International Labour Organization

Central Bureau of Statistics (CBS) Nepal

NEPAL CHILD LABOUR REPORT

based on data drawn from the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008

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Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008

January 2011

International Labour Organization (ILO)
Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal

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FOREWORD

The *Nepal Child Labour Report* is the first statistical report of its kind in Nepal utilizing large-scale survey data. The report is based on the data collected through the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008, the questionnaire for which was designed to incorporate a wide range of information about various aspects of child work and child labour in the country. The report provides essential statistics for monitoring the child labour situation in Nepal.

Child labour is a widespread phenomenon in Nepal, and one that has not declined despite the existence of laws that prohibit burdensome forms of child labour and the constant efforts of many governmental, non-governmental and international organizations to protect children's rights.

One major concern has been the hazardous environment in which children work, but another more important concern is their commercial sexual abuse, certainly one of the most brutal forms of violence against children. Though prostitution is illegal in Nepal it is prevalent in urban areas, and many young girls are trafficked to brothels within the country and in India.

Nepal's interim Constitution seeks to protect the interests of children by conferring on them certain fundamental rights and imposing for their benefit certain directive principles and State policies. In addition, a number of laws contain important provisions for the protection of the interests of children and child labourers. The Child Labour Act 1992 imposes a sanction of up to three months in prison for employing an underage child. Employing children in dangerous work or against their will is punishable by up to one year in prison. The Child Labour Act was amended in 1999 to make it more abuse-specific, especially in relation to sexual abuse. The law prohibits children from involvement in the sale, distribution, or trafficking of alcohols or drugs. Meanwhile, the Government of Nepal has ratified ILO Conventions Nos. 138 and 182, as well as other relevant conventions that set age standards for children's admissions to work on the basis of occupation. However, these legislations alone do not seem to be sufficient to address the complexities of child labour situation in Nepal.

This report provides a wealth of valuable information related to the child labour situation in Nepal which was not previously available. The timely publication of the *Nepal Child Labour Report* will be very useful to the Nepalese Government's policy and decision makers. It is hoped that the results will be valuable to a wider audience as well. Analysts in research and academic institutions are encouraged to make full use of the data in their investigation of further issues related to child labour in Nepal.

I would like to express my sincere thanks to the International Labour Organization for providing financial and technical support for the preparation of this valuable report. I would also like to commend the Nepal's Central Bureau of Statistics for its cooperation with the ILO tin this endeavour.

January 2011

Dr. Jagadish Chandra Pokhrel
Vice-Chairman
National Planning Commission

PREFACE

The International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Central Bureau of Statistics are pleased to collaborate in bringing out the *Nepal Child Labour Report,* based on data collected through the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008. There have been several studies on the child labour situation in the past, all of them fragmentary. The Nepal Child Labour Report 2008 is the first comprehensive report which has been based on data from a large-scale survey.

We are grateful to Mr. Bishnu Dev Pant, ILO Consultant and former Director, Development Indicators and Policy Research Division, Asian Development Bank, for preparing this report. Mr. Shib Nandan Shah, a local consultant, provided crucial statistical support throughout. I am also thankful to Mr. Bijoy Raychaudhuri, ILO Senior Statistician, under whose overall guidance this report was prepared, for providing technical comments at various stages of the project implementation. My thanks go, too, to Ms. Bandana Sen, Statistician at the ILO Regional Office in New Delhi, for checking the consistency of the tables contained in the report.

This report provides many useful insights into the child labour situation of Nepal. It examines in great detail various aspects of child labour, including its demographic and educational implications, the economic and non-economic activities engaged in, hazardous forms of child labour, children working in the informal sector and migrant child workers, by age groups, sex and locality. The intention of this report, thus, is to provide a baseline data on child labour, which can be useful for researchers and academicians interested in undertaking further in-depth analyses of the problems and issues posed by child labour in Nepal.

This report has benefited greatly from the comments made by participants in the workshop that was organized in Kathmandu on 4 December 2010 to disseminate the results of the study.

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Introduction

The Nepal Labour Force Survey (NLFS) 2008 estimates the child population between 5 and 17 years of age to be 7.77 million, which is about 33 per cent of the total population in the country. Children constitute an integral part of the workforce engaged in both the formal and the informal sector. This report, based on the data obtained during NLFS 2008, estimates that about 3.14 million children, i.e. about 40.4 per cent of the child population in the 5 to 17 year age group, may be classified as children in employment (commonly called working children). Among these working children, the report further estimates that 1.60 million children, or almost 51 per cent of all working children, fall into the category of child labour.[1] Within the child labour category, 0.62 million children have been identified as being engaged in what is called hazardous work.

Child labour has been widespread in Nepal for many centuries, mostly in rural areas as part of the normal process of socialization. In the countryside children always worked, and continue to work, long hours alongside their parents in the fields and at home. Although the participation rate for children in Nepal is estimated at about 40.4 per cent, there is a significant difference between that of girls (47.6 per cent) and that of boys (36.1 per cent). In Nepal, the majority of children are found working in the agricultural sector, followed by services, manufacturing and other sectors. They are mostly employed informally as domestic servants, porters, rag pickers or carpet factory workers, as well as in restaurants and in the transportation sector. Depending on the sector, children may have to work long hours, carry heavy loads and face the risk of sexual exploitation.

Survey methodology

The present report has been prepared on the basis of data collected through NLFS 2008, whose questionnaire was designed to incorporate a wide range of information about various aspects of child work and child labour in the country. The sampling methodology of NLFS 2008 was based on a two-stage stratified sampling technique. For the first stage, about 800 primary sampling units (PSU) or wards, divided equally between rural and urban areas, were selected randomly from each stratum. For the second stage, 20 households were selected randomly from each PSU (ward, sub-ward or combination of wards) using the systematic random sampling procedure. Thus, a nationally representative sample of 16,000 households was chosen from 800 wards. For the purpose of this report, only those households with children between the ages of 5 and 17 years were extracted from the NLFS 2008 data.

Demographic characteristics of children

An analysis of the NFLS 2008 data reveals that there is a total of about 4.8 million households in the country, of which 3.5 million (72.5 per cent) have children. It is estimated that the average household in the country has 2.2 children, the average number of children per

[1] The definitions of “children in employment”, “child labour” and “hazardous work by children” are derived from application of the statistical measurement standards on child labour established by the resolution concerning statistics of child labour adopted at the Eighteenth International Conference of Labour Statisticians on 5 December 2008.

household in rural areas being 2.3 and significantly higher than the average of 1.9 in urban areas. The largest share of Nepal's child population (38.3 per cent) is in the 5-9 year age group, followed by the 10-13 year age group (33.8 per cent) and the 14-17 year age group (27.9 per cent).

More than 54 per cent of households with children have access to electricity for lighting, while 34.2 per cent still depend on gas, oil or kerosene. However, the percentage of households with children that have access to electricity in the urban areas is about 92 per cent, compared to fewer than 48 per cent in rural areas. Furthermore, only about 42 per cent of households with children have access to safe drinking water, of which about 41.2 per cent take their drinking water from hand pumps or boreholes. A further 9.8 per cent still rely on spouts or springs and 3.0 per cent on wells.

Educational characteristics of children

The report reveals that about 9 per cent of the total child population in Nepal have never attended school, while 59 per cent have not completed primary school, 21 per cent have completed primary level and only about 3.4 per cent have attended secondary or higher levels. Among those children who have never attended school, a majority are girls. It is also observed that 82.4 per cent of children aged 5 to 17 years are literate, but the proportion of boys (84.8 per cent) is higher than that of girls (80.0 per cent). Urban areas have higher literacy rates (91 per cent) than rural areas (81 per cent). The Kathmandu Valley, which comprises the capital and is largest urban area in the country, has the highest literacy rate and an almost negligible gender gap. The data on working children aged 5 to 17 years indicate that about 86.5 per cent are literate. There is a big gap between the literacy rates of working boys and working girls in all regions of the country. About 15 per cent of working girls in Nepal do not have any formal schooling.

Economic activity of children

Out of a total child population of 7.77 million aged 5 to 17 years about 3.14 million are economically active, of which 36,000 are unemployed jobseekers. In other words, nearly 59 per cent of the total child population are not economically active. The report finds that more girls than boys are economically active and employed. While the proportion of economically active girls is about 20.8 per cent in urban areas and 48.4 per cent in rural areas, the comparable figure for boys at work is about 19 per cent in urban areas and 40 per cent in rural areas.

It is estimated that nearly 40 per cent of working children work up to 14 hours a week, whereas 36 per cent work from 15 to 28 hours and about 15 per cent work from 29 to 42 hours. About 10 per cent of working children spend more than 42 hours a week on economic activities. In terms of average hours, girls spend more time engaged in economic activities than boys – about 22.1 hours a week for girls and 21.5 hours for boys.

The report shows that the median monthly income of child workers in Nepal who are paid employees is about Rs 2,167, though the income of boys is much higher than that of girls. The monthly income of more than 44 per cent of working children is in the range of Rs 2,001 to Rs 5,000, while that of about 8 per cent is over Rs 5,000. Children who are plant and machinery operators receive the highest earnings, followed by those working in craft-related occupations. Child workers in agriculture and allied occupations receive the lowest earnings. The study also finds that the average monthly earnings of boys are much higher than that of girls in most occupations except for craftwork and similar occupations, where girls are paid much more.

Child labour and hazardous work by children

It is estimated that in Nepal 1.60 million children in the 5 to 17 year age group fall into the category of child labour, i.e. about 50.9 per cent of all working children and 20.6 per cent of the total child population. Of these, 0.91 million are girls and 0.69 million are boys. The overwhelming proportion of child labour, involving over 1.5 million children, is found in rural areas, while by age group the distribution is 24.7 per cent (395,000) in the 5 - 9 year age-group, 51.3 per cent (821,000) in the 10 -13 year age group and 24.0 per cent (383,000) in the 14-17 year age group.

Another important finding of the report is that about 19.7 per cent of working children in Nepal (621,000 or 8 per cent of children as a whole) work under hazardous conditions. This is about 38.8 per cent of the child labour population. Distributed by sex, about two-fifths of children engaged in hazardous work (248,000) are boys and three-fifths (373,000) are girls. Also, the share of working children engaged in hazardous work is 21.9 per cent for girls against 17.3 per cent for boys. Working children from the rural areas of Nepal are relatively less exposed to hazardous conditions than children from urban areas. Although small in number, the children from Kathmandu Valley are relatively more exposed to hazardous conditions than in other parts of the country.

Among children engaged in hazardous work, almost 56.8 per cent current attend school, while 43.2 per cent do not. Across age groups, figures vary widely. Some 38.3 per cent of children aged 14 to 17 years who are performing hazardous work attend school, , compared to 14.4 per cent in the 10-13 year age group and 11.4 per cent in the 5-9 year age group. In terms of occupation, about 58 per cent of the total number of children engaged in hazardous work were engaged in elementary occupations, which include work in agriculture and fisheries, manufacturing, mining and construction, transport and freight handling and domestic and similar help. The craft and trade-related activities are other occupations involving hazards which employ a large number of child workers in Nepal.

Other activities performed by children

The report finds that significant numbers of children aged 5-17 years carry out household chores, such as cooking, cleaning, minor repairs, shopping, caring and child minding, which are also called unpaid household services. The proportion of boys carrying out these activities is much lower than that of girls in almost all cases except for shopping, where the boys outnumber the girls. The data obtained for this report also indicate that children in Nepal's rural areas are much more involved in non-economic activities than are their counterparts in urban areas.

The report finds that children spend an average of 3.7 hours per week engaged in household chores. The average number of hours spent in housekeeping activities increases with each age group. Moreover, the average involvement of girls in non-economic activities (5.9 hours per week) is significantly higher than that of boys (1.6 hours per week). It was found that about 78 per cent of children spend 1 to 14 hours a week on housekeeping chores, and that about 1 per cent spends more than 42 hours a week in this way.

It is estimated that around 352,000 children are currently employed in the informal sector, which corresponds to 91 per cent of all employment outside the agricultural sector. Only 34,000 child workers (nearly 9 per cent of total non-agricultural employment) are employed in enterprises that are not considered as forming part of the informal sector. Children in the 14-17

year age group account for about 45 per cent of total child labour, and about 47 per cent of these work in the non-agricultural informal sector.

About 12 per cent of all children in employment in the country are migrants. About 12.1 per cent of Tarai children, 11.7 per cent of children from the Hill region and 8.8 per cent of children from the Mountain region migrated from elsewhere in the country or from abroad. As expected, most migration among children has been from rural to urban areas in the country, especially from the Far-Western region. The study shows that about 27 per cent of migrant child workers do not attend school and that about 73 per cent of them are girls. The highest number of these migrant workers (62.0 per cent) is in the 14-17 year age group, followed by those in the 10-13 year age group (31.0 per cent) and in the 5-9 year age group (7.0 per cent). The proportion of migrant girls (60.0 per cent) was found to be much higher than that of boys (40.0 per cent).

Contents of the report

The report provides comprehensive information on all activities of children in the 5-17 year age group who are living with households in Nepal. The report comprises eight chapters: Introduction, Survey methodology, Demographic characteristics of children, Educational characteristics of children, Economic activity of children, Child labour and hazardous work by children, Other characteristics of children, and Conclusions.

CHAPTER 1: INTRODUCTION

1.1 Introduction

Child labour has become a major concern for many countries in Asia. So often in the developing world children are removed from schooling and forced into exploitative forms of labour. In Nepal it is a particularly pressing problem. According to the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008, there were about 7.77 million children in Nepal between 5 and 17 years of age, of which 50.7 per cent were boys and 49.3 per cent girls. That number has grown steadily as families have been broken apart by economic hardship, leaving children to fend for themselves. Children are often seen begging, or working in the streets, cafes, petrol stations, sometimes well into the night. Children, especially girls, are also sexually exploited for commercial purposes, especially in prostitution and pornography. Trafficking of children is a regular phenomenon to which the thousands of children living in street and orphanages are particularly prone.

Children constitute an integral part of the family workforce engaged in both the formal and the informal sector. Children, both boys and girls, begin working at a very young age and spend a considerable amount of time in productive and household activities. They help at home by running errands or helping their parents on family farms. The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) states that children have the right to be protected "from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development".

Child labour is a widespread phenomenon in Nepal, and one that has not declined despite the existence of laws that prohibit especially burdensome forms of child labour and the efforts of many governmental, non-governmental, international and private organizations to protect child rights. An especially serious problem is the hazardous environment in which children work. Health and safety hazards in workplaces tend to be related to the nature of the work. Chemical, physical, biological and psychological hazards are often present and cause irreversible damage to children's physiological development, often resulting in permanent disabilities that have serious consequences for their adult lives.

Another risk for child workers, especially for girls, is sexual abuse. Young girls are regularly targets of sexual innuendo, or in more severe cases even rape, by male co-workers and management staff (CWIN, 1993). Though prostitution is illegal in Nepal, it is prevalent in urban areas and many young girls are trafficked to brothels in India and beyond. The increase in the sexual abuse of children is linked to the internationalization of sex tourism, together with the false perception that there is less danger of contracting AIDS from younger partners. Commercial sexual exploitation is one of the most brutal forms of violence against children whose victims suffer from extreme physical, psycho-social and emotional abuse that can have life-long and life-threatening consequences. They risk early pregnancy, maternal mortality and sexually transmitted diseases.

The last decade has been one of political turmoil and uncertainty for Nepal, which for long endured an armed conflict that has had an adverse impact on the economic and social conditions of the country. During the conflict, thousands of people were displaced from their homes in rural areas. Nearly 14,000 people died in the conflict, which has devastated the tourism industry and basic services related to health and education. The resulting increase in poverty has hurt women and children disproportionately. Maternal mortality rates are among the highest in

the world, primarily due to a lack of resources and the low status of women as a priority for action. As a result of the depressed economy and increasing income inequality, child labour is flourishing in Nepal.

1.2 Prevalence and nature of child labour

Child labour is not new in Nepal, where it has been prevalent for many centuries, mostly in rural areas where it is perceived as part of the normal process of socialization. In the countryside, children have always worked, and continue to work, alongside their parents in the fields and at home. In fact, child labour is so deeply ingrained in rural society that it is often considered a wholly legitimate practice, with few people raising concerns about its effect on children's schooling and development.

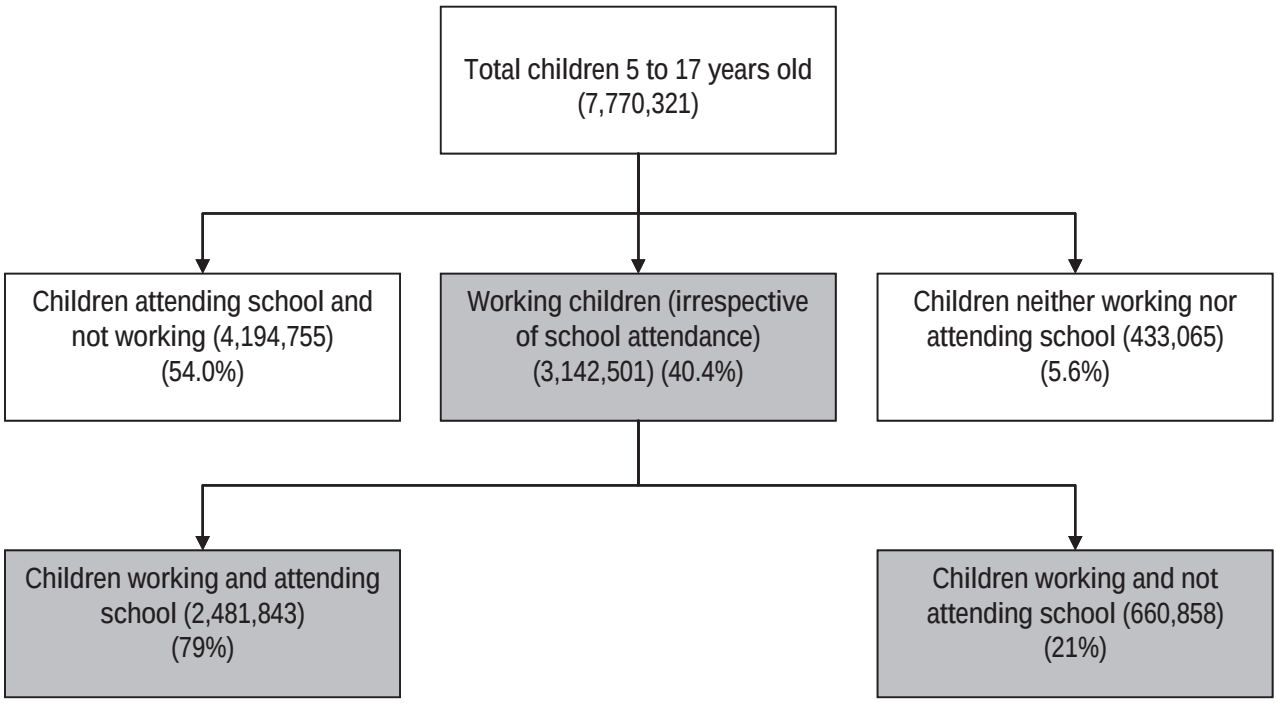
There are various estimates of the total child population of Nepal. The National Living Standard Survey (NLSS) 2003-2004 estimated the total child population in the 5-17 year age group to be around 7.3 million, which was about 33.2 per cent of the total population. According to this estimate, the male child population was 51 per cent and the female child population 49 per cent. According to the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008, the total child population in the 5-17 year age group was about 7.7 million, or 33.0 per cent of the total population, of which the boys made up 50.7 per cent and girls 49.3 per cent. The Population Census 2001 and other estimates indicate roughly one-third of the total population of Nepal is in the 5-17 year age group, which is the period when children are liable to enter the labour force (Table 1.2.1).

Table 1.2.1: General information on the child population in Nepal

	Population Census 2001	NLSS 2003	NLFS 2008
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Total population	22,736,934	22,084,806	23,543,505
Child population (5-17 years)	7,643,496	7,326,850	7,770,321
Child population as a percentage of the total	33.6	33.2	33.0
Sex			
Boys	3,893,311	3,739,025	3,936,806
Girls	3,750,185	3,587,825	3,833,514
Age group			
5-9 years	3,211,442	3,022,248	2,978,188
10-13 years	2,440,714	2,316,057	2,622,844
14-17 years	1,991,340	1,988,545	2,169,289
Locality			
Urban	976,480	928,733	1,022,188
Rural	6,667,016	6,398,118	6,748,133

Figure 1.2.1 shows that about 54.0 per cent of the total population aged 5 to 17 years were attending school, 40.4 per cent were working as well as going to school, and about 5.6 per cent were neither working nor attending school.

Figure 1.2.1: Situation of children in Nepal



Source: Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008.

The overall economic participation rate of rural children aged 5-17 years is estimated to be around 41 per cent whereas the corresponding rate for urban children is about 23 per cent. The participation rate for girls (47.6 per cent) is significantly higher than for boys (36.1 per cent), mainly on account of their higher participation rate in non-economic activities. The data on working children generated in the 2001 national population census showed, moreover, that there is considerable variation in the participation rate of boys and girls from one district to another. In Nepal many working children are engaged in the informal sector as domestic servants, porters, rag pickers, carpet factory workers, as well as in restaurants and in the transportation sector. Depending on the sector, children may have to work long hours, carry heavy loads and face the risk of sexual exploitation.

Although bonded labour is officially outlawed in Nepal, the children of former bonded labourers known as Kamaiya continue to work in conditions comparable to forced labour. Children are exploited through prostitution, sex tourism and trafficking. Nepal is a source country for children trafficked to India and elsewhere for sexual exploitation. Internal trafficking for commercial sexual exploitation also occurs. While the trafficking of children often leads to their sexual exploitation, there is also a demand for trafficked boys and girls to work in the informal sector. Some reports indicate that many children are trafficked to India to work in carpet factories, the embroidery industry, circuses, road construction and domestic service.

After the cessation of the Maoist conflict some three years ago, violence overall has declined in the country. However, the security situation is still unstable and reforms are moving slowly. There is evidence that children are fleeing areas of civil unrest and migrating to urban areas because of economic hardship.

1.3 National legislation and policies against child labour

In recent years there has been growing international concern about child labour. The International Labour Organization has been consistently pressing its member States to protect the rights and interests of children for the past several years. The 1990Constitution of Nepal therefore seeks to protect children by conferring on them certain fundamental rights and by imposing for their benefit certain directive principles and state policies. The State has pledged to make the necessary arrangements to safeguard the rights and interests of children, to ensure that they are not exploited and to introduce free education. In addition to the Constitution, a number of laws contain important provisions for the protection and advancement of the interests of children and child workers. These laws set the minimum age for employment at 14 years and prohibit children under 16 years of age from engaging in such occupations as tourism, carpet weaving, factory work, mining or other forms of hazardous work that can be harmful to their health or life. However, the laws generally cover only the formal sector, which leaves the majority of children who are employed in the informal sector without any legal protection.

The Child Labour Act 1992 imposes a sanction of up to three months in prison for employing an underage child. Employing children in dangerous work or against their will is punishable by up to one year in prison. The Child Labour Act provides for fines to be imposed on employers who violate labour laws. It prohibits trafficking in persons and imposes up to 20 years in prison for violations of the law. It also prohibits the use of children in immoral professions, including the taking and distribution of pornographic photographs.

The law banning the Kamaiya system in 2002 forbids keeping or employing any person as a bonded labourer and cancels all unpaid loans or bonds between creditors and Kamaiya labourers. The law prohibits the involvement of children in the sale, distribution or trafficking of alcohol and drugs. The Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB) and child welfare officers have the responsibility of enforcing child rights legislation. The Ministry of Labour and Transport Management (MOLT) is responsible for enforcing child labour legislation. A recent study[2] reports that, despite legal protection, the resources devoted to enforcement of child labour laws are limited and that the Ministry of Labour employs too few inspectors to address the problem effectively. The Child Labour Act was amended in 1999 to make it more abuse-specific, specifically in relation to sexual abuse. This new Act lists specific occupations as constituting hazardous work and prohibits the employment of children below 16 years of age in such activities. Although there are a number of other legal provisions restricting child labour and trafficking, none of them seem to have been very effective in curtailing child labour in the country.

1.4 Current government policies and programmes to eliminate child labour

The decade-long conflict in Nepal has plunged the nation into chaos, with poor people in outlying areas being profoundly affected. Some positive steps have, however, been taken recently with regard to child labour and policy development. One of these is the ten-year National Plan of Action for Children. The ILO's International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) has been an active partner of the Government in developing the plan. The Ministry of Labour and Transport Management (MOLT) has recently come up with a Master Plan of Action for the Elimination of Child Labour. The Master Plan outlines strategies and programmes that are aimed at eliminating child labour.

[2] U.S. Department of State (2006), *The 2006 Nepal country report.*

Among other important efforts, the decision taken by the Government in July 2000 to outlaw the Kamaiya system of bonded labour has had a far reaching consequence. This decision allows the debt-ridden rural farmers and their children who work as bonded labourers to pay off debts incurred by their ancestors. The Ministry of Women, Children and Social Welfare (MOWCSW), with the assistance of IPEC, has revised the National Plan of Action to include combating trafficking in women and children for sexual exploitation. In addition, the Government of Nepal has formed a number of commissions and other bodies, including the Child and Women Development Section of the National Planning Commission (NPC) and the Social Welfare Council (SWC), which is responsible for monitoring social welfare activities in the country. Under the coordination of the Chief District Officer, District Child Welfare Boards have been set up at the district level. These agencies are responsible for coordinating policy planning and for formulating action programmes related to the welfare, development and rehabilitation of children working in difficult situations. Juvenile benches have also been established in district courts.

The evidence suggests that Nepal has achieved an impressive improvement in its social indicators and moderate economic growth over the last decade. The labour force participation rate of working children aged 5 to 17 years declined from 48 per cent in 1998 to 41 per cent in 2008. There is still a long way to go for the Government to reduce the incidence of child labour and increase school enrolment, however. Therefore, an understanding of the child labour situation is very important for addressing the issue in Nepal.

1.5 Brief overview of the Nepalese economy of Nepal

Nepal has experienced a moderate economic growth of about 3 per cent per annum despite prolonged conflict during the last decade. During that period, poverty declined by about 1 per cent per year and the proportion of the population below poverty line was reduced from about 42 per cent in 1996 to about 28 per cent in 2008; this seems to have been primarily the result of remittances from abroad, which was of the order of almost three billion U.S. dollar in 2009. Given the moderate economic growth, the reduction of poverty is very reassuring, even though; however the magnitude of the problem remains high both in terms of absolute magnitude and as a percentage of the population. Also, the absolute level of per capita income (US$ 460) is still quite low in comparison with neighbouring South Asian countries. The performances of other economic and social indicators are not very impressive and are much lower than other countries of the region (Table 1.5.1).

The population of Nepal is predominantly rural, with almost 84 per cent of people living in about 4,000 village development committee areas. However, urbanization is growing at an annual rate of 5.2 per cent, which is more than two-and-a-half times of average annual population growth of the country. Poverty and unemployment in rural areas are mainly responsible for the large-scale shifting of the population. The poor in Nepal tend to live mostly in rural areas and are engaged in agricultural activities.

Despite the declining share of agriculture in the GDP from about 39 per cent in 1995 to about 33 per cent in 2008, agriculture has remained the mainstay of Nepalese economy, During the period 1990-2008, growth in the agricultural sector slowed down significantly, even though the sector is still the major source of employment, with about 78 per cent of total employment in 2008 (Table 1.5.2). After stagnating at around 5.8 per cent between 1990 and 1995, growth in the agricultural sector stagnated around1990-95 fell to about 1 per cent in 2008. In spite of the

stagnating economy, there seems to have been some decline in rural poverty as a result of increased remittances from other countries.

Table 1.5.1: Selected socio-economic indicators of Nepal (percentage)

Indicators	1995	2005	2008
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Population growth rate	2.4	2.2	2.2
Share of urban population	10.9	15.8	16.8
Total fertility rate	5.2	3.5	3.0
Life expectancy at birth	57.9	62.5	63.7
Adult literacy rates	28.0	49.0	56.5
GDP growth rate	3.4	3.5	5.3
GDP per capita (US $)	208	319	480

Source: ADB Key Indicators 2009.

Table 1.5.2: Average annual growth rate of the main sectors from 1990-95 to 2008 (percentages)

Year	1990-95	1995-2000	2000-05	2008
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Agriculture	5.8	2.2	4.32	1.00
Industry	4.8	5.62	3.62	3.9
Services	4.2	5.58	3.82	4.2
GDP	4.7	4.24	4.02	3.2

Source: ADB Key Indicators 2008.

Table 1.5.3 shows the services sector to have emerged as the dominant sector in the Nepalese economy in recent years, its share of GDP has increasing more than 51 per cent in 2008 from 43 per cent in 1995.On the other hand, growth of the industrial sector, which employs a large share of working children, has started declining, mainly as a result of labour unrest. The sector contributed about 16 per cent to GDP in 2008.

Table 1.5.3: Structure of the economy in terms of 2005 GDP, at constant prices (percentages)

Year	1995	2000	2005	2008
(a) (b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Agriculture	38.9	37.8	35.7	33.1
Industry	17.7	17.3	16.6	15.7
Services	43.4	44.9	47.7	51.2
Total	100	100	100	100

Source: ADB Key Indicators 2009.

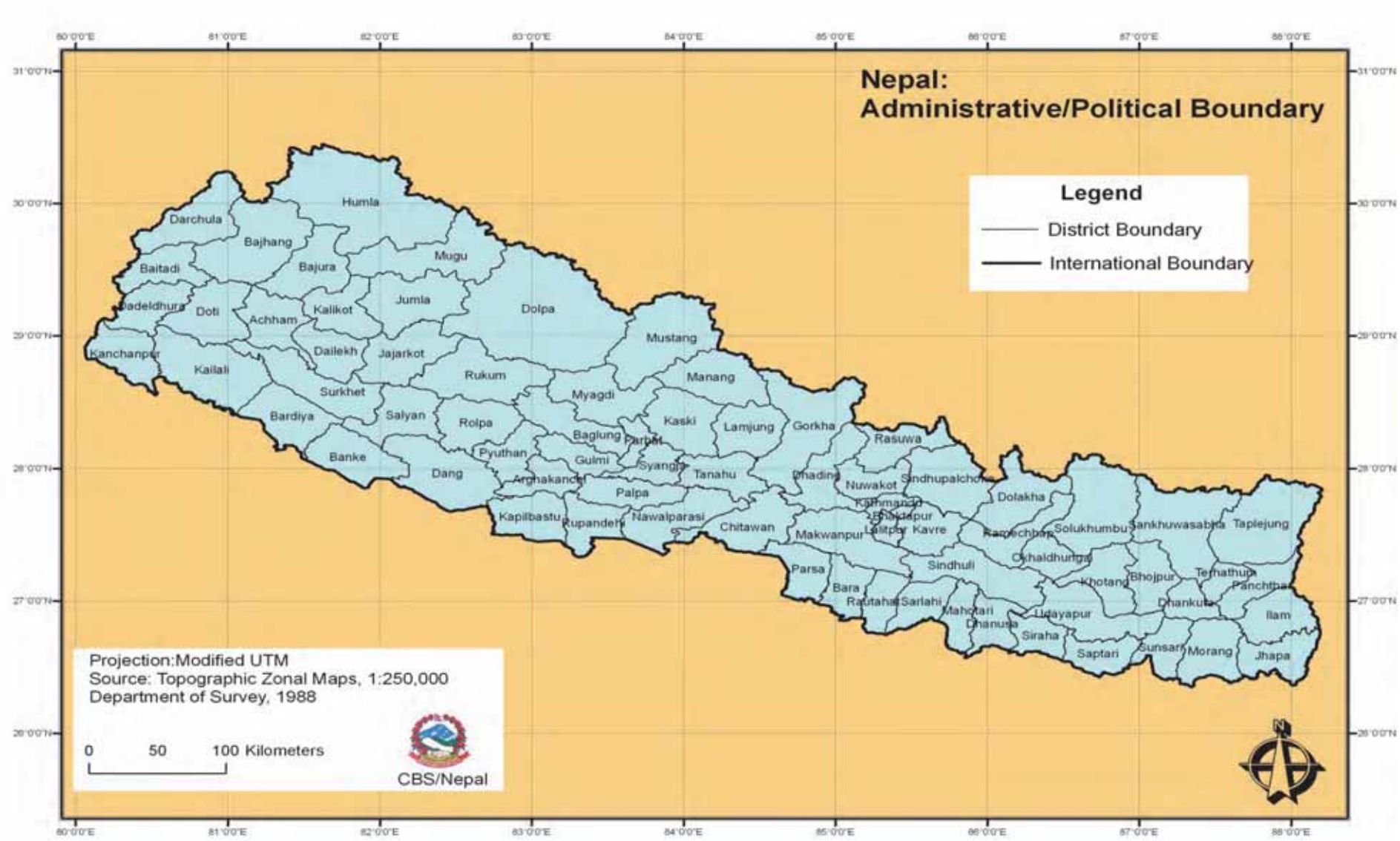
However, it is important to note that, owing to political turmoil and uncertainty in recent years, a large number of industries have been closed and there has been a marked decline in the flow of investment from abroad.

1.6 Objectives of the study

What are the characteristics of child labour in Nepal? What is the pattern of distribution by gender, age group and major geographical region of child labour? In which sectors of economic activity are children engaged? How many weeks and hours of work is performed by children? How do government policies affect child labour? What role does education play in regard to child labour in Nepal? Does the poverty level have any bearing on child labour? A critical analysis of these questions may point the way to a solution to the scourge of child labour. This report, which is based on the results of the 2008 Nepal Labour Force Survey, attempts to find some answers through an analysis of the problem of child labour as it is now investigating how prevalent it is and what type of child labour exists. The necessity of child labour to poor families and the role of poverty as a determinant will also be examined, as will the current state of education in Nepal in order to throw light on the educational status of working children.

The objectives of this report are to generate quantitative data on the activities of children aged between 5 and 17 years (covering schooling and economic and non-economic activities) in Nepal, and to initiate the establishment of a database containing both quantitative and qualitative information on these activities. It is expected that the information generated will be used for evaluating and monitoring the child labour situation at the local, regional and national level and for reporting on trends and determining the causes of child labour. More specifically, the report is expected to achieve the following:

- the collection and analysis of information on the character, nature, size, and reasons for child labour in Nepal, and to determine the conditions of work and their effects on the health, education and normal development of the working child;
- the establishment of a quantitative database on child labour in Nepal which will be updated as new information becomes available through additional surveys and other administrative records;
- the comprehensive analysis of the state of working children in Nepal by means of the identification of priority groups and patterns and an analysis of working conditions and their effects on working children, which should provide inputs towards developing policies and action programmes for the elimination of child labour; the production, presentation and dissemination to the Government, employers' and workers' organisations, non-governmental organisations (NGOs) and the general public, of a comprehensive report on child labour in Nepal containing the principal statistical findings of an in-depth analysis, and thereby enhancing the knowledge and understanding required to promote a sustainable campaign against the practice.


Nepal:
Administrative/Political Boundary
Legend
District Boundary
International Boundary
Humla
Darchula
Bajhang
Mugu
Baitadi
Bajura
Jumla
Dolpa
Doti
Achham
Kalikot
Mustang
Kanchanpur
Kailali
Dailekh
Jajarkot
Rukum
Manang
Surkhet
Myagdi
Bardiya
Salyan
Rolpa
Kaski
Lamjung
Gorkha
Baglung
Parbat
Rasuwa
Banke
Pyuthan
Gulmi
Syangja
Dang
Tanahu
Arghakanchi
Palpa
Nuwakot
Dolakha
Kapilbastu
Rupandehi
Nawalparasi
Chitawan
Makwanpur
Kavre
Solukhumbu
Taplejung
Parsa
Sindhuli
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Department of Survey, 1988
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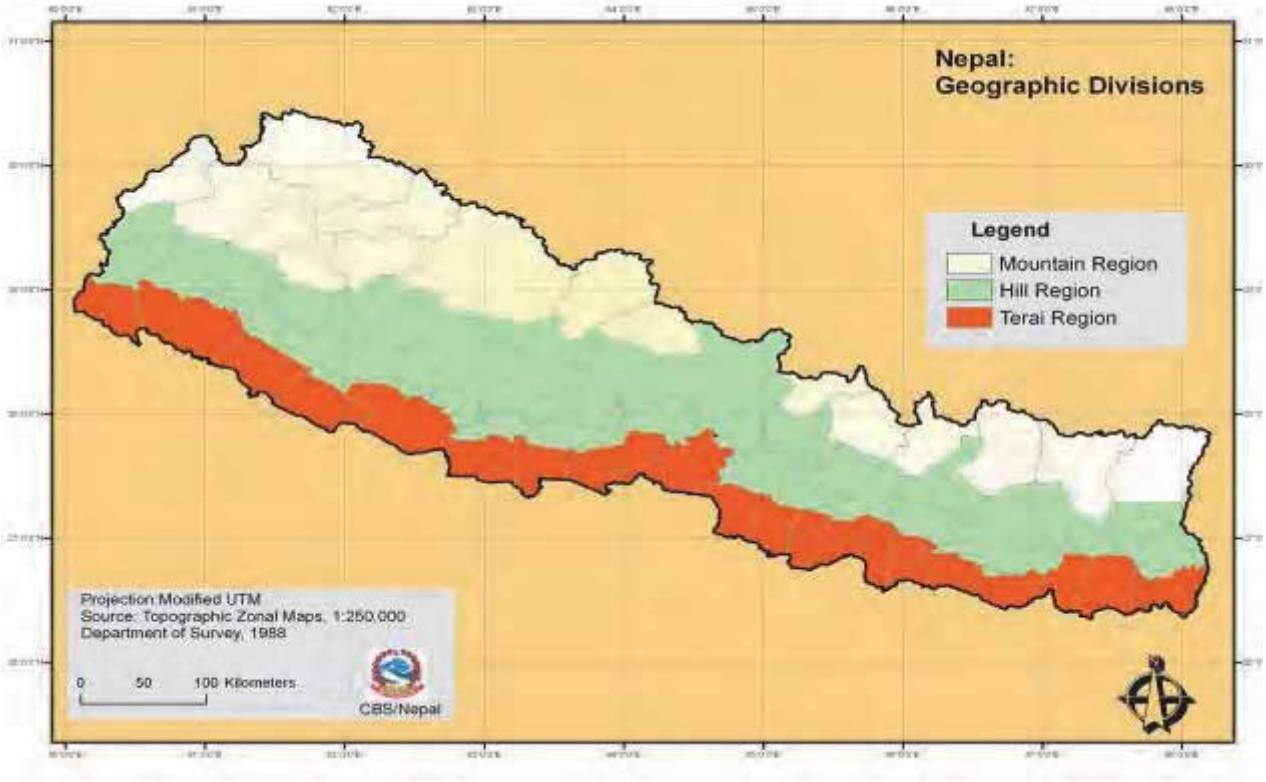
CBS/Nepal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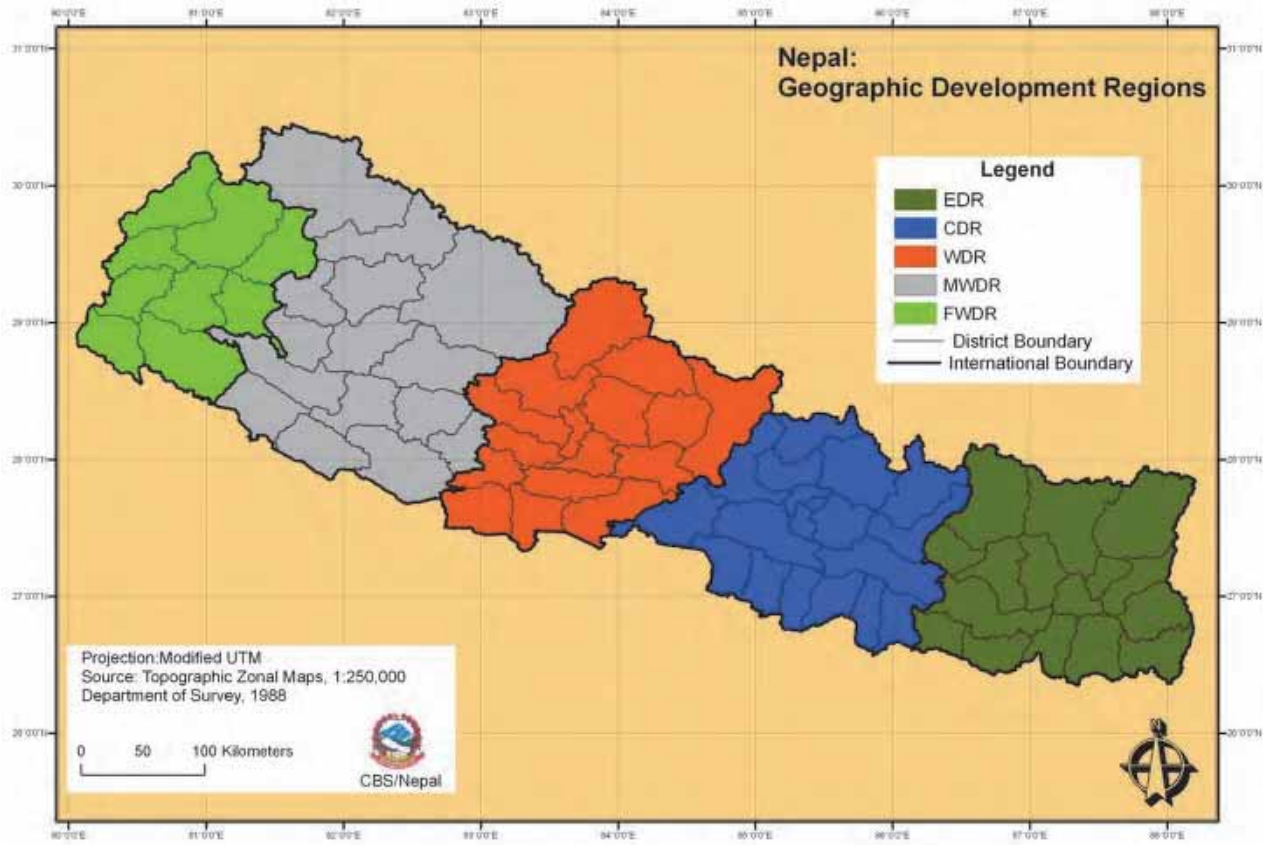
Geographic Divisions
Legend
Mountain Region
Hill Region
Terai Region
Projection:Modified UTM
Source: Topographic Zonal Maps, 1:250,000
Department of Survey, 1988
0 50 100 Kilometers
CBS/Nepal


Nepal:
Geographic Development Regions
Legend
EDR
CDR
WDR
MWDR
FWDR
District Boundary
International Boundary
Projection:Modified UTM
Source: Topographic Zonal Maps, 1:250,000
Department of Survey, 1988
0 50 100 Kilometers
CBS/Nepal

CHAPTER 2: SURVEY METHODOLOGY

2.1 Introduction

Nepal is one of the few countries in the Asia region which has yet to conduct a survey focussed specifically on child labour. The present report, based on data collected through the Nepal Child Labour Report (NLFS) 2008, was designed to incorporate a wide range of information about various aspects of child work and child labour in the country. NLFS 2008, like NLFS1998-99 which laid down a solid foundation in establishing benchmark statistics in labour and labour market conditions including child labour statistics in Nepal, was a multi-topic household survey which collected information on child employment, underemployment and unemployment, child-related economic activities and other specific child labour statistics, in order to capture the work engaged in by children aged 5 to 17 years. It also included the measurement of various household characteristics, including access to agricultural land, household facilities and remittances received by households with children.

The sampling design adopted in NLFS 2008, as in NLFS 1998-99, is a two-stage stratified random sample and selected nationally representative samples equally distributed between urban and rural areas. The PSU and sample households were increased in NLFS 2008 so as to enhance the reliability of the survey. Comparative figures depicting the sample size, number of household members, contribution of children population and households for the first and the second NLFS surveys are presented below (Table 2.1.1).

Table 2.1.1: Comparing NLFS 2008 with NLFS 1998-1999

	Nepal Labour Force Survey (NLFS)	
	1998-99	2008
(a)	(b)	(c)
Survey period	May 1998 - May 1999	Jan. – Dec. 2008
Number of PSU selected	720	800
Number of households selected	14,400	16,000
Households enumerated	14,335	15,976
Household members	71,560	74,688
Children (5-17 years)	22,083	23,429
Households with children	10,134	11,054

Both surveys used standard definitions of economic activity, including the informal sector, as recommended by the ILO to enable international comparisons. The only new feature of the 2008 survey was the addition of a new concept, the informal employment and labour underutilization rate as recommended by the 18th International Conference of Labour Statisticians (ICLS) in 2008. This report on the child labour situation in Nepal also applies the statistical measurement standards on child labour adopted at the 18th ICLS.

Child labour is a world-wide phenomenon. In most countries the majority of these children have been exploited, neglected and abused in various sectors (agriculture, industry, informal sector, construction, domestic service), as a result of ever-increasing poverty, anarchy,

war and conflict. The situation in the developing countries is particularly bad, as most of the children are compelled to work for their mere survival. Nepal is no exception. Eliminating child labour is therefore a major challenge for the Nepalese Government, and that is not possible without solid and reliable date. Credible information on child labour and, specifically, monitoring progress in the area of child labour reduction efforts are also essential to determine whether the world community is meeting the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs).

2.2 Scope and coverage

The main purpose of this study is to present comprehensive information on child labour in Nepal. Such information plays a key role in assessing the impact of government policies and programmes designed to reduce child labour. The findings of the report will also provide valuable information for skills development, for improving the status of working children for assessing the role and importance of programmes and policies aimed at eliminating child labour and for improving conditions at children's workplaces in factories, mining and other hazardous environments and making adequate provision for their health, safety and other services and facilities while engaging in work.

2.3 Limitations of the study

The main limitation of this report is that it is not based on a survey that is specifically focussed on child labour. The report is based primarily on raw data from the 2008 National Labour Force Survey conducted by the Central Bureau of Statistics, but it is unable to capture institutionalized child labour through the methodology used in this type of household survey. Consequently, it may comprise some degree of some underestimation of the problem, and the relative standard error of the estimates may be high. The estimates given here should therefore be treated with caution. (The questionnaire used in NLFS 2008 is provided in Appendix B).

As the NFLS 2008 was a household-based survey, it did not capture working children who have no home and live on the streets or in institutions. Moreover, it does not capture the worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work. On hazardous work performed by children and on some of the characteristics of such labour, however, the report does provide an estimate.

2.4 Data sources

The primary data collected for NLFS 1998-99 and NLFS 2008 have been analysed to update and prepare the basic profile on child labour in Nepal. The raw data of surveys have been processed to explore the nature and extent of the problem among children 5 to 17 years old.

2.5 Methodology and study design

The sampling methodology of NLFS 2008 is based on the two-stage stratified sampling technique, in which the heterogeneous economic activities considered are deemed to provide a detailed picture of the employment situation in urban areas. A nationally representative sample of 16,000 households was culled from 800 wards (the primary sampling units), equally distributed in urban and rural areas. The 800 PSU are then divided equally in two parts, i.e., 400 PSU each for urban and rural. Urban areas are divided into three strata –Urban Kathmandu Valley, Other urban hills and Urban Tarai - and rural areas likewise – Rural Mountains, Rural Hills and Rural Tarai. The sample size of 400 PSU in each urban and rural area is distributed proportionately within the respective strata.

At the first stage, the duly identified PSU were selected by probability proportional to size (PPS) from each stratum. At the second stage, 20 households were selected randomly from each PSU utilizing the systematic random sampling procedure. However, in the case of NLFS 1998/99, a nationally representative sample size of 14,400 households was selected from 720 PSU, which were evenly divided between urban and rural areas. During the selection process a two-stage stratified sampling procedure based on PPS was applied: for first stage all PSU were selected with PPS, while for the second stage 20 households from all the households listed in the PSU were selected on a systematic sampling basis. For the purpose of this study, only those households with children aged 5-17 years were selected from the NLFS 2008 data for further analysis.

A note on the sampling methodology adopted in NLFS 2008 is provided in Appendix A.

2.6 Basic concepts and definitions

The basic concepts and definitions used in this report are identical with those of the published reports the two NLFS. Most are in line with the definitions and concept employed by the ILO. The main exceptions relate to (i) the simplification of the measurement of the working status of children by using at least one hour worked or connected to a job during the past week, (ii) consideration of the age of the children, and (iii) identification of the occupation concerned in the case of hazardous work.

Although the concepts generally remain the same, it is essential that users be familiar with the concepts and definitions in order to be able to interpret the results of the report. In this chapter, definitions and concepts are explained and references provided for further information if needed.

Work

Work refers to those activities that are mentioned in NLFS 1998-99 and NLFS 2008 and are in line with the current ILO standards. The 1993 Systems of National Accounts (SNA) has greatly extended the production boundary for work, and these changes, which have major implications for those engaged in the household sector, have been retained in the latest updates of the SNA; for instance, the SNA now also includes within its production boundary all production of goods for own use, which mean that activities such as tailoring or making mats for the household and collecting water or firewood are now counted as “work”.

Children

Different studies have considered different age groups, and NLFS 2008 defines children as those between 5 and 14 years of age. However, the present report defines children as those between 5 and 17 years of age, in accordance with the definition proposed in the resolution concerning statistics of child labour adopted by the ICLS in 2008.

Working children

Children defined as being in employment are defined in this report as the population of currently employed children aged 5-17 years, who were either actually working in the reference week or having an attachment to a job or business but not working during the reference week according to the ICLS definition.

Child labour

The term "child labour" reflects the engagement of children in prohibited work and, more generally, in types of work to be eliminated as socially and morally undesirable under national legislation, the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), as well as their respective supplementing Recommendations (No. 146 and No. 190). Therefore, child labour include all persons from 5 to 17 years old who during a specified period were engaged in one or both of the following categories of activity:

a) worst forms of child labour, as described in paragraphs 17-30 of the ICLS resolution;

b) employment below the minimum age, as described in paragraphs 32 and 33 of the said resolution.

A schematic presentation of the statistical identification procedure for child labour, as adapted for this report, is provided below (Table 2.6.1):

Table 2.6.1: Framework for the statistical identification of child labour in Nepal

Age group	SNA production			
			Worst forms of child labour	
	(1a) Light work (1 – 14 hours weekly)	(1b)* Regular work	(2a) Hazardous work	(2b) Worst forms of child labour other than hazardous work
Children below the minimum age specified for light work (for Nepal, 5-9 years)	Employment below the minimum age for light work	Employment below the general minimum working age	Employment in industries and occupations designated as hazardous, or entailing long hours of work and/or night work in industries and occupations not designated as hazardous	Children trafficked for work; forced and bonded child labour; commercial sexual exploitation of children; use of children for illicit activities and armed conflict (NOT estimated in this report)
Children within the age range specified for light work (for Nepal, 10-13 years)				
Children at or above the general minimum working age (for Nepal, 14-17 years)				

*Excluding children covered under columns (2a) and (2b)

Denotes child labour.

Denotes activities not considered child labour.

For the purposes of this report child labour is identified as the engagement of children in productive activities comprised within SNA production boundary and includes all children aged 5 to 17 years who, during a specified period, were engaged in one or more of the following categories of activities:

a) children aged 5-9 years who were employed for one or more hours during the reference week;

b) children aged 10-13 years who were employed for 15 or more hours during the reference week; and

c) children aged 14 -17 years who during the reference week were working in designated hazardous industries and occupations, or were engaged for 43 or more hours in industries and occupations not designated as hazardous.

Hazardous work by children

Hazardous work, which is a sub-set of child labour, is defined as work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children. Essentially these are (a) work which has been designated (or notified) as being performed in hazardous industries or occupations in which the employment of children under 18 years of age is prohibited, or (b) work for long weekly hours beyond a certain specified threshold (for purposes this report the threshold was set at 43 or more hours per working week).

In Nepal hazardous work in which the employment of children is prohibited is defined in the Child Labour (Prohibition and Regulation) Act 2000 as paid work in occupations identified as being high-risk.

For the purpose of this report work assigned to children in the following activities[3] are considered as constituting hazardous work:

- Service workers and shop market sales workers
- Travel attendants and related workers
- Housekeeping and restaurant services workers
- Personal care and related workers
- Craft and related trades workers
- Miners, shot firers, stone cutters and carvers
- Painters, building structure cleaners and related trades workers
- Metal moulders, welders, sheet-metal workers, structural-metal preparer
- Blacksmiths, tool-makers and related trades workers
- Precision workers in metal and related materials
- Potters, glass-makers and related trades workers
- Handicraft workers in wood, textile, leather and related materials
- Printing and related trades workers
- Food processing and related trades workers
- Textile, garment and related trades workers
- Pelt, leather and shoe making trades workers
- Plant and machine operators and assemblers
- Mining and mineral-processing plant operators
- Metal-processing-plant operators
- Glass, ceramics and relative plant operators
- Chemical-products machine operators
- Rubber and plastic products machine operators

[3] Nepal Standard Industrial Classification (NSIC), selected activities.

- Elementary occupations
- Street vendors and related workers
- Shoe cleaning and other street services elementary occupations
- Domestic and related helpers, cleaners and launderers
- Building caretakers, windows and related cleaners
- Garbage collectors and related labourers
- Mining and construction labourers
- Manufacturing labourers
- Transport labourers and freight handlers

CHAPTER 3: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN

3.1 Introduction

The data on child labour in Nepal are not well documented or regularly available. The population census and labour force survey are the two main sources of statistics, but they do not provide accurate information on child labour as they set different age cut-off points for labour force participation. This report has culled the best available information on child workers in the 5-17 year age group from NLFS 2008.

This chapter provides an overview of the demographic characteristics of the child population aged 5-17 years, as well as of other important characteristics of households with children such as demographic distribution, household composition, distribution of the child population within the 5-17 age group, age and distribution by sex.

3.2 Demographic distribution of the child population

NLFS 2008 estimated the total child population of Nepal in the 5-17 year age group as 7.77 million at the time, which is about 33 per cent of the total population of the country. Of the total child population in that age group, 1,022,000 (13 per cent) live in urban areas, and 6.748,000 (87 per cent) live in rural areas.

Table 3.2.1 reflects the estimated distribution of households, population, children and average number of children per household. The survey estimates shows that there were 4.8 million households in total, 3.5 million (72.5 per cent) of which have children. The total population is estimated as 23.5 million and the average number of children per household as 2.2. The average number of children per household is lowest at 1.7 in the Kathmandu Valley and highest at 2.4 in the Eastern, Mid-Western and Far-Western Hill/Mountain and Western Tarai regions. In the development regions the average number of children per household is highest in the Mid-Western and Far-Western regions.

Table 3.2.1: Distribution of households, children (5-17 years) and average number of children by ecological belt, development region and urban/rural area

Locality	Total number of households	Total population	Number of households with children	Total number of children	Boys	Girls	Average number of children per household
	(thousands)						
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Nepal	4825	23544	3497	7770	3937	3834	2.2
Ecological belt							
Mountains	347	1633	233	542	284	258	2.3
Hills	2157	10089	1524	3300	1666	1634	2.2
Terai	2321	11821	1741	3929	1987	1942	2.3
Development Region							
Eastern	1128	5439	813	1797	915	881	2.2
Central	1664	8106	1179	2557	1310	1247	2.2
Western	960	4419	687	1482	763	719	2.2
Mid-Western	644	3324	485	1146	574	572	2.4

Locality	Total number of households	Total population	Number of households with children	Total number of children	Boys	Girls	Average number of children per household
	(thousands)						
Far-Western	428	2255	334	789	375	414	2.4
Urban	821	3549	527	1022	540	483	1.9
Kathmandu Valley	271	1133	159	267	146	121	1.7
Eastern/Central Hills/Mountains	79	320	52	103	52	51	2.0
Western Hills/Mountains	128	502	79	145	77	68	1.8
Eastern Terai	136	605	93	187	94	92	2.0
Central Terai	88	427	62	139	77	63	2.3
Western Terai	119	563	82	180	93	87	2.2
Rural	4004	19994	2970	6748	3397	3351	2.3
Eastern Hills/Mountains	368	1823	266	640	333	308	2.4
Central Hills/Mountains	572	2712	407	892	440	452	2.2
Western Hills/Mountains	524	2263	364	769	394	375	2.1
Mid-Western and Far-Western Hills/Mountains	562	2970	429	1024	508	516	2.4
Eastern Terai	593	2887	432	925	465	460	2.1
Central Terai	686	3639	521	1199	618	581	2.3
Western Terai	700	3700	551	1298	640	659	2.4

Table 3.2.2 shows that around 33 per cent of the total child population belong to the Janajati group, about 29 per cent to the Brahmin/Chhetri group and about 5 per cent to the Newar group. The average number of children in rural Nepal (2.3) is much higher than in urban areas (1.9). In terms of ethnic groups, the average number of children is highest among the Muslim groups and lowest in the Newar community. However, as expected, the average family size of most of the ethnic groups in urban areas is lower than in rural areas. The table also shows that, of the total child population, the number of boys slightly higher (3.9 million) than that of girls (3.8 million), and the ratio of girls to boys is thus 97:100.

Table 3.2.2: Distribution of households, children and average number of children, by ethnic group

Ethnic group	Total number of households	Total population	Households with children	Total number of children	Boys	Girls	Average number of children per household
	(thousands)						
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Nepal	4825	23544	3497	7770	3937	3834	2.2
Brahmin/Chhetri	1607	7220	1099	2278	1161	1117	2.1
Tarai Caste	608	3311	477	1120	574	546	2.3
Dalit	573	2830	437	990	482	507	2.3
Newar	282	1279	185	356	182	174	1.9
Janajati	1527	7543	1122	2557	1286	1272	2.3
Muslim	184	1125	145	401	214	186	2.8
Others	44	236	32	68	37	32	2.1
Urban	821	3549	527	1022	540	483	1.9
Brahmin/Chhetri	334	1348	204	377	199	178	1.8
Tarai caste	72	370	53	123	68	55	2.3
Dalit	55	255	40	88	46	42	2.2
Newar	120	536	73	121	63	58	1.7
Janajati	205	850	132	249	128	121	1.9
Muslim	25	146	19	50	27	23	2.7

Ethnic group	Total number of households	Total population	Households with children	Total number of children	Boys	Girls	Average number of children per household
			(thousands)				
Others	9	45	6	14	7	6	2.3
Rural	**4004**	**19994**	**2970**	**6748**	**3397**	**3351**	**2.3**
Brahmin/Chhetri	1273	5871	895	1901	962	939	2.1
Tarai caste	535	2942	423	997	506	490	2.4
Dalit	518	2575	397	902	436	465	2.3
Newar	162	743	112	235	119	116	2.1
Janajati	1323	6694	990	2308	1157	1151	2.3
Muslim	159	979	126	350	187	163	2.8
Others	34	191	26	55	29	26	2.1

Figure 3.2.1 below, which indicates the distribution of households by ethnic group clearly shows that the largest number of children per household are in the Janajati group (32.9 per cent), followed by the Brahmin/Chhetri group (29.3 per cent); the Muslims and the Newar group are the smallest ethnic groups identified in the survey.

Figure 3.2.1 Percentage distribution of children aged 5-17 years, by ethnic group

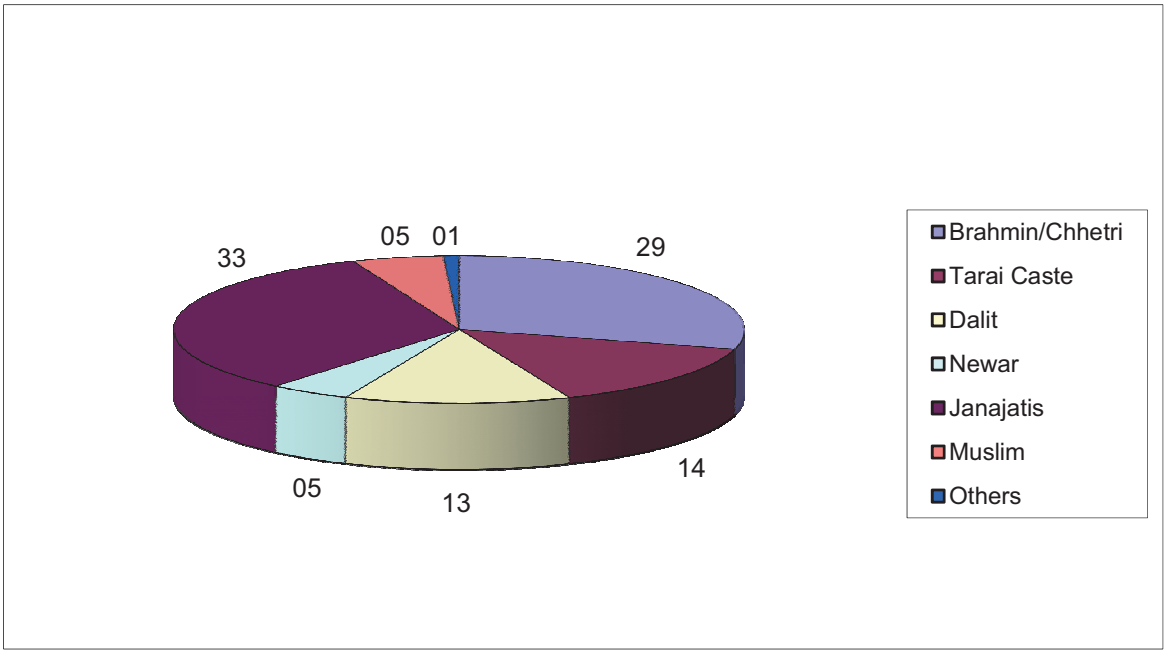


Table 3.2.3 illustrates the distribution of children by gender of the household head. Of households with children in the whole of Nepal, 79.5 per cent are male-headed and 20.5 per cent female-headed. The table also shows that rural households tend to have more children than their counterparts in urban areas, possibly because rural households seek to have more children as they can help their parents in the fields and in household chores.

Table 3.2.3: Percentage of households with children and number of children, by sex of household head

Locality	Percentage of households with children	Percentage of children	(thousands) Number of children where the household head is		Total number of children
			male	female	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Nepal	72.5	33.0	6177	1594	7770
Urban	64.2	28.8	779	244	1022
Kathmandu Valley	58.8	23.6	210	57	267
Rural	74.2	33.8	5398	1350	6748
Ecological belt					
Mountain	67.1	33.2	459	83	542
Hills	70.7	32.7	2545	755	3300
Terai	75.0	33.2	3173	756	3929

3.3 Distribution by age and sex

This section provides information on the distribution of children by age, sex and locality. Table 3.3.1 shows that the largest number of children in Nepal are concentrated in the 5-9 year age group 5 to 9 years (38.3 per cent), followed by the 10-13 year age group (33.8 per cent) and the 14-17 year age group (27.9 per cent). A similar trend is found tin rural areas, in urban areas almost 35 per cent of children are in the 5-9 year age group, followed by 33 per cent in the 14-17 year age group and 32 per cent in the 10-13 year age group.

The table also shows that the number of children in urban areas is low compared to rural areas. It can also be observed that there are more children in the Tarai areas than in the Hill and Mountain regions of the country across all age groups.

Table 3.3.1: Distribution of children, by age, sex and locality

Locality	Total number of children	(thousands) 5-9 years			10-13 years			14-17 years		
		Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total	Male	Female	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)	(k)
Nepal	7770	1510	1468	2978	1356	1267	2623	1070	1099	2169
Urban	1022	191	163	355	173	159	332	175	161	336
Rural	6748	1319	1305	2624	1183	1108	2291	895	938	1833
Ecological belt										
Mountains	542	108	111	219	92	85	177	84	62	146
Hills	3300	624	574	1198	577	556	1134	464	504	968
Terai	3929	779	783	1562	687	625	1312	522	533	1055

Figure 3.3.1: Percentage distribution of children by age group and locality

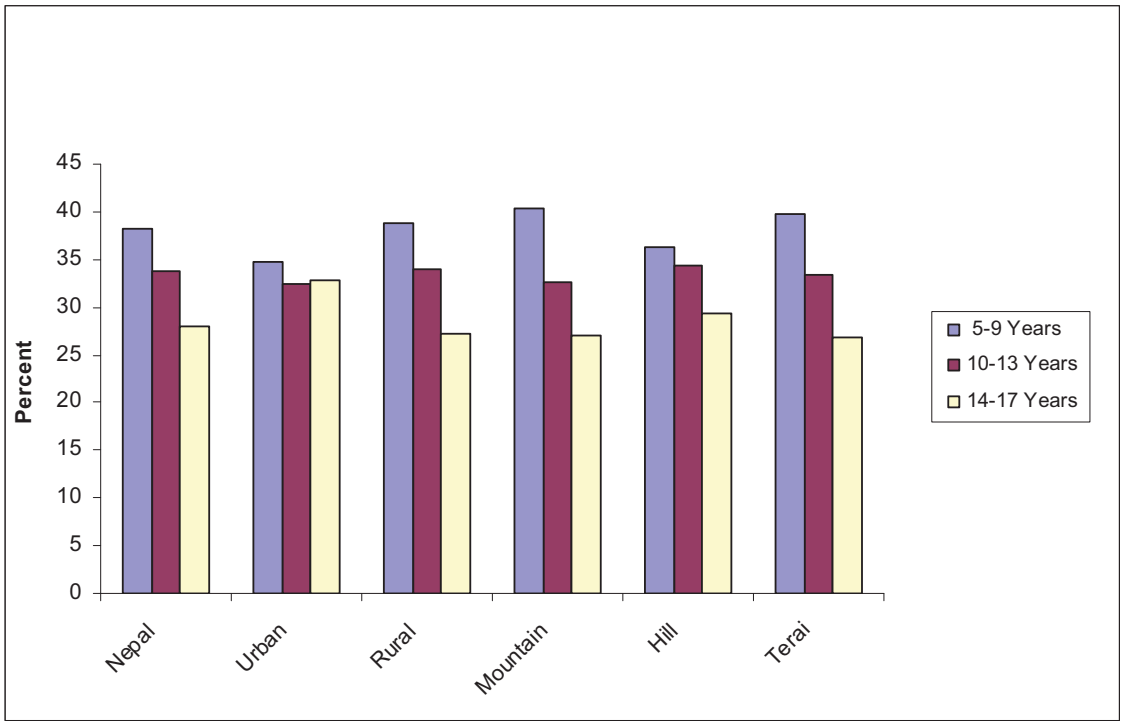


Figure 3.3.1 illustrating the distribution of children by age group and place of residence, shows clearly that the largest numbers of children are concentrated in the 5-9 year age group, irrespective of where they reside.

3.4 Households with children, by occupancy status

Nepal is one of the countries in the Asia region with the largest proportion of families with their own houses. Table 3.4.1 shows that more than 91 per cent of households with children occupy their own housing units, while fewer than 8 per cent of households rent their dwellings. The situation is different in the urban areas; for instance, in the Kathmandu Valley the proportion of households occupying rental houses is slightly higher (49.3 per cent) than that of households occupying their own housing units (49.0 per cent). Overall, some 31 per cent of urban households and around 3 per cent of rural households live in rented housing. In terms of ecological zones, a greater proportion of households occupy their own housing units in Terai (93.8 per cent) than in the Mountain region (91.9 per cent) and Hill region (88.8 per cent).

Table 3.4.1: Percentage distribution of households with children, by type of dwelling units

Locality (a)	Owned (b)	Rented (c)	Other (d)	Total (e)
Nepal	**91.5**	**7.3**	**1.3**	**100**
Urban	66.6	31.0	2.5	100
Kathmandu Valley	49.0	49.3	1.7	100
Rural	95.9	3.1	1.1	100
Ecological belt				
Mountains	91.9	6.5	1.6	100
Hills	88.8	10.1	1.2	100
Terai	93.8	4.9	1.4	100

Table 3.4.2 indicates that over 54 per cent of households with children have access to electricity for lighting, compared to 34.2 per cent which still depend on gas/oil/kerosene. However, the percentage of households with children that have access to electricity in the urban areas is about 92 per cent, compared to less than 48 per cent in rural areas. The table also shows that almost 100 per cent of households have access to electricity in the Kathmandu Valley, against a mere 18 per cent household in the rural areas of the Mid-Western and Far-Western Hills and Mountains. In the ecological belt, more households with children in Tarai have access to electricity than in the Hill and Mountain regions. Moreover, about 33 per cent of households with children in the Mountain region depend on wood for fuel, compared to less than 3 per cent in the Tarai region.

Table 3.4.2: Percentage distribution of households with children, by main source of lighting

Locality (a)	Electricity (b)	Gas/oil/ kerosene (c)	Other (d)	Total (e)
Nepal	**54.4**	**34.2**	**11.5**	**100**
Ecological belt				
Mountains	38.7	28.6	32.7	100
Hills	52.8	28.8	18.4	100
Terai	57.8	39.6	2.7	100
Development region				
Eastern	57.7	39.8	2.6	100
Central	59.9	36.0	4.2	100
Western	62.2	32.3	5.5	100
Mid-Western	32.4	18.7	48.8	100
Far-Western	42.6	40.2	17.2	100
Urban	**92.2**	**6.9**	**0.9**	**100**
Kathmandu Valley	99.5	0.5	0.0	100
Eastern/Central Hills/Mountains	90.2	8.9	0.9	100
Western Hills/Mountains	94.8	3.2	2.1	100
Eastern Terai	89.1	10.7	0.2	100
Central Terai	89.7	9.8	0.6	100
Western Terai	82.1	15.4	2.5	100
Rural	**47.7**	**39.0**	**13.4**	**100**
Eastern Hills/Mountains	37.1	55.5	7.4	100
Central Hills/Mountains	56.5	32.5	11.0	100
Western Hills/Mountains	57.6	32.4	10.0	100

Locality	Electricity	Gas/oil/ kerosene	Other	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Mid-Western and Far-Western Hills/Mountains	17.7	23.3	58.9	100
Eastern Terai	62.0	37.9	0.1	100
Central Terai	45.0	54.3	0.8	100
Western Terai	54.1	38.8	7.1	100

Table 3.4.3 shows that less than half (43.1 per cent) of households with children have accesses to safe drinking water. Some 41.2 per cent households with children have access to drinking water drawn from a hand pump or borehole while 9.8 per cent still depend on spout or spring water and 3.3 per cent depend on wells. The study shows that about 58.4 per cent of households with children in urban areas have access to safe drinking water, while only about 40.4 per cents have such access in rural areas. While some 32 per cent of households with children in urban areas depend on a hand pump or borehole for drinking water, the corresponding figure for rural areas is about 43 per cent. Almost 11 per cent of households with children in rural Nepal still depend on spout or spring water.

Table 3.4.3: Percentage distribution of households with children, by source of drinking water and by locality

Locality	Piped water	Hand pump/borehole	Well	Spout/ Spring water	Other	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	43.1	41.2	3.3	9.8	2.6	100
Rural	40.4	42.9	3.1	10.9	2.6	100
Urban	58.4	31.7	4.0	3.5	2.4	100
Kathmandu Valley (urban)	77.1	6.0	7.4	4.4	5.1	100
Ecological belt						
Mountain	77.0	0.2	0.0	19.3	3.6	100
Hills	70.5	3.2	3.1	18.2	5.0	100
Terai	14.6	80.1	3.9	1.2	0.3	100

3.5 Agricultural households

This section provides information on households with agricultural land in Nepal. Table 3.5.1 shows that an overwhelming number of households (81 per cent) own agricultural land, the average size of the holding being about 0.7 hectare (note that the per capita land holding does not vary significantly across the ecological belts from one part of the country to another. The table also shows that the agricultural sector, which is the largest employer of child labour, employs more than 87.7 per cent of child workers in the country. In order to address the problem of child labour in agricultural sector, therefore, it is important to carry out a thorough investigation in order to understand the causes of child labour in this sector and to find appropriate solutions.

Table 3.5.1: Distribution of households with children which have agriculture land, and average landholding

Locality	Total number of households (thousands)	Households with agricultural land (percentages)	Average land owned (hectares)	Average land operated (hectares)
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Nepal	3497	80.9	0.7	0.7
Ecological belt				
Mountain	233	91.3	0.6	0.6
Hills	1524	83.8	0.6	0.6
Terai	1741	76.9	0.7	0.8
Development region				
Eastern	813	76.4	0.8	0.9
Central	1179	72.8	0.6	0.6
Western	687	88.0	0.6	0.6
Mid-Western	485	90.9	0.6	0.7
Far-Western	334	91.1	0.6	0.6

3.6 Modern facilities available to households with children

The development of any society can be judged by the basic facilities available to households, and this section provides information about Nepalese households with children that have access to modern facilities such as a television, computer, mobile phone, radio and modern toilets. Table 3.6.1 shows that about 46 per cent of households with children in Nepal have access to a toilet, but that only around 23 per cent have access to modern toilet facilities. About 83 per cent of households in urban areas and less than 40 per cent households in rural areas have access to toilets. Of the urban centres, most households in Kathmandu Valley have access to toilets, but only 67.9 per cent of them have modern facilities. Modern toilet facilities are almost non-existent in most households in rural part of the Eastern, Mid-Western and Far-Western Hills (less than 10 per cent). Of the development regions, access to toilets in the Western region (56.2 per cent) is far more common than in other regions. The vast majority of households with children in the rural part of the Mid-Western and Far Western regions (around 73 per cent) do not have access to toilets.

Table 3.6.1: Distribution of households with children, by type of toilet used

Locality	Access to flush toilet	Access to modern toilet	No toilet facility	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Nepal	22.9	22.9	54.2	100
Ecological belt				
Mountains	6.9	41.4	51.7	100
Hills	29.0	31.8	39.3	100
Terai	24.9	13.8	61.4	100
Development region				
Eastern	19.4	30.5	50.1	100
Central	25.1	21.8	53.1	100
Western	32.3	23.9	43.9	100
Mid-Western	16.3	17.1	66.6	100

Locality	Access to flush toilet	Access to modern toilet	No toilet facility	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Far-Western	14.0	15.4	70.7	100
Urban	60.0	22.8	17.3	100
Kathmandu Valley	67.9	31.8	0.4	100
Eastern/Central Hills/Mountains	41.5	34.5	24.1	100
Western Hills/Mountains	72.3	15.8	12.0	100
Eastern Terai	53.7	23.0	23.3	100
Central Terai	63.9	12.1	24.1	100
Western Terai	49.1	12.1	38.9	100
Rural	16.4	23.0	60.6	100
Eastern Hills/Mountains	9.3	52.1	38.6	100
Central Hills/Mountains	15.7	35.0	49.2	100
Western Hills/Mountains	25.9	38.7	35.5	100
Mid-Western and Far-Western Hills/Mountains	9.9	16.9	73.2	100
Eastern Terai	16.9	19.0	64.1	100
Central Terai	14.0	8.4	77.5	100
Western Terai	20.5	11.3	68.1	100

Table 3.6.2 shows that close to 58 per cent of households with children have radios in their home, whereas only about 32 per cent have television sets. The global tendency to use mobile telephones is also apparent in Nepal, where they are owned by 26.6 per cent of households while only about 8.8 per cent have landline telephones. Nevertheless, the proportion of families with a computer at home is very small, as it is limited to a mere2.6 per cent of households, mostly in urban centres. In the ecological belt the Mountain region is the most backward, lacking as it does most of these facilities.

Table 3.6.2: Percentage of households with children, by facilities owned

Locality	Radio	Television	Telephone	Mobile phone	Computer
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Nepal	57.8	32.1	8.8	26.6	2.6
Urban	66.4	73.3	30.6	63.3	12.5
Rural	56.3	24.8	5.0	20.1	0.9
Ecological belt					
Mountains	54.8	11.9	3.3	10.6	0.4
Hills	66.0	32.4	11.8	28.3	4.3
Terai	51.0	34.6	7.0	27.3	1.5

CHAPTER 4: EDUCATIONAL CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILDREN

4.1 Introduction

Education is very important in shaping the lives of the children, and in Nepal it is compulsory for all children up to the lower secondary level. Nevertheless, a large number of children do not attend school, as many parents cannot afford the cost of education. Although primary education is free, poor people are still often unaware of the advantages and value of education, even if this is slowly changing. In some rural areas, children tend to be considered very much from the economic perspective, and many parents prefer to them to work as labourers rather than send them to school to study. In this way, children help to supplement the family income for its day-to-day survival. Even though some children may realise that education an advantage for their future, they do not have access to a school or cannot afford to pay for stationery and fees. They either stay behind at home to assist the parents in their household activities or work as child labourers to make their living.

4.2 Educational status of Children

This section provides some information on the educational background of children aged 5 to 17 years in Nepal. Table 4.2.1 below shows that, of the total child population, about 9 per cent have never attended school and about 59 per cent have not even completed their primary education. Although nearly 21 per cent children have completed primary level, only about 3.4 per cent children have attended secondary school or beyond. The majority of children who have never attended school are girls (Figure 4.2.1).

Fig. 4.2.1: Percentage distribution of children, by sex and level of education

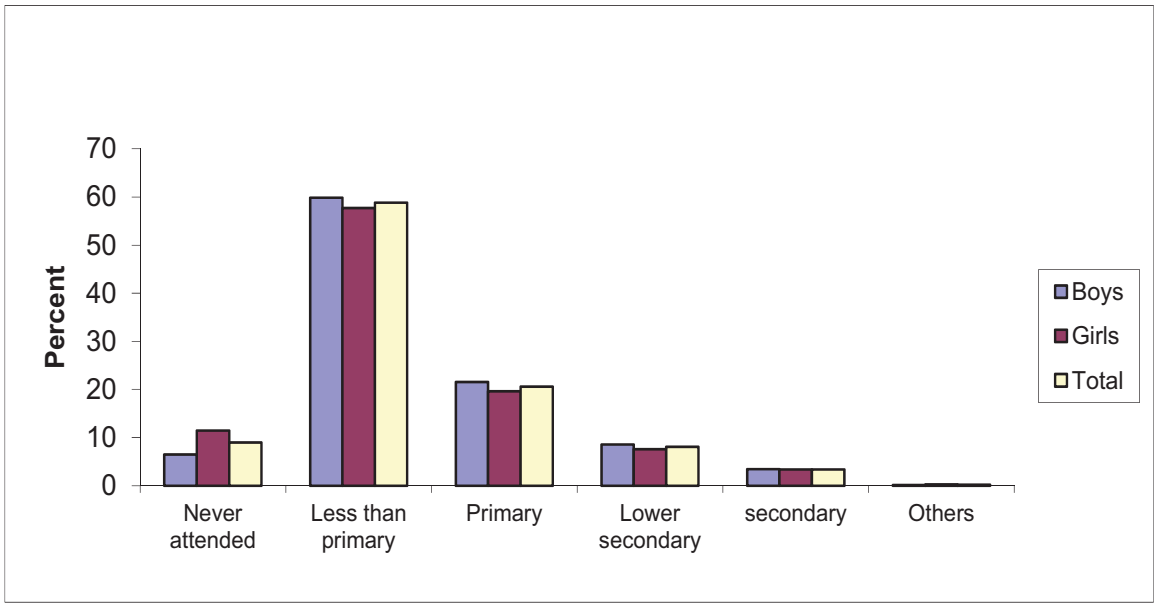


Table 4.2.1: Children aged 5-17 years, by sex, locality and level of completed education

(In thousands)

Educational level	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Nepal	3937	3834	7770	540	483	1022	3397	3351	6748
Never attended	256	440	696	17	21	38	238	420	658
Less than primary	2357	2212	4569	284	242	527	2072	1970	4042
Primary	849	752	1601	120	117	237	729	635	1364
Lower secondary	337	292	628	73	62	135	263	230	493
Secondary	135	128	262	42	37	79	93	90	183
Others	4	9	13	3	3	5	1	6	8

Table 4.2.2 shows that 82.4 per cent of children aged 5 to 17 years are literate and 84.8 per cent of the boys are literate compared to 80.0 per cent of the girls (80.0 per cent) in the same age group. This gender gap is seen in all parts of the country. The study finds that the Hills ecological belt has the highest literacy rate for children (89.2 per cent), while the Terai has the lowest (77.2 per cent). As one would expect, urban areas have a higher literacy rate (91 per cent) than the rural areas (81 per cent). Of the urban areas the Kathmandu Valley has the highest literacy rate and the gender gap is almost negligible. Table 4.2.2 also shows that 86.5 per cent of working children aged 5 to 17 years are literate, the proportion of working boys being much higher (91.2 per cent) than that of working girls (82.5 per cent). Even though the gender gap is a common feature of education, it is more marked in the rural part of the country, especially in the Mountain region.

Table 4.2.2: Literacy rate of children aged 5-17 ears, by sex and locality

Locality	All children			Working children		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	84.8	80.0	82.4	91.2	82.5	86.5
Urban	91.2	90.6	90.9	93.1	89.8	92.1
Kathmandu Valley (urban)	96.3	96.9	96.6	91.9	89.9	90.9
Rural	83.8	78.5	81.1	91.2	82.0	86.2
Ecological belt						
Mountains	82.5	73.9	78.4	90.3	79.4	85.0
Hills	90.1	88.4	89.2	94.6	90.4	92.4
Terai	80.6	73.8	77.2	87.5	74.3	80.2

Table 4.2.2 also shows that the literacy rate of all children aged 5 to 17 years (82.4 per cent) is lower than that of working children (86.5), which is higher in almost all parts in the country except for the Kathmandu Valley, where the literacy rate of all children is nearly 6 per cent higher than that of working children.

Table 4.2.3 shows that about 86 per cent of the total child population in Nepal aged 5-17 years attend school. Around 14 per cent do not get the chance to attend school. More than 91 per cent children in the 10-13 year age group attend school compared to about 89 per cent in the 5-9 year age group and about 75 per cent in the 14-17 year age group. Of children who attend school,

almost 89 per cent are boys and 83 per cent are girls, indicating that even today a higher proportion of girls receive no education. In the rural areas of Nepal the proportion of children attending school (85 per cent) is lower than in urban areas (92.4 per cent).

Table 4.2.3: Distribution of children in the 5-17 year age group attending school, by age group, sex and locality

Age group/Sex/Locality	Number of children (in thousands)				Percentage of children		
	Attending school	Not attending school	Total		Attending school	Not attending school	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Nepal	6676	1094	7770		85.9	14.1	100
Age group							
5-9 years	2647	332	2978		88.9	11.1	100
10-13 years	2400	222	2623		91.5	8.5	100
14-17 years	1629	540	2169		75.1	24.9	100
Sex							
Boys	3500	436	3937		88.9	11.1	100
Girls	3176	658	3834		82.9	17.2	100
Sector							
Rural	5732	1016	6748		85.0	15.1	100
Urban	944	78	1022		92.4	7.7	100
Kathmandu Valley	256	12	267		95.5	4.5	100

Table 4.2.4 shows that among children not attending school, the proportion of girls is about 60 per cent, indicating that there is still considerable discrimination between girls and boys in Nepalese society. The proportion of children not attending school is much higher (49.4 per cent) in the 14-17 year age group than in the 5-9 year age group (30.3 per cent) and 10-13 year age group (20.3 per cent).

Among the children who are not attending school, nearly 93 per cent reside in rural areas compared to 7.1 per cent in urban areas. Moreover, across the ecological belt the highest proportion of children not attending school live in the Tarai, which suggests that the Tarai people are much more conservative in terns of providing education for girls than the people of the Hill and Mountain regions. In the Central region, 43.2 per cent children do not attend school.

Table 4.2.4: Distribution of children by school attendance, age group, sex, sector and region

	Number of children (in thousands)			Percentage of children not attending school
	Attending school	Not attending school	Total	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Nepal	6676	1094	7770	
Age groups				
5-9 years	2647	332	2978	30.3
10-13 years	2400	222	2623	20.3
14-17 years	1629	540	2169	49.4
Sex				
Boys	3500	436	3937	39.9
Girls	3176	658	3834	60.1
Sector				
Rural	5732	1016	6748	92.9

	Number of children (in thousands)			Percentage of children not attending school
	Attending school	Not attending school	Total	
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Urban	944	78	1022	7.1
Kathmandu Valley (urban)	256	12	267	15.3
Ecological belt				
Mountains	475	66	542	6.1
Hills	2975	324	3300	29.7
Terai	3226	703	3929	64.3
Development region				
Eastern	1539	258	1797	23.5
Central	2085	472	2557	43.1
Western	1327	155	1482	14.2
Mid-Western	1014	132	1146	12.0
Far-Western	712	77	789	7.1

4.3 Vocational education of children

In addition to formal education vocational training, can play a useful role in developing the skills of the workforce. According to Table 4.3.1, about 63,000 children aged 14 to 17 years have received formal vocational training, of which about 37,000 (57.8 per cent) have received training in computer science. Among the latter, the proportion of girls is significantly lower (39 per cent) that that of boys (61 per cent). Conversely, the proportion of girls receiving vocational training in teaching, dressmaking and tailoring, services and trade-related work is higher than that of boys.

Table 4.3.1: Main subjects of vocational and professional training attended by children in the 14-17 year age group

Main subject of training	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Total	30413	33099	63512	12650	10887	23537	17763	22212	39975
Teacher training	248	2492	2740	248	38	286		2454	2454
Handicrafts, spinning, weaving	1754	617	2371	423	121	544	1331	496	1827
Computer science	22512	14181	36693	10429	6641	17070	12083	7540	19623
Health related programmes	883	261	1144	388	261	649	495		495
Dressmaking, tailoring	2140	9906	12046	328	1795	2123	1812	8111	9923
Service trades	1246	1336	2583	368	79	447	878	1257	2136
Other	1630	4305	5935	467	1951	2418	1163	2354	3517

Table 4.3.2 indicates that about 79 per cent of all working children in Nepal attend school and 21 per cent do not. The proportion of children attending school is highest (88.3 per cent) among children aged 10 to 13 years and lowest (68.6 per cent) in the 15-17 years age group. This means that a significant number of children abandon their education to look for jobs to support their family.

The proportion of children attending school is higher (85.6 per cent) in the Hill region of Nepal than in Tarai (70.6 per cent) and the Mountain region (83.2 per cent). It is nevertheless surprising that the proportion of children going to school is higher in rural areas (79.1 per cent)

than in urban area (77.6), and that it is lowest (61.5 per cent) in the Kathmandu Valley, which suggests that a large number of school-age children work to support their family or themselves and cannot afford to go to school.

Table 4.3.2: Distribution of school attendance among all working children (5-17 years), by age group, sex, sector and region

	Number of working children (in thousands)			Percentage of working children		
	Attending school	Not attending schools	Total	Attending school	Not attending school	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	2482	661	3143	79.0	21.0	100
Rural	2332	618	2949	79.1	20.9	100
Urban	150	43	193	77.6	22.4	100
Kathmandu Valley	12	8	20	61.5	38.5	100
Age groups						
5-9 years	339	56	395	85.8	14.2	100
10-13 years	1153	153	1306	88.3	11.7	100
14-17 years	990	452	1442	68.6	31.4	100
Sex						
Boys	1202	236	1438	83.6	16.4	100
Girls	1280	425	1704	75.1	24.9	100
Ecological belt						
Mountains	236	48	283	83.2	16.8	100
Hills	1294	217	1511	85.6	14.4	100
Terai	952	396	1348	70.6	29.4	100

Table 4.3.3, which illustrates the educational background of children aged 5 to 17 years, shows that 55.2 per cent of working children have completed primary level education, 25.6 per cent lower secondary level and 8.5 per cent secondary level. By contrast, the percentage of working children who have gone beyond secondary level is about 0.2 per cent. The distribution of children by gender shows that about 14.5 per cent of girls have no formal schooling. The number of girls who have completed lower secondary education is about 22.7 per cent and those who have completed secondary school is about 7.4 per cent. The table also shows that 5.9 per cent of working boys and 14.5 per cent of working girls do not have any schooling at all. Of working children, 55.3 per cent have completed primary level, 29 per cent lower secondary level and 9.7 per cent secondary level education.

The table also indicates that about 11 per cent of working children in rural areas have not attended school, 56 per cent have completed primary level, 25 per cent have completed lower secondary level and only 8 per cent have completed secondary level. In rural areas about 0.2 per cent of working children have had secondary level education compared to 1.4 per cent in the Kathmandu Valley. In of the ecological belt, working children in the Hill region have done much better in education than those in the Tarai and Mountain regions.

Table 4.3.3: Percentage distribution of currently working children (5-17 years) by level of education, sex, sector and region

Sex/Age/Sector/Locality	Currently working children	No schooling	Completed primary level	Completed lower secondary level	Completed secondary level	Other
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)		(e)	(f)
Nepal	100	10.6	55.2	25.6	8.5	0.2
Sex						
Boys	100	5.9	55.3	29.0	9.7	0.1
Girls	100	14.5	55.1	22.7	7.4	0.3
Age group						
5-9 years	100	12.2	87.8	0.0	0.0	0.0
10-13 years	100	8.4	74.4	16.9	0.4	0.0
14-17 years	100	12.1	28.9	40.5	18.1	0.6
Sector						
Rural	100	10.8	56.0	25.1	8.0	0.2
Urban	100	8.1	43.2	33.3	14.7	0.7
Kathmandu Valley	100	8.3	29.9	35.5	25.0	1.4
Ecological belt						
Mountain	100	8.5	63.1	23.3	5.1	0.0
Hills	100	5.2	58.7	26.7	9.1	0.3
Terai	100	17.0	49.5	24.8	8.4	0.2

CHAPTER 5: ECONOMIC ACTIVITY OF CHILDREN

5.1 Introduction

Economic activity is vital for a country's economic development: the more extensive the economic activities, the greater the potential for generating employment for the economically active population, including child workers. In Nepal only about 3.1 million of the 7.7 million children aged 5-17 years were currently employed in 2008. Nearly 60 per cent of the total working child population were economically inactive. Table 5.1.1 below shows that of the 3.1 million children who were employed, about 46 per cent were boys and 54 per cent girls. In urban areas the number of boys and girls currently employed was equally divided, but in rural areas the number of employed girls was significantly higher (54 per cent) than that of boys (46 per cent).

Table 5.1.1: Number of currently employed children in rural/urban areas, by sex

	Number of currently employed children (thousands)		
	Total	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Nepal	3143	1438	1704
Urban	193	97	96
Rural	2949	1341	1608
Age group			
5-9 years	395	167	228
10-13 years	1702	792	910
14-17 years	1045	479	567

This chapter discusses in some detail the economic activities of working children. For the purpose of this report the economic activities have been defined in terms of two reference periods: activities carried out over a short period, and activities carried out over a longer period. The former, based on the "past week" estimates the number of children who are currently economically active or inactive.

5.2 Current economically active status of children

This section provides information on the current economic status of children in Nepal. Table 5.2.1 shows that more girls are economically active and employed than boys. The proportion of economically active girls is about 20.8 per cent in urban areas and 48.4 per cent in rural areas, as against 18.8 per cent in urban and 39.9 per cent in rural areas for boys. Of the currently active children, about 1 per cent only is currently seeking work.

Table 5.2.1: Current economically active status of children aged 5-17 years by sex in rural/urban areas

	(thousands)								
	Nepal			Urban			Rural		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)		(e)	(f)	(g)	(i)	(j)
Aged 5-17	7770	3937	3834	1022	540	483	6748	3397	3351
Currently active	3179	1458	1721	202	101	100	2977	1357	1620
Employed	3143	1438	1704	193	97	96	2949	1341	1608
Seeking Work	36	20	16	9	5	4	28	16	12
Not currently active	4563	2466	2097	818	437	381	3745	2028	1716
Status unknown	29	13	15	2	1	1	26	12	14
Percentage currently active									
Aged 5-17 years	40.9	37.0	44.9	19.7	18.8	20.8	44.1	39.9	48.4

Table 5.2.2 shows that the current child labour force participation rate in Nepal is about 41 per cent – nearly 45 per cent for girls aged 5 -17 years and 37 per cent for boys. The child labour force participation rate for girls is higher than that of boys in all age groups, not only at the national level but also in the urban and rural areas of the country. Table 5.2.2 shows that the labour force participation rate for children aged 5 to 9 years is very low and for children aged 14-17 is very high (69.3 per cent) and that, as expected, the child labour force participation increases as the age group rises.

Table 5.2.2: Percentage distribution of labour force participation rate of children (5-17 years), by sex and age in rural/urban areas

Age group	Nepal			Urban			Rural		
	Both	Boys	Girls	Both	Boys	Girls	Both	Boys	Girls
(a)		(b)			(c)			(d)	
All	40.9	37.0	44.9	19.7	18.8	20.8	44.1	39.9	48.4
5-9 years	13.4	11.2	15.6	4.2	3.7	4.7	14.6	12.2	17.0
10-13 years	52.7	47.2	58.7	22.9	21.4	24.6	57.1	51.0	63.8
14-17 years	69.3	66.9	71.5	36.6	36.8	36.5	75.5	73.3	77.5

Table 5.2.3 illustrates the distribution of currently inactive children by sex and reasons for inactivity. It can be seen that, of the total number of inactive children, nearly the same proportion of boys (90.8 per cent) as of girls (88.1 per cent) are inactive because they are attending school. About 7.2 per cent of the children were found to be economically inactive for reasons which could not be ascertained. The proportion of children who are inactive because of their household duties is about 2.2 per cent, the proportion of girls being much higher (3.4 per cent) than that of boys (1.2 per cent). Of the disabled children who are inactive, 0.6 per cent (mostly boys) lives in rural areas.

Table 5.2.3: Percentage distribution of children not currently active, by sex and reason for inactivity

Main reason for inactivity	Nepal			Urban			Rural		
	Both	Boys	Girls	Both	Boys	Girls	Both	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Attending school	89.6	90.8	88.1	95.1	95.6	94.6	88.4	89.8	86.7
Household duties	2.2	1.2	3.4	1.7	1.1	2.5	2.3	1.3	3.6
Sick	0.5	0.5	0.4	0.2	0.3	0.2	0.5	0.6	0.5
Disabled	0.6	0.6	0.5	0.3	0.4	0.3	0.6	0.7	0.6
Others	7.2	6.8	7.6	2.6	2.7	2.5	8.2	7.7	8.7

5.3 Employment status of working children

This section discusses the status of working children in Nepal. The current employment status of children aged 5 to 17 years is determined by measuring the time they have spent in the reference week in various activities defined as "work" or "economic activities". Table 5.3.1 provides estimates of children aged 5 to 17 years who were involved in various economic activities in the last seven days. The table shows that about 2.9 million children in Nepal are involved in agricultural activities, followed by other activities such as fetching water (about 0.8 million) and collecting firewood (0.6 million). Other, unspecified activities also involve significant numbers of working children.

Table 5.3.1: Distribution of children aged 5-17 years, by economic activity during the reference week

Economic activity	Number of children aged 5-17 years (thousands)
(a)	(b)
Agriculture	2932
Handicrafts	35
Construction	15
Fetching water	787
Collecting firewood	600
Other "work" activity	288
Note: Some children are involved in more than one economic activity.	

Table 5.3.2a shows that about 39.6 per cent of child workers work up to 14 hours a week, while 35.9 per cent work from 15 to 28 hours and 14.8 per cent from 29 to 42 hours a week. About 9.7 per cent of them spend more than 42 hours a week in economic activities. Interestingly, a higher proportion of working girls spend more than 29-42 hours a week working than do boys, whereas the proportion of boys working 15- 28 hours a week is slightly higher than that of girls. The table shows that the higher the age group, the higher the average working hours. An average child worker in Nepal works about 21.8 hours a week. Girls spend more time (22.1 hours) engaged in economic activities than boys (21.5 hours), and children in urban areas work slightly more hours than children in rural areas.

Table 5.3.2a: Percentage distribution of hours worked by children per week, by age group, sex and locality

Sex/Age group/Sector	0-14 hours	15-28 hours	29-42 hours	42+hours	Total	Average hours
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	39.6	35.9	14.8	9.7	100	21.8
Sex						
Boys	40.8	37.0	13.2	9.0	100	21.5
Girls	38.7	35.0	16.1	10.3	100	22.1
Age group						
5-9 years	69.4	24.7	4.8	1.1	100	13.1
10-13 years	46.6	39.6	10.8	3.1	100	17.9
14-17 years	25.2	35.6	21.1	18.0	100	27.8
Sector						
Urban	45.7	29.8	12.0	12.5	100	22.0
Rural	39.2	36.3	15.0	9.5	100	21.8

Table 5.3.2b: Distribution of hours worked by children per week, by age group, sex and locality

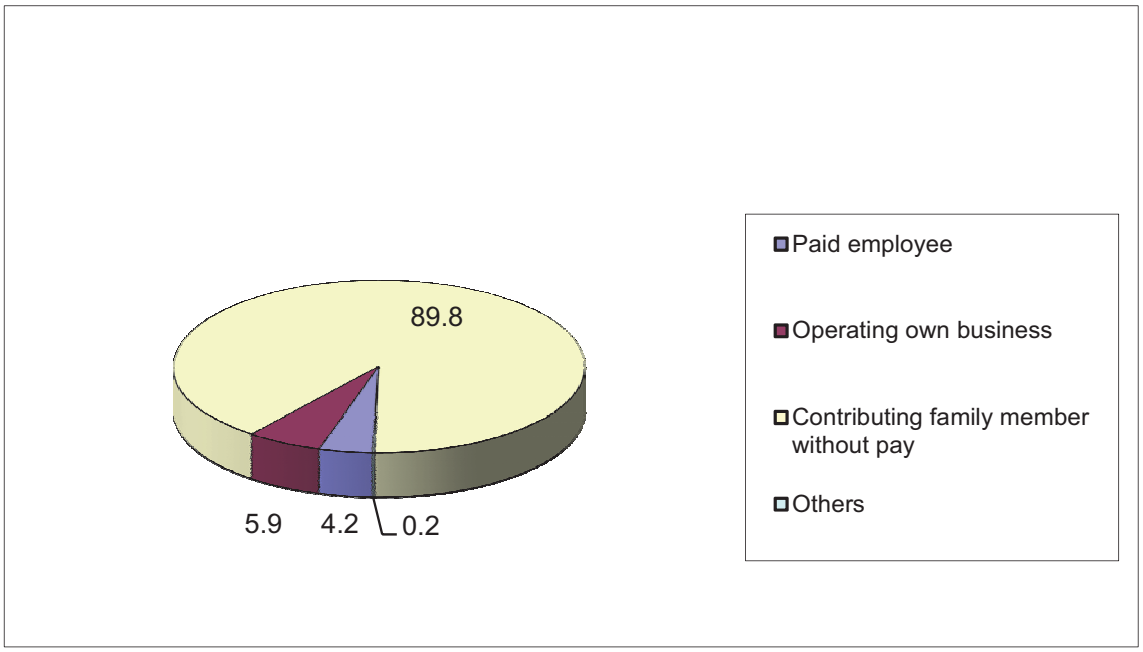
Sex/Age group/Sector	0-14 hours	15-28 hours	29-42 hours	42+hours	Total	Average hours
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	1245	1128	464	305	3143	21.8
Sex						
Boys	586	532	190	129	1438	21.5
Girls	659	596	274	175	1704	22.1
Age group						
5-9 years	274	98	19	4	395	13.1
10-13 years	608	517	141	40	1306	17.9
14-17 years	363	514	305	260	1442	27.8
Sector						
Urban	88	58	23	24	193	22.0
Rural	1157	1071	441	281	2949	21.8

Table 5.3.3 and Figure 5.3.1 show that an overwhelming percentage of child labours, almost 90 per cent, are contributing family members who are not paid. The majority of these children are girls. The proportion of children who work as paid employees is only about 4.2 per cent, whereas the proportion of those who are self-employed is about 5.9 per cent. It can also be observed from the table that the higher the age groups the lower the proportion of children contributing to the family workload without being paid. Most of the children who are paid employees live in the urban areas.

Table 5.3.3: Percentage distribution of the employment status of working children, by sex, age group and locality

Sex/Age group/Sector	Currently working children	Paid employee	Operating own business	Contributing family member without pay	Others
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Nepal	100	4.2	5.9	89.8	0.2
Urban	100	13.3	8.0	78.2	0.4
Rural	100	3.6	5.7	90.5	0.2
Age group					
5-9 years	100	0.4	4.2	95.2	0.2
10-13 years	100	1.6	5.5	92.7	0.2
14-17 years	100	7.5	6.7	85.6	0.2
Sex					
Boys	100	5.4	5.4	88.9	0.3

Fig. 5.3.1 Percentage Distribution of Working Children by Employment Status



5.4 Working children by sectors of economic activity

Child workers were defined as currently employed children aged 5-17 years, who were actually working during the reference week or had some attachment to a job. Table 5.4.1, which illustrates the distribution of currently employed children engaged in economic activities by type of industry, indicates that about 87.7 per cent children are engaged in agriculture and fishing activities. The other major sectors which provide employment for child workers are the electricity, gas and water sector (3.9 per cent), followed by the wholesale and retail trade sector (3.0 per cent).

Table 5.4.1: Percentage distribution of currently employed children, by sex and industry

	Working children		
	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)
Industry			
Agriculture and fishing	86.1	89.1	87.7
Manufacturing and recycling	2.7	2.3	2.5
Electricity, gas and water supply	3.9	5.8	4.9
Construction	1.3	0.1	0.7
Wholesale and retail trade	3.0	1.2	2.0
Hotels and restaurants	1.3	0.9	1.1
Transport, storage and communications	1.0	0.0	0.5
Private households with employed person	0.2	0.3	0.2
Others	0.5	0.3	0.4
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0

Table 5.4.2 shows the distribution of working children engaged in an economic activity that has been classified among the major industrial groups. It reveals that more than 87.7per cent of working children are engaged in agricultural activities, 9.8 per cent work as service workers and 2.5 per cent work in the manufacturing industrial sector. In terms of gender distribution, 89.1 per cent of the working girls are engaged in agricultural activities, 8.6 per cent in service-related activities and 2.3 per cent in manufacturing. Likewise 86.1 per cent of boys work in the agriculture sector, 11.2 per cent as service workers and 2.7 per cent in the industrial sector.

Table 5.4.2 also shows that significant numbers of working children in the Tarai belt of the country are engaged in industry and service related activities besides agriculture. In terms of age groups, about 4.2 per cent of working children in the age group 14-17 years are engaged in industrial activities.

Table 5.4.2: Percentage distribution of working children, by major industrial group, sex, region, sector and age group

	Currently working children	Agriculture	Industry	Service
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Nepal	100	87.7	2.5	9.8
Urban	100	60.7	7.5	31.8
Rural	100	89.5	2.2	8.4
Sex				
Boys	100	86.1	2.7	11.2
Girls	100	89.1	2.3	8.6
Age group				
5-9 years	100	86.1	0.3	13.6
10-13 years	100	89.7	1.3	8.9
14-17 years	100	86.3	4.2	9.5
Ecological belt				
Mountains	100	91.9	0.5	7.6
Hills	100	89.0	1.3	9.7
Terai	100	85.4	4.3	10.3

Table 5.4.3, which shows the distribution of working children by their occupational group, indicates that nearly 81 per cent of working children are employed as agricultural and fishery workers, while less than 3 per cent are employed as the service workers. Among other occupational groups, more than 12.5 per cent of working children are engaged in ”elementary occupations” and about 3.1 per cent as craft and related trades workers. Of the agricultural and fishery workers, the largest proportion has completed higher secondary school, while the proportions completing the primary and secondary levels are about the same. Interestingly, the highest proportion of children in the craft and related trades have not attended school, while the largest proportion of child service workers have completed secondary school.

Table 5.4.3: Percentage distribution of working children, by major occupational group, sex, sector, region and age group

	Currently working children	Service workers	Agriculture and fishery workers	Crafts and related trades workers	Plant and machine operators	Elementary occupation	Others
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Nepal	100	2.9	81.0	3.1	0.3	12.5	0.2
Educational level							
No schooling	100	1.8	73.6	5.9	0.2	18.4	0.0
Primary	100	2.2	81.3	2.5	0.3	13.7	0.0
Secondary	100	4.6	82.8	3.1	0.4	8.8	0.4
Higher secondary	100	2.6	86.2	2.1	0.0	6.5	2.5
Sex							
Boys	100	3.9	80.9	3.6	0.6	10.7	0.3
Girls	100	2.1	81.0	2.6	0.1	14.0	0.1
Age group							
5-9 years	100	1.5	79.6	1.0	0.0	17.9	0.0
10-13 years	100	2.4	83.2	1.7	0.1	12.5	0.1
14-17 years	100	3.8	79.3	4.9	0.6	11.0	0.3
Sector							
Urban	100	14.3	53.8	9.3	0.4	20.8	1.5
Rural	100	2.2	82.8	2.7	0.3	12.0	0.1
Ecological belt							
Mountains	100	0.9	89.2	1.5	0.0	8.3	0.0
Hills	100	1.7	83.5	1.6	0.1	13.0	0.1
Terai	100	4.7	76.4	5.1	0.7	12.8	0.3

Table 5.4.4 shows that about 81 per cent of working children in Nepal are employed as agricultural and fishery workers – 82.1 per cent where the household is headed by a male and 76.9 per cent if it is headed by a female. About 16.7 per cent of working children are employed in an elementary occupation and 3.5 per cent as service workers if it is a female-headed household, and 11.4 per cent and 2.8 per cent respectively if it is a male-headed household. Nearly 82 per cent of working children residing in households headed by a married person are engaged as agricultural and fishery workers, and more than 16 per cent of working children from once married heads of household (widow, widower, divorce or separated) are engaged in an elementary occupation. Similarly, 3 per cent of working children from households whose head is currently employed are employed as service workers, 81.3 as agricultural and fishery workers and 12.3 per cent in an elementary occupation, while a large proportion of children from households whose head is currently unemployed are engaged in craft and related trades (20.5 per cent) and elementary

occupations (32.3 per cent). Where the head of household is currently inactive, the highest proportion of working children is involved in agriculture and fisheries (74.3 per cent), crafts and related trades (5.3 per cent) and elementary occupations (16.3 per cent).

Table 5.4.4: Percentage distribution of working children, by major occupational group, sex, marital status and employment status of household head

(a)	Currently working children (b)	Service workers (c)	Agriculture and fishery workers (d)	Craft and related trades workers (e)	Plant and machine operators (f)	Elementary occupation (g)	Others (h)
Nepal	100	2.9	81.0	3.1	0.3	12.5	0.2
Gender of household head							
Male	100	2.8	82.1	3.2	0.4	11.4	0.1
Female	100	3.5	76.9	2.6	0.0	16.7	0.3
Marital status of household head							
Unmarried	100	8.9	68.4	9.5	0.0	12.1	1.1
Married	100	2.8	81.6	2.9	0.4	12.2	0.2
Once married(*)	100	3.2	76.4	3.8	0.0	16.3	0.2
Employment status of household head							
Currently employed	100	3.0	81.3	3.0	0.3	12.3	0.1
Currently unemployed	100	0.0	40.8	20.5	0.9	32.3	5.4
Currently inactive	100	2.3	74.3	5.3	1.4	16.4	0.4

(*)Includes widow/widower/divorced/separated.

Table 5.4.5 shows that more than 34 per cent of working children from male-headed households have completed secondary level education, compared to 33.5 per cent of working children from female-headed households. About 7.7 per cent of working children in female-headed households have no schooling at all, compared to 11.3 per cent in male-headed households. Looking at the employment status of the head of household, 41.6 per cent of working children from a household headed by a currently unemployed person attended secondary education and 64.6 per cent completed primary education. A large proportion (16.1 per cent) of working children whose household was headed by a currently unemployed person had no formal schooling, while an even larger proportion (38.2 per cent) of working children from households whose head was unmarried completed their secondary education and 0.7 per cent reached higher education.

Table 5.4.5: Percentage distribution of all working children (5-17 years), by level of education and by gender/employment/marital status of the household head

(a)	No schooling (b)	Primary (c)	Secondary (d)	Higher secondary (e)	Total (f)
Gender of household head					
Total	10.6	55.2	34.0	0.2	100
Male	11.3	54.2	34.2	0.2	100
Female	7.7	58.7	33.5	0.1	100
Employment status of household head					
Currently employed	10.5	55.4	33.9	0.2	100
Currently unemployed	16.1	64.6	19.3	0.0	100
Currently inactive	11.6	46.0	41.6	0.8	100

(a)	No schooling (b)	Primary (c)	Secondary (d)	Higher secondary (e)	Total (f)
Marital status of household head					
Unmarried	10.0	51.1	38.2	0.7	100
Married	10.4	55.1	34.3	0.2	100
Once married	12.7	56.6	30.3	0.4	100

5.5 Income and earning status of child workers who are paid employees

The median salary paid to children is generally very low in Nepal. Earnings differ significantly across and within sectors of work but they do largely follow a gender and age pattern which is biased towards older boy children. Table 5.5.1 shows that the median monthly income of child paid employees in Nepal is about Rs 2,167 and that the monthly income of more than 44 per cent lies between Rs 2,001and Rs 5,000, while at the two extremes the monthly income of about 8 per cent is over Rs 5,000 and that of the 7 per cent is equal or less than Rs500.

By age group, the majority of working children aged 14-17 years (50.0per cent) who are paid employees have monthly earnings in the range of Rs 2,001- Rs 5,000. The average monthly income of paid boy employees is much higher than that of girl employees, just as the average monthly income of urban child employees is significantly higher that that of their rural counterpart.

Table 5.5.1: Percentage distribution of working children who are paid employees and their median monthly income, by sex, age group and locality

Domain/ Characteristics (a)	< 500 rupees (b)	501-1000 rupees (c)	1001-2000 rupees (d)	2001-5000 rupees (e)	> 5001 rupees (f)	Total (g)	Median monthly income (h)
Nepal	7.0	12.3	28.4	44.4	7.9	100.0	**2167**
Sex							
Boys	7.0	10.2	23.9	49.1	9.7	100.0	2500
Girls	6.8	15.4	35.0	37.6	5.2	100.0	1733
Age group							
5-9 years	0.0	35.2	31.8	33.0	0.0	100	1733
10-13 years	15.8	19.3	41.4	16.8	6.7	100	1300
14-17 years	5.3	10.6	25.8	50.0	8.2	100	2427
Sector							
Urban	3.2	7.9	28.3	47.9	12.7	100.0	2600
Rural	7.9	13.4	28.5	43.6	6.7	100.0	2080

Table 5.5.2 provides estimates of average monthly earnings of child workers for different occupational groups. It shows that children working as plant and with machine operators receive the highest earnings, followed by those working in craft-related occupations. Child workers in agriculture and related occupations receive among the lowest earnings. The average monthly earnings of boys are much higher than that of girls in most occupations, except in crafts and related occupations where girls tend to be paid much more. In most occupations, such as agriculture, plant and machine operator and in elementary occupations, girls remained at disadvantage. The discrepancy in monthly earnings between the sexes derives partly from differences in hours of work.

Table 5.5.2: Average monthly earnings, by occupation of children (paid employees)

Occupation	Average monthly earnings (cash and in-kind) by all paid employees			Average monthly cash earnings of those receiving cash			Average monthly in-kind earnings of those receiving payments in kind		
	All	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Total	2543	2808	2159	2230	2449	1911	429	479	357
Service workers, shop and market sales workers	2828	2869	2196	2062	2127	1053	766	742	1143
Market-oriented skilled and semi-skilled	896	896		1300	1300		29	29	
Agricultural and fishery workers	2407	2598	2196	2934	4257	2196	229	438	0
Craft and related trades workers	3214	3128	3732	3182	3093	3704	111	125	28
Plant and machine operators and assemblers	3517	3901	1517	1954	2038	1517	1563	1863	0
Elementary occupation	2214	2431	2051	1894	2070	1759	430	453	413

Table 5.5.3 shows the percentage distribution of children by mode of payments. Almost 50 per cent of working children are employed on a daily wage basis, while over 27 per cent are paid on a monthly basis, followed by children who receive payment on a piece-rate basis, almost 65 per cent of child workers aged 5-9 years are paid a daily wage. In urban areas 55.8 per cent of child workers are paid on a monthly basis, much the same as the percentage of children in rural areas who are paid on a daily basis.

Table 5.5.3: Percentage distribution of children (paid employees), by mode of payments, sector, sex and age group.

	Daily Wages	Weekly	Monthly	Other time period	Piece rate	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	49.3	5.8	27.1	0.9	16.9	100
Sex						
Boys	41.1	5.9	36.1	0.8	16.1	100
Girls	61.1	5.8	14.1	1.1	18.0	100
Age group						
5-9 years	64.8	0.0	0.0	0.0	35.1	100
10-13 years	45.6	2.6	31.0	0.9	19.9	100
14-17 years	49.8	6.6	26.8	0.9	16.0	100
Sector						
Urban	23.5	3.6	55.8	0.8	16.3	100
Rural	55.6	6.4	20.1	0.9	17.0	100

CHAPTER 6: CHILD LABOUR AND HAZARDOUS WORK BY CHILDREN

6.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses the situation in Nepal in terms of child labour and hazardous work by children. The term "child labour" refers to the engagement of children in prohibited work and, more generally, in accordance with national legislation, the ILO's Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), as well as their respective supplementing Recommendations (Nos 146 and 190), in types of work to be eliminated as socially and morally undesirable.

For the purposes of this report, child labour is identified as the engagement of children in productive activities that come within SNA production boundary. As such, it includes all persons aged 5 to 17 years who, during a specified time period, are engaged in one or more of the following categories of activities:

a) children aged 5-9 years who are employed for one or more hours in the reference week;

b) children aged 10-13 years who are employed for 15 or more hours in the reference week; and

c) children aged 14-17 years who work in designated hazardous industries and occupations, or are engaged for 43 or more hours of work in the reference week in industries and occupations not designated as hazardous.

Hazardous work, which is a sub-set of child labour, is defined as work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children. Essentially this means (a) work in designated hazardous industries or occupations in which the employment of children under the age of 18 years is prohibited, or (b) work for weekly hours that exceed a certain specified threshold which, and for the purposes of this report, is set at 43 or more hours of work per week.

A significant number of working children in Nepal are engaged in a variety of hazardous conditions. Often this aspect is ignored, because it is hard to get proper and clear picture of the situation and because, being against law, most child labour is clandestine. In Nepal the child labour situation is not adequately monitored by the labour and human rights authorities; as a result, it is not only extremely common but there are many areas where children work in hazardous conditions. Lack of hygiene at the workplace, air contaminants, chemicals, noise, poor illumination, excessive workload and inappropriate tools and equipment are typical of the hazards encountered by child workers.

6.2 Children in designated hazardous industries and occupations

Table 6.2.1 shows the distribution of child labour and hazardous form of child labour by age group, sex and location. It is estimated that in Nepal 1.60 million children in the 5-17 year age group fall into the category of child labour, which constitutes about 50.9 per cent of all working

children and 20.6 per cent of the total child population. Of these, 0.91million are girls and 0.69 million are boys. The overwhelming proportion of child workers (over 1.5 million) reside in rural areas; by age group the distribution is 24.7 per cent (395,000) in the 5-9 year age group, 51.3 per cent (821,000) in the 10-13 year age group and 24.0 per cent (383,000) in the 14-17 year age group.

Table 6.2.1 also shows that about 19.7 per cent of working children in Nepal fall into the category of hazardous child labour. Of the total population of girls in the country, 44.5 per cent are working girls, of whom about 21.9 per cent are engaged in forms of child labour classified as hazardous; likewise, about 36.5 per cent of boys work and 17.3 per cent of them are engaged in hazardous activities. The table shows that 13.3 per cent of the child population aged 5-9 years are working, 17.9 per cent work under hazardous conditions. Similarly, about 12.8 per cent of children working in the 10-13 year age group and 26.6 per cent of the 14-17 year age group are perceived a working in hazardous conditions. Working children from the Kathmandu Valley are relatively more exposed to hazardous conditions than in other parts of the country, and there is a tendency for some of the more hazardous industries, such as carpet-making, to employ such young child workers.

Table 6.2.1: Successive percent distribution of total children, working children, child labour and children engaged in hazardous labour, in different age group, sex and location

	Child population (thousands)	Number of working children (thousands)	Percentage of working children	Number of child labour (thousands)	Percentage child labour	Number of children engaged in hazardous child labour (HLC) (thousands)	Percentage of working children engaged in HCL
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Nepal	7770	3143	40.4	1599	50.9	621	19.7
Urban	1022	193	18.9	93	48.4	60	31.2
Kathmandu Valley	267	20	7.4	14	70.6	13	67.4
Rural	6748	2949	43.7	1506	51.1	560	19.0
Sex							
Boys	3937	1438	36.5	688	47.8	248	17.3
Girls	3834	1704	44.5	911	53.5	373	21.9
Age group							
5-9 years	2978	395	13.3	395	100.0	71	17.9
10-13 years	2623	1306	49.8	821	62.9	167	12.8
14-17 years	2169	1442	66.5	383	26.6	383	26.6

Figures 6.2.1 and 6.2.2 show that the share of children in the 5-9 year age group in total hazardous child labour in Nepal is 11.4 per cent, that of the 10-13 year age group 26.9 per cent and that of the 14-17 year age group 61.7 per cent, while in the case of child labour as a whole the distribution by age-group is significantly different – 51.4 per cent (5-9 years), 24.7 per cent (10-13 years) and 23.9 per cent (14-17 years).

Figure 6.2.1: Percentage distribution of hazardous child labour by age group

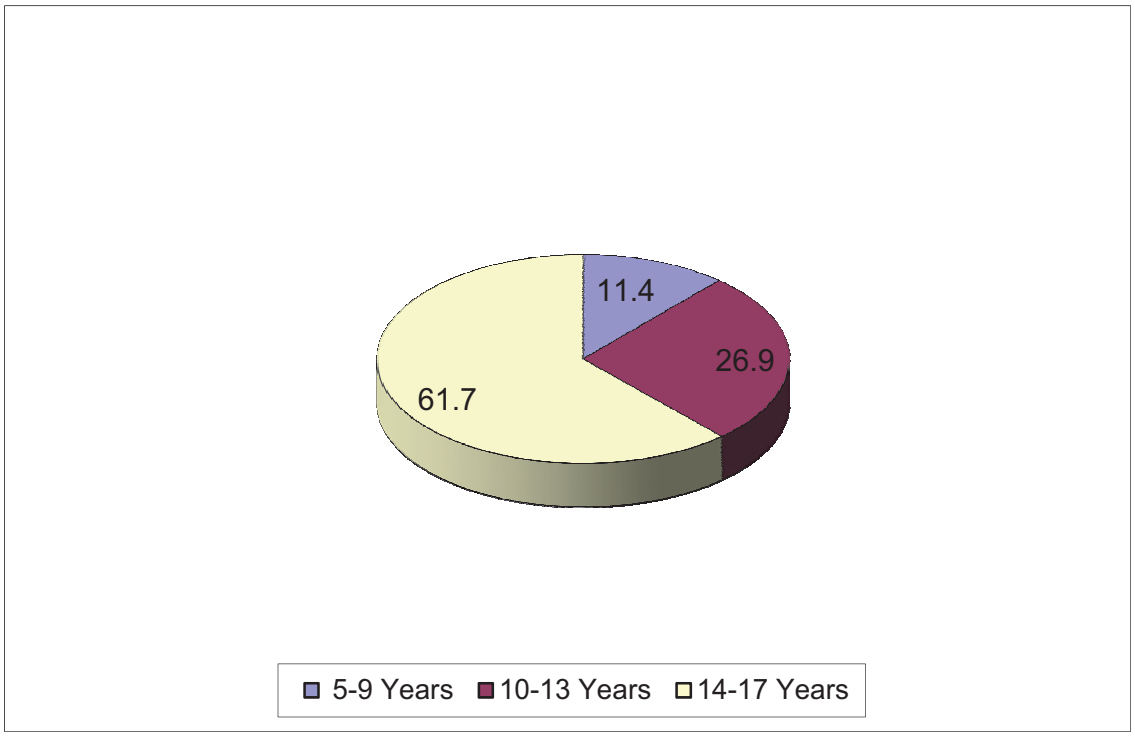


Figure 6.2.2: Percentage distribution of child labour by age group

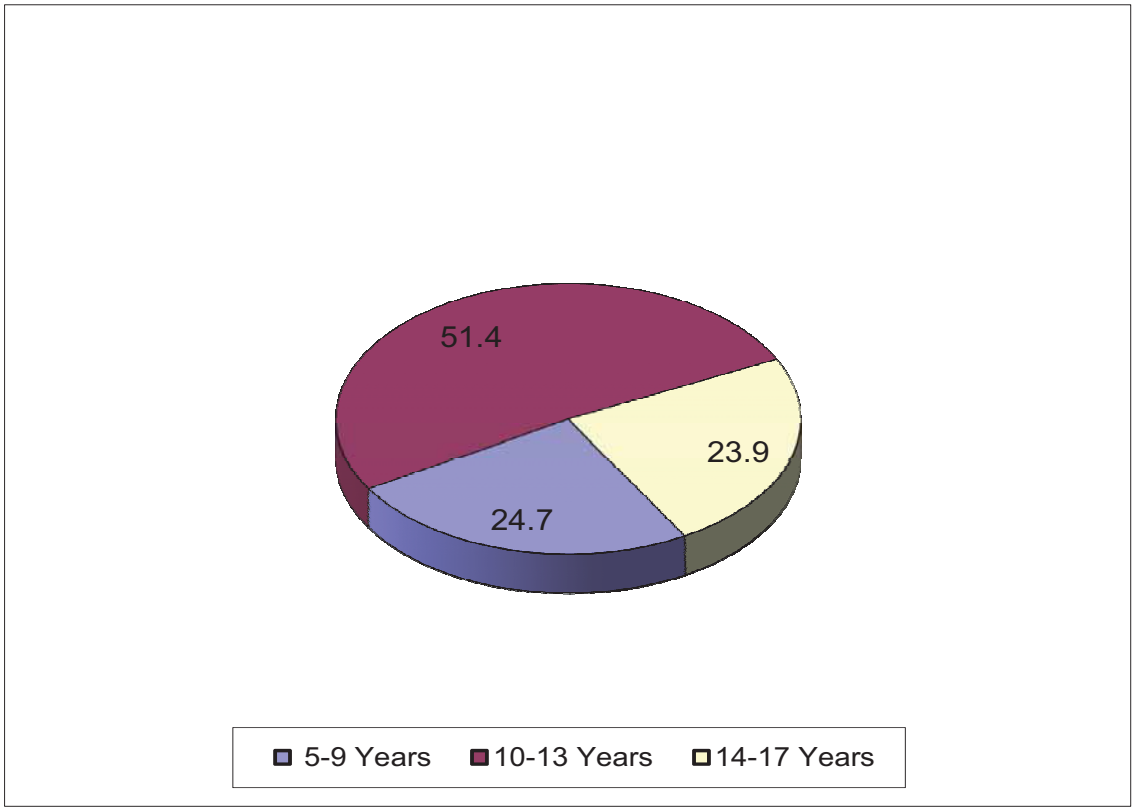


Table 6.2.2 reflects the distribution of working children, child labour and hazardous forms of child labour by ethnic group and locality. By ethnic groups, the Janajati ethnic group has the highest proportion of working children (47.7 per cent), followed closely by the Dalit group (46.8 per cent) and the Brahmin/Chhetri group (39.6 per cent) and then by the Terai caste and Muslim group (both about 29 per cent).The highest percentage of child labour is found among Dalit (60.4 per cent) and Muslim (58.4 per cent). As regards hazardous child labour the Muslim group has the highest proportion (30 per cent), followed by the Dalit group (27.6 per cent). Given the preponderance of working children in rural areas (2.95 million out of the total of 3.14 million), the distribution in rural areas mirrors the national situation.

Table 6.2.2: Distribution of working children, child labour and children engaged in hazardous work, by ethnic group and locality

Ethnic group/ Locality	Total number of children (thousands)	Number of working children (thousands)	Percentage of working children	Number of child labour (thousands)	Percentage of child labour	Number of child workers engaged in hazardous work (thousands)	Percentage of child workers engaged in hazardous work
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Nepal	7770	3143	40.4	1599	50.9	621	19.7
Brahmin/Chhetri	2278	903	39.6	421	46.7	153	16.9
Tarai caste	1120	325	29.0	166	51.2	50	15.5
Dalit	990	463	46.8	280	60.4	128	27.6
Newar	356	97	27.1	39	40.3	16	17.0
Janajati	2557	1220	47.7	615	50.4	234	19.2
Muslim	401	117	29.1	68	58.4	35	30.0
Other	68	18	26.7	10	54.7	4	21.2
Urban	1022	193	18.9	93	48.4	60	31.2
Brahmin/Chhetri	377	66	17.6	27	40.7	17	24.9
Tarai caste	123	24	19.2	14	57.8	8	33.0
Dalit	88	27	30.6	14	50.8	9	32.0
Newar	121	9	7.6	4	46.1	3	37.4
Janajati	249	56	22.6	28	49.7	19	34.7
Muslim	50	9	18.2	6	61.3	4	40.5
Other	14	2	12.9	1	74.1	1	44.1
Rural	6748	2949	43.7	1506	51.1	560	19.0
Brahmin/Chhetri	1901	836	44.0	394	47.1	136	16.3
Tarai caste	997	301	30.2	153	50.7	42	14.1
Dalit	902	436	48.4	266	61.0	119	27.4
Newar	235	87	37.1	35	39.6	13	14.9
Janajati	2308	1164	50.4	587	50.4	215	18.5
Muslim	350	107	30.7	62	58.2	31	29.1
Other	55	17	30.1	9	52.7	3	18.7

Table 6.2.3 shows the distribution of child labour (1.60 million) and in hazardous child labour (0.62 million) by ethnic group. The group with the highest proportion of child labour is the Janajati group (38.5 per cent), followed by the Brahim/Chettri groups (26.3 per cent) and Dalit group (17.5 per cent). The same sequence is observed with regard to the distribution of hazardous

child labour among ethnic groups, the lowest proportion of child labour and hazardous child labour being found in the the Newar group.

Table 6.2.3: Distribution of child labour and children engaged in hazardous child labour, by ethnic group

Ethnic group	Total number of children (5-17 years) (thousands)	Number of child labour (thousands)	Percentage of child labour	Number of children engaged in hazardous child labour (thousands)	Percentage of children engaged in hazardous child labour
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)
Nepal	7770	1599	100	621	100
Brahmin/Chhetri	2278	421	26.3	153	24.6
Tarai Caste	1120	166	10.4	50	8.1
Dalit	990	280	17.5	128	20.6
Newar	356	39	2.4	16	2.6
Janajati	2557	615	38.5	234	37.7
Muslim	401	68	4.3	35	5.6
Others	68	10	0.6	4	0.6

6.3 Income and weekly working hours of working children, child labour and children engaged in hazardous child labour

This section analyses the income and weekly working hours of working children, child labour and children engaged in hazardous child labour. Table 6.3.1 shows that the average monthly income of children working in hazardous conditions is generally much higher than that of average working children, as well as of child labour, although in the latter case the difference is less marked. It is also apparent from the table that the average monthly income is markedly lower in rural areas only for working children; the difference is marginal between rural and urban areas for the child labour, and non-existent for those engaged in hazardous child labour. The average monthly income is distinctly higher for boys than for girls for all three categories – working children, child labour and children engaged in hazardous child labour.

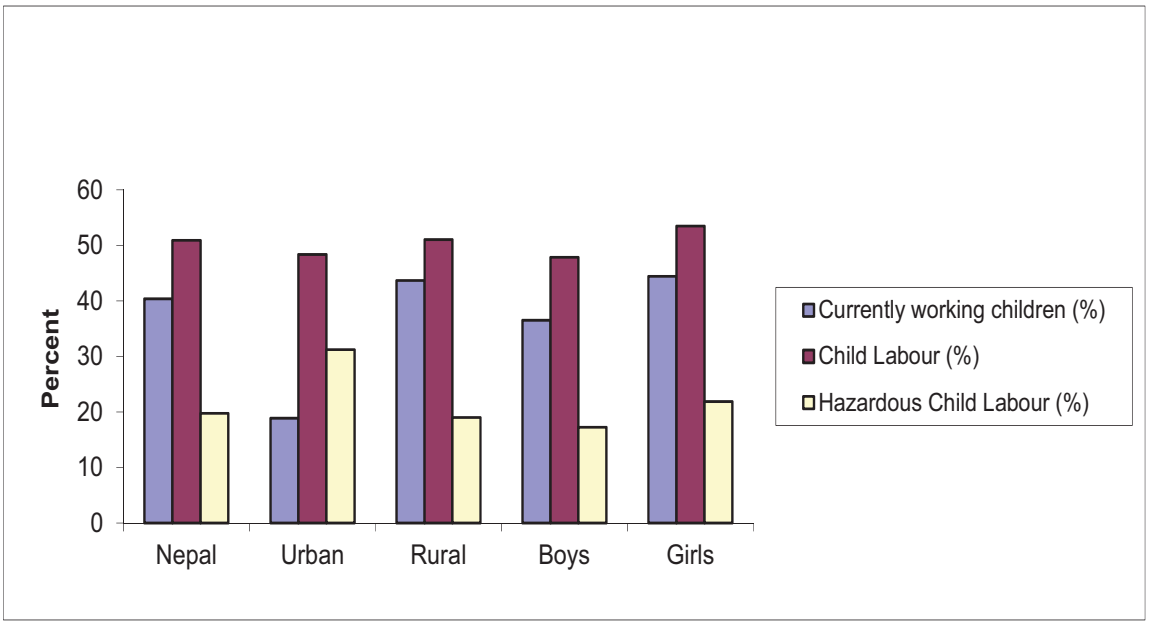
Regarding weekly working hours, it can be seen from Table 6.3.1 that generally speaking, for any group of child worker, whether residing in urban or rural area and whether classified by sex or by age group, the weekly hours of engagement in economic activities are higher for child labour than for working children, and higher still for those engaged in hazardous work. There are a few exceptions, but these concern the lower age groups only. Moreover, boys work more hours than girls in activities involving hazardous conditions. On average, boys work 32.6 hours per week where girls work 29.2 hours. Likewise, children in the 14-17 year age group work more hours per week (42.6 hours) that in the 9-13 year age group (13.1 hours per week) and children in the 5-9 year age group (6.9 hours per week). Average working hours of c children engaged in hazardous child labour is slightly higher in urban areas (31.3 hours per week) than in rural areas (30.5 hours per week).

Table 6.3.1: Distribution of average (median) monthly income and weekly working hours of working children, child labour and children engaged in hazardous child labour, by sex, age group and urban/rural classification

	Working children		Child labour		Children engaged in hazardous child labour	
	Median monthly income (rupees)	Average working hours per week	Median monthly income (rupees)	Average working hours per week	Median monthly income (rupees)	Average working hours per week
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	2167	21.8	2500	25.0	2600	30.6
Urban	2600	22.0	2600	28.4	2600	31.3
Rural	2080	21.8	2500	24.8	2600	30.5
Sex						
Boys	2500	21.5	2882	25.2	3000	32.6
Girls	1733	22.1	2123	24.9	2427	29.2
Age group						
5-9 years	1733	13.1	1733	13.1	1083	6.9
10-13 years	1300	17.9	1300	22.5	1700	13.1
14-17 years	2427	27.8	2817	42.6	2817	42.6

Figure 6.3.1 compares the percentage distribution of working children, child labour and children engaged in hazardous child labour. It shows that there is a higher proportion of children engaged in hazardous work in urban areas (31.3 per cent) than in rural areas (30.5 per cent). The figure also shows that a larger proportion of girls are likely to be exposed to hazardous conditions than boys (see also Table 6.2.1).

Figure 6.3.1: Percentage distribution of working children, children engaged in child labour and children engaged in hazardous child labour



6.4 School attendance among child labour and in hazardous child labour

This section discusses school attendance by child labour and in hazardous child labour. Table 6.4.1a shows that more than 73 per cent of child labour attend school, while the rest do not. The proportion of such children attending school is significantly higher in rural areas (74.0 per cent) than in urban areas (66.6 per cent) while the proportion attending school in Kathmandu Valley is even lower (47.3 per cent). By sex, the percentage of boy workers attending school is significantly higher (76.9 per cent) than that of girls (71.1 per cent). In the ecological belt the proportion of such workers attending school in Terai is lower than in the Hill and Mountain regions.

Table 6.4.1a: School attendance of child workers, by age group, sex, locality and region

	(Thousands)					Percentage		
	Child population	Number of child workers	Attending school	Not attending school	Total	Attending school	Not attending school	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)
Nepal	7770	3143	1177	422	1599	73.6	26.4	100
Urban	1022	193	62	31	93	66.6	33.4	100
Kathmandu Valley	267	20	7	7	14	47.3	52.7	100
Rural	6748	2949	1115	391	1506	74.0	26.0	100
Sex								
Boys	3937	1438	529	159	688	76.9	23.1	100
Girls	3834	1704	648	264	911	71.1	28.9	100
Age group								
5-9 years	2978	395	339	56	395	85.8	14.2	100
10-13 years	2623	1306	691	130	821	84.2	15.8	100
14-17 years	2169	1442	147	236	383	38.3	61.7	100
Ecological belt								
Mountains	542	283	122	35	157	77.8	22.2	100
Hills	3300	1511	640	153	792	80.7	19.3	100
Terai	3929	1348	415	235	650	63.9	36.1	100

Table 6.4.1b shows that about 56.8 per cent of children engaged in hazardous child labour attend school. By sex, 56.6 per cent of boys engaged in hazardous child labour have attended school, much the same as for girls (56.9 per cent). By age group, however, the figures vary widely; among the those in the 14-17 year age group who are engaged in hazardous child labour , only 38.3 per cent attend school, while the figure is significantly higher for the 10-13 year age group (85.6 per cent) and the 5-9 year age group (88.6 per cent).

Table 6.4.1b: School attendance of children engaged in hazardous child labour, by age group, sex, locality and region

	(Thousands)				(Percentages)		
	Child population	Attending school	Not attending school	Total	Attending school	Not attending school	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)
Nepal	7770	352	268	621	56.8	43.2	100
Urban	1022	35	26	60	57.6	42.4	100
Kathmandu Valley	267	6	7	13	47.2	52.8	100
Rural	6748	318	243	560	56.7	43.3	100
Sex							
Boys	3937	140	108	248	56.6	43.4	100
Girls	3834	212	161	373	56.9	43.1	100
Age group							
5-9 years	2978	63	8	71	88.6	11.4	100
10-13 years	2623	143	24	167	85.6	14.4	100
14-17 years	2169	147	236	383	38.3	61.7	100
Ecological belt							
Mountains	542	28	19	47	59.2	40.8	100
Hills	3300	201	116	316	63.4	36.6	100
Terai	3929	124	133	257	48.2	51.8	100

6.5 Occupational status of child labour and of children engaged in hazardous child labour

This section discusses the occupational status of both child labour and children engaged in hazardous child labour. It has been clear from the above that about 20 per cent of working children in Nepal are exposed to hazardous work conditions, and it is therefore important to understand which are the main occupations where child labour are employed so that the necessary corrective measures can be undertaken. Table 6.5.1a shows that an overwhelming majority of child workers (1.135 million out of 1.599 million) are engaged in service-related occupations, where the number of girls is much higher than that of boys. The number of child workers engaged in plant and machinery-related occupations is very low, the number of girls being negligible.

Table 6.5.1a: Distribution of child labour, by major occupation (thousands)

Occupation	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Nepal	48	46	93	640	866	1506	688	911	1599
Service workers and shop/market salespersons	19	21	40	470	625	1095	489	646	1135
Craft and related trades workers	9	5	14	36	34	70	45	39	84
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	1	0	1	6	1	7	7	1	8
Elementary occupation	19	20	39	128	206	333	147	225	372

Table 6.5.1b: Distribution of child workers engaged in hazardous child labour, by major occupation (thousands)

Occupation	Urban			Rural			Total		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	€	(d)	€	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Nepal	33	28	60	215	345	560	248	373	621
Service workers and shop/market salespersons	5	3	8	53	115	168	58	119	177
Craft and related trades workers	9	5	13	32	31	63	41	35	76
Plant and machine operators, assemblers	1	0	1	5	1	7	6	1	7
Elementary occupation	18	20	38	124	198	321	142	217	359

Table 6.5.1b shows the distribution of children working in hazardous conditions by their major occupational status. It can be seen that about 359,000 of the 621,000 children engaged in hazardous work are employed in elementary occupations, which includes agriculture and fisheries, manufacturing, mining and construction, transport and freight handling and domestic and related workers. Craft and trade related activities are a major occupation that employs a large number of children working in hazardous conditions.

CHAPTER 7: OTHER ACTIVITIES OF CHILDREN

7.1 Introduction

Children in Nepal are involved in a number of non-economic activities, especially housekeeping activities, also called unpaid household services or household chores. The migration status of children is also interesting. This chapter discusses, in detail, the characteristics of children involved in housekeeping activities, children working in the primary sector, children who are seeking work, children involved in informal activities and migrant child workers, including their migration behaviour by age group, sex and the origin of migration.

7.2 Housekeeping activities

This section provides information on the distribution of children who are engaged in various housekeeping activities. Table 7.2.1 shows that the children spend an average of 3.7 hours per week doing household chores. It is found that higher the age group the greater the tendency to spend more hours in housekeeping activities. Girls are more involved than boys in such activities, working 5.9 a week compared to only 1.6 hours for boys in the reference week. More than 90 per cent of boys (child workers) spend 1-14 hours a week on housekeeping activities, 8.2 per cent spend 15-28 hours, 1.1 per cent spends 29-42 hours, and 0.4 per cent spends more than 42 hours. On the other hand, more than 72 per cent of the girls spend 1-14 hours a week on household duties, 22.9 per cent spend 15-28 hours, 4 per cent spend 29-42 hours and 0.9 per cent spends more than 42 hours a week. In both cases, the involvement of children in housekeeping activities tends to decline with the increase in the number of hours worked per week.

Table 7.2.1: Percentage distribution of children engaged in housekeeping activities, by number of hours worked, sex, age group and urban/rural classification

(a)	1-14 hours (b)	15-28 hours (c)	29-42 hours (d)	42+ hours (e)	Total (f)	Average hours (g)
Nepal	77.8	18.3	3.1	0.7	100	3.7
Urban	76.5	19.7	2.9	0.9	100	3.1
Rural	78.0	18.2	3.2	0.7	100	3.8
Sex						
Boys	90.3	8.2	1.1	0.4	100	1.6
Girls	72.1	22.9	4.0	0.9	100	5.9
Age group						
5-9 years	87.9	9.5	1.8	0.8	100	1.2
10-13 years	82.3	15.0	2.3	0.3	100	3.7
14-17 years	71.0	23.8	4.2	1.0	100	7.2

Table 7.2.2 shows that a significant number of children aged 5-17 years carry out household chores such as cooking, cleaning, minor repairs, shopping, caring and child minding in their own household. The table shows that a many children are engaged in cleaning and cooking, followed by caring and child minding activities. It also reveals that the share of boys in carrying out these activities is much lower than that of girls in almost all activities except shopping, where boys outnumber girls. Children in the age group 14-17 years outnumber those in other age groups in all non-economic activities except caring and child minding, where children in the 10-13 year age

group seem to be preferred. Children in both rural and urban areas of Nepal are more involved in household chores such as cooking and cleaning than in other unpaid household services.

Table 7.2.2: Number of children carrying out housekeeping activities during the past week, by sex and age group

Age group	Cooking	Cleaning	Minor repairs	Shopping	Caring and child minding	Other
	(Thousands of children)					
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	1496	2115	328	320	787	31
Urban	183	244	28	61	51	3
Rural	1313	1871	300	259	735	28
Sex						
Boys	309	534	70	168	267	15
Girls	1186	1581	258	152	520	16
Age group						
5-9 years	79	185	28	15	249	3
10-13 years	546	817	110	80	295	9
14-17 years	871	1113	190	225	243	19
Boys						
5-9 years	15	41	6	8	79	0
10-13 years	120	212	24	43	110	4
14-17 years	174	280	40	116	78	11
Girls						
5-9 years	64	144	22	6	170	3
10-13 years	426	605	86	36	185	5
14-17 years	696	833	149	109	165	8

Note: A child may be engaged in more than one activity

Table 7.2.3 shows the percentage distribution both school attending and non-attending children engaged in housekeeping activities by. Both school attending and non-attending girls spend more time in housekeeping activities than boys. It is nevertheless interesting to see that school attending boys spend more time in housekeeping activities than boys who do not attend school, while it is the girls that do not attend school who spend more time in household activities than those who do so.

Table 7.2.3: Percentage distribution of children engaged in housekeeping activities, by number of hours worked and school attendance

Time spent per week in housekeeping activities	attending school			not attending school		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	34.3	65.7	100	18.1	81.9	100
1-14 hours	37.7	62.3	100	26.6	73.4	100
15-28 hours	17.8	82.2	100	6.1	94.0	100
29-42 hours	14.6	85.4	100	7.6	92.4	100
42+hours	36.1	63.9	100	8.4	91.6	100

7.3 Children in the primary sector

In Nepal it is very common for child workers to spend time working in agriculture and related activities. Table 7.3.1 shows that children work more than 21 hours a week in such activities; the average hours worked by rural children are much higher than those worked by urban children. About 39 per cent of children work between 15 and 28 hours, while about 37 per cent work fewer than 14 hours and about 15 per cent work between 29 and 42 hours. The percentage of children working more than 42 hours a week is about 8.2 per cent.

By age group, the largest proportion of children aged 14-17 years spend work between 15 and 28 hours, while most children aged 10-13 years and 5-9 years spend 0 to -14 hours a week working. The percentage of children who work more than 42 hours a week increases with age. The table also shows that the average hours spent by girls in agriculture and related activities and the percentage of girls working more than 42 hours is much higher than in the case of boys.

Table 7.3.1: Percentage distribution of child workers in agricultural and fishing activities, by number of hours worked, sex, age group and urban/rural classification

	0-14 hours	15-28 hours	29-42 hours	42+ hours	Total	Average hours
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	37.7	38.8	15.3	8.2	100	21.6
Urban	50.2	34.8	11.1	3.9	100	17.5
Rural	37.2	39.0	15.5	8.4	100	21.8
Sex						
Boys	40.9	40.2	13.5	5.4	100	20.1
Girls	35.2	37.7	16.8	10.4	100	22.8
Age group						
5-9 years	66.1	27.4	5.3	1.3	100	14.1
10-13 years	44.2	42.3	11.0	2.5	100	18.1
14-17 years	23.9	38.6	22.1	15.4	100	26.9

Table 7.3.2 provides information on time spent in agriculture and related activities by children attending and not attending school. It can be seen that girls generally spend more time than boys working in agriculture and related activities; in agriculture and related activities girls who do not go to schools spend more than 70 per cent of their time in this way.

Table 7.3.2: Percentage distribution of child workers engaged in agricultural and fishing activities, by number of hours worked and school attendance

	Attending school			Not attending school		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	48.8	51.2	100	29.3	70.7	100
0-14 hours	50.6	49.4	100	28.0	72.0	100
15-28 hours	49.1	50.9	100	29.5	70.5	100
29-42 hours	45.7	54.3	100	29.7	70.3	100
42+ hours	30.3	69.7	100	29.5	70.6	100

7.4 Children seeking work

Table 7.4.1 reveals that about 36,000 children are currently seeking and available for works, which is 1.1 per cent of total economically active children. The percentage of boys seeking works is 1.4 per cent, slightly higher than that of girls which stands at 0.9 per cent. The rate of children seeking work in urban areas is 4.2 per cent, significantly higher than percentage s in rural areas, where it is less than 1 per cent.

Table 7.4.1: Distribution of children currently seeking work, by sex and locality

	Number of children seeking work			Percentage of children seeking work		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	36450	20118	16332	1.1	1.4	0.9
Urban	8540	4509	4030	4.2	4.4	4.0
Rural	27910	15609	12302	0.9	1.2	0.8

Table 7.4.2 illustrates the distribution of currently unemployed children by age groups, sex and sectors. It shows that the number of boys seeking jobs is considerably higher than that of girls in both of the higher age groups. The unemployment rate of boys aged 15-17 years is almost double (2.4 per cent) that of girls (1.3 per cent), while in the 10-13 year age group the number of girls seeking jobs is higher than that of the boys, especially in rural areas. The table also shows that the proportion of currently unemployed children in urban area is higher than in rural area.

Table 7.4.2: Number of children currently seeking work, by sex, age group and locality (thousands)

	Nepal			Urban			Rural		
	Both sexes	Boys	Girls	Both sexes	Boys	Girls	Both sexes	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Nepal	36	20	16	9	5	4	28	16	12
Age group									
5-9 years	3	1	1	0	0	0	3	1	1
10-13 years	7	2	5	1	0	0	7	2	5
4-17 years	27	16	10	8	4	4	19	12	6
Unemployment rate									
14-17 years	1.8	2.4	1.3	6.7	6.5	6.9	1.4	2.0	0.9

Table 7.4.3 shows that 7,000 out of 36,000 child jobseekers have been out of work for more than two years, and that another 7,000 have been out of work for 6 months to one year. It is also observed that the largest numbers of jobseekers, who are mainly from rural areas, have been out of work for up to three months.

Table 7.4.3: Number of children seeking work, by sex, locality and duration of job search (thousands)

Duration of job search	Nepal			Urban			Rural		
	All	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls	All	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Total	36	20	16	9	5	4	28	16	12
Less than 1 month	1	1	1	0	0	0	1	0	0
1 month < 3 months	11	7	5	1	1	1	10	6	4
3 months < 6 months	4	2	1	1	0	0	3	2	1
6 months < 1year	7	3	4	2	1	1	5	2	3
1 year and < 2 years	6	4	2	2	2	1	4	2	1
2 years or more	7	3	4	2	0	1	5	3	2

7.5 Children working in informal sector

Table 7.5.1 shows that around 352,000 children are currently employed in the informal sector; they account for 91 per cent of all child workers whose main jobs are in non-agricultural activities. Only 34,000 child workers (about 9 per cent of total non-agricultural employment) are employed in enterprises that are considered not to be part of the informal sector. Children in the 14-17 year age group constitute about 45 per cent of the total number of child labour, and about 47 per cent of these work in the non-agricultural informal sector.

Table 7.5.1: Currently employed children, by sex, age group and sector of main job

	Total	5-9 years	10-13 years	14-17 years
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)
Total	3143	395	1306	1442
Agriculture	2757	340	1172	1245
Non-agricultural, formal sector	34	0	4	29
Non-agricultural, informal sector:	352	55	130	168
Boys	1438	167	604	667
Agriculture	1238	147	541	550
Non-agricultural, formal sector	23	0	2	21
Non-agricultural, informal sector:	177	20	61	96
Girls	1704	228	702	775
Agriculture	1519	193	631	694
Non-agricultural, formal sector	11	0	2	9
Non-agricultural, informal sector:	175	34	69	72

Table 7.5.2 estimates the distribution of child workers in the informal sector by occupation. It shows that, of the currently employed child population, the number of girls is significantly higher than that of boys across all age groups. It is observed that 94.2 per cent of girls and 88.6 per cent of boys have their main jobs in the non-agricultural informal sector. However, a large proportion of child-related jobs requiring a low level of skills are in the informal sector, the largest proportion of them (97.3 per cent) engaged as service workers. Girls have a large share of informal sector jobs (about 95.8 per cent) at the lower-skill levels (elementary occupation) and also in the craft-related trade group (89.1 per cent).

Table 7.5.2: Number of children employed in the non-agricultural sector and percentage employed in the informal sector, by sex and main job (thousands/percentages)

Occupation	All			Boys			Girls		
	Non-agricultural sector	Informal sector jobs	% of informal sector jobs	Non-agricultural sector	Informal sector jobs	% of informal sector jobs	Non-agricultural sector	Informal sector jobs	% of informal sector jobs
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Nepal	386	352	91.3	200	177	88.6	186	175	94.2
Service workers	92	89	97.3	56	53	95.6	36	36	100.0
Agricultural workers	1	1	91.4	1	0	86.2	0	0	100.0
Craft and related trades workers	83	71	84.5	48	39	81.2	35	31	89.1
Plant and machine operators	10	7	69.3	8	7	79.4	1	0	8.6
Elementary occupations	195	182	93.6	83	76	90.5	111	107	95.8
Other	5	3	50.6	4	2	59.1	2	1	32.1

Table 7.5.3 provides a more detailed occupational breakdown of informal sector jobs for currently employed children by sex and urban rural areas. Of the 352,000 children currently employed in informal sector jobs, 286,000 are in rural areas and only 66,000 in urban areas. The largest number of children (about 182,000) work in elementary occupations. Other important occupations which employ a significant number of child workers are services and craft-related trades.

Table 7.5.3: Number of children currently employed in the informal sector, by sex, locality and main job (thousands)

Occupation	Total			Urban			Rural		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)	(h)	(i)	(j)
Nepal	352	177	175	66	38	28	286	140	147
Service workers	89	53	36	27	16	11	63	38	25
Agricultural Worker	1	0	0	0	0	0	0	0	0
Craft and related trades workers	71	39	31	12	8	4	58	31	27
Plant and machine operators	7	7	0	0	0	0	6	6	0
Elementary occupations	182	76	107	24	12	12	158	64	94
Others	3	2	1	2	2	1	1	1	0

Table 7.5.4 shows the distribution of informally employed children by various industry groups and sex. The percentage of children who are informally employed is very high in agriculture and forestry. Excluding agriculture and forestry, most informally employed children work in the electricity, gas and water supply sector, manufacturing and recycling, and the wholesale and retail trade.

Table 7.5.4: Children currently employed in the informal sector (all industries), by sex and industry of main job

Industry	Total		Boys		Girls	
	Number employed in the informal sector (thousands)	Percentage employed in the informal sector	Number employed in the informal sector (thousands)	Percentage employed in the informal sector	Number employed in the informal sector (thousands)	Percentage employed in the informal sector
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Total	3134	99.7	1434	99.7	1700	99.8
Agriculture and forestry	2751	99.8	1236	99.9	1515	99.8
Fishing	2	100.0	1	100.0	1	100.0
Sub-total excluding agriculture and fishing	382	98.9	197	98.4	185	99.5
Mining and quarrying	1	100.0	1	100.0	0	
Manufacturing and recycling	76	98.7	38	97.4	39	100.0
Electricity, gas and water supply	154	99.7	57	100.0	98	99.5
Construction	21	99.8	18	100.0	2	98.5
Wholesale and retail trade	64	99.8	43	99.9	21	99.4
Hotels and restaurants	34	99.9	19	99.8	15	100.0
Transport, storage and communications	13	90.1	12	89.7	1	100.0
Financial intermediation	0	0.0	0		0	0.0
Real state, renting and business activity	3	100.0	1	100.0	2	100.0
Public administration and social security	0	19.0	0	19.0	0	
Education	3	99.1	1	100.0	2	98.6
Health and social work	0	100.0	0	100.0	0	100.0
Other community, social and personal services	5	98.1	4	97.4	1	100.0
Private households with employed persons	7	96.2	2	92.7	5	98.0

7.6 Migrant child workers

"Migrant child workers" are defined as any household members aged 5 to 17 years who are not born in their current place of residence but who have moved there from another village or municipality or from another country ("lifetime migration"). A total of 11.7 per cent of migrants' children moved to their current location at some point of time. About 12.1 per cent of Tarai children migrated from other places, compared to 11.7 per cent of Hill children and 8.8 per cent of Mountain children. The migration rate for children ranges from 9 to 14 per cent across the development regions, the highest rate being in the Far-Western development region. Most of the migration of children has been from rural to urban areas, especially from the Far-Western region. In the ecological belt, outward migration from Terai is greater than from the Hill and Mountain region.

Table 7.6.1: Distribution of migrants' children, by sex and current location

	Number of migrants children (thousands)			Migrants children as a percentage of total		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	910	446	463	11.7	11.3	12.1
Ecological belt						
Mountains	47	32	15	8.8	11.3	6.0
Hills	387	199	188	11.7	11.9	11.5
Terai	475	215	260	12.1	10.8	13.4
Development region						
Eastern	217	104	113	12.1	11.4	12.8
Central	307	165	142	12.0	12.6	11.4
Western	172	85	87	11.6	11.1	12.1
Mid-Western	105	40	65	9.2	7.0	11.4
Far-Western	109	52	56	13.8	14.0	13.6
Sector						
Urban	320	177	143	31.3	32.8	29.6
Rural	590	269	320	8.7	7.9	9.6

Table 7.6.2 shows that about 26 per cent of children currently seeking work an about 10 per cent of currently employed children migrated to their current place of residence. The share of girl migrants to total migrants is more than 39 per cent. The rate of migration of currently inactive children (13 per cent) is high compared to that of currently active children (9.9 per cent).

Table 7.6.2: Distribution of migrants children by sex, economic activity and location

	Number of migrants children (thousands)			Percentage of migrants to the total		
	Total	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	910	446	463	11.7	11.3	12.1
Currently active	313	122	192	9.9	8.3	11.2
Currently employed	304	119	185	9.7	8.2	10.9
Currently seeking work	9	3	6	25.8	15.0	39.1
Currently inactive	594	324	270	13.0	13.1	12.9
Not stated	2	1	2	7.9	4.6	10.7

The following table shows that about 27 per cent of migrant child workers do not attend school, of which about 73 per cent are girls. The highest number of these migrant workers (62.4 per cent) belongs to the 14-17 year age group, followed by those in the 10-13 year age group (59.0 per cent) and those in the 5-9 year age group (58.0 per cent). The table also shows that, by sex, the proportion of girls among migrants' children is much higher (61 per cent) than that of boys (39.0 per cent).

Table 7.5.3: Percentage distribution of currently employed migrant child workers, by major economic sectors, age group, school attendance and sex

	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
	(thousands)			(percentage)		
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Nepal	119	185	304	39.0	61.0	100
Urban	30	26	56	54.2	45.8	100
Rural	88	160	248	35.6	64.4	100
Age group						
5-9 years	8	11	20	42.2	57.8	100
10-13 years	39	56	96	41.1	58.9	100
14-17 years	71	118	189	37.6	62.4	100
School attendance						
Attending school	95	123	219	43.6	56.4	100
Not attending school	23	62	85	27.1	72.9	100

The migration of children is the product of a combination of reasons. Table 7.6.4 illustrates the distribution of currently economic active migrants' children by reason for their migration. It shows that an overwhelming number of economically active children (67.7 per cent) migrated for "family reasons" and that 15.8 per cent migrants' children, most of whom are girls, cited the reason for migration as "marriage". Other reasons reported are "study/training" (7.8 per cent), "looking for jobs" (2.7 per cent), "easier life style" (1.2 per cent) and "other" reasons (4.8 per cent). Most of the children who cited the "looking for jobs" as the reason were boys (4.2 per cent).

Table 7.6.4: Migrants' children aged 5-17 years, by sex and reason for most recent migration.

Reason for most recent migration	(thousands)			(percentage)		
	Boys	Girls	Total	Boys	Girls	Total
(a)	(b)	(c)	(d)	(e)	(f)	(g)
Marriage	3	67	70	0.6	14.6	7.7
Other family reasons	326	327	653	73.0	70.6	71.8
Study/Training	92	52	144	20.7	11.2	15.9
Looking for job	7	4	11	1.5	0.9	1.2
Easier lifestyle	6	4	10	1.3	0.9	1.1
Other	13	8	21	2.9	1.8	2.3
Total Nepal	446	463	910	100	100	100

CHAPTER 8: CONCLUSIONS

Child labour is a significant problem in Nepal. Its prevalence is shown by the child work participation rate which is quite high. The Constitution of Nepal 1990 has for several years sought to protect the rights and interests of children. In addition to the Constitution, various laws and regulations – including the Child Labour Act 1992 – have been implemented over the years to protect and advance the interests of children and to combat child labour. The Government of Nepal has ratified ILO Conventions Nos. 138 and 182 as well as other relevant ILO Conventions that set age standards for admission to work on the basis of the nature of the occupation. However, as in other countries, legislation alone is not sufficient to address the complexities of child labour, and it is essential to develop social and economic measures simultaneously to address the issues of poverty and inequality that are often at the root of the problem.

The last decade has been a decade of political turmoil and uncertainty for Nepal. There has been an armed conflict which has had an adverse impact on economic and social conditions in the country. During the conflict, thousands of people were displaced from their homes in rural areas, and the resulting increase in poverty has hurt women and children disproportionately. Maternal mortality rates are among the highest in the region, primarily because of the resources and the low status of women as a priority for action. As a result of the depressed economy and increasing income inequality, child labour has become widespread in Nepal.

This report has examined in detail the child labour situation in Nepal based on 2008 Nepal Labour Force Survey data, including the rural/urban, agricultural/non-agricultural and gender differentials. Although Nepal has made some progress in terms of per capita GDP over the last decade, the child labour participation rate is still very high. The first child labour survey in 1998 reported that 47.0 per cent of the total child population (5–17 years) were economically active. The latest labour force survey conducted in 2008, however, has shown that the labour force participation rate of children aged 5–17 is about 40.9 per cent, in which the participation of girls is 47.6 per cent and that of the boys 36.1 per cent. Some decline in the gender gap in the child labour participation rate is observed when the data of 1998 and 2008 labour force surveys are compared.

In both survey reports, child labour was found to be more pronounced in rural areas than in urban areas. A huge number of children were engaged in child labour in the agricultural sector, but increasing participation was observed in the non-agricultural sector as well.

What are the major causes of the exceptionally high rate of child labour in Nepal? The most important cause is the country's perpetually fragile economy. Although the country has been able to achieve modest economic growth over the recent period, the gain in economic development has not yet reached the grass roots. As a result, there has been sharp increase in income inequality. Cited as one of the poorest country in the world, Nepal’s poor economic status contributes to the high rate of child labour and poverty. When families are faced with monetary hardships, they are often forced to send their children to work, sometimes even in extremely hazardous conditions, merely to attain basic subsistence.

One of the major determinants of child labour in Nepal is poverty. Even though children are paid less than adults, whatever income they earn is of benefit to poor families. Economic development will undoubtedly resolve the problem of child labour. A combination of policies that

could contribute this goal include employment generation schemes that lead to economic prosperity for the household, compulsory schooling for children, a school enrolment subsidy and adult literacy campaigns that increase community or social awareness, especially among adult women. Nepal's rigid social structure has also contributed to child labour, and there are severe inequalities between ethnic groups in society that seem to have contributed to widespread poverty, which in turn has forced parents to send their children to become part of the workforce.

One of the most effective ways to combat child labour is to education, which acts as a foundation for social change. The study reveals that about 9 per cent of the children in the country have never attended school and that about 59 per cent have not completed primary school. Although education has been made compulsory for all children up to lower secondary level, many do not go to school as their parents cannot afford to educate them. During the last half of the past decade, the primary school enrolment rate was impressive and the gender and regional gap in school enrolment declined substantially. In spite all these convincing achievements, however, Nepal remains stuck in a "vicious cycle" with continuing high levels of child labour.

A child's education should not be hindered by a family's income. Various types of schooling (formal, informal, vocational, semi-vocational are needed, especially in rural areas where most children live. Policies targeted at improving school infrastructure and the quality of education and at reducing the cost of education are the most effective way to reduce child labour. Offering incentives, such as financial assistance to families, is also an effective way of ensuring that children are sent to school rather than to factories. Since children often work to supplement the family's income, monetary incentives from the Government as a substitute for children's income contribution could enable them to go to school instead. In other words, government subsidies can compensate families who educate their children. Such a policy should be viewed as an investment in the future of Nepal and ion the liberation of the Nepalese people from poverty.

The literacy rate of Nepal is still one of the lowest in the region, although progress among children aged 5-17 years has been impressive in recent years. High illiteracy and dropout rates are reflective of the inadequacy of the educational system. The report has found that dropout rates are high because children are forced to work in order to support their families. People's attitudes also contribute to low enrolment in schools. Most parents feel that their child's works contributes to the family income, while education does not. Compulsory education may help to change such attitudes.

The report shows that an overwhelming proportion of working children are involved in agriculture-related activities. It has found that the agricultural sector, which is the largest employer of child labour, employs almost 88 per cent of child workers. Most farmers in Nepal are marginal and the average size of land holdings is less than 0.7 hectare. Unless enough off-farm employment opportunities are created in the rural areas, children will continue helping their parents to farm. Therefore, in order to address the problem of child labour in agricultural sector, it is important that thorough investigation is carried out into the causes of child labour in this sector so as to find appropriate solutions.

Land ownership and rural migration seem to have contributed further to child labour in Nepal. It is estimated that about 6 per cent of the population own 46 per cent of the land. This has helped to increase poverty which in turn has helped to increase child labour in rural areas. With over 80 per cent of the population living in rural areas, much of the child labour occurs away from centres of power and law enforcement. With the power and money in the hands of a privileged few, the bulk of Nepal's population remains in poverty. With such extensive rural poverty, families

are often caught in the common cycle of rural-to-urban migration in the hope of finding employment. This report has shown that about 11.7 per cent children in the country have migrated, mostly from rural to urban areas. The decade-long conflict and civil unrest in the country also seems to have contributed significantly to the steady flow of child labour to urban centres, including the Kathmandu Valley and other urban and commercial.

There is a need t enforce legal provisions to protect children and to ensure their safety. In addition to a minimum age requirement for labour, there should be a reasonably set and well enforced minimum wage for child workers. Given the absence of such legislation, child workers have been exploited economically. To decrease the number of children trafficked out of the country, there should also be a minimum age law restricting the travel of minors without parental approval.

The Constitution of Nepal clearly states that child labour is wrong and that measures should be taken to end it. The Government of Nepal has implemented the Child Labour Act 2000, which outlaws child labour and sets the minimum age of employment at 14. However, this Act falls short of making all child labour illegal and fails to meet the ILO guideline setting the minimum age of employment at 17 seventeen years of age. Though policies are in place that could reduce the incidence of child labour, enforcement of the law is a problem. Nevertheless, child labour cannot be eliminated by focusing exclusively on enforcement of child labour laws. The Government must ensure that the needs of the poor are met before attacking child labour. If poverty is addressed, the need for child labour will automatically diminish. The development of the country is being hampered by child labour. Children are growing up illiterate because they have been working and not attending school. A cycle of poverty is formed and the need for child labour is reborn with every generation. In order to succeed in the fight against child labour, the Government of Nepal will need to address the situation by tackling the underlying causes of child labour through governmental policies and the enforcement of these policies.

Even though this *Nepal Child Labour Report* is the first comprehensive report of its kind based on large-scale data, it was not based on a survey that was specially designed for the study of child labour. Thus it was not possible to cover all the aspects of child labour. In order to understand the problems and issues related to child labour in Nepal fully, it is important that a specific child survey be conducted every 5 years, as in other countries, on a regular basis.

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Appendix A: Sampling Design

The sampling design adopted in NLSS-II is slightly modified from NLFS–I. The design is based on two stages stratified sampling technique with equal PSUs or households distributed between urban and rural areas as done in NLFS-I considering the heterogeneous labour force activities to provide a detailed picture of employment situation in the urban areas. So the prescribed 800 PSUs are divided equally in two parts, i.e., 400 PSUs each for urban and rural. Urban areas are stratified into three strata as Urban Kathmandu Valley, Other Urban Hills and Urban Tarai, and rural areas are stratified into Rural Mountains, Rural Hills and Rural Tarai. The sample size of 400 PSUs in each urban and rural area will be proportionately distributed within their respective strata. In the first stage, the prescribed PSUs (wards or sub-wards or combination of wards) are selected by Probability Proportional to Size (PPS) from each stratum, i.e. the number of households in the ward as the measure of the size. Using PPS at the first stage is followed by selecting a fixed number of households at the second stage that provides a convenient workload for each field team. This design has the benefit that the sample, in principle, is self-weighted. In the second stage, 20 households are selected from each PSU (ward) of urban and rural strata with systematic random sampling procedure giving a total of 16000 households from 800 PSUs.

The minimum sample size required is estimated as 244 households for urban and 361 households for rural domain based on the currently economically active population taken from Nepal Living Standards Survey 2003-04. Based on employment status of the population of this fresh survey information, the minimum households to be selected turns out to be 265 for urban and 277 for rural. However, 400 households each in urban and rural area have been allocated in this survey to provide reliable estimates for lower level of disaggregation up to 5 years age group (10 groups) by sex (2 groups). There will be altogether 8000 households in each urban and rural area.

Sample frame

The sample frame is updated for this survey, which was developed during the sampling design of the recent Living Standards Survey 2003/04, which was based on data from the 2001 National Population Census.

The size of each ward (as measured by number of households) was taken as a unit of sample frame. Some larger wards were divided into smaller units (sub-wards) of clearly defined territorial areas supported by reliable cartography while some of the smaller wards with fewer than 30 households were appended to adjoining wards in the same VDC to make size equal to or greater than 30 households in the frame. The resulting sampling frame consisted of 35,069 enumeration areas (wards or sub-wards or merged wards) spread over 3 ecological zones, 5 development regions, 75 districts, 58 Municipalities and 3,914 Village Development Committees (VDCs) of the country. The sample frame was sorted by district, VDC, ward and sub-ward and districts were numbered from East to West.

Table 1: Primary sampling units of the NLFS 2008 by development region and zone

Ecological Zone	Development Region					
	East	Central	West	Mid West	Far West	Total
Nepal	176	329	152	81	62	800
Mountains	11	15	1	6	8	41
Hills	43	201	102	34	22	402
Tarai	122	113	49	41	32	357
Urban	78	203	67	27	25	400
Mountains	3	4	0	0	0	7
Hills	11	152	47	6	7	223
Tarai	64	47	20	21	18	170
Rural	98	126	85	54	37	400
Mountains	8	11	1	6	8	34
Hills	32	49	55	28	15	179
Tarai	58	66	29	20	14	187

A major consideration in the design is to ensure adequate samples in the different geographical subgroups that are likely to be used for the analysis of the survey data. Certainly data will need to be provided separately for each season of the year, and separately for urban and rural areas. For the survey purpose, the whole year is divided into three seasons namely: rainy (mid-May to mid-September), winter (mid-September to mid-January) and dry (mid-January to mid-May). Estimates will also be required for each of the three ecological zones and five development regions. However, if estimates were required for each subgroup (i.e. season by urban/rural by ecological zone by development region) this would involve a **3 X 2 X 3 X 5** table with 90 cells, though 9 of the cells would obviously be empty since the Mountains of West, Mid West and Far West development regions do not contain any urban households.

Selecting the wards from the sampling frame

The existing sample frame provides an excellent starting point for drawing the sample. All the wards are listed in ascending order of district, and sorted by village development committees (VDCs)/municipalities and ward codes in the sample frame. The following steps are taken in series:

- The sample frame has been split out into six strata consisting of three urban and three rural strata, each in ascending order of district code and sample selection procedure is applied separately for each stratum with prescribed number of PSUs.
- The enumeration areas are ordered by districts separately for each stratum, so as to separate groupings required for analysis. We are introducing an implicit stratification, which should help to ensure that the distribution of the final sample is extremely close to the expected distribution. In this new grouping, all the districts located within a particular intersection of development regions and ecological belts (e.g. the Mountains of Western development region) are placed next to each other.
- The measure of size (number of households) for each ward in each stratum needs to be examined at the time of listing households. Since the 'take' in both urban and rural wards will be 20 households, there might be practical problem in the fieldwork. If the selected ward is found to have less than 20 households, it needs to be linked up with its smallest neighbouring ward, but always within the same VDC or municipality.

Table 2: Primary sampling units and sample households of the NLFS 2008

Stratum	PSUs	Sample Households
Rural Mountains	34	680
Urban Kathmandu Valley	131	2620
Other Urban Hills	99	1980
Rural Hills	179	3580
Urban Tarai	170	3400
Rural Tarai	187	3740
Nepal	800	16000

Estimation methodology

The estimation procedure will be developed on the basis of each stratum with attention given to the following:

- For the estimation of the population as a whole, we need to consider the selection probabilities at each stage of selection. In doing this, each stratum needs to be considered separately as different selection probabilities were used.
- Adjustment for non-response should be handled carefully since no substitute households are allowed.
- Estimates are required separately for each season of the year (rainy, winter and dry), and one-third of the total sample is allocated for each season so that each sub-sample (seasonal) provides a representative sample for different certain level of disaggregation of the country.

The weighting of sample data for the estimation procedure is given as the following stages.

1. First stage: Probability of selecting a particular ward i = $Si * \frac{Ni}{\sum Ni}$ i

where
N_i is the number of households in i^{th} ward in the sample frame,
ΣN_i is the total number of households in the ith stratum of sampling frame, and
S_i is the number of the PSUs in the ith stratum.

When cartographic work is done in the selected ward i, a number of sub-wards are created with size $K_{i\,1}$, $K_{i\,2}$, $K_{i\,3}$, etc, where the total size of the ward $\Sigma K_{i\,j}$ is unlikely to be equal to the original size of the ward N_i. One of these sub-wards is then selected with PPS for inclusion in the survey.

2. Intermediate stage: Probability of selecting the jth sub-ward = $\frac{Kij}{Kij}$ j

where
Ki j is the number of households counted in the jth sub-ward of ward i in the cartographic survey, and

$\sum_j K_{ij}$ is the total number of households counted in the ith ward in the cartographic survey.

The interviewer then visits the jth sub-ward during the survey, lists all the households, and attempts to interview 20 selected households (no substitutes are allowed).

3. Final stage: Probability of selection of a household = $\frac{nij}{Kij*}$
where
ni j is the number of households successfully interviewed, and
Ki j* is the number of households counted at the listing stage.

The overall probability of selection for an individual household is the multiple of the selection probabilities at the three stages.

Overall selection probability = $Si * \frac{Ni}{\sum Ni} * \frac{Kij}{\sum_j Kij} * \frac{nij}{Kij*}$

The raising up factor is the inverse of this probability, and the formula can be rewritten as follows:

Raising up factor = $\frac{\sum Ni}{h_i} * \frac{\sum Kij}{Ni} * \frac{Kij*}{Kij} * \frac{20}{nij}$

(1) (2) (3) (4)

Where hi = Si*20, total number of households selected in the ith PSU.

Each of the numbered terms in this formula has a clear meaning should be explained as:

- is the simple grossing up factor required to go from the original sample size of households in each stratum to the total number of households in the original sampling frame;
- reflects the change in the number of households found in the ith ward during the cartographic work, as compared with the corresponding figure in the original frame;
- reflects the change in the number of households found in the jth sub-ward of the ith ward during the listing work, as compared with the corresponding figure during the cartographic work; and
- is the adjustment factor required to make allowance for any non-response which occurs during the fieldwork in a particular ward or sub-ward.

Central Bureau of Statistics

Nepal Labour Force Survey 2007/08

QUESTIONNAIRE

All information collected in this questionnaire will be confidential as per Statistical Act, 2015 and will be used for statistical purposes only.

Season:

Team No :

PSU CODE:

DD **MM** **YY**

Selected Household ID No.:

Date of interview:

District: ☐☐ .....

Interviewer's Name: .....

VDC/Municipality: .....

☐☐/☐☐

Ward/ Sub-ward:

Signature:

.....

Village/Tole: .....

Supervisor's Name: .....…….

Name of the Household Head:.....

Signature:

☐☐.....

Religion of Household Head:.....

Date: ..... ☐☐ **…….**

Total Household Members (Usual Residents):

Data Entry Operator's Name: **.....**

☐☐

Total Household Members 5 years and above (Usual Residents):

Signature: **.....**

SECTION 1: HOUSEHOLD INFORMATION

1. What is the type of tenancy of the dwelling occupied by your household?
   Owned ……1
   Rented ……..2
   Others (Specify)……3

2. What is the main source of drinking water of your household?
   Piped water ……..1
   Hand pump/Boring…….....2
   Well ……3
   Spout/Spring water……4
   Other source (Specify)……5

3. Which is the most used fuel for cooking in your household?
   Wood/Firewood …..……..……1
   Dung ……..2
   Leaves/Rubbish/Straw/Thatch…....3
   LP Gas ……..……4
   Kerosene …….....5
   Bio-gas ……....…....6
   Others (Specify)……..……..7

4. What is the main source of lighting in your household?
   Electricity ……...1
   Gas/Oil/Kerosene ……...2
   Others (Specify)……3

5. What type of toilet is used by your household?

   Toilet with flush (connected to municipal sewer) ……..1
   Toilet with flush (connected to septic
   tank) …… ….....……..2
   Toilet non-flush …….....3
   Communal latrine ……..……..…4
   No toilet ……..……...5

6. Which of the following facilities are available in your household?

	Yes…1 No.….2 ➔**NEXT FACILITY**	If yes, write the number
6.1 Radio		
6.2 Television		
6.3 Telephone		
6.4 Mobile phone		
6.5 Computer		

7. Do you own any agricultural land, including land operated by yourself, or operate land owned by others?

Yes……1
No…….2➔**9**

8. What is the total area of agricultural land owned or operated?

	Yes..1 No…2	Ropani ...1 Bigha ….2	Ropani/ Bigha	Aana/ Kattha	Paisa/ Dhur
8.1 Own land operated by HH					
8.2 Other's land operated by HH					
8.3 Own land operated by others					

SECTION 2: GENERAL INFORMATION

First of all, I would like to ask questions on general information about the members of your household.

ID CODE	What is the sex of [Name]? Male….1 Female-2	How old is [Name]? ***(Age in Completed years)***	What is [Name's] Caste/Ethnicity?		What is the relationship of [Name] to the head of household? Head.....1 Husband/Wife.....2 Son/Daughter.....3 Grandchild.....4 Father/ Mother.....5 Brother/Sister.....6 Father/Mother in-law..7 Daughter in-law……..8 Other relative……....9 Household worker…..10 Others (specify).....11	What is the present marital status of [Name]? ***(Only for persons aged 10 years and above)*** Never married... ..1 Married..... ...2 Widow/widower..3 Separated.....4 Divorced.....5	What is the citizenship of [Name]? Nepalese……....1 Indian……...2 Chinese……..….3 Bhutanese……..…4 Pakistani……....5 Others (specify)…6	During the last 12 months, how many months did [Name] live here? ***(Write '12' if always present or away for less than 1 month)***	Is [Name] a member of the household as per the determined definition? Yes.....1 No.....2➔**END** *(If no, check on **Section** 7)*
			Caste/Ethnicity	Code					
	9	**10**	**11**		**12**	**13**	**14**	**15**	**16**
01									

ID CODE	Was [Name] born in this VDC/ Municipality? Yes……1➔**21** No…… 2	Where was [Name] born? (If Foreign Country➔**20)**		Was the birth place of [Name] then an urban or rural area? Urban…….1 Rural.....2	What is the main reason for [Name] to leave birth place? Marriage.....1 Other family reason.....2 Better salary/wage.....3 Start new job/business.4 Transfer by employer...5 Study/Training.....6 Looking for work.....7 Easier lifestyle.....8 Natural disaster.....9 Political conflict.....10 Others (specify).....11	Was [Name's] last usual place of residence before this one is the same VDC/ Municipality? Yes……1➔**26** No…….2	What was [Name's] last usual place of residence before this one? (If Foreign Country➔**24)**		Was it then an urban or rural area? Urban……1 Rural.....2	How many years ago did [Name] move last time to this place? *(Write in complete years: if less than 1 year, write '0' and if 15 years or more, write '15')*	What is the main reason for [Name] to migrate here? Marriage.....1 Other family reason.....2 Better salary/wage.....3 Start new job/business.4 Transfer by employer...5 Study/Training.....6 Looking for work.....7 Easier lifestyle.....8 Natural disaster.....9 Political conflict.....10 Others (specify).....11
		District	Code				District	Code			
	17	**18**		**19**	**20**	**21**	**22**		**23**	**24**	**25**
01											

To be asked to all members of age 5 years and above.

						To be asked to members of age 14 Years and above						
ID CODE	Can [Name] read? Yes....1 No.....2➔**28**	Can [Name] write? Yes....1 No.....2	Is [Name] currently attending school/ college? *(Ask only to those of aged 40 years and below)* Yes....1 ➔**30** No.....2	Has [Name] ever attended school /college? Yes....1 No.....2 ➔**31**	What is the highest level of education that [Name] completed?	Has [Name] received any formal vocational/ professional training? Yes.....1 No.....2➔**34**	What was the main area/subject of the training? *(If more than one, write the subject of major training)*		How many months did it take to complete this training? *(If the training is part time calculate its full time equivalent and if the duration is less than 1 month, write '0')*	Does [Name] want to receive any (additional) vocational/ professional training? Yes.....1 No.....2➔**36**	What type of training does [Name] want to receive mainly?	
					Education Code		Description	Training Code			Description	Training Code
	26	**27**	**28**	**29**	**30**	**31**	**32**		**33**	**34**	**35**	
01												

SECTION 3: CURRENT ACTIVITIES

Now I would like to ask questions about activities done in the last 7 days. Some of these activities (Q.No. 36) are considered to be work, and some of them (Q.No. 37) are important household chores.

Q. No.36: During the last 7 days, did [Name] do any of the following WORK activities?

(Record hours actually spent doing the activity during the last 7 days. If No Write ' - ')

ID CODE	Wage Employed		Self Employed								Total Hours (A-J)
	Agriculture	Non-Agriculture	Business	Agriculture	Milling and food processing	Handicrafts, Tailoring	Construction and major repairs	Fetching water	Collecting firewood/Cow dung	Other work activities	
	A	**B**	**C**	**D**	**E**	**F**	**G**	**H**	**I**	**J**	**Q36T**
01											

A. Working for wage or salary, or payment in kind (e.g. food, clothes) in agriculture sector.
B. Working for wage or salary, or payment in kind (e.g. food, clothes) in non-agriculture sector, such as mining, manufacturing, construction, trade and other business services and in other national international non-government organizations.
C. Retail shop, street or market trader, other trading activity, transporting products to market for sale, operating taxi, tempo service, tuition, couching, etc.
D. Planting, weeding, harvesting, keeping birds/pests away from crops, carrying crops to/from storage, herding, looking after animals, poultry farming, etc.
E. Milling rice, maize, etc., any other processing of food (except cooking for household use only).

F. Tailoring, dress making, weaving, making handicrafts, etc.
G. Construction and major repair of houses, farm buildings, fences, boats, construction works done through volunteer labour (road, bridge, building, etc.).
H. Fetching water. I. Collecting firewood.
J. Any other home-based economic activities.

Q. No. 37: During the last 7 days, did (Name) do any of the following activities WITHOUT PAY or PROFIT FOR YOUR HOUSEHOLD and for COMMUNITY?

(Mention each activity serially from 'A' onwards)
(Record hours actually spent doing the activity during the last 7 days. If No Write ' - ')

ID CODE	Cooking/ serving food for household	Cleaning utensils/house	Minor household repairs	Shopping for household	Caring old/sick/infirm	Child care	Other volunteer/ community services	Total hours **(A-G)**	Total of Q. No. **36** *(Copy from previous page)*	Grand Total **Q36T+ Q37T**
	A	**B**	**C**	**D**	**E**	**F**	**G**	**Q37T**	**Q36T**	**CAT**
01										

F. Feeding, taking to school and other cares of children.
G. Services rendered voluntarily only (excluding volunteer construction work).

Ask only if Q36T=0 in Q. No. 36, otherwise go to Q. NO. 41 (➔41)

ID CODE	Though [Name] did not work in last 7 days, does [Name] have a job or business to which he/she will return to work? Yes.....1 No.....2 ➔**76**	Is [Name] receiving any pay (in cash or kind) or other returns from a job or business while not at work? Yes ....1➔**41** No.....2	How long has [Name] been away from the job or business without pay? Less than 2 months .....1 Two months or more ...2➔**76**	What was the main type of work [Name] did in last 7 days? *(Did not work in last 7 days, but has a job or business in which he/she will return then write about that job.)* Description	NSCO Code	For how long has [Name] been doing this sort of work? Less than 1 year .....1 1 to less than 5 years....2 5 to less than 10 years..3 10 years or more 4
	38	**39**	**40**	**41**		**42**
01						

ID CODE	What is the main goods or service produced at the place where [Name] works?		What is/was the status of [Name] involved in this main job?	What is/was the basis for [Name's] employment?	What is the duration of contract?	Does [Name's] employer pay social security contribution for [Name]?	Does [Name] benefit from paid leave or get compensation for unused leave?
			Paid employee.....1 Operating own business or farm with regular paid employees……2➔**50** Operating own business or farm without regular paid employees..3➔**51** Contributing family member without pay.....4➔**50** Others (specify).....5➔**50**	Permanent……..1➔**49** Contract……..…2 Piece-rate…….3	Daily……....1 Less than 1 month.....2 1 to less than 3 months...3 3 to less than 6 months...4 6 to less than 12 months.5 Over 12 months…....…6	Yes……1 No……2	Yes……..….1 No……..….2
	Goods or service produced	NSIC Code					
	43		**44**	**45**	**46**	**47**	**48**
01							

ID CODE	Where is/was [Name] working?	How many regular paid employees are/were employed in this business where [Name] works/worked?	Where is/was the enterprise/ business/farm located?	**For paid employees only (Otherwise➔Q56)** How is/was [Name] paid?	What is the periodicity of the payment at his/her main work?	How much did [Name] earn last week from his/her main work?		How much did [Name] earn last month from his/her main work?	
	In government service.....1➔**53** In financial public corporation.....2➔**53** In non-financial public corporation…….3➔**53** In NGOs/INGOs.....4➔**53** In private registered financial company…. ..5➔**52** In private registered non-financial company.6➔**52** In private unregistered organisation……..7 Others (specify).....8	*(Exclude employers, unpaid apprentices, unpaid family workers and casual workers)* None .....1 1 to 4 .....2 5 to 9.....3 10 or more…..4➔**52**	In your home/farm.....1 In some other building/farm…...2 At fixed stall (roadside, market)3 Others (specify).....4	Contract....1 Piece-rate……..2➔**54a**	Daily.....1 Weekly.....2 Monthly....3 ➔**55a** Others (specify)...4	➔**56**			
						Cash (Rs)	In-Kind (Rs)	Cash (Rs)	In-Kind (Rs)
	49	**50**	**51**	**52**	**53**	**54a**	**54b**	**55a**	**55b**
01									

ID CODE	Did [Name] also do any other work within the last 7 days? Yes…….1 No…….2➔**60**	What type of secondary work did [Name] do in last 7 days? ***(If more than one job, get details of the main secondary job in which person spent most time)***		What is the main goods or service produced at the place where [Name] works in this secondary job?		What is/was the status of [Name] involved in this secondary job? Paid employee.....1 Operating own business or farm with regular paid employees……2 Operating own business or farm without regular paid employees…3 Contributing family member without pay.....4 Others (specify).....5
		Description	NSCO Code	Produced goods or service	NSIC Code	
	56	**57**		**58**		**59**
01						

ID CODE	How many hours does [Name] USUALLY work per week?			How many hours did [Name] ACTUALLY work last week? ***(Compare this with Q36T of Q. No. 36)***			Subtract Q60 from Q63. If Q63 – Q60 = 0 ➔**68** If Q63 – Q60 = - ➔**68** If Q63 – Q60 = + ➔**67**	What is the main reason that [Name] worked for more hours last week? To have a higher income……1 Exceptionally high workload that week.2 Variable in timetable…….3 Others (specify)..……..…4
	Main activity	Other activities	Usual Total	Main activity	Other activities	Actual Total		
	60	**61**	**62**	**63**	**64**	**65**	**66**	**67**
01								

UNDEREMPLOYMENT

Check total hours worked (Q36T) entered under Q. No. 36, and enter ' - ' in Q. 68 if total hour in Q36T is 40 or more and then go to Q85, otherwise continue.

ID CODE	Why didn't [Name] work more hours in last 7 days? Could not find more work/lack of business...01 Lack of finance, raw materials.... .....02 Machinery, electrical , other breakdown…...03 Off season inactivity.....04 Industrial dispute (strike, laid off).....05 Other involuntary (specify).....06 Have sufficient work.....07➔**85** Household duties.....08➔**85** Student, unpaid training.....09➔**85** Illness, disability.....10➔**85** Vacation, family reason.....11➔**85** Pregnant/Delivery.....12➔**85** Other voluntary (specify).....13➔**85**	How many more hours did [Name] want to work in last 7 days?	Has [Name] looked for more work in the last 30 days? Yes.....1 No.....2 ➔**75**	Did [Name] apply to any employers in the last 30 days? Yes……...1 No……...2	Did [Name] ask friends or relatives to find additional work in the last 30 days? Yes.....1 No.....2	Did [Name] take action to start own business in the last 30 days? Yes.....1 No.....2	Did [Name] look for more work in other ways in the last 30 days? Yes ……...1 No.....2	How long has [Name] been available for more work? Less than 1 month.....1 1 to less than 3 months.....2 3 to less than 6 months.....3 6 to less than 12 months.....4 12 to less than 24 months……..……...5 24 months or more.....6 ➔**85**
	68	**69**	**70**	**71**	**72**	**73**	**74**	**75**
01								

SECTION 4. UNEMPLOYMENT

Ask only to those who did not work in last 7 days and did not have any job or business to which he/she can return to work or not receiving any pay (in cash or in-kind) or profit from a job or business during the last 2 months, while not at work.

ID CODE	Was [Name] available to work during the last 7 days? Yes..1 No…2➔**84**	Did [Name] look for work during the last 30 days? Yes….1 No…..2➔**82**	Did [Name] apply to any employers during the last 30 days? Yes…….1 No……..2	Did [Name] ask friends or relatives to find work during the last 30 days? Yes.....1 No.....2	Did [Name] take action to start own business during the last 30 days? Yes…...1 No…....2	Did [Name] look for more work in other ways during the last 30 days? Yes……...1 No.....2 ➔**83**	Why didn't [Name] look for work in the last 30 days? *(Give the main reason if more than one)* Thought no work available.....1 Awaiting reply to earlier enquiries…...2 Waiting to start arranged job/business..3 Off season .....4 Not available.....5➔**84** Others (specify).....6	How long has [Name] been available for work? Less than 1 month.....1 1 to less than 3 months.....2 3 to less than 6 months.....3 6 to less than 12 months.....4 12 to less than 24 months....5 24 months or more.....6 ➔**85**	What was the reason for [Name] not being available for work in the last 7 days? Attending school.....1 Household duties.....2 Old/Sick.....3 Disabled.....4 Others (specify).....5
	76	**77**	**78**	**79**	**80**	**81**	**82**	**83**	**84**
01									

SECTION 5: ACTIVITY IN LAST 12 MONTHS

We have finished talking about the activities of last 7 days. Now I would like to know about your activities during the last 12 months.

ID CODE	During the last 12 months, how many months did [Name] work? *(If worked for 12 months, ➔Q. No. **90**)*	Of the months [Name] was not working during the last 12 months, how many months was [Name] available for work?	During the last 12 months, how many months was [Name] not working and not available for work as well? ***(Check that total of Q. No. 85, 86 and 87 must be "12")***	Write the total months of Q. No. **85** and **86**. *(If 6 months or more ➔ **90**)*	What was the reason for [Name] not being available for work most of the last year? *(If more than one reason, code the main one)* Attending school.....1 Household duties.....2 Disabled.....3 Income recipient.....4 Too old/Sick.....5 Retired.....6 Pregnant/Delivery.....7 Others (specify).....8	What was the main type of work [Name] did in the last 12 months? *(If "0" in Q. No. 85,write "Not Working" in Q. No. 60 and ➔ Q. No. **103**)*	
	Months	Months	Months			Description	NSCO Code
	85	**86**	**87**	**88**	**89**	**90**	
01							

ID CODE	Was this work the same as [Name's] main activity reported for the last 7 days? Yes..1➔**END** No...2	How long has been/was [Name] doing this type of work for? Less than 1 year……...1 1 to less than 5 years……2 5 to less than 10 years……....3 10 years or more……....4	What is the main goods or service produced at the place where [Name] works?		What is/was the status of [Name] involved in this main job? Paid employee.....1 Operating own business or farm with regular paid employees……2➔**101** Operating own business or farm without regular paid employees..3➔**102** Contributing family member without pay.....4➔**101** Others (specify).....5➔**101**	What is the recruitment condition for [Name's] employment? Permanent……1➔**99** Contract……..…..2 Piece rate……...3
			Produced goods or service	NSIC Code		
	91	**92**	**93**		**94**	**95**
01						

ID CODE	What is the duration of [Name's] the contract? Daily……..1 Less than 1 month…..2 1 to 2 months……..…3 3 to 6 months……..…4 7 to 12 months…..…..5 Over 12 months……..6	Does employer pay social security contribution for [Name]? Yes…..…1 No…..…2	Does [Name] benefit from paid leave or get compensation for unused leave? Yes…...1 No.....2	What is/was the periodicity of the payment? Daily……..1 Weekly…….....2 Monthly……....3 Others (specify).4	Where is/was [Name] working? In government service.....1➔**END** In financial public corporation.....2➔**END** In non-financial public corporation……..3➔**END** In NGOs/INGOs.....4➔**END** In private registered financial company…. ..5➔**END** In private registered non-financial company.6➔**END** In private unregistered organisation……..7 Others (specify).....8	How many regular paid employees are/were employed in this business where [Name] works/worked? *(Exclude employers, unpaid apprentices, unpaid family workers and casual workers)* None .....1 1 to 4 .....2 5 to 9.....3 10 or more…..4➔**END**	Where is/was the enterprise/business/farm located? In own home/farm..... .....1 In some other building/farm…...2 At fixed stall (roadside, market).3 Others(specify).....4 ➔ **END**
	96	**97**	**98**	**99**	**100**	**101**	**102**
01							

SECTION 6: PAST EMPLOYMENT RECORD

[Ask those persons who did not work at all (if Q. No. **85** = 0) during the last 12 months]

Now I would like to ask you about previous work you might have done.

ID CODE	Has [Name] ever worked in the past? Yes....1 No.....2➔**END**	What was the last type of work which [Name] did?		What was the main goods or service produced at the place where [Name] worked?		For how long did [Name] work in the last job? Less than 1 year .....1 1 to less than 5 years....2 5 to less than 10 years..3 10 years or more 4
		Description	NSCO Code	Produced goods or service	NSIC Code	
	103	**104**		**105**		**106**
01						

I D CODE	When did [Name] stop working in that job? Less than 2 years ago .....1 2 and less than 5 years ago.....2 5 and less than 10 years ago...3 10 or more years ago.....4	What was the status of [Name] involved in that main job? Paid employee.....1 Operating own business or farm with regular paid employees..... 2➔**110** Operating own business or farm without regular paid employees..... 3➔**110** Contributing family member without pay.....4➔**110** Others (specify).....5➔**110**	Where was [Name] working? In government service .....1 In financial public corporation.....2 In non-financial public corporation.....3 In NGOs/INGOs.....4 In private registered financial company.....5 In private registered non-financial company..6 In private unregistered organisation……..7 Others (specify).....8	What was the reason for leaving the previous work? Illness/Disability.....1 Personal /Family reason.....2 Study.....3 Laid off job.....4 Dissatisfied with work.....5 Unsatisfied from work.....6 Retired.....7 Others (specify).....8 ➔ END
	107	**108**	**109**	**110**
01				

SECTION 7: ABSENTEES INFORMATION

111. Is/are there any person/s, who is/are currently away (absent) from your household?

Yes 1

No ..... 2➔**122**

If yes, mention number of absentees

ABSENTEE ID	List the name of all persons away (absent) from the household. ***(Do not list usual members of the household)***	What is the sex of [Name]? Male …1 Female.2	What was the age of [Name] at the time of leaving home? *(complete years)*	What is the relationship of [Name] to the head of the household? ***(Use the relationship code from Q12)***	What was the highest level of education that [Name] completed at the time of leaving home?	What is the duration of [Name's] absence?	Where is [Name] living now? *(If unknown, write "**000**")*	What is [Name's] occupation over there? *(If unknown, write "**000**")*		Did your household receive any money or goods from [Name] during the past 12 months? Yes …….1 No……..2➔**122**	How much amount did your household receive during past 12 months?	
					Education Code	Months	District Code	Description	NSCO Code		Cash (Rs)	In-kind (Rs)
	112	**113**	**114**	**115**	**116**	**117**	**118**	**119**		**120**	**121a**	**121b**
01												

SECTION 8: REMITTANCE RECEIVED FROM OTHER SOURCES

122. Did your household receive any money or goods from the source other than the person absent from your household in the last 12 months?

Yes 1

No ..... 2➔**END**

If yes, number of donors

DONOR ID	List the name of all the remittance senders other than the absentees of the household. *(Do not list usual household members and members absent from the household)*	What is the sex of [Name]? Male …1 Female.2	What is the age of [Name]? ***(complete years)***	What is the relationship of the [Name] to the head of household? *(Use the relationship code from Q12)*	What is the highest level of education that [Name] completed?	Where is [Name] living now? *(If unknown, write "00")*	What is [Name's] occupation over there? *(If unknown, write "**000**")*		How much amount did your household receive during past 12 months?	
					Education Code	District Code	Description	NSCO Code	Cash (Rs)	In-kind (Rs)
	123	**124**	**125**	**126**	**127**	**128**	**129**		**130a**	**130b**
01										

HOUSEHOLD ROSTER

Total number of persons residing in the household

Tick √ if member of household and age is 5years and above.	Age *(Complete years)*	List all the persons residing in the household. *(First of all write the name of household head, then head's spouse, son/daughter, grand-son/daughter, parents, etc. respectively.*	ID CODE
A	B		
			01

Appendix C: Industry, Occupation and Training classification

In this appendix, we list three classifications which have been used for analyzing the NLFS 2008 data. These classifications are for industry, occupation and type of formal vocational or professional training.

1. Nepal Standard Industrial Classification (NSIC)

(Used for recording responses to questions 43, 58, 93 and 105)

A. AGRICULTURE AND FORESTRY

01 Agriculture and related service activities

02 Forestry, logging and related service activities

B. FISHING

05 Fishing, operation of fish hatcheries and fish farms; service activities incidental to fishing

C. MINING AND QUARRYING

10 Mining of coal and lignite; extraction of peat

11 Extraction of crude petroleum and natural gas; service activities incidental to oil and gas extraction excluding surveying

12 Mining of uranium and thorium ores

13 Mining of metal ores

14 Other mining and quarrying

D. MANUFACTURING

15 Manufacture of food products and beverages

16 Manufacture of tobacco products

17 Manufacture of textiles

18 Manufacture of wearing apparel; dressing and dyeing of fur

19 Tanning and dressing of leather; manufacture of luggage, handbags, saddlery and harness

20 Manufacture of wood and of products of wood and cork, except furniture; manufacture of articles of straw and plaiting materials

21 Manufacture of paper and paper products

22 Publishing, printing and reproduction of recorded media

23 Manufacture of coke, refined petroleum products and nuclear fuel

24 Manufacture of chemicals and chemical products

25 Manufacture of rubber and plastics products

26 Manufacture of other non-metallic mineral products

27 Manufacture of basic metals

28 Manufacture of fabricated metal products, except machinery and equipment

29 Manufacture of machinery and equipment n.e.c.

30 Manufacture of office, accounting and computing machinery

31 Manufacture of electrical machinery and apparatus n.e.c.

32 Manufacture of radio, TV and communication equipment and apparatus

33 Manufacture of medical, precision and optical instruments, watches and clocks

34 Manufacture of motor vehicles; trailers and semi-trailers

35 Manufacture of other transport equipment

36 Manufacture of furniture; manufacturing n.e.c.

37 Recycling

E. ELECTRICITY, GAS AND WATER SUPPLY

40 Electricity and gas supply

41 Collections, purification and distribution of water

F. CONSTRUCTION

45 Construction

G. WHOLESALE AND RETAIL TRADE; REPAIR OF MOTOR VEHICLES, MOTORCYCLES AND PERSONAL AND HOUSEHOLD GOODS

50 Sale, maintenance and repair of motor vehicles and motorcycles; retail sale of automotive fuel

51 Wholesale trade and commission trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles

52 Retail trade, except of motor vehicles and motorcycles; repair of personal and household goods

H. HOTELS AND RESTAURANTS

55 Hotels and restaurants

I. TRANSPORT, STORAGE AND COMMUNICATIONS

60 Land transport

61 Water transport

62 Air transport

63 Supporting and auxiliary transport activities; activities of travel agencies

64 Post and telecommunications

J. FINANCIAL INTERMEDIATION

65 Financial intermediation, except insurance and pension funding

66 Insurance and pension funding, except compulsory social security

67 Activities auxiliary to financial intermediation

K. REAL ESTATE, RENTING AND BUSINESS ACTIVITIES

70 Real estate activities

71 Renting of machinery and equipment without operator and of personal and household goods

72 Computer and related activities

73 Researches and development

74 Other business activities

L. PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION AND DEFENCE; COMPULSORY SOCIAL SECURITY

75 Public administration and defence; compulsory social security

M. EDUCATION

80 Education

N. HEALTH AND SOCIAL WORK

85 Health and social work

O. OTHER COMMUNITY, SOCIAL AND PERSONAL SERVICE ACTIVITIES

90 Sewage and refuse disposal, sanitation and similar activities

91 Activities of membership organizations n.e.c.

92 Recreational, cultural and sporting activities

93 Other service activities

P. PRIVATE HOUSEHOLDS WITH EMPLOYED PERSONS

95 Private households with employed persons

Q. EXTRA-TERRITORIAL ORGANIZATIONS AND BODIES

99 Extra-territorial organization and bodies

2. Nepal Standard Classification of Occupation (NSCO)

(Used for recording responses to questions 41, 57, 90, 104, 119 and 129)

1. LEGISLATORS, SENIOR OFFICIALS AND MANAGERS

111 Legislators

112 Government officials

114 Officials of special interest organizations

121 Directors and chief executives

122 Production and operations department managers

123 Other department managers

131 General managers/managing proprietors

2. PROFESSIONALS

211 Physicists, chemists and related professionals

212 Mathematicians, statisticians and related professionals

213 Computing professionals

214 Architects, engineers and related professionals

221 Life science professionals

222 Health professionals, except nursing

223 Nursing and midwifery professionals

231 College, university and higher education teaching professionals

232 Secondary education teaching professionals

233 Primary and pre-primary education teaching professionals

234 Special education teaching professionals

235 Other teaching professionals

241 Business professionals

242 Legal professionals

243 Archivists, librarians and related information professionals

244 Social science and related professionals

245 Writers and creative or performing artists

246 Religious professionals

3. TECHNICIANS AND ASSOCIATE PROFESSIONALS

311 Physical and engineering science technicians

312 Computer associate professionals

313 Optical and electronic equipment operators

314 Aircraft controllers and technicians

315 Safety and quality inspectors

321 Life science technicians and related associate professionals

322 Modern health associate professional, except nursing

323 Nursing and midwifery associate professionals

324 Traditional medicine practitioners and faith healers

331 Primary education teaching associate professionals

332 Pre-primary education teaching associate professionals

333 Special education teaching associate professionals

334 Other teaching associate professionals

341 Finance and sales associate professionals

342 Business services agent and trade brokers

343 Administrative associate professionals

344 Customs, tax and related government associate professionals

345 Police inspectors and detectives

346 Social work associate professionals

347 Artistic, entertainment and sports associate professionals

348 Religious associate professionals

4. CLERKS / OFFICE ASSISTANTS

411 Secretaries and keyboard-operating clerks/assistants

412 Numerical clerks/office assistants

413 Material-recording and transport clerks/office assistants

414 Library, mail and related clerks/office assistants

419 Other office clerks/assistants

421 Cashiers, tellers and related clerks/office assistants

422 Client information clerks/office assistants

5. SERVICE WORKERS AND SHOP AND MARKET SALES WORKERS

511 Travel attendants and related workers

512 Housekeeping and restaurant services workers

513 Personal care and related workers

514 Other professional services workers

515 Astrologers, fortune-tellers and related workers

516 Protective service workers

521 Fashion and other models

522 Shop salespersons and demonstrators

523 Stall and market salespersons

6. SKILLED AND SEMI- SKILLED AGRICULTURAL AND FISHERY WORKERS

611 Market-oriented gardeners and crop growers

612 Market-oriented animal producers and related workers

613 Market-oriented crop and animal producers

614 Forestry and related workers

615 Fishery workers

621 Subsistence agricultural and fishery workers

7. CRAFT AND RELATED TRADES WORKERS

711 Miners, shot firers, stone cutters and carvers

712 Building frame and related trades workers

713 Building finishers and related trades workers

714 Painters, building structure cleaners and related trades workers

721 Metal moulders, welders, sheet-metal workers, structural-metal preparer

722 Blacksmiths, tool-makers and related trades workers

723 Machinery mechanics and fitters

724 Electrical and electronic equipment mechanics and fitters

731 Precision workers in metal and related materials

732 Potters, glass-makers and related trades workers

733 Handicraft workers in wood, textile, leather and related materials

734 Printing and related trades workers

741 Food processing and related trades workers

742 Wood treaters, cabinet-makers and related traders workers

743 Textile, garment and related trades workers

744 Pelt, leather and shoe making trades workers

8. PLANT AND MACHINE OPERATORS AND ASSEMBLERS

811 Mining and mineral-processing plant operators

812 Metal-processing-plant operators

813 Glass, ceramics and relative plant operators

814 Wood-processing and papermaking-plant operators

815 Chemical-processing-plant operators

816 Power-production and related plant operators

817 Automated-assembly-line and industrial-robot operators

821 Metal and mineral products machine operators

822 Chemical-products machine operators

823 Rubber and plastic products machine operators

824 Wood-products machine operators

825 Printing, binding and paper products machine operators

826 Textile, fur and leather-products machine operators

827 Food and related products machine operators

828 Assemblers

829 Other machine operators and assemblers

831 Locomotive-engine drivers and related workers

832 Motor vehicle drivers

833 Agricultural and other mobile-plant operators

9. ELEMENTARY OCCUPATIONS

911 Street vendors and related workers

912 Shoe cleaning and other street services elementary occupations

913 Domestic and related helpers, cleaners and launderers

914 Building caretakers, windows and related cleaners

915 Messengers, porters, doorkeepers and related workers

916 Garbage collectors and related labourers

921 Agricultural, fishery and related labourers

931 Mining and construction labourers

932 Manufacturing labourers

933 Transport labourers and freight handlers

997 Household work (special code)

998 Student (special code)

999 Not working (special code)

10. ARMED FORCES

011 Armed forces

3. Formal vocational/professional training classification

(Used for coding responses to questions 32 and 35)
Based on the International Standard Classification of Education (ISCED), UNESCO, 1976.

1. GENERAL (INCLUDING LITERACY)

011 General education (including literacy)

2. TEACHER TRAINING, INCLUDING TRAINING FOR EXTENSION AND OTHER FIELDS OF NON-FORMAL EDUCATION

021 Education science and teacher training for work in adult education.

022 Other programmes in teacher training

029 Teacher training n.e.c.

3. FINE AND APPLIED ARTS

031 Audio-visual (Radio/TV Program) and plastic arts, carving, sculpture

032 Handicrafts, spinning, weaving

033 Music, dance

034 Drama

035 Other fine and applied arts (photography, cinematography, music production, printing/publication)

039 Fine and applied arts n.e.c.

4. HUMANITIES

041 A "foreign" or second language and its literature

042 History, archaeology

043 Other humanities (interpreter, translator)

049 Humanities n.e.c.

5. RELIGION AND THEOLOGY

051 Religion and theology

6. SOCIAL AND BEHAVIOURAL SCIENCE

061 Economics/banking

062 Political science

063 Sociology

064 Psychology

065 Geography

066 Other social and behavioural sciences (Journalism, information)

069 Social and behavioural science n.e.c.

7. COMMERCIAL, CLERICAL, BUSINESS AND PUBLIC ADMINISTRATION

071 Shorthand-typing (secretarial)

072 Clerical

073 Labour studies, including personnel administration

074 Accountancy

075 Other commercial, clerical, business and public administration (insurance)

079 Commercial, clerical, business and public administration n.e.c.

8. LAW

081 Law

9. NATURAL SCIENCES

091 Biology

092 Geology

093 Physics

094 Other natural sciences

099 Natural science n.e.c.

10. MATHEMATICS AND COMPUTER SCIENCE

101 Computer science (software development only)

102 Mathematics, statistics and actuarial work

11. HEALTH-RELATED PROGRAMMES

111 Nursing and other medical auxiliary programmes (Traditional birth attendant)

112 Medicine, dentistry and surgery (Pathology service)

113 Other health-related programmes

119 Health n.e.c.

12. CONSTRUCTION TRADES

121 House painting

122 Carpentry

123 Bricklaying

124 Plumbing

125 Electrician

126 Other construction trades

129 Construction and building n.e.c.

13. OTHER CRAFT, TRADE AND INDUSTRIAL N.E.C.

131 Metal trades (welding)

132 Mechanic trades (including mechanical repair)

133 Furniture making and repair

134 Shoe making and repair

135 Printing and book binding trades

136 Mine safety and other mine related

137 Dressmaking, tailoring

138 Other craft, trade and industrial (repair of electrical/electronics appliances)

139 Trade and industry work n.e.c.

14. ENGINEERING

141 Engineering (including watch, radio, TV, computer etc assemble and repairs)

15. ARCHITECTURE AND TOWN-PLANNING

151 Architecture

152 Town or community planning

159 Architecture and town-planning n.e.c.

16. AGRICULTURE, FORESTRY, AND FISHERIES

161 Agriculture, animal husbandry

162 Forestry and forest products technology

163 Fisheries

164 Animal health and veterinary science

17. HOME ECONOMICS (DOMESTIC SCIENCE) N.E.C.

171 Programmes with emphasis on child care

172 Other home economics programmes

179 Home economics n.e.c.

18. TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS

181 Driving skills and motor vehicle operation

182 Aircraft operation

183 Other transport and communication programmes

189 Transport and communications n.e.c.

19. SERVICE TRADES

191 Cooking and food preparation

192 Other hotel and restaurant trades

193 Hairdressing, Beauticians work

194 Police work

195 Other protective services (Environment)

196 Other service trades (including tourism)

199 Service trades n.e.c.

20. MASS COMMUNICATION AND DOCUMENTATION

201 Mass communication and documentation

21. OTHER

211 Physical training

212 Other education n.e.c.

Appendix D: Key findings

The *Nepal Child Labour Report* is based on the Nepal Labour Force Survey 2008 (NLFS 2008), which is a multi-topic household survey that collected information from 16,000 households (800 PSU) on the current situation of employment, underemployment, unemployment and other specific characteristics. Some of the important and key findings from this report are presented here:

- Total households are estimated as 4.8 million, of which 3.5 million households (72.5 per cent) have children.
- There are about 7.77 million children in Nepal between 5 and 17 years of age, of which 50.7 per cent are boys and 49.3 per cent girls.
- Children constitute about 33 per cent of total population.
- Of the total child population, around 33 per cent belong to the Janajati group, 29 per cent to the Brahmin/Chhetri group and 5 per cent to the Newar group.
- The largest child population in the 5-9 year age group (38.3 per cent) followed by the 10-13 year age group (33.8 per cent) and the 14-17 year age group (27.9 per cent).
- The literacy rate of children (5-17 years) is 82.4 per cent; 86.5 per cent of working children are literate.
- The participation rate of child workers is estimated to be about 41 per work cent – 44.9 per cent for girls and 37.0 per cent for boys.
- About 3.2 million children are economically active, of which 36,000 are currently unemployed, searching for a job and available for work.
- Of the total number of working children about 47.7 per cent are from the Janajati group and 46.8 per cent from the Dalit group; about 29 per cent of working children come from Terai castes and the Muslim community.
- Nearly 40 per cent of working children work up to 14 hours a week, while 36 per cent work from 15 to 28 hours and about 15 per cent children from 29 to 42 hours a week.
- About 10 per cent of working children spend more than 42 hours a week engaged in economic activities.
- On average working girls (22.1 hours) spend more hours than boys (21.5 hours) in economic activities.
- 87.7per cent of working children are engaged in agricultural activities, 9.8 per cent are service workers and 2.5 per cent work in the manufacturing industrial sector.
- 90 per cent of child workers are contributing family members, 4.2 per cent are paid employees and 5.9 per cent self-employed.
- The median monthly income of paid child employees is about Rs 2167. The monthly income of more than 44 per cent of working children is between Rs 2,001and Rs 5,000.

- About 50.9 per cent of working children are engaged in child labour of which 70.6 per cent are in Kathmandu Valley and 51 per cent in rural area.
- About 38.5 per cent of child workers come from the Janajati group, followed by the Brahmin/Chhetri group (26.3per cent) and the Dalit group (17.5).
- About 19.7 per cent of working children are employed in hazardous work – 31.2 per cent in urban areas and 19 per cent in rural areas.
- About 37.7 per cent children engaged in hazardous work come from the Janajati group, followed by the Brahmin/Chhetri group (24 per cent) and the Dalit group (20.6); 2.6 per cent of Newar children and 5.6 per cent of Muslim children are employed in hazardous condition.
- On average, boys spend 32.6 hours per week and girl about 29.2 hours engaged in hazardous work.
- The average working hours of children engaged in hazardous work is significantly higher in urban areas (31.3 hours per week) than in rural areas (30.5 hours per week).
- Children in the 14-17 year age group work more hours (42.6 hours per week) than in the 10-13 year age group (13.1 hours per week) and the 5-9 year age group (6.9 hours per week).
- With regard to schooling about 56.8 per cent of children engaged in hazardous work are currently attending school, while slightly more than 43 per cent are not.
- Children spend an average of 3.7 hours per week performing household chores; girls are more involved in non-economic activities (5.9 hours) than are boys (1.6 hours).
- Around 352,000 children are currently employed in the informal sector; this is 91 per cent of all employment in main jobs outside the agricultural sector. Only 34,000 child workers (nearly 9 per cent of total non-agricultural employment) are employed in enterprises that are not considered to be part of the informal sector.
- About 12 per cent of all child workers in Nepal are migrants' children who have moved to their current location.

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