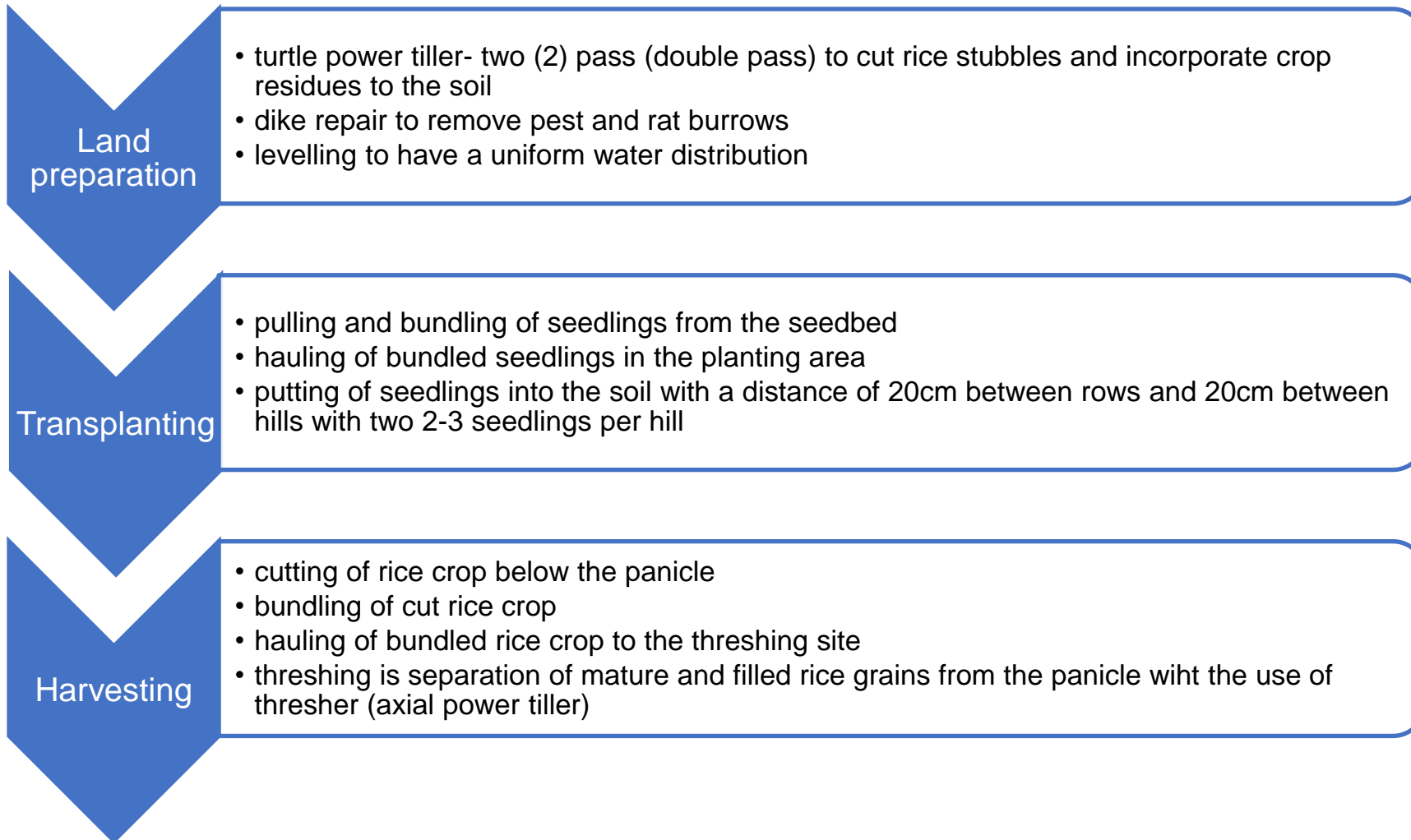
- ← **Economic**
  - ← **Compensation**
- ← **Non-economic**
  - ← **Personal satisfaction**
  - ← **Opportunity for personal growth**

# Quotable quote...

- ▶ *“Motabang sa ginikanan, idugang palit para sa balay ug load ug gamit”.*
- ▶ (I help my parents in providing our needs).

Child laborer, informant 1

# PHASES, ACTIVITIES, AND CHANNELS



- **Land preparation-done in two to three passes using a power tiller**
  - **Dike repair- forming the soil and making compact requires the use of bare hands and bare foot**
- **Transplanting- requires repetitive bending and standing motions**
- **Harvesting- can be manual or mechanical**
  - **Manual- can expose children to a variety of occupational hazards or risks**
  - **Mechanical- combine harvester**
    - **Impact**
    - **Positive**
      - **Less demand for labor**
      - **Efficient farm operation**
      - **Best quality of palay**
    - **Negative**
      - **Loss of income**
      - **Loss of share in harvest**



# SUPPLY CHAIN ACTIVITIES, PRODUCTS AND SERVICES



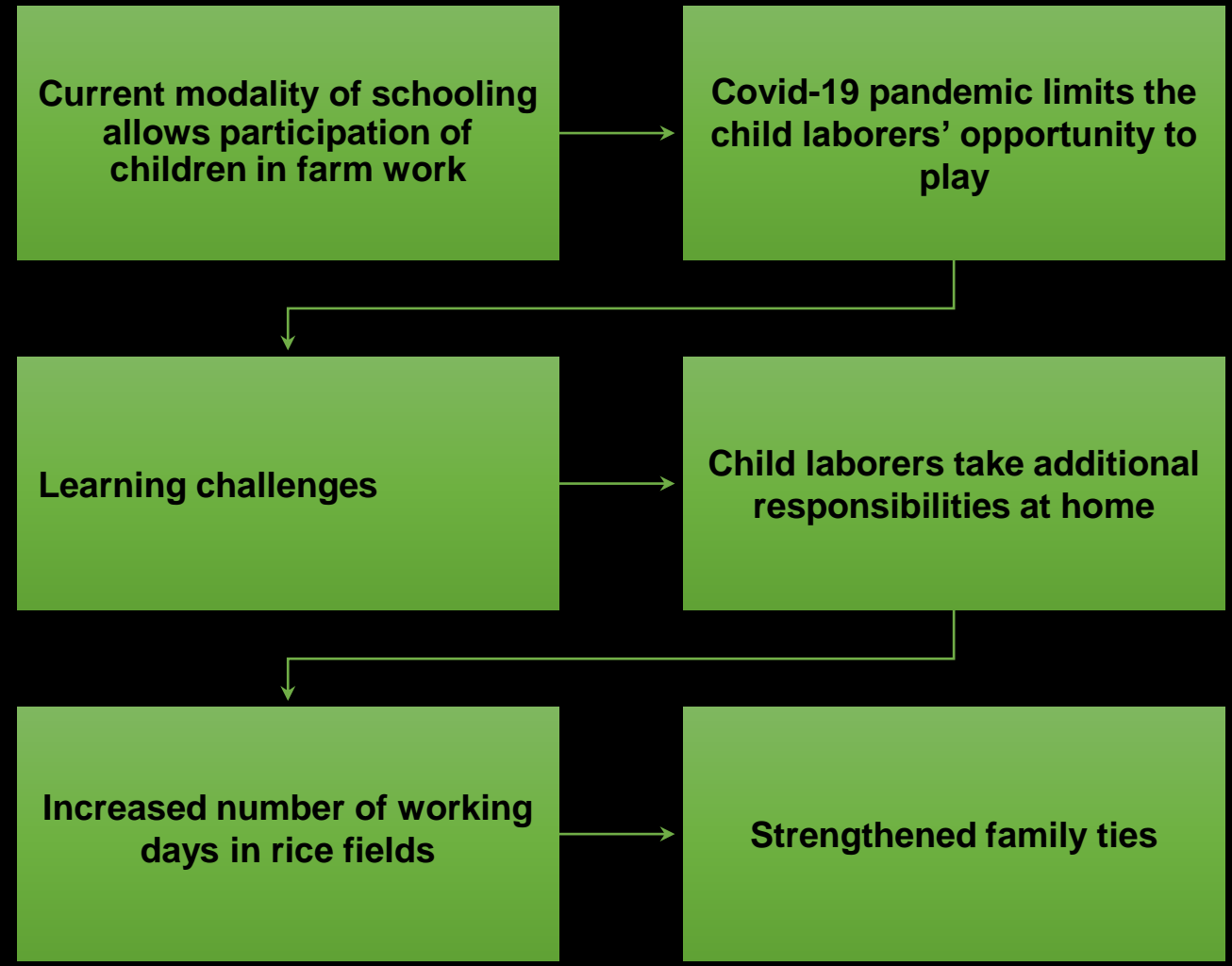
PRODUCT



Rice



# IMPACT OF COVID-19 PANDEMIC TO CHILD LABORERS



# Quotable quotes...

*“Makatrabaho sila kung adlaw kay pwede ra man sa gabii motubag sa module”.*

(Children can work in the day because the learning modules can be answered during night time).

Stakeholder, informant 4



# Quotable quotes...

*Kaundangon na ko, kapoy na sige module”.*

(I want to stop going to school, I am so tired of answering the module).

Child laborer, informant 9





# Quotable quotes...

*“Nagsakit na akong ulo tas tudloan pa nako akong manghod”.*

(I always have a headache. I also have to teach my younger siblings [answer their modules]).

Child laborer, informant 3

# GOOD PRACTICES

- **Provision of livelihood assistance for parents**
  - **DOLE Bukidnon**
- **Programs for youth and children**
  - **LGU Valencia**
    - **“Angel Tree”**
    - **Summer job for adolescent students**
  - **LGU Malaybalay**
    - **Career coaching for students**



# CHALLENGES

1. lack of resources to cover all identified child laborers
2. difficulty of the LGU to identify which children are in fact child laborers
3. parents' lack of awareness or understanding of child labor

# Recommendations from informants...

- **Educate the barangay officials, front liners and parents in the promotion of eliminating child labor in crop agriculture.**
- **Increased access to livelihood assistance.**



# IMPLICATIONS...



The results of this study have implications on existing literature and future studies on child labor.

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

Strengthen inter-agency coordination to formulate policies, guidelines, framework, and programs/projects for the effective enforcement of Republic Act No. 9231 and related laws.

Establish and maintain effective monitoring mechanisms to review and track progress to end child labor

Ensure the creation and/or strengthening of Regional Child Labor Committees, Provincial Child Labor Committees, City/Municipal Child Labor Committees, Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children, or related structures

Provision of direct assistance such as educational assistance to child laborers and livelihood services/income generating projects to their families.

