

COMBATING CHILD LABOUR IN UGANDA:

CHALLENGES AND PROSPECTS FROM A DEVELOPMENT PERSPECTIVE

Case Study: Kisenyi Slum, Kampala Distirct

by

KABASIITA MARGARET

JULY 2009

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JULY 2009

DECLARATION

I declare that **COMBATING CHILD LABOUR IN UGANDA: Challenges and Prospects from a Development Perspective (Case Study: Kisenyi Slum, Kampala District)**, is my own work and that all the sources that I have used or quoted have been indicated and acknowledged by means of complete references.

DEDICATION

"The greatest gift in life that I can pass-on to you is education". These are the words of advice from my dear father, the late Francis Xavier Bwambale (RIP), who did not live long enough to see the results of his great works in the foundation he laid for me. With respect for my dear mother, the late Mary Kabahindi Ateenyi (RIP) who delivered me to this world, such a study would never have been carried out by anyone else. To both, I now dedicate this work.

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

| | | |
|-------|---|---|
| AIDS | - | Acquired Immuno Deficiency Syndrome |
| CDW | - | Child Domestic Workers |
| CEDAW | - | Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) |
| CRC | - | Convention on the Rights of the Child |
| CSEC | - | Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children |
| DHS | - | Demographic Health Survey |
| FIDA | - | International Federation of Women Lawyers |
| FDNC | - | Foundation for the Development of Needy Communities |
| FUE | - | Federation of Uganda Employers |
| GNI | - | Gross National Income |
| GoU | - | Government of Uganda |
| HIV | - | Human Immunodeficiency Virus |
| ILO | - | International Labour Organisation |
| IPEC | - | International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour |
| KIN | - | Kids In Need |
| LDCs | - | Least Developed Countries |
| MDG | - | Millenium Development Goals |
| MGLSD | - | Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development |
| NCC | - | National Council for Children |
| OAU | - | Organisation of African Unity |
| OVC | - | Orphans and Vulnerable Children |
| OWNO | - | One World - Nations Onlinw |
| PEAP | - | Poverty Eradication Action Plan |
| PMA | - | Plan for Modernisation of Agriculture |
| SCIU | - | Save the Children in Uganda |
| SMEs | - | Small and Medium-sized Enterprises |
| STDs | - | Sexually Transmitted Diseases |
| TFR | - | Total Fertility Rates |
| UBOS | - | Uganda Bureau of Statistics |

| | | |
|--------|---|--------------------------------------|
| UN | - | United Nations |
| UNDP | - | United Nations Development Programme |
| UNICEF | - | United Nations Children's Fund |
| UPE | - | Universal Primary Education |
| USDOL | - | United States Department of Labour |
| UYDEL | - | Uganda Youth Development Link |

Definitions

A Child

A child by Uganda's Constitution is defined as any person below the age of 18 years (MGLSD, 2006:1).

A Working Child

For purposes of this research, working children are defined as persons aged 15-17 years who were engaged in economic activities for pay or family gain.

Child Labour:

Child labour refers to work that is mentally, physically, or morally harmful to children (MGLSD,2006:2); It can negatively affect their mental, physical, or social development and interferes with their schooling; by depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; by obliging them to leave school prematurely or by requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work. The definition is generally derived from ILO Convention No.138 (1973) on minimum age to employment; and the ILO Convention No 182 (1999) on the worst forms of child labour. Both of these Conventions are complementary to the 1989 UN Convention on the Rights of the child (CRC). The CRC stipulates that children should be protected from economic exploitation and any work that is hazardous interferes with schooling or harmful to their health and development. Therefore, child labour can be described as work that is inconsistent with the principles set under the Conventions and Recommendations, namely that the child is below the minimum age for a given occupation or type of work, or work in an

otherwise non-hazardous occupation under conditions that render the work hazardous for adolescents.

Orphan:

An orphan is a person below age of 18 years who has lost one or both biological parents.

Household:

This is a group of persons who normally live and eat together. In some instances, a household will be different from a family. A household will consist of a head (male or female), a spouse, children and sometimes relatives and visitors.

Head of Household:

Any person in the household whose authority is acknowledged by other members of the household.

Poverty:

The inability of an individual, family or community to attain a minimum standard of living. This is evidenced by the lack of basic needs and services such as food, clothing, bedding, shelter, paraffin, basic health care, roads, markets, education, information and communication. Poverty dimensions of social exclusion, powerlessness, ignorance and lack of knowledge are also, understood as drawn to as key aspects of poverty in Uganda (MGLSD, 2006:4).

Millennium Development Goals:

The UNDP (2000:1) points out the millennium development goals are a set of objectives based upon the United Nations Millennium Declaration of the year 2000 building on earlier international commitments and focused on development and poverty eradication through peace and security, values and human rights, democracy and good governance.

Least Developed Countries (LDCs):

One World – Nations online (2009:1) defines LDCs as a list of the world's most impoverished countries. They are a group of countries that have been identified by the UN as least developed in terms of their low gross national income (GNI), their weak human assets and their high degree of economic vulnerability.

Next Generation:

This means the next generation in a family and/or nation; but also refers to the next stage of development. For purposes of this research, a generation is to last 10years.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

This study was intended to investigate the nature of child labour, continued causes and effects of child labour on development initiatives, establishing the magnitude of the problem and make recommendations for intervention. It was generally established that child labour is a hindrance to developmental programmes by negatively affecting the targeted next generations.

The high rate of child labour was mainly attributed to poverty, HIV/AIDS, low incomes, culture, weak laws, invisible phenomenon, population growth, armed conflict, limited access to education opportunities, employment, gender, social attitudes and ignorance, irresponsible parenthood, agriculture and orphan hood.

Solutions suggested to child labour included; stronger government intervention, training and awareness raising, further research and adopting a zero-tolerance for child labour. Facilitation of the Universal Primary Education Programme to be improved and stronger bye-laws should to be adopted.

Key terms:

Child labour; combating child labour; child labour challenges; child labour and development; child labour magnitude; child labour causes; child labour effects; child labour interventions; child labour stakeholders; Uganda and child labour;

CHAPTER 1

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background

Child labour has long been identified as a problem in many countries both developing and developed. According to the ILO-IPEC Report (2002:5-9), international and regional treaties namely; ILO Convention No.138 (1973) on the minimum age for admission to employment, the ILO Convention No.182 (1999) on the prohibition on the worst forms of child labour, the UN Convention on the rights of the child have been acceded to by the government of Uganda. According to Convention No.182 (ILO,1999: 2), each member state shall take immediate and effective measures to secure the prohibition and elimination of the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency. In Uganda, child labour has been identified as a hindrance to social-economic development and that it has generally got serious implications on the next generation.

The Convention on the Rights of a Child (CRC) stipulates that children should be protected from economic exploitation and any work that is hazardous or interferes with schooling or is harmful to their health and development.

Uganda is a country in the East African region and is still listed among the Least Developed Countries (OWNO, 2009: 1). Like in many countries, both developing and developed, child labour has been identified as a big problem and a threat to

the development of the next generation. In a bid to achieve the millennium development goals (MDGs), "to ensure that all boys and girls complete a full course of primary schooling" (UNDP, 2000: 1), all efforts must be geared to full participation of the next generation for rescuing the LDCs from all their social-economic problems. This can only be realised with total elimination of child labour. LDCs are a group of countries that have been identified by the United Nations (UN) as "Least Developed" in terms of their low Gross National Income (GNI), their weak human assets and their high degree of economic vulnerability (OWNO, 2009: 1).

1.1.1 Child Labour Statistics

The ILO child labour statistics for the year 2004 indicate that 246 million children are child labourers the world over. Of these, 73 million working children are less than 10 years old. No country is immune; there are 2.5 million working children in the developed economies, 2.5 million in transition economies. But of course the LDCs are the hardest hit. Every year, 22,000 children die in work-related accidents. The largest number of working children (127 million) happen to be age 14 and under, and is in the Asia-Pacific region. Sub-Saharan Africa has the largest proportion of working children (48 million children); nearly one-third of these children is age 14 and under (ILO-IPEC, 2004).

Most children work in the informal sector, without legal or regulatory protection. There are 70% working children in agricultural production, commercial hunting and fishing or forestry, there are 8% in manufacturing and 7% in community, social and personal service such as domestic work (ILO -IPEC, 2004).

According to the Uganda Bureau of Statistic, in Kampala district the capital city of Uganda, child labour is still high. The central division in Kampala district has the highest percentage of child labourers at 29.2%. It is closely followed by Kawempe division at 27.7%, Nakawa at 17.9%, Rubaga at 16% and Makindye division at 15.1% (UBOS, 2000). According to the same source about 8,400,000 children are trapped in slavery trafficking, debt bondage, prostitution, pornography and other illicit activities. About one million two hundred of these children have been trafficked.

It's now widely known that a vicious cycle is in operation. Child labour hinders economic development and perpetuates poverty by keeping vulnerable children out of school and limits their prospects for upward social mobility. This underscores the growing international recognition that targeting child labour is more than an issue of poverty alleviation as it is tantamount to safe-guarding children's rights.

Light work is acceptable in every community. Light work is a term that refers to non-hazardous activities done by children within their homes under observation and supervision by their families in an environment free of exploitation. Light work can enable children to learn the roles that they are expected to take on during their adulthood. Household activities if done moderately and in consideration of the capacity and age of the children are acceptable as a process of learning and exercising responsibility within the household to the extent that such activities do not constitute a threat to the well-being of children or prevent attendance in education programmes (MGLSD,2006:3).

According to Sifuna (1990:4-5), the African indigenous education also had its goals geared towards preparing the young for adulthood. The education systems varied from one society to another. Its main purpose was to train the youth for adulthood within society. Indigenous education was not only concerned with the systematic socialisation of the younger generation into norms, beliefs and collective opinions of the wider society; it also placed a very strong emphasis on learning practical skills and the acquisition of knowledge which was useful to the individual and society as a whole. In broad terms, it emphasised social responsibility, job orientation, political participation and spiritual moral values.

Basing on the above, tasks that place children in danger or to unhealthy, dirty, strenuous, immoral and exploitative conditions are unacceptable. This is the type

of child labour the research design is going to centre on, and generally referred to as the worst forms of child labour that has got to be eliminated. It is in the light of this that the Uganda government with the assistance of the ILO-IPEC, has embarked on the drive of combating child labour. On 1st May 2007 the National Child Labour Policy was launched in Uganda. According to the Minister of Gender, Labour and Social Development, this policy would complement other policies and programmes including the Orphans and other Vulnerable Children policy. It would also complement the HIV/AIDS policy and the national strategic framework of activities, the Universal Primary Education, the Poverty Eradication Action Plan and the Programme for Modernization of Agriculture. All these policies are a holistic approach geared towards general poverty eradication and attaining the MDGs.

Uganda has been implementing a national programme on the elimination of child labour since August 1999. According to the ILO/IPEC/UBOS (2001), the population has steadily increased since the first population census was undertaken in 1948 from 4.96 million people to 16.67 million in 1991 and is 24.7 million in 2002. The major factor causing high population growth rate in Uganda is the high fertility rate in Uganda. And consequently, it is the nation with the youngest population in the world according to the United Nations Population Division (Larry/FNDC, 2007: 1).

ILO/IPEC/UBOS (2001) also reveal that, Uganda's population had grown to 28million people in 2007; with average age of 15.3 years, indicating that the country had the largest proportion of children under 14 years in the world, and therefore Uganda had the youngest population in the world by March 2007.

ILO (2004) further reveals that, 246 million children world wide are child labourers. Of these, 73 million working children are less than 10 years old. There are 2.5 million working children in the developed economies ,the rest are found in LDCs and therefore the worst hit.

ILO and MGLSD (2006:11) present 49.3 million children as economically active in Sub-Saharan Africa. The region has the highest percentage of working children globally. In Uganda alone, 2.7 million children were found to be engaged in economic activities by 2001 (UBOS 2001: 29). Differences in methodology and definition make it difficult to track exact changes in child labour over time. Despite Uganda's ratification of key international instruments and conventions aimed to protect children from exploitative work, child labour remains widespread. Most children are working in the informal sector, in agriculture often on subsistence forms, as domestic servants and in illicit activities.

1.2 Scope of Study

A line was drawn between the acceptable and the unacceptable forms of child labour. Children's participation in work that does not affect their health and personal development or interfere with their schooling was generally regarded as being something positive. This includes activities such as helping their parents care for the home and the family, assisting in a family business or earning pocket money outside school hours and during school holidays. It contributes to children's development and to the welfare of their families; it provides them with skills, attitudes and experience, and helps to prepare them to be useful and productive members of society during their adult life. In no way can such activities be equated with child labour, as this term shall be used in this research.

In its most extreme forms, it involves children being enslaved, separated from their families, exposed to serious hazards and illness or left to fend for themselves on the streets of large cities – all of this often at a very early age. The study will focus on the kind of child labour considered negative, the child labour that manifests most extreme forms like child trafficking, stone quarrying and child soldiers among others.

1.3 Problem statement

All studies indicate that child labour is a monstrous violation of human rights. It deprives children of fulfilled and happy childhoods. It denies them the chance to break the vicious cycle of poverty and despair into which they are often born. It undermines the investments in human capital for the future good of the next generation and therefore a big threat to the millennium development goals (MDGs). In Uganda alone, the number of working children has grown to 2.7 millions (MGLSD, 2006: 12).

Child labour has been identified as a hindrance to socio-economic development and it has generally got serious implications on the next generation. If left unchecked, there is likely an occurrence of a vicious cycle of poverty; there will be continued exploitation, there will be no education, there will be exposure to HIV/AIDS and the risks of a multiplier effect of the pandemic and so forth.

More children today are involved in child labour, doing work that is damaging to his or her mental, physical and emotional development. These children work in a variety of industries, and in many parts of the world. The vast majority are in the agricultural sector, where they may be exposed to hard labour, long hours of work, dangerous chemicals and equipment. Others are street children peddling or running errands to earn a living. Some are domestic workers, prostitutes or

factory workers. All are children who have no fair chance of real childhood, an eradication or hope for a brighter future.

Child labour constitutes one of the greatest sources of child abuse and exploitation and is a fundamental violation of the rights of the child. The government of Uganda acknowledges that; a stable, prosperous and modernised Uganda will thrive by investing in children, understands that child labour, particularly in its worst forms, violates the dignity of children and hinders the realisation of national development goals. It recognizes explicitly the close link between eliminating child labour and other important national concerns including eradicating poverty, improving accessibility to education and reducing the impact of the HIV/AIDS pandemic (MGLSD: 2006).

Child labour refers to work that is mentally, physically, socially and/or morally dangerous and harmful to children. In addition, child labour is perceived as work or activities that interfere with children's school attendance. It is also hazardous work, which by its nature or the circumstances under which it is performed jeopardizes the health, safety and morals of a child.

When any of the above mentioned characteristics are observed where children are working, child labour takes the form of hazardous work that requires

elimination as a matter of urgency. Such child labour is deemed to constitute the worst forms of child labour.

As articulated in ILO Convention No.182 (1999), the term worst forms of child labour includes;

- Child slavery or practice similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and use of children in armed conflict.
- Use of procurement and offering a child for prostitution and pornography.
- Use of children in illicit activities, such as drug trafficking.
- And work that is likely to harm the health and safety morals of children.

The elimination of child labour has not made much significance especially in 3rd world economies. In the rural economies, children are still playing a significant role to support the family subsistence. Fetching water, collecting firewood, grazing cattle, caring for younger children and supporting parents in the fields are most common work of children in the rural areas. Besides, they also extend support as family bread winners working as domestic workers. Nowadays, pushed by poverty and deprivation, many children are migrating to the urban areas, and this has ultimately contributed to an overwhelming increase of the magnitude of child labour in the cities. A majority of children are employed in informal sectors like market places, street vending, building and construction, stone quarries, agricultural fields and collection of scrap.

1.4 Research questions

The prevailing questions while conducting this research were based on the following;

1. What are the root causes of child labour?
2. What is the nature and form of child labour?
3. What is the magnitude of the problem?
4. What interventions are in place by various stakeholders?
5. What are the challenges in combating child labour?
6. What can be done to improve on the current situation?

1.5 Research Objective

The overall objective of the study was to generate information on the incidence, nature, forms, magnitude, trends and causes of child labour in Uganda and making recommendations of abating the situation.

Specifically, the study was intended to realize the following objectives;

- Establish the socio-economic conditions of children affected by child labour.
- To determine the nature, magnitude and pattern of child labour.
- Identify the likely future impact of child labour on development programmes and initiatives.
- To explore the existing initiatives by various organizations aimed at combating it.

- To establish the loopholes in the efforts geared towards combating child labour.
- To make recommendations geared towards combating child labour.

1.6 Conceptual Frame Work

Socio-economic, political and demographical factors that cause child labour have been considered in the conceptual framework. It has also been noted that these factors are inter-dependent. The Economic factors include financial status of the family, budget allocation by concerned parties, economic gains, the urge to provide oneself with basic needs and an improved standard of living. Economic, political, social and cultural factors such as armed conflict, inaccessibility to education, high educational costs, negative attitude towards cultural practices, the spread of HIV/AIDS, lack of enforcement on child labour laws and many other factors that instigate child labour.

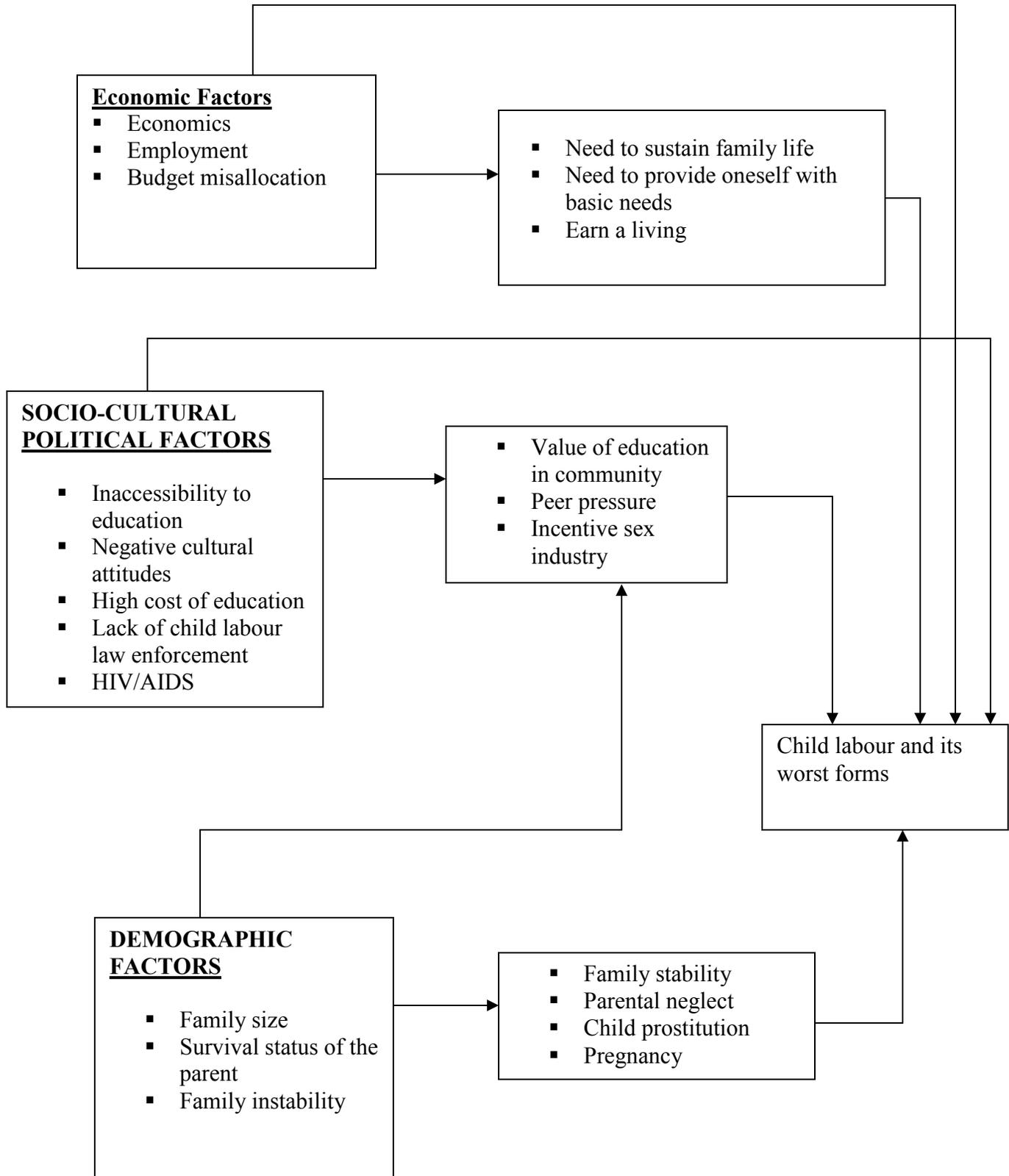
Demographic factors were also considered such as gender because the girls are more prone to child domestic labour. Family size was also considered due to the fact that it determines the extent of burden on the head of household. The HIV/AIDS scourge which has robbed families of their parents was also considered and in most cases, child headed house holds are victims of child labour for survival reasons. (See the conceptual framework below).

Conceptual Frame Work on Child Labour (Adapted from Katunguka, 2007: 4)

Original Variable

Intermediate factors

Dependants



1.7 Hypothesis

1. There are more female child laborers in Kisenyi slum than the male owing to cultural factors.
2. Orphans are more likely to get involved in child labour than the non-orphans.
3. The school drop-out rate in Kisenyi is higher among the males than among the females.
4. There are more child labourers in Kisenyi slum than in any other area in Uganda.
5. The magnitude of the problem (child labour) is big.

1.8 Importance of the study:

The study investigated the recurring causes of child labour, challenges faced in the process of combating child labour and the role played by stakeholders and policy makers and making realistic recommendations for intervention.

1.9 TIME FRAME

| NO. | ACTIVITY | PERIOD | TIME OF YR |
|------------|--|---------------|-------------------|
| 1 | Submit proposal | 2 months | April 2007 |
| 2 | Literature Review | 2 months | April 2007 |
| 3 | Draft Questionnaire | 1 week | April 2007 |
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CHAPTER 2

2.0 LITERATURE REVIEW

2.1 Introduction

This section will investigate the recurring causes of child labour as well as its effects. It also reviews the nature of child labour, challenges faced in a bid to combat child labour in Uganda and interventions.

2.2 Causes of Child Labour

2.2.1 Poverty

Uganda being among the least developed countries (OWNO, 2009: 1), it is entangled amidst numerous socio-economic problems in terms of low gross national income (GNI), weak human assets and their high degree of economic vulnerability. Children are most vulnerable when people lack essentials like food, water, sanitation and health care among others. Generally the situation is made worse by poverty. Where many do not have the chance of education, they suffer physical and emotional abuse. Children are the first to die when basic needs are not met. Therefore, engaging in child labour is a desperate move by children to make ends meet.

Agostino (2005: 75) mentioned that poverty was mainly growing among children and the youth. There was a clear unequal distribution of poverty among age

groups. "One interpretation of why this is so relates to the capacity of older groups to present their demands and exercise pressure in order to get them satisfied, while Children and the youth are not in a position to present corporate demands or to exercise any pressure on those who take decisions on public expenditure.

Swardt & Theron (2005: 21-35) look at the situation in South Africa from a unique angle which combines jobs, money, hunger and morbidity major determinants of "in and out of poverty". They go on to indicate that, "transitions in and out of poverty relate to changes in employment status, particularly wage labour. Wage labour is the most important source of the total household income".

Swardt and Theron go on to point out that hunger is the most extreme expression of poverty as the basic bodily needs are not met. Internationally, a high proportion of the poor experience extended periods of hunger and they will most likely suffer poor health, a common characteristic of impoverished communities due to risks that poor people are exposed to. They form another vicious cycle of malnutrition, poor hygiene and sanitation, natural disasters and morbidity.

It is in the light of this, that a child from a poor family will most likely go out to work for economic gains in order to meet the basic needs especially where, the child is orphaned or where there is a need to supplement the meager family incomes.

2.2.2 Weak laws

The situation is exacerbated by inadequate policy and weak laws. What is in place is not appropriate at all and this puts the rate of child labour high.

2.2.3 Invisible Phenomenon

In developing countries, child labour is an invisible phenomenon; invisible because children work in hidden occupations such as domestic work and armed conflict. Work for young people is regarded as an opportunity rather than exploitation.

2.2.4 HIV/AIDS

In Uganda, pandemics like the HIV/AIDS have become a major cause of child labour. The HIV/AIDS induced child labour comes about when a child loses one or both parents who have been supporting the family, the child has to look for employment for survival. With limited opportunity to attend school and lack of family support, they have suffered indignity and the highest risk of engaging in child labour. Barrow & Ince (2008: 34) point out that, HIV/AIDS in Trinidad &

Tobago has affected children's rights in a number of ways. As well as reducing their health, children with HIV may become orphans.

2.2.5 Low Income

Low house hold income is usually a push factor for children to go looking for employment to supplement household incomes. This is common with child headed households, children with a sick parent (s) and children from generally poor families. Even where families are engaged in small and medium sized enterprises (SMEs), such businesses face financing challenges. Most of the firms are not aware of certain existing sources of finance those that are aware are credit –constrained. SMEs are always constrained by the limited availability of financial resources to meet a variety of operational and investment needs and yet, they form the backbone of all economies. Migiro (2005: 3-15), points out for example that owing to problems associated with accessing bank credit facilities, a large proportion of Kenyan manufacturing firms rely more on self-financing in terms of retained earnings. As a result, SMEs do not have adequate credit to meet the needs for business expansion. Consequently, lack of access to formal finance by SMEs for expansion has also contributed to low profits, low employment levels, and in case of employment the situation is witnessed by low salaries and hence, low incomes.

2.2.6 Culture

Cultural beliefs have also affected certain sections negatively for instance, some believe that a girl does not have to go to school but support her parents until she is married to the benefit of her parents in order to fetch them dowry. So, the girl-child always ends up suffering at the peril of being a young woman by doing domestic work and working on subsistence agriculture in preparation for womanhood.

2.2.7 Population growth

According to the Uganda National Child Labour Policy, one of the factors that influence child labour in Uganda is the high rate of population growth, 3.3% per annum, (MGLSD, 2006: 5). Uganda now reportedly has the largest youngest population in the world (Larry/FNDC, 2007: 1). The total fertility rate (TFR) has persistently remained high in Uganda among women in the age bracket of 15- 49 years. This has resulted into very large family sizes especially among the poor households and consequently this widens the dependency burden for such families. Uganda's population has remained characteristically young. Almost 56% of the population are below the age of 18 years. This large segment of population will in future have major implications for the nation's overall development, welfare of children and provision of social services.

Statistics indicate that in 1948 Uganda's population was 4.96 million people; in 1991 the population had raised to 16.67 million people, in 2002 to 24.7 million people. The country's population density is much higher than that of many African countries namely; Kenya, Zambia, Ethiopia, Eritrea and Tanzania (UBOS: 2001).

Referring to the 1999/2000 Uganda National Household Survey, more than half (52%) of the total population of Uganda is aged less than 15 years. The percentage is higher in rural areas (53%) than in urban areas (45%). Such a population composition indicates that the country's dependency ratio is high which normally contributes to high vulnerability rates and puts more than half the children at risk of child labour.

2.2.8 Armed Conflict

Armed conflict forces many families to vacate their homes and live in camps. The girls and boys suffer from abduction and forced conscription by armed forces. Thus, children who have been displaced are at great risk of exploitation (MGLSD, 2006: 6).

Secondly, life in the camps jeopardizes children's education and career development. Limited facilities and sufficient teachers leave many children streaming into hazardous and illicit activities. As a result of the above, some

children have ended up engaging in armed conflict as child soldiers either forcefully by abduction or voluntarily. This has been a common practice in northern Uganda, a zone that has been war torn for close to 20 years since 1986 when the war started.

2.2.9 Limited access to Education Opportunities

According to MGLSD (2006: 7), child labour can not be approached separately from the issue of education. This is compounded by the age for starting primary education, which is six years under the ordinary primary school enrolment. Where this is practiced children complete their primary education before they have attained the age of 14, the minimum age for admission to employment provided for in the labour legislation. Owing to limited opportunities for education, such children start work at a tender age.

2.2.10 Employment

The state of gainful engagement in any economic activity usually sends children in search for work. It is rather regarded as an opportunity and not a threat on their own future. More often payment was in kind and in form of food, shelter and sometimes, old and used clothes (MGLSD,2006: 13).

2.2.11 Gender

Both boys and girls are affected by child labour. However, the girls have special vulnerabilities. Gender inequalities and cultural attitudes that tend to give preference to boy's education over the girl's relegate them to limited opportunities of life. The life of girls does revolve around the home in domestic chores such as child care and looking after the sick. This type of work is time consuming and often interferes with education. Limited opportunities for education prevents girls from education and get attracted to any kind of job that is available. Very often, these jobs represent the invisible forms of child labour.

Boys are affected by child labour in a number of ways. Boys do enter petty jobs such as wheelbarrow pushing, selling food, vending, hawking and carpentry work and carrying luggage. Boys are further attracted to do some work in invisible activities such as, fishing, crushing stones, making bricks, construction work, drugs and illegal trafficking of goods. In some parts of the country where cattle is a form of employment and a source of wealth, the boys look after the animals through out their childhood without going to school at all (MGLSD,2008: 8).

2.2. 12 Social attitudes and ignorance

Societal attitudes and ignorance have a strong influence on society as a whole including child labour practices and exploitation both in homes and outside. There is a lack of understanding regarding the difference between child work and

exploitative labour. In many settings, child labour is considered normal even if it poses risks to the health and development of the child. There is widespread acceptance of child labour which prevents school attendance, especially for the girl child (MGLSD,2006: 8).

2.2.13 Irresponsible Parenthood

Other sources for child labour manifest in polygamous families where many forms of violence including drunkenness, battering and neglect of the family threaten family stability and harmony. Polygamous families tend to be too large with constrained resources and limited capacity to provide for basic needs for each child. Such circumstances pose a great risk of driving children into exploitative labour to meet survival needs (MGLSD,2006: 10).

2.2.14 Agriculture

In Uganda, agriculture is the key sector of the economy, providing 80% employment and a livelihood to the majority of the poor in the rural areas. Most of the agricultural activities are carried out on small holder farms using rudimentary tools and implements. Both food and cash crops, such as, coffee, tobacco and cotton are labour intensive and they demand a lot of family labour. Children represent a substantial part of the labour force in agriculture. Because of the rural setting and higher value attached to children's contribution to the

family survival, they have to participate in some way or another even if it means pulling a child out of school (MGLSD,2006: 10).

2.2.15 Orphanhood

According to UNDP (2003), orphans form a large part of the Ugandan population. Out of the total orphan population of two million, HIV/AIDS is responsible for almost half (950,000) or 48%. Rather than by their choice, some orphans and other children affected by HIV/AIDS have been drawn into hazardous activities to make a living. A survey by the ILO in collaboration with Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) and UBOS focusing on child labour and HIV/AIDS 2003 in selected districts found out that among the 929 child respondents, 417 had been affected by HIV/AIDS and 398 of the affected children were working.

Due to such circumstances, children always end up looking for means of survival by getting employed irrespective of the conditions. It all may sound good for a suffering child to find employment but his/her future gets doomed.

2.3 Nature and Magnitude of Child Labour:

In Uganda, precise data on the nature, magnitude, dynamics and trends of child labour is difficult to ascertain. A number of studies more particularly the thematic and sectoral studies on child labour in Uganda (ILO/SIMPOC, 2004) are progressively bringing to light the dimensions of the problem in Uganda.

In 1999, the ILO estimated that 44.15 of children between ages 10-14 are working in Uganda. In urban areas, children are employed in garages and workshops. Children also sell small items on the streets, beg, wash cars, and scavenge. Children work on commercial farms, including tea, coffee and tobacco (ILO,199). The Government of Uganda (GoU) reports that some of the worst forms of child labour in the country include heavy domestic work, commercial sex and sexual slavery, smuggling of merchandise across border and involvement in military operations and work of children living on the street (MGLSD,2006).

In the Caribbean for instance, childhood was further damaged by the institution of slavery. Child mortality was high amongst slaves and slave owners found it cheaper to import slaves, than to allow their existing ones to bring up children.

After the abolition of slave trade in the British Empire in 1807 – encouraging slaves to reproduce themselves was essential to the survival of the system. Even

then children as young as 4 years had to work and 10 year olds were full members of the plantation work force. This poor treatment of children continued after slavery was abolished in 1838 and in Trinidad and Tobago during the era of indentured labour (1838 – 1917). During the 20th Century, the expectation grew that children would be educated rather than work (Barrow & Ince, 2008: 30).

2.3.1 Fishing

Fishing has been a traditional activity on some islands and along the lake shores. There are many children working long hours through chilly nights on lakes. The risk of accidents and death is very high on the canoes, generally without life saving devices. Other associated hazards include water borne diseases like schistosomiasis, chest pains and fatigue from carrying heavy loads (UNICEF 2001). The risk of contracting STDs and HIV/AIDS is very high due to the lifestyle in fishing villages (UNICEF, 2001).

2.3.2 Domestic Child Labour

Sector studies and situational analyses on child domestic work carried out by several organizations including the National Council of Children (NCC), FIDA (1995), Women and Youth Services (2001) and Platform for labour Action, have illustrated that child domestic labour is a serious problem. It was found that 90% of Child Domestic Workers (CDWs) in Uganda were girls aged between 12-17 years their working conditions were demeaning; some working for more than 14

hours a day most of them had never been to school. They were involved in cooking for the family, baby sitting, cleaning houses, taking and collecting children from school. Their terms and conditions of service were not clearly defined. More often payment was in kind; in form of food, shelter and sometimes old clothes.

There are a number of abuses associated with child domestic work including sexual and verbal abuse, beatings, isolation and detachment from friends and families. CDWs also face the risk of contracting HIV/AIDS through sexual abuse.

2.3.3 Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC)

Commercial sexual exploitation is one of the most exploitative forms of child labour. A study carried out by the MGLSD in collaboration with the ILO's IPEC uncovered a significant number of children under the age of 18 in this practice. According to this study, 64% of the children involved in commercial sex were out of school. Most of the victims were either orphaned or from families suffering from domestic violence (ILO/MGLSD,2004: 57).

CSEC subjects children to emotional and physical danger that can leave scars for a lifetime. HIV/AIDS and STDs, sexual assault, unwanted pregnancies and crude abortions and sometimes death are extremely high.

2.3.4 The urban Informal Sector and Street Activities

The urban informal sector has different work settings, ranging from motor garages, carpentry workshops, markets, cooking, vending, and hawking. Though studies are still very limited in this sector, there are signals that the sector harbors a considerable number of working children. The study on child labour and the urban informal sector has provided new insights on the situation of the victims. The majority of child labourers (82%) are involved in hazardous work specified by the relevant ILO Conventions (MGLSD/ILO-IPEC 2004).

Some of the children have ended up on the streets of Kampala as a result of child trafficking a new practice that does not have statistics about it yet. But some children have ended up on the streets due to people who bring them from rural areas with promises for better livelihoods and they either end up being mistreated, take to the streets or directly being inducted into street beggars for economic gains (Kasirye, 2007). Such activities affect the health and safety of children. A list of the hazards they face include exposure to dangerous chemicals, and substances such as petroleum, paint, battery acids and electrical shocks. In addition, eyesight and hearing damage are among the potential occupational injuries inflicted on the children in the informal sector.

2.3.5 Armed Conflict

Children trapped in armed conflict have been exposed to the most traumatizing experience. Children in such situations include child soldiers, abducted children, refugees and internally displaced children and children who have lost family members as a result of conflict.

2.3.6 Construction Sector

Construction is a very dynamic sector where children are being used as a source of cheap labour. A study by the Federation of Uganda Employees (FUE) in the construction sector in Uganda estimated that 31.7% of children in the construction sector were in the age range 15-18 years. Another 38.7% of children in the construction sector were involved in related activities such as brick making, sand and stone quarrying.

2.4 Effects/Consequences of Child Labour:

Child labour is a cause and consequence of the country's socio-economic destiny. The effects of child labour are gradual and they don't only affect individuals who are the core victims but also affect the community, nations, and the whole world in terms of socio-economic development.

It is now widely known that a vicious cycle is in operation. Child labour hinders economic development and perpetuates poverty by keeping the children of the poor out of school and limits their prospects for upward social mobility.

Some of the effects of child labour can be instant whereas others are long term and can only be realised on the next generation.

2.4.1 Immediate Effects

There is an increased number of children living on the streets. Children are involved in begging, cleaning of vehicles, drug abuse and sniffing of fuel and scavenging. For as long as children are forced to work and/or prevented from attending school, they will remain powerless and trapped in a vicious circle of poverty for generations to come since they do not have a bright future to look forward to.

2.4.1.1 Effects on Education

One of the damaging and most wide spread risks that children face when they work prematurely is the denial of education. Lack of education is damaging because prosperity in life depends on intellectual competence starting with fundamental literacy.

2.4.1.2 Vicious cycle of poverty and exploitation

Another grave consequence of child labour is poverty at family level and at community level. Poverty forces children to work to earn a living and to look after families. Their poverty situation is scaled by exploitation through underpayment, payment in kind or no pay. The lack of bargaining power and skills undermines the children's position further. With no bargaining power and skills, they are condemned to continuous exploitation and poverty. Children living in extreme poverty often work instead of attending school, their destiny remains doomed to suffer the vicious cycle of poverty. The continued reliance of poor families on the paid or unpaid work of their children as opposed to investing in their education becomes one of the most vicious and powerful channels for the transfer of poverty.

2.4.1.3 Child Growth and Development

The other concern is the physical, psychological and emotional damage caused by child labour. The effects of hazardous work on children can restrict their

physiological and emotional development. Child labour can harm children's sense of self-worth. Child labour also exhausts children physically, which can limit their ability to learn. It should be noted that some effects on the health of children appear in the long term. Exploitative labour also damages the children's cognitive development.

2.4.1.4 Multiplier effect on HIV/AIDS

Child labour has a multiplier effect on HIV/AIDS. Children especially girls, may find that the only source of income is commercial sex. This exposes them to a higher risk of being infected with HIV/AIDS.

2.4.2 Gradual Effect

Basically, the promise of a new generation is largely lost if child labour remains unchecked. Without an enlightened generation, there leaves room for the not so empowered generation, who will not have intellectual competence for job placement, then they shall never afford or have access to the basic needs in life like education, health service, shelter, food etc and the vicious cycle keeps revolving. Therefore, this means that the following under listed MDGs may never be realised;

- Eradicate extreme poverty and hunger
- Achieve universal primary education
- Promote gender equality and empowerment

- Reduce child mortality
- Improve maternal health
- Combat HIV/AIDS, Malaria and other diseases
- Ensure environmental sustainability
- Develop a global partnership for development

There are other various gradual effects that are brought about by child labour. These are but not limited to; an underdeveloped economy since this can only be well managed by an elite society. With a vicious cycle of poverty resulting from child labour, chances become high that the whole economy will remain underdeveloped. This encompasses a lot of other areas of development like high mortality rates, increased poverty indicators where a society can not afford its basic needs like food, shelter, health, education and clothing. The bottom line here is a fact that education is a key to development but for a child denied education due to child labour, may never have a bright future.

2.5 Measures and Interventions by Various Stakeholders

2.5.1 Government's Position

2.5.1.1 The Uganda Constitution 1995

This provides for the protection of children from hazardous and exploitative work. The constitution clearly spells out the following rights of children;

Children are entitled to be protected from social and economic exploitation and shall not be employed in or required to perform work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with their education, to be harmful to their health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral and or social development (Uganda, 1995: 34 (4).

The convention on the rights of the child acknowledge children's status and enhance their priority in national development plans or political agendas continue to fall short (Barrow & Ince, 2008: 1).

2.5.1.2 The Employment Decree of 1975

There exists the employment decree of 1975 that limits employment of children between 12-18 years prevents or prohibits it for children below 12 years (Part IV Section). The decree however, restricts employment for those aged between 12 and 18years and empowers labour inspectors to monitor compliance. The employment decree section 50, sets the minimum age for employment at 12

years, except for light work as prescribed by the minister of labour by statutory order (Uganda: 1975).

2.5.1.3 The children's statute of 1996

The children's statute of 1996 spells out the rights of a child and the welfare principles that guide the rights for children. Part 2, Section 9 states "A child has a right not to be made to work or take part in any activity whether for pay or not which is likely to injure the child's health, education, mental, physical or moral development. For example, all children have to help out in household work, but they must do so according to their age and ability". In addition, a child in Uganda has a right to the following (Uganda: 1996):-

- A right to live with his or her parents. Provision is also made in instances where the child and parent are separated.
- Right to education and guidance.
- Right to be protected from violence, ill-treatment and behaviour that might show a lack of care or interest in the child.
- Right to be protected from any form of discrimination.
- Right to be protected from any social or customary practice that is dangerous to the child's health.

2.5.1.4 Revisions made to Labour Laws:

The employment Decree of 1975 and three other labour laws have been revised so that they are in line with the principles of the ILO convention Nos.138 and 182. The revision takes care of the prohibition of persons below the age of 18years from working in hazardous and injurious work. In addition, the minimum age of admission to employment has been set at 14years.

2.5.1.5 Government through the ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development

This department has initiated a number of interventions in form of policies and has also set up institutions that are indirectly aimed at eliminating child labour. These include but are not limited to Universal Primary Education (UPE), Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP), National Council for Children (NCC) and the child labour unit in the MGLSD.

A national steering committee on child labour has been constituted with the MGLSD providing the secretariat. In addition, MGLSD is the government ministry housing the child labour unit. The major task of the unit is to advocate for the elimination of child labour and the promotion of general public awareness of national policies on child labour.

2.5.1.6 Universal Primary Education (UPE):

The UPE implemented since 1997 is the chief government's education priority programme. The UPE programme aims among other things at enhancing enrolment and retention of children in primary schools and improving attendance and making instructional time more effective. The programme has come with numerous advantages:

First, the provision of free primary education delays and discourages children from entering the labour market at an early age.

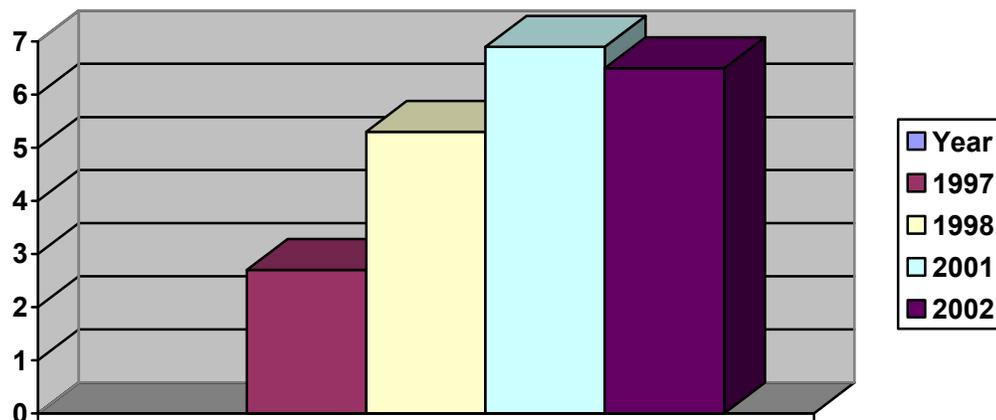
Secondly, the children with disabilities have an opportunity to access free primary education that draws them away from vulnerable circumstances like streets and isolation.

Thirdly, the programme not only removes the financial constraints to access and provision of facilities, but it also improves the quality of education through the provision of basic learning materials, training of teachers and expansion of post primary opportunities.

Total Primary School Enrollment, 1996-2001 (in millions) out of a Total 7.9 million children aged 5-17 years (Adapted from ILO-IPE/UBOS 2000/2001 Uganda Demographic and Health Survey on Child Labour in Uganda)

| Year | Total Primary School Enrollment (In millions) | Enrollment Percentage out of 7.9 million children |
|-------------|--|--|
| 1997 | 2.7 | 34% |
| 1998 | 5.3 | 67% |
| 2001 | 6.9 | 87% |
| 2002 | 6.5 | 82% |

Graphic Representation of statistics above:



According to a World Bank Report (April, 2002), school enrollment in 1996 was 3.4million, 1997 was 5.7million, 1998 was 6.4million, 2000 6.6million and 2001 had clocked 6.9million (World Bank: 2002).

Total Primary School Enrollment, 1996-2001 (in million) out of a Total of 7.9 million children aged 5-17yrs (Derived from the World BANK Report, April 2002)

| Year | Total Primary School Enrollment (In millions) |
|-------------|--|
| 1996 | 3.4 |
| 1997 | 5.7 |
| 1998 | 6.4 |
| 1999 | 6.6 |
| 2000 | 6.6 |
| 2001 | 6.9 |

2.5.1.7 Poverty Eradication Action Plan (PEAP)

The Poverty Eradication Action Plan (2000: 36) points out that poverty in Uganda is a multi dimensional phenomenon and indeed pervasive. Poverty is thus a national problem and government has put in place a PEAP as the overarching development objective. It aims at reducing the proportion of people below the poverty line from the current level of 35% to 10% by the year 2017. According to the poverty studies between 1992 and 2000 poverty has been reducing from 56% in 1992 to 44% in 1997 and that the urban dwellers have benefited more from the growth of the economy than the rural populations.

2.5.1.8 Plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA)

The plan for Modernization of Agriculture (PMA) is one of the fundamental government strategies and operational frameworks through which poverty will be eradicated. Uganda is predominantly an agricultural country with more that 85%

of the population depending on subsistence farming as their main source of livelihood. Measures to eliminate poverty country wide must therefore address the agricultural sector. The PMA is important for child labour because it is suspected that the majority of child workers are engaged in farming activities.

2.5.2 International Conventions

The ILO convention NO.138 of 1973 on the minimum age for admission to employment urges member states to ensure success of the National Policy and to effectively abolish child labour. The convention also urges countries to progressively extend the minimum age for admission to employment to a level consistent with the physical and mental growth of young persons. The convention sets the minimum age at 14 years for developing countries (and 15 for developed countries) and urges countries where the cut- off is not possible to fix the minimum age for all employment.

2.5.2.1 The ILO convention No. 182 of 1999:

The convention urges member states to aim at eliminating the worst forms of child labour. The convention, targets practices like child slavery, forced labour, prostitution, pornography, and children in armed conflict, use of children for illicit activities such as trafficking in drugs, engaging children in work which is likely to endanger their health, safety and morals and various forms of hazardous and exploitative work.

2.5.2.2 The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child of 1989

This Calls for guaranteeing the basic human rights including survival, development, full participation and protection rights in order to ensure their individual growth and well being. Article 32 urges state parties to protect children from economic exploitation and from any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the education or to be harmful to the child's health, or physical, mental or social development.

2.5.3 IPEC's Role and Intervention

IPEC is the arm of the ILO that works on the ground to combat child labour in Uganda. In Uganda IPEC is fighting child labour through partner organizations. Through their action programmes implemented by partner agencies, IPEC is able to prevent and withdraw children from child labour.

The Government of Uganda (GoU) has been a member of ILO –IPEC since 1998. The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSD) established a child labour unit to develop policy on child labour and promote coordination and networking among the key stake holders, this is in collaboration with IPEC.

2.6 The Challenges of Combating Child Labour in Uganda

2.6.1 Lack of adequate information

There is lack of adequate information on the statistics per district and yet child labour is highly practiced. The lack of comprehensive data and information on child labour constitutes a serious gap in the effective implementation of the programme. Even the available figures vary from report to report.

2.6.2 Ignorance

There is so much ignorance by both parents/guardians and the children themselves on the consequences of child labour and they simply look at the existing economic advantage and disregard the impact on tomorrow's next generation.

2.6.3 Poverty in LDCs :

Whereas poverty poses a great challenge to all nations, the least developed countries pose a particular challenge to IPEC; as they are not only among those countries where the practice of child labour is most rampant and entrenched, but also among those where resources and the technical capacity to combat child labour are severely lacking. The UN has designated 49 of the world's poorest countries as LDCs of which are home to over 600 million people and characterised by severe internal and external constraints on development. The

wide-spread extreme poverty found in LDCs makes the challenge of eliminating child labour especially difficult.

While the face of poverty in the United States has changed over the last two decades, it is no longer the face of the wrinkled elderly, but that of children. Many Americans are unaware of the extent to which poverty affects the lives of children in America. Over 40% of those who live below the poverty line in the United States are under 18 years. Approximately 15million children or 1 out of every 5, live in poverty. Children must depend on others to meet their needs, they are poor through out no fault of their own. Rather, they move into and out of poverty with the rise and fall of their families' fortunes. The effects of poverty can follow children from birth through adulthood (Gunn,Duncan& Corcoran,1997: 398-399).

2.6.4 The Impact of the AIDS pandemic on child labour

Compounding the problems of poverty and under development in LDCs is the impact that the HIV/AIDS pandemic continues to have on their economies and social fabric. Children are often forced or drawn into the labour market. When an adult family member falls ill or dies, often one or more children are sent away to extended family members to ensure that they are cared for. However, as the number of orphans grows and the number of potential caregivers shrinks, traditional coping mechanisms are stretched to their braking points. Children are

therefore often forced to drop out of school, become heads of households and enter the labour market to contribute to the family income or to take care of their own survival. The number of AIDS orphans in East Africa is staggering and has led to increased child poverty and child labour as well as stresses on the already inadequate social infrastructure.

2.6.5 Civil Conflict:

Civil conflicts and humanitarian crises are also depriving children of the right to education. Whereas boys are prone to becoming child soldiers, girls often bear the brunt of these problems. Girls being considered the weaker sex generally, are the first to be withdrawn from school and especially if the family needs to be cared for in situations of pervasive insecurity.

2.6.6 Population Growth:

Sub-Saharan Africa remains the greatest challenge to the development community, as the least on track to reach the MDGs. The region also has the highest incidence of working children and has made the least progress - due in part to its staggering population growth, where the population doubles every generation. The region is characterised by large household sizes which automatically increase the child population – and are a major cause of child labour in Uganda.

Conclusion:

In conclusion therefore, it is pertinent to say that as much as there is a lot of combined effort by the stakeholders in Uganda made up of a tripartite arrangement inclusive of the government, workers and employers to fight child labour, the challenges faced are quite numerous to realise total elimination of child labour. This is because the field of eliminating child labour is still new and not yet widely appreciated especially in developing countries and there is therefore lack of adequate information statistically. There is also so much ignorance by the masses who may not directly interpret the consequences of child labour on the child's feature. Also, poverty levels in LDCs remain a big challenge because with limited resources and lack of access to basic needs, child labour is seen as an opportunity and not a threat. The HIV/AIDS pandemic without a cure has continued to have adverse effects on families living child-headed house holds and sometimes the young taking care of the sick elders. Uganda has also been faced with civil conflict in the northern districts of the country, this has deprived both young boys and girls of the security to keep in school but instead end up internally displaced and go on to work in order to fend for themselves, not only this, children have also often fallen victims of abduction and forceful recruitment into the rebellion army as child soldiers. Finally, not limited to the above challenges but among others, rapid population growth has normally contributed to the dependency burden. In such cases, poor families that are not able to sustain themselves usually send young children in search for work

like in stone quarries, fishing, commercial plantations and farms, etc. In conclusion therefore, much as there are efforts to fight child labour, Uganda still has an uphill task of eliminating it totally.

CHAPTER 3

3.0 METHODOLOGY

3.1 Introduction

This chapter discusses thoroughly the research design, description of the study, sample size and selection, how data was collected, and data presentation, method of data analysis and limitations of the study.

3.2 Description of area of study

Kampala district is the capital city of Uganda in the East African region. The city has got a total population of 1.2 million people. Uganda's population was reported at 24.4 million (UBOS, 2002: 5). Of this, 51% were still dependants below 18 years thus, making it the biggest population of children globally (Nabukhonzo, Mabala, Nuwagaba, Bharam, Mukwaya, Nahabwe & Ondenyo: 2007) .

3.3 Research design

This study and research is both quantitative and qualitative. Stratified sampling has been used. This is an urban area and therefore affected by rural – urban migration, poverty and poor social facilities. Both primary and secondary data has been used. For the quantitative data, formal structured questionnaires were used to collect data while for qualitative data, informal in-depth interview was explored.

3.4 Sample selection and sample size

The particular area of study in Kampala city is Kisenyi slum that lies in the city centre. The local council and its committees were visited so as to assist in identifying the children to be interviewed. Kisenyi is a typical slum in the urban centre and affected by rural – urban migration, poverty and poor social facilities. The sample size considered during the study was 120 children. The study also investigated the stakeholders' contribution by carrying out personal interviews with 10 selected officials from the international labour organisation's International programme on the Elimination Child Labour (ILO – IPEC), Save the Children, Uganda Youth Development Link (UYDEL), Africa Network for Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect (ANPPCAN), Women and Children's Forum for Rural Development (WOCFORD), Kids In Need (KIN), The Royal Netherlands Embassy, Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development (MGLSB), Church of Uganda and Straight Talk Foundation.

3.5 Data Collection

Data was collected through a number of methods like the use of interviews to obtain the percentage of child labourers, formal and confidential questionnaires to help retrace the causes and effects of child labour, and suggestions of interventions to assess as well, the role of policy makers and stakeholders in combating the widespread causes and effects of child labour in Uganda; the

assessment of child labour in Kisenyi slum was conducted using methods that are both qualitative and quantitative. The following instruments were employed:

- Review of existing literature
- Semi-structured questionnaires
- Personal interviews
- Direct observation

CHAPTER 4

4.0 PRESENTATIONS OF STUDY FINDINGS ON CHILDREN ENGAGED IN CHILD LABOUR

4.1 Introduction

This chapter presents, discusses and analyses the study on child labour and fieldwork findings. It contains sections including background information about the child – respondents, child domestic labour findings, work related conditions, orphanage and parental status, reasons for not attending school, household heads, places of those involved in work, development partners and future suggestions.

This chapter presents background characteristics of the questionnaire including sex, the different age brackets, parental status of the respondents, attendance in school, reasons for not attending school, household heads, involvement in work, place of work, reasons for working, problems experienced at their work places, assistance offered and the particulars of assistance offered.

4.2 Distribution of children by sex

In the study, it was imperative to ascertain the sex of the children who were responding to the questionnaires. This could guide in determining the factors that lead them into child labour.

Table 1: Sex Ratios

| SEX | FREQUENCY | PERCENT |
|------------|------------------|----------------|
| Male | 52 | 43 |
| Female | 68 | 57 |
| Total | 120 | 100 |

From table 1, it is possible to tell that more females were interviewed than the males. There were 68 females at 57% and 52 males at 43%. The females unlike their counter parts the males, in this particular study were more welcoming and little was done to convince them to be apart of this research study. The rest of the respondents' views shall be unveiled as variables in this chapter get analysed.

4.3 Distribution of children by age

Table 2: Age Distribution

| Age (years) | Sex | | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------------|-------------|---------------|------------------|----------------|
| | Male | Female | | |
| 5-11 | 18 | 15 | 33 | 28 |
| 12-14 | 17 | 22 | 39 | 32 |
| 15-17 | 17 | 31 | 48 | 40 |
| Total | 52 | 68 | 120 | 100 |

Table 2 analyses the age variable. Here, the age bracket was crucial and it was broken down so as to know which group is most affected by child labour and all

its worst forms. A total of 120 children aged between the ages of (5 – 17 years), were interviewed. From the (5 – 11 years) age bracket, there were 18 males and 15 females at 28%, 17 males and 22 females at 32% were in the age bracket of (12 – 14 years) while 17 males and 31 females at 40% came from the age bracket of (15 – 17 years), the highest percentage among the children.

4.4 Parents' status of the children

Table 3: Children's parental status

| | Frequency | Percent |
|-------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Both alive | 40 | 33 |
| Both deceased | 26 | 21 |
| Only father alive | 8 | 7 |
| Only mother alive | 27 | 23 |
| Don't know | 19 | 16 |
| Total | 120 | 100 |

Table 3 above is to do with the parents of the children. With the area of study being a slum kind of setup, the orphanage variable was included because it was anticipated that it could be a push factor into child labour.

40 children at 33% had both parents alive. This was a bit surprising to find such a percentage of children with both parents working but more especially in the

worst conditions ever. Reasons for this could be various like poverty, etc. 26 children at 21% were total orphans thus meaning that both of their parents were deceased. Only 8 children at 7% had fathers alive while 27 children at 23% had only mothers alive. It was only significantly noted that 19 children at 16% did not have an idea about their parents. They could neither confirm nor deny that they were alive.

4.5 Education

Education is such an important aspect in life and it must be embraced whole heartedly. A lot is there to learn from education as a virtue. A child's mental upbringing stems from school and their ability to understand is further facilitated by being exposed to education in general. Subsequent studies have shown that when children are not in school, they are more likely to be drawn into the labour force (Child Labour and the Urban Informal Sector in Uganda, MGLSD/ ILO-IPEC, 2004). It's at this particular moment that they are exploited by being involved in child labour and all its worst forms thus becoming a developmental challenge. Education being one of the major key factors to a successful life, we have no choice but to call massive, global intervention and as such, stakeholders and other developmental partners are needed in every way possible.

Table 4: Attendance in school

| Characteristics | School Attendance | Frequency | | Percent |
|------------------------|--------------------------|------------------|------------|----------------|
| | In – school | Percent | Out | |
| Males | 44 | 71 | 18 | 31 |
| Females | 18 | 21 | 40 | 69 |
| Total | 62 | 100 | 52 | 100 |

From table 4 above, 44 males at 71% were in school while 18 of the same sex at 31% were not in school meaning that they either dropped out due to various reasons or had never been there. 18 females at 21% were found to be attending school while 40 at 69% were not in school. Therefore, there were more female school drop outs than males in Kisenyi, zone (iii) Kampala district.

4.6 Reasons for not attending school

Chances of children being involved in child labour while attending school were as almost as high as those not attending school. From the previous table, it was established that more males than females were in school. Reasons for this were various, taking care of the sick elders and other family members, etc.

Table 5: Reasons for not attending school

| Reasons | Frequency | Percent |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| School too far | 1 | 2 |
| High cost for material | 21 | 38.3 |
| Working | 23 | 39.6 |
| Sick / Disabled | 3 | 5 |
| Others | 10 | 17.2 |
| Total | 58 | 100 |

Table 5 shows the reasons the children had for not attending school. One of the 120 children didn't attend school because it was just too far and that was at 2%. 21 children at 38% feared the high costs of scholastic materials and could therefore not attend school. 23 children at 40% were found to be actively involved in economic activities that hence made it impossible for them to attend school. 5% of the children were sick some with chronic illness and permanent disabilities that rendered them not fit enough to go to school. 10 of the children at 17% were not in school for certain and clear reasons.

4.7 Distribution of house heads

It was important to identify the house heads of these particular children from the children themselves. For the children that were found in homes, permission had to be sought from their parents/guardians in order to be allowed interaction with

them. Some of these heads were so keen and protective and the research team understood this being a slum oriented place of residence, it was a target for all sorts of crimes such as robbery, rape, drugs, child kidnapping, and many others.

Table 6: Household distribution

| Characteristics | Frequency | Percent |
|------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Mother | 19 | 16 |
| Father | 23 | 19.1 |
| Grand parent | 6 | 5 |
| Guardian | 15 | 12.5 |
| Employer | 4 | 3.3 |
| Others | 53 | 44.1 |
| Total | 120 | 100% |

Table 6 shows that no children were found to be living on their own, 16% of the children were living with only their mothers while 19% stayed with their fathers. 5% were staying with their grandparents while 12% stayed with a guardian. Only 3% of these children stayed with their employers and a whole 44% did not specify with whom they were living or where.

4.8 Children's involvement in economic work

Table 7: Involvement in Economic Work

| | Frequency | Percent |
|-------------|------------------|----------------|
| Working | 78 | 65% |
| Not working | 42 | 35% |
| Total | 120 | 100% |

Table 7 shows that 78 children at 65% were actively involved in economic activities while 44 children at 35% were not working. This confirms the alarming status of Child Labour in the area.

The difference between statistics of table 7 and that of table 5 was; in table the team had to establish reasons for children not attending school whereas in table 7, the team generally had to establish the magnitude of the problem using a holistic approach of working and non working children.

4.9 Economic Sector Distribution

Table 8: Distribution of activities in the economic sector

| Sector | Frequency | Percent |
|------------------------------|-----------|---------|
| Market place | 23 | 19.1 |
| Collecting and selling scrap | 7 | 5.8 |
| Domestic work | 12 | 10 |
| Factory / industry | 6 | 5 |
| House construction | 7 | 5.8 |
| Prostitution | 1 | 1 |
| Farm work | 6 | 5 |
| Others | 16 | 13.3 |
| Not working | 42 | 35 |
| Total | 120 | 100 |

Table 8 shows that 18% of children were involved in work in the market place, 5% were into collecting and selling scrap, 10% of the children were involved in domestic work while 5% were either working in a factory or an industry. Only one of the children found courage to testify that she was involved in prostitution as away of living though it is believed that there were more females engaged in this kind of trade but chose to be silent about it. 6% did construction work and were vulnerable to very many risks such as occupational hazards bearing in mind the age at which these children got themselves involved in these activities. 5%

of the children were involved in the farm work I Kisenyi zone (iii), Mengo Kampala district. 13.3% of the children interviewed preferred not to comment about their economic involvement.

4.10 Reasons for working

Table 9: Reasons for working

| Characteristic | Frequency | Percent |
|-----------------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Looking after siblings | 11 | 9 |
| Taking care of sick parents | 13 | 11 |
| Fend for own living | 32 | 27 |
| Earn school fees | 14 | 11 |
| Others | 50 | 42 |
| Total | 120 | 100 |

Table 9 above shows that 9% of the children were involved in economic activities simply to cater for their siblings. 11% worked so as to be able to take care of their sick parents. 27% worked such that they could be independent and take care of themselves while 11% toiled for themselves such that they could be able to pay their own school fees.

4.11 Problems experienced while at work

Table 10: Problems encountered at work places by working children

| Problems | Frequency | Percent |
|--------------------|------------------|----------------|
| Verbal abuse | 10 | 8 |
| Sexual harassment | 7 | 6 |
| Low pay | 17 | 14 |
| Heavy work loads | 14 | 12 |
| Long hours of work | 13 | 11 |
| Others | 17 | 14ed |
| Not working | 42 | 35 |
| Total | 120 | 100 |

As much as these children worked to earn a living and other reasons that got them involved in economic activities, they experienced a lot of problems. 8% were constantly abused verbally at their places of work, 6% were sexually harassed, 14% toiled and were rewarded with little or no pay at all, and 12% carried very heavy work loads on a daily basis. 14% experienced a lot of problems but did not specify which ones they faced at their work places.

CHAPTER FIVE

5.0 PRESENTATION OF STAKEHOLDERS' INTERVIEWS

This chapter presents the discussed issues to do with child labour as addressed by the stakeholders and related development partners. Their success stories were presented as well as the future plans they as organisations had for the future. Also, some achievements and challenges were registered as well as the importance of combating child labour. From the previous chapter, we discovered that child labour exists and that the magnitude of the problems is big. A number of stakeholders and development partners were selected and chosen to be interviewed. These were chose in line with their past contributions towards Uganda's development programmes but specifically their contributions towards children's rights and welfare.

Ten stakeholders that have had a history of dealing with children's affairs of different categories were selected and interviewed. Initially, we had projected to cover 20 stakeholders but due to the limited time and busy schedules of the officials concerned, only 10 were conveniently covered. The number was found to be good enough for sample representation that enabled us arrive at these given conclusions.

5.1 Stakeholders Involvement in combating child labour

Table 11: Involvement of stakeholders in the plight of the children

| Characteristic | Frequency | Percent |
|---|------------------|----------------|
| Heard about Child Labour | 10 | 100 |
| Involved with Elimination of Child Labour Programmes | 6 | 60 |
| Not involved with Elimination of Child Labour Programme | 4 | 40 |
| Achievements realized | 3 | 30 |
| No achievements realized | 7 | 70 |

From table 11 above, all the stakeholders visited and interviewed agreed to have heard about child labour, its worst forms and all the related issues concerning this diverse global threat. They had heard about it through the mass media, documentaries, seminars and some were even practically involved in combating child labour. From the same table still, 6 stakeholders at 60% were physically involved in combating child labour. Among these were, the International Labour Organisation, Straight Talk Foundation, the Church of Uganda, Uganda Youth Development Link among others. Only 4 stakeholders were not involved in child labour issues though they had heard about it. The research found that 3

stakeholders at 30% who were involved in combating child labour realised a few achievements. The rest of them were still struggling at 70%.

5.2 Challenges encountered in the fight against Child Labour

Most stakeholders interviewed were of the following opinions that, child labour in absolute reality is a potential threat to children, families, communities and the entire nation at large. Child labour alerts us to the fact that it has a negative impact on education. In developing institutional mechanisms while addressing problems related to combating child labour, key sectors like the ministry of education, the ministry of Internal Affairs through the Police's Family & Child Protection Unit, the Judiciary, Labour and Gender and other development and implementing partners should be at the forefront. Challenges identified by the stakeholders and development partners in the fight against child labour were as follows:

- Ignorance and lack of awareness
- Inadequate funding
- Extreme poverty in households
- Donors are interested in the magnitude of the problem yet planning is based on meager resources
- Bad attitude of the community against the elimination of child labour programmes

- Failure of policy makers to implement and follow up the drafted proposals
- The social economic situation in Uganda has not been favourable (the past political turmoil)
- In certain communities, culture is a hindrance because a child has to work
- The employers have chased children away from their homes after finding out that they have been enrolled back to school
- Children who have been withdrawn from child labour have developed a dependency syndrome where by they keep coming back asking for more assistance
- Diseases like the HIV/AIDS pandemic that has left many orphans and child-headed households

5.3 Key actors at various levels

The stakeholders interviewed went on to propose the following. That in order to join efforts as a way of combating child labour effectively and successfully, the following key actors must play their role;

5.3.1 Central Government and District Local Government

The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development should take a lead role in coordination, networking and building links at national level. This existing National Steering Committee on Child Labour will take a lead role to guide and coordinate the programmes and activities. The Committee will ensure that child

labour concerns are integrated in the Policy reviews, programmes, plans budgets and activities. The child labour unit which is a focal point on child labour matters will coordinate the implementation of the programme activities.

5.3.2 District Level

The roles at the national level should be reproduced and implemented at the district level. The District Labour Officer as a lead person should engage and undertake capacity building activities of partners at the district, especially the district council social services, adult literacy and HIV/AIDS committees on planning committees, sub-county and community level through holding coordination meetings, training seminars on child labour in order to ensure integration in district budgets and logistical matters including data gathering and dissemination. As the central government coordinates at the national level, the following should be done: -

- Government support for institutions such as the National Steering Committee on child labour to drive the development and implementation of appropriate social protection efforts to combat child domestic labour. Local governments have unique strengths on which they can capitalize to contribute to policy development and awareness raising on child labour at the district level.

- Targeting which involves disaggregating data of the vulnerable children affected by domestic labourers import in for costing, selecting a delivery channel and methods to be used for families when accessing the nature and type of support.
- Capacity building of institutions in terms of human resource and their infrastructures which can be done through training on the issue of child domestic workers. Such training should include social protection appeals, labour act and policies on thematic and sectoral studies reports as well as exposure through literature and site study visits.

5.3.3 Non-Governmental & community based organization

The International Labour Organisation has for over the last 10 years supported Action Programmes geared towards combating child labour and all its worst forms in Uganda. There is absolutely every need to continue this support, especially building capacity of partners in both supply and receiving areas.

5.3.4 Development partners and donors

Development partners especially ILO-IPEC, should liaise and mobilise resources and work with and other development partners such as UNICEF and Save the Children in Uganda, to strengthen efforts to eliminate child labour. They can further do the following;

- Identify child protection ambassadors both nationally and internationally on issues of child labour. They should be able to help monitor the child domestic workers, gather data and reports as well as training.
- Assistance should be targeted towards the development of relevant and specific effective programmes which reinforce the rehabilitation of children in their communities and ensure long term sustainability and success of such interventions.
- Provide adequate resources and funding to key stakeholders for the rehabilitation of children.

5.3.5 Communities, self-help groups and support networks

Communities which include; parents, informal leaders and clan heads should take a lead in awareness raising programmes and social mobilisation against child labour. There is need for regular counseling and promotion of life skills for potential and affected children to increase sensitivity of the issues, mobilisation resource and enhance problem identification so that emotional support is enhanced.

5.3.6 Media Approach, Employers and Workers Organisation

The IPEC supported media initiatives such as the IPEC-UNICEF on child labour and the Rural Development Media Communication agency (RUDMEC) a

consortium of journalists on the worst forms of child labour. Employers and workers organisations can play a role in serving as key allies if supported and retained to combat child domestic labour.

5.4 Conclusion

Through 1 interviews conducted it was generally confirmed that child labour is one of the most dangerous human crimes against humanity. It is the modern day slavery and it targets children who have lost their parents and relatives, those out of school, those hardest hit by poverty and those that mainly live in abusive family environments. If left unchecked, the future of development is doomed since the future of any country depends on the young generation. Data on child labour is scanty and those who are practicing it don't want to believe that they are possible accomplices in this degrading act.

Children involved in child labour are mentally, physically, socially and morally affected. They are subjected to torture like verbal abuse, uncaring attitudes, they are beaten at work, made to carry heavy physical work they are sexually assaulted and at worst, they are robbed of their earnings either by the employers or those they fend for. In combating child labour, key levels have been identified and should be supported. These include victim support, education, policy and institution sustained media campaigns.

There is need to initiate a periodic collection of information to up-date the data base on child labour using the Uganda Bureau of Statistics and other stakeholders. Community involvement including parents, guardians, children and parents support groups and volunteers is highly needed. These can also be helpful in prevention, coping and mitigation of causes of child labour. Collectively, this is likely to lead to achieving some of the millennium development goals.

5.5. Success stories:

There were some success stories from the stakeholders which were a manifestation that them as development partners can bring about a positive change by ending child labour and contribute to better livelihoods. Henceforth, this would be contributing to the breaking of poverty chains in some family settings.

Success story 1: (Source; Uganda Youth Development Link)

According to the Programme Officer of Uganda Youth Development Link, Mr. Mutaawe Rogers (2007), among the goals realised by the organisation, he shared a success story of a one Mbabazi Justine who was withdrawn from child labour and was given vocational training skills in hairdressing, is now successfully and independently running her life.

Mbabazi Justine received hairdressing training from the UYDEL centre and was equipped with a hand drier as part of the start up capital. Since December 2006, she together with two colleagues, acquired business premises within Nakulabye trading centre, equipped a salon with appropriate cosmetics and a colour television set.

The skills training received enabled her to overcome the stiff competition within the area to a level where she was able to offer apprentice training to other girls.

Success story 2: (Source; Kids In Need)

According to the Advocacy Officer Mr. Asiimwe Steven (2007), KIN has successfully set up a rehabilitation centre where children have been withdrawn from child labour on the streets and assimilated into schools.

Kisenyi Rehabilitation Centre:

The centre which is located within Kisenyi slum- a major catchment area for vulnerable children is both for reception and rehabilitation purposes. It had fifty children who had been withdrawn and were receiving peer to peer counseling and awareness on HIV/AIDS. In addition, through the existing clubs at the centre, children were able to acquire life skills, self esteem and empowerment.

One good practice was the proactive use of music, dance and drama to create awareness on HIV/AIDS, child labour and other social evils within the communities. Equipped with modern sound mixers, electric guitars and percussion instruments donated by KIN Samaritans, the centre had been able to effectively pass on behavioral change messages through a popular medium. From the proceeds of their musical productions, the centre was able to facilitate a good number of children with scholastic materials and it is hoped that with the skills acquired the children will be able to become self-sustaining and independent citizens.

CHAPTER 6

6.0 CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

6.1 Long Term Action Plan

The following conclusions and recommendations are proposed to address the issues identified in the long run;

- The Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development specifically be charged to take the lead in co-ordination, mobilizing support and capacity building for victims and psycho-social support for those recently involved in child labour. The child labour unit and the department of youth and children should be the central at co-ordinating level, while the District Labour and Probation and Welfare officers take the lead in co-ordination at the district level.
- Ministry of Finance, Planning and Economic Development should spearhead to mainstream social protection in the poverty eradication action programmes, development plans as well as increasing budget allocations for programmes which reduce vulnerability of children to domestic labour.
- ILO-IPEC together with Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development supported by Law Reform Commission should take advantage of the review process of the children Act CAP59, 2000 identify issues of child trafficking.

- The Ministry of Education should be supported to address problems of children dropping out of schools, a situation that renders children very vulnerable. The ministry is charged to lead the coordination of all efforts geared at addressing child labour related issues.

6.2 Immediate Actions

6.2.1 Trainings & Awareness Raising:

There is need to train law enforcement personnel, teachers, local and community leaders, civil society and other stakeholders on how to deal with the problem of child labour in general. The study revealed that child labour exists and the population is quiet about it thus putting the lives of many innocent children in danger.

6.2.2 Children's involvement:

There is need to raise awareness about child labour matters among the children. Most of these children don't know that their rights are being violated. Schools should be visited regularly so that they are sensitised. Use of the mass media to hi-light these grave misfortunes, educational materials, music, dance & drama are among the activities that should be adopted if we are to address this global problem.

6.2.3 Parents' Involvement:

Parents and possible guardians should urgently intervene and get involved in programmes that aimed at mapping out their children's future. They need to collectively come out and speak against child labour and all its worst forms.

6.2.4 Further Research:

There is absolutely every need to build a research and compilation database. It should be continuously and periodically updated to address issues related to child labour. With support of all major key stakeholders and other related stakeholders like the central government, districts, NGOs and the community, domestic labour should be dealt with.

6.2.5 Government Policy:

The government of Uganda on 1st May 2007 launched a National Child Labour Policy. This needs to practically be implemented and not end on paper like many other policies. There is need to adopt a zero-tolerance for child labour.

6.2.6 Universal Primary Education:

There is need to strengthen the Universal Primary Education sector. It is now appreciated that the early years of life to a child's physical, cognitive and emotional development are very important. As a result, more early and pre-school provision is available for children. Young children should be taught to

think and make judgement about the world more than in the past, and to participate more actively in society. This approach allows children to be more resilient and to make the most of their right to make autonomous decisions (Barrow & Ince, 2008: 34-35).

Cognitive and physical development in a child's earliest years can have a disproportionate effect on achievement and productivity later in life. According to Evans, Myers & Ilfeld (2000); the basic premise within the early childhood care for development field is that investment in the early years promotes optimal development. Optimal development refers to children's ability to acquire culturally relevant skills and behaviours, which allow them to;

- Function effectively in their current context
- Adopt successfully when the context changes and/or
- Bring about change.

Embedded with their family, their community, and their cultural values, young children from birth to eight need to be supported in the development of the physical, mental, social and emotional abilities that will enable them to survive and thrive in later years.

For purposes of this discussion; Evans et al (2000) define early childhood care for development as follows;

- Early childhood care for development includes all the supports necessary for every child to realise his/her right to survival, to protection, and to care that will ensure optimal development from birth to age eight.

Children have a right to live and to develop to their full potential. The right is set forth in the convention on the right of the child. It is also a right guaranteed by the Declaration of the World Conference on Education for All (EFA), the world summit on children, the Salamanca statement, the Convention on Elimination of all forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW), and others. The following statements emerged from these world conferences and conventions:

- All children, without distinction of gender, race, language, religion or of any other kind, should have the opportunity to develop to their full potential.
- Children, by reason of their physical and mental vulnerability, need special safeguards and care.
- Children living in especially difficult circumstances need special consideration.
- Parents and families (however defined) – men as well as women – have the primary responsibility for the upbringing, development, and education of their children.

- Governments should establish a policy environment that enables families and communities to fulfill their responsibilities of child rearing and protection (Evans et al, 2000: 5)

There are various benefits of early childhood programmes

For children:

- Improved cognitive development (thinking, reasoning)
- Improved social development (relationship to others)
- Improved emotional development for self image and security
- Improved language skills
- Increased chances of survival, reduced morbidity
- Improved nutrition, improved hygiene and weight/height for age; improved micro-nutrient balance.
- Higher chance of entering in primary school, less chance of repeating; better performance.

For Adults:

- Health & Hygiene: Nutrition (related to both the child's and the adults own nutritional status)
- Leadership skills, health & hygiene; preventive medical practices; opportune treatment; nutrition; improved diet
- Improved self-esteem

- Better husband - wife
- Parent – child
- Peer and Child-to-Child relationships
- Caregivers freed to seek or improve employment
- New employment opportunities created by program
- Increased market for program – related goods

For Communities:

- Improved sanitation;
- Improved solidarity, increased participation of women; community projects benefiting all.

For Society:

- A healthier population
- Reduced days lost to sickness
- A more literate
- Educated population
- Greater Social Participation
- An improved labour force
- Reduced delinquency
- Reduced fertility & early births
- Reduced social inequalities

Equality of Opportunity:

- This means opening up access for every child and family to full participation in early childhood services. Lack of access brings poor self-esteem, lack of confidence, misunderstandings, lack of respect, stereotyping & discrimination.

Access to full participation in early childhood services:

- Children and their families need to feel part of things, and a sense of belonging.
- It is a human right to be respected. Children and their families, especially if they belong to a minority group, need to feel valued and respected.
- When people are narrowly labeled, they are being stereotyped. Instead, children need to build positive images of themselves, helped by those around them.
- Most discriminating behaviour is not intended. There is need to look at what is being done and what is taken for granted (Bruce & Meggitt, 1999: 1).

6.2.7 Poverty Alleviation Programmes:

Poverty in a family is the biggest hazard to child development. It leaves children vulnerable to all forms of abuse from homelessness to child labour, teenage

pregnancy or even death and these hazards are by no means confined to the developing world. The Child Rights Convention recognizes that children need adequate resources (Barrow & Ince, 2008: 39).

The poverty alleviation programmes in Uganda like the planned “Bona bagawale programme” translated into (Prosperity for all); should immediately be implemented so that it can benefit all vulnerable children through their families. If the most poor can be reached through this programme, then the risk of children dropping out of school for financial and economic reasons shall have been minimized.

6.2.8 Fighting the invisible phenomenon

Child labour being an invisible phenomenon can be eradicated with the help of local councilors who are well involved with their respective communities. In Uganda, the local council system is so vibrant and is well founded on a “door-to-door model” of mobilization. With this kind of model, the leaders can be utilised to reach out to families and run mass awareness programmes regarding the dangers associated with child labour.

6.2.9 Eradicating HIV/AIDS

Having realized that there is a direct link between HIV/AIDS and child labour which is manifested in form of HIV/AIDS – Induced child labour, there is also

need to eliminate this social evil. Uganda has been highly rated for its efforts and sensitization programmes regarding AIDS but a lot is still desired to reach out especially to the rural poor. This too can be done through religious sections and local councils who are directly involved with the local and rural communities.

6.2.10 Plan for Modernisation of Agriculture

The Plan for Modernisation of Agriculture needs to be strengthened to avoid engagement of child labour on agricultural farms which usually engage children because of their cheap labour.

6.3 CONCLUSION

The findings indicate that child labour in all its forms exists and is mainly targeting poverty affected people as well as the vulnerable children. The current law on protection of children and their rights needs to be emphasized. There is need to appreciate that every economy goes through various stages of economic development. Uganda being one of the least developed nations needs to start now on the recommendations given in this research by combating child labour in order to have a promising next generation and to strategically meet the millennium development goals. The bottom line here being, child labour as referred to in this content is not constructive but a hindrance to socio-economic development. Therefore, it's got to be eliminated with all available tools.

CHILD LABOUR SURVEY

BASELINE SURVEY 2007 – Children

Questionnaire

Identification Section

Date of interview:.....

District:.....

Zone:

Time of Interview: Commenced Ended

General Questions

1. Sex Male Female

2. How old are you?

3. Are your parents living?
 - Both alive
 - Both deceased
 - Only Father alive
 - Only Mother alive
 - Don't know

4. Do you go to school? Yes No

5. If no, reasons for not attending school:
 - School too far
 - High cost for scholastic materials
 - Under age
 - Working
 - Sick/Disabled
 - Other

6. Whom do you live with?

- Immediate family
- Relative Adult
- Non Relative Adult
- Family Friend

7. Who is the head of the family you are currently living with?

- Myself
- Mother
- Father
- Grand Parent
- Guardian
- Employer
- Other

8. Do you work? Yes No

9. If yes, what do you do?

- Market Vendor
- Collecting & selling scrap
- Domestic Worker
- Work in a Factory/Industry
- House Construction
- Prostitution
- Farm work
- Other

10. Why do you work?

- To earn school fees
- To cater for my siblings
- To cater for my sick parents
- To cater for my own living
- Other

11. Are you satisfied with the working conditions?

- Yes
- No

12. If no, what problems do you experience on your job?

- Verbal abuse
- Sexual Harassment
- Low pay
- Heavy work loads
- Long hours of work
- Other

13. Have you been assisted in any way? Yes No

14. If yes, who has assisted you?

- Relative
- NGO
- Government
- Religious Body
- Other

15. How were you assisted?

16. Do you realize any impact? (Specify)

17. If no, how would you wish to be assisted?

.....
.....

18. Have you heard about the "Rights of the Child"?

Yes

No

19. What Children's Rights do you know?

.....
.....
.....

20. Do you prefer to study or to work?

Study

Work

Both

Don't know

21. Why?

.....

CHILD LABOUR SURVEY

BASELINE SURVEY 2007 – Stakeholders

Questionnaire

Identification Section

Date of interview:.....

Name of Interviewee (Optional):.....

Designation:

Organisation:

Name of Interviewer:

Time of Interview: Commenced Ended

General Questions

1. Have you heard about Child Labour Programmes?

- Yes No

2. If yes, is your organization involved in the fight against Child Labour?

- Yes No

3. If no, what are your future plans in the fight against Child Labour?

.....
.....
.....

4. If yes, how are you involved?

.....
.....
.....

5. What is the importance of combating Child Labour?

.....
.....
.....

6. What achievements have you registered in the fight against Child Labour?

.....
.....
.....

7. Have you encountered any challenges? Yes No

8. What challenges is your organization facing in the fight against Child Labour?

.....

9. Who are your development partners in the fight against Child Labour?

.....
.....

10. What suggestions do you propose to stop Child Labour and all its worst forms?

APPENDIX III

List of stakeholders that were visited and interviewed

- International Labour Organisation/International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC)
- Save the Children, Uganda (SCIU)
- Uganda Youth Development Link (UYDEL)
- Africa Network for Prevention & Protection Against Child Abuse & Neglect (ANPPCAN)
- Women & Children's Forum for Rural Development (WOCFORD)
- Kids In Need (KIN)
- Royal Netherlands Embassy
- Ministry of Gender, Labour & Social Development (MGLSD)
- Church of Uganda (COU)
- Straight Talk Foundation

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