

An increasing wave
Migration of nepalese children to india in the
context of nepal's armed conflict

A Research Report Jointly Prepared by
Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB)
The Save the Children Alliance

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Central Cell Research Coordinator researchers/ enumerators

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Format of Orientation training Programme

Bibliography

Abbreviations

- BY** Bikram Year (57 years + AD)
- CBS** Central Bureau of Statistics, Nepal
- CCWB** Central Child Welfare Board
- CDO** Chief District Officer
- CICCC** Children in Conflict Coordination Committee
- CRC** Convention of the Rights of a Child
- DCPC** District Child Protection Committee
- DCWB** District Child Welfare Board
- GO(s)** Governmental Organizations
- HMG** His Majesty's Government of Nepal
- IC(s)** Incoming Children
- ICCDSS** Inter Country Child Displacement Sample
Survey ID Student Identity Card
- IDP(s)** Internally Displaced People
- INGO(s)** International Non Governmental Organization
- INSEC** Informal Sector Service Centre
- MAN** Municipal Association of Nepal
- NPC** National Planning Commission
- OC(s)** Outgoing Children
- PNGO(s)** Partner Non Governmental Organizations
- SAFHR** South Asian Forum for Human Rights
- SCNN** Save the Children Norway-Nepal
- SCUS** Save the Children USA
- TIA** Tribhuvan International Airport
- TU** Tribhuvan University
- TOR** Terms of References
- UN** United Nations
- UNWFP** United Nation World Food Programme
- UNDP** United Nations Development Programme
- UP** Uttar Pradesh (Northern state of India)
- VDC(s)** Village Development Committee

Executive Summary

Introduction

Anecdotal evidence and a series of recent reports indicate that conflict-induced displacement and migration has escalated in Nepal as a result of the current on-going conflict between the Maoists and the government security forces. Migration is reportedly taking place internally, from rural to urban centers within Nepal, and internationally, from Nepal to India, as well as other countries.

It is well-known that children have been seriously and negatively impacted by the armed conflict.¹ It seemed logical, then, that children have also been significantly involved in the displacement and migration that has taken place throughout the country in general. Yet, while there have been a number of recent studies and assessments completed with regard to migration and internally displaced persons (IDPs) generally, there has been very little focus on the extent to which children are migrating and the circumstance of their migration.

In order to better understand the extent to which children are also involved in migration, especially from Nepal to India, and thus to assist in the development of targeted programs, the Central Child Welfare board (CCWB) and the Save the Children Alliance jointly embarked on this cross-border survey, tracking the outflows and inflows of children migrating between Nepal and India.

It is important to note that this study is limited in scope. It is almost exclusively quantitative and thus does not provide

detailed information on the circumstances of migrating children, especially with regard to their situation on arrival in India. It also only covers children migrating across five border checkpoints in the west, Mid-West and Far-West: Bhairahawa, Nepalgunj, Tikapur, Dhangadhi and Mahendranagar. Nonetheless, it is our hope that the information contained herein provides a good starting point for the development of programmatic responses to address the needs of this highly vulnerable population.

Objectives

The specific primary objectives of this study are as follows:

- To identify the numbers of Nepalese children crossing the Indo-Nepal border to enter India (outgoing children) and enter-back into Nepal from India (incoming children) ;
- To better understand some of the basic circumstances of their migration to assess possible areas of vulnerability; and
- To obtain information that could be used to encourage other concerned agencies to bolster support for formulating policies and developing programs that address the plight of these children.

Methodology

This research was almost exclusively quantitative in nature and was conducted over the five-month period between July 3rd and December 3rd, 2004. Two questionnaires were used: one for children crossing from Nepal to India (“outgoing children”) and one for children crossing from India into Nepal (“incoming

¹ See *Watchlist on Children and Armed Conflict, Caught in the Middle: Mounting Violations Against Children in Nepal's Armed Conflict, 2005*

children"). A research team consisting of two local enumerators at each of the five border sites (Bhairahawa, Nepalgunj, Tikapur, Dhangadhi and Mahendranagar) collected responses to these questionnaires through interviews. During the first three months of the study, data was collected from outgoing children, and during the last two months of the study, data was collected from incoming children. During both parts of the study, the enumerators collected data from the incoming and outgoing children from 6 am in the morning till 6 pm in the evening. However, it should be noted that this study was intended to only capture the data on the outgoing children and the section on the incoming children were added due to the request of concerned agencies in the field. Also, the section on the incoming children does not cover data from the Tikapur checkpoint. This data was compiled and analyzed by the Research Coordinator based in Kathmandu. Further details of the research tools and methodology are given in the forthcoming chapter's Research Methodology section.

Major Findings

Some of the main findings of the study are as follows:

- **Outflows of child migrants to India seem to be significantly higher than inflows.** A total of 17,583 children were found to be crossing the border from Nepal to India during the three month period between July 3rd and October 3rd, 2004. This time period is not considered a high outflow period because it coincides with the paddy planting season as well as the lead up to Nepal's two major annual festivals, Dasain and Tihar, in mid-October and mid-November. By contrast, only 8,210 children were found crossing the border back into Nepal during the two months between October 4th and December 4th, 2004 – a period when we would expect high inflows of migrants returning for Dasain and Tihar celebrations. Even accounting for the fact that inflows were measured over two months, versus three months for outflows, it is clear inflows are lower.
- **Armed conflict was reported as one of the major causes for child migration from Nepal to India.** A full 24% of children reported this to be the main reason for their migration. Another 36% (the largest proportion) reported that "poverty" was the cause of their migration. While not certain, it is likely that in at least some cases, this poverty was exacerbated by the armed conflict. Furthermore, most of the districts from which large numbers of children have migrated are among the most conflict-affected (e.g. Kailali, Dang, Surkhet, Dailekh and Achham).
- **Dalit children were disproportionately represented among outgoing children.** While comprising only about 13% of the general population in Nepal, 33% of outgoing children were found to be Dalit. Chhetry children were also over-represented, with 30% of outgoing children reporting to be Chhetry, while comprising only about 17% of the total population. However, while focusing on the regional ethnic population make-up in the far-western, mid-western, and western development regions of Nepal, Dalits remain the most disproportionately represented ethnic group. Brahmin, Tharu and Magar children were also well-represented among outflows, but more in proportion to their representation in the overall national and regional populations. Other Janjyati groups were under-represented among outgoing children.
- **Most migrating children were male and older and indicated a plan to work on arrival in India.** A full 87% of migrating children were boys, and nearly half were reportedly 16 or 17 years of age, with

another 25% between the ages of 11 and 15. Among all children, 60% indicated plans to work in India, primarily as laborers, porters or hotel workers.

- **Migrating children tend to be poorly educated.** Sixty-five percent of migrating children reportedly never attended school at all, and the vast majority had no plans to do so upon arrival in India.
- **The majority of children were reportedly traveling with at least one member of their nuclear family (father, mother, brother or sister).** Most others reported they were traveling with uncles, neighbors or friends, and only 13% (almost all older and experienced migrants) were traveling alone. Still, there was some concern among enumerators that people claiming to be relatives were not always truthful and that, in at least some cases, children were actually accompanied by labor contractors and may have been being trafficked.
- **Most migrating children are heading for urban centers in India.** The most common destinations were Shimla (Himachal Pradesh), Darjiling (West Bengal), Delhi and Mumbai.
- **The vast majority of migrating children possessed no documentation whatsoever.** Only a tiny 4% of migrating children were carrying any documentation at all that would identify them as Nepali.
- **Most incoming children reported they had stayed in India for a year or more, and the majority had plans to return.** This suggests that migration from Nepal to India is not a one-time event for most children.

Recommendations

The number of children migrating or displaced from Nepal to India, whether it is seasonal migration or forced migration/displacement, appears to be increasing and raises serious concerns about exploitation of children upon arrival in India.

Some of the specific recommendations for government, NGOs, INGOs and other agencies seeking to address this growing concern are as follows:

- 1) Initiate safe migration programming targeted to benefit children
 - Migrant Resource Centers with programs for child migrants
 - Child Migrant Safety Hotlines
 - Call Centers as contact points in district headquarters
 - Safe Havens for child migrants at the Indo-Nepal borders
- 2) Expand educational programs that benefit Dalit children
- 3) Increase income-generation initiatives in the Far and Mid-Western districts of Nepal, especially targeting adolescents
- 4) Initiate a Government Child Tracking System to track the level of child migration across the Indo-Nepal border
- 5) Form partnerships between the governments of India and Nepal in both countries to jointly protect the child rights of Nepalese child migrants
- 6) Increase cross-border collaboration among NGOs, INGOs, and donors working to protect children
- 7) Pursue further research
 - Study of Nepalese Children living and working in the urban centers of India
 - Study of trends in child trafficking
 - Study of internally displaced children in Nepal

C H A P T E R - I

Background & Methodology

Introduction

For the past decade, Nepal's peaceful Himalayan image has been tarnished by ongoing armed conflict that has affected all sectors of Nepalese society. Exacerbating the existing poverty, the armed conflict has claimed thousands of lives of innocent civilians, including children. Both warring parties have frequently disrespected the law of human rights, generating reports of physical and mental torture. Social programs run through public service delivery institutions in the remote areas of the country have been paralyzed due to the growing insecurity born from the ongoing conflict.

As is so often the case in modern times, children have been particularly affected by the armed conflict in Nepal. According to INSEC, up through June 2005 at least 326 children have been killed, and various media sources claim that the rising violence has produced thousands of orphans and widows. The Maoists have specifically targeted children for forced conscription, kidnapping children from schoolyards and using schools as venues for cultural programs. Government security forces have also taken over a few schools as military compounds, displacing students and teachers. The national media have reported that both parties have routinely used children as spies and informants.

With this growing insecurity and the accompanying exacerbation of poverty, large numbers of people are on the move, heading from the rural, insecure parts of Nepal to the more urban areas of the country in search of safety and work. Many, many others are crossing the open border to India in search of livelihoods and security. While much of this movement is part of the historic seasonal migration between Nepal and India, reports are that seasonal migration is significantly on the rise as a direct or indirect result of the conflict.

In the past year or two, there has been increasing interest in the nature and dynamics of internal and cross-border migration and its relationship to the armed conflict in Nepal. In any country, the migrants, internally displaced persons and refugees are a vulnerable population, and programs are urgently needed to address their needs. Accordingly, a number of research projects have recently been undertaken to better understand the situation faced by these people in Nepal.

Many questions remain unanswered but slowly important information is being gathered.

Among this moving population are children,² an exceptionally vulnerable group about which even less is known than their adult counterparts. In a preliminary effort to better understand their needs and vulnerabilities; this study was conducted, specifically focusing on the conditions and dynamics of migration among children who cross the western Indo-Nepal borders into India.

Historical Patterns of Migration

The population dynamics of Nepal has always been greatly affected by regional migration. For centuries, there was a major trend of populations moving from the arid western parts to the humid eastern parts of the country in search of better livelihoods and opportunity. This eastward movement even crossed political boundaries, with migrant populations settling in Sikkim, West Bengal, Assam, Bhutan, Myanmar and even Thailand. This west to east migration was joined by north to south migration following the eradication of malaria in the Terai in the 1950s. Moreover, till 1949, the British Raj in India recruited many Nepalese as Gorkhali soldiers to fight for the British empire, resulting in many Nepalese families to migrate to India before this period. Within Nepal itself, the government launched a resettlement campaign during the 1950s, encouraging hill residents to settle in the low land of Nepal's Tarai in order to help cultivate the then barren Terai land. It should also be noted that within the resettlement campaign of the 1950s, the Nepal government also encouraged the residents of Northern India to migrate and settle in Nepal³.

² ¹ According to Nepal's Children's Act of 1992, children are defined as people below 16 years, but according to the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) anyone below 18 is considered a child. This study uses the CRC's definition of children.

³ NPC (National Population Commission Nepal) 2040, "Internal and International Migration in Nepal," Migration study taskforce, National Population Commission

As the modernization and development process continued in the second half of the twentieth century, rural to urban migration grew as well. And with an increasing population and diminishing availability of cultivable land, Nepal's population entered an epoch of international migration to the Middle East, Europe, North America, Australia and other Asian countries. This trend has increased with the development of air transportation and its growing connections at the global level.

Among the most common forms of regional migration, historically and today, is seasonal migration from Nepal to India. Rural laborers, usually but not exclusively, men, travel to India in search of work in between planting and harvest seasons to earn cash in food-deficit areas. Such migrants are generally seasonal migrants and spend part of the year at home, working as subsistence farmers, and part of the year in India, working as laborers to earn money for their families back at home.

Modern Conflict-Related Migration in Nepal, Including Internally and Internationally Displaced People

The nine-year armed conflict in Nepal has had a dramatic and significant impact on the historic patterns of movement of people within Nepal and across its borders to India. While hard data is still difficult to come by, and estimates of the numbers of people moving vary enormously, there appears to be universal acceptance that more people are moving than ever before and that this movement is related directly or indirectly to the conflict.

In the context of Nepal's open borders with India, it is difficult to define and segregate the Nepalese crossing the border checkpoints into India according to the working definitions of migration and displacement. The open borders between India and Nepal pose a challenge for

development workers to be able to properly define and tackle the phenomenon of Nepalese entering India. Are they migrating for better livelihoods? For seasonal work? For education? To escape the insecurity within their home districts due to the armed conflict? Or, perhaps, for a combination of reasons?

Indeed, there is extensive confusion about the appropriate terminology to be used to define conflict-induced migration in its various forms. According to the UN, "internally displaced persons" ("IDPs") are defined as "persons or groups of persons who have been forced or obliged to flee or to leave their homes or places of habitual residence, in particular as a result of or in order to avoid the effects of armed conflict, situations of generalized violence, violations of human rights or natural or human-made disasters, and who have not crossed an internationally recognized State border." Such a definition excludes people migrating within Nepal for economic insecurity rooted in the conflict. More notably, it excludes all people migrating seasonally or permanently to India since they are crossing international borders. And yet, in its frequently quoted October 2003 study, "Profile of Internal Displacement: Nepal," the Norwegian Refugee Council/Global IDP Project reminds us that "[d]isplaced people who move to India are in fact internally displaced on their long way to the border," and notes the alarming figure of 120,000 Nepalese crossing into India during January 2003 alone.

For purposes of this study, whether children and their families migrating to India are officially displaced, conflict-induced migrants, or "mere" seasonal migrants is irrelevant. What does matter is that outflows appear to be increasing, as do vulnerabilities as more and more children and families in increasingly desperate circumstances are forced by economics, conflict, or (perhaps most likely) a

combination of the two to leave their homeland.

Purpose of the Study

While there have been an increasing number of studies on IDPs and cross-border migration (see Selected Bibliography for some) there has been no official study conducted on the number and circumstances of children migrating or fleeing across the Indo-Nepal border since the start of the armed conflict in 1996. With the specters of child trafficking and other forms of exploitation, and as agencies committed to serving the needs of vulnerable children, the Central Child Welfare Board (CCWB) and the Save the Children Alliance (SCA) in Nepal felt it was crucial to begin to fill this vacuum of knowledge with at least some basic data. With some initial information on the outflows of children, the CCWB and SCA hope to be able to begin to develop programs to serve the needs to this highly vulnerable population.

More specifically, the primary objectives of this study are as follows

- To identify the numbers of Nepalese children crossing the Indo-Nepal border to enter India (outgoing children) and enter-back into Nepal from India (incoming children) ;
- To better understand some of the basic circumstances of their migration to assess possible areas of vulnerability; and
- To obtain information that could be used to encourage other concerned agencies to bolster support for formulating policies and developing programs that address the plight of these children.

Research Methodology

Research Design

This research was primarily quantitative in nature, bolstered by some key informant interviews, observation and a literature

review. Two questionnaires (see Annex 2 for outgoing children and Annex 3 for incoming children) were designed: one for children crossing from Nepal to India, and the second for Nepalese children returning from India to Nepal. These questionnaires were pre-tested in Nepalgunj and revised as required prior to use.

Some of the key information these questionnaires sought to capture through a semi-structured interview include:

- District of origin;
- Caste/ethnicity;
- Age;
- Intended destination;
- Reason for migration;
- Accompanying family members; and
- Education level.

Two trained enumerators (all local people) were posted at each of the border points. Every effort was made to fill out the questionnaire for each and every child crossing the border in an effort to capture the quantitative flow of children. In practical terms, however, this was not 100% possible, and the research team estimates that for between 5 and 10% of children crossing the border, no questionnaire was completed.

The actual respondents to the questionnaires were usually the adult guardians traveling with the children. Only in cases where children were traveling alone – almost always older children between the ages of 15 and 17 who had traveled to and from India previously and were well-experienced – did children themselves respond.

Research Locations

Questionnaires were administered at a total of five border crossing points, all in the Western, Mid-Western and Far-Western development regions, since these areas are most conflict-affected, and it was assumed the number of migrating children would be

highest there.⁴ The five crossing points were: Bhairahawa, Nepalgunj, Tikapur, Dhangadi and Mahendranagar.

Brief descriptions of the five selected survey checkpoints are as follows:

- **Bhairahawa check post in Sunauli** This checkpoint is located in the Western Development Region, within the Lumbini Zone. It is located between the Indo-Nepal border in the southern part of Rupandehi district in Bhairahawa Municipality. This checkpoint touches the Maharajgunj district of UP India and is the “gateway” to the Gorakhpur transit point. Mainly the people of the Western Region and its adjoining districts use this checkpoint to travel to India.
- **Nepalgunj Checkpoint in Jamunaha** This checkpoint is located in the Mid-Western Development Region within the Bheri Zone. It is located between the Indo-Nepal border in the southern part of Banke district in Nepalgunj Municipality. This checkpoint touches the Baharaich district of UP India and local Rupaidya bazaar of India. Mainly the people of Mid-Western Region and its adjoining districts use this checkpoint for traveling to India, although some people from other parts of the country also use this checkpoint to visit India via the popular capital city of Uttar Pradesh (UP), Lucknow, which has railway transportation systems to various parts of India.
- **Tikapur Checkpoint in Khakrawlla** This checkpoint is located in the Far-Western Development Region of the Seti Zone and is located between the Indo-Nepal border at the southern part of Kailali district along the Karnali River in Dansinhapur VDC. This checkpoint touches the Khiri-Lakhimpur district of

UP India and is the “gateway” to Tikuniya/Belraya urban center where people have access to a railway transportation facility to visit other parts of India. Mainly the people from the Far-Western districts of Nepal and its adjoining regions use this checkpoint to enter India.

- **Dhangadhi Checkpoint in Bhansar** This checkpoint is located in the Far-Western Development Region of the Seti Zone. It is located between the Indo-Nepal border at the southern part of Kailali district in Dhangadhi Municipality. This checkpoint touches the Khiri-Lakhampur district of UP India and located touching the Gaurifanta local bazaar. This checkpoint has a railway in Baharich to enter India. Mainly the people of the Far-Western and its adjoining regions use this checkpoint to enter India.

Mahandranagar Checkpoint in Gadda Chouki This checkpoint is located in the Far-Western Development Region of Mahakali Zone. It is located at the western part of Kanchanpur district in Mahendranagar Municipality, between the Indo-Nepal border along the Mahakali River. This checkpoint touches the Champawat district of Uttaranchal state of India and is a major “gateway” to the beautiful hilly bazaar of Nainital. Mainly the people of the Far-Western Region and its adjoining areas use this checkpoint to enter India and travel to Delhi as it is close to Mahendranagar, although this checkpoint is not used exclusively for those traveling to Delhi.

Research Timeframe

The research period was broken down into two time periods. For the three months from July 3rd through October 3rd, 2004, the research team collected data from outgoing

⁴ Indeed, outflows of migrants across the Kakarbhitta border point in the Eastern Region was found to be significantly lower than those in the West, Mid-West and Far-West during another migration study completed at around the same time (See “The Movement of Women,” *Save the Children US*, 2005).

children (Nepal to India) at the Bhairahawa, Nepalgunj, Tikapur, Dhangadhi and Mahendranagar checkpoints. For the two months from October 4th through December 4th, the research team collected data from incoming children (India to Nepal). During this second phase of research, the Tikapur checkpoint was not included since the flows across that border point were found to be much lower during the first phase of the research, and budgetary constraints suggested cutting one border point for this phase.

Research Team

This research was led by a “central cell” comprising a representative each from the CCWB, Save the Children Norway and Save the Children US. This central cell was responsible for developing the concept of this report, providing overall coordination of the research project, including identifying the Research Coordinator and ensuring adequate technical and logistical support for the research, and reviewing the report.

A Research Coordinator was hired by the central cell and based in Kathmandu. He bore the primary responsibility for the design and implementation of the research, as well as the supervision and support for field-based enumerators. The Research Coordinator compiled the information on outgoing and incoming children from all field staff and prepared this report.

Two trained enumerators were placed at each checkpoint and they sent data on a weekly basis to the Research Coordinator in Kathmandu for his review and compilation. In addition, to assure quality control at the data collection sites, there was a team of three people to supervise and manage the field researchers at each site comprising the Chairperson/Coordinator of the District Child Welfare Boards (DCWB), District Child Welfare Officer (DCWO) and a

representative of one of Save the Children’s partner organizations.

Limitations and Constraints:

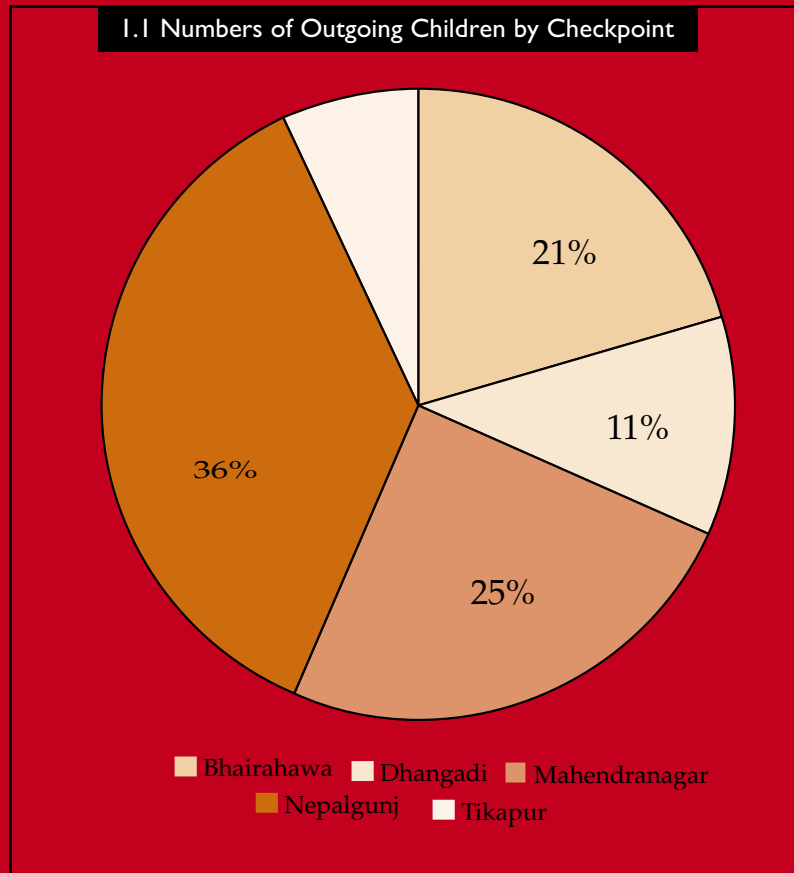
While it is our hope that this study contains much useful information, as with any study the research methodology and realities of data collection in a conflict setting set numerous limitations and constraints on the data presented here.

- The data collected was strictly quantitative and lacks the subtlety and detail of a qualitative study.
- This study only looked at cross-border movement of children at five border checkpoints, and the numbers presented here should be viewed only as a significant sub-set of the numbers of migrating children during the timeframe of the study, not a total number for the country as a whole.
- As noted above, while enumerators did their best to complete questionnaires for all children crossing at these border points, it was not possible in every case. It is estimated that between 5 and 10% of children crossing at the border were not covered.
- Data about the outflows of children going from Nepal to India were collected at a different time from those going from India to Nepal. Outflow information was collected before the Dasain and Tihar holidays (which were October 15 to 27th and November 12th to 14th respectively in 2004) and following the planting season but mostly before the harvest period; inflow information was collected during the Dasain and Tihar holidays and during the harvest. Furthermore, three months were allocated to collecting data about outflows and only two month for inflows. Thus it is not possible to completely compare outflow and inflow data, although some interesting interpretations can still be drawn.

C H A P T E R - 2

Findings Regarding Children
Traveling from Nepal to India
("Outgoing Children")

Number of Outgoing Children



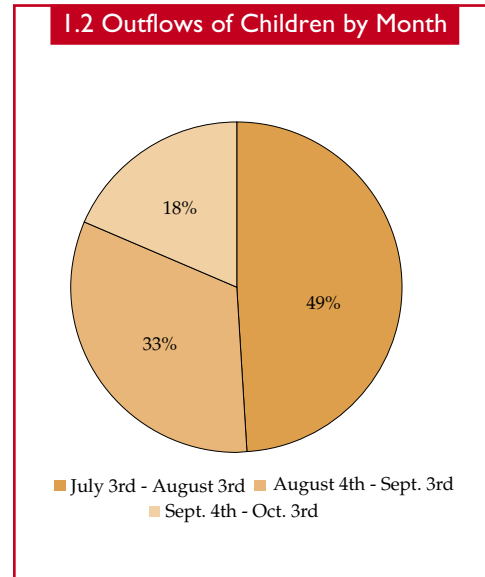
During the three month period that data collection targeted outgoing children, a total of 17,583 children were documented crossing the border from Nepal to India at the five monitored checkpoints. As seen from the table and chart below, the largest outflows were from Nepalgunj and Mahendranagar respectively.

Bhairahawa	Nepalgunj	Tikapur	Dhangadhi	Mahendranagar	Total
3,624 (21%)	6,406 (36%)	1,243 (7%)	1,950 (11%)	4,360 (25%)	17,583

The enumerators also made some interesting observations about the patterns of movement among these children. In general, children below 12 were found to be traveling in groups but nearly about fifty percent of children above 15 were spotted traveling without any guardian, although some were accompanied by other children of their relevant age group. A group of about 5-12 children guided by an elderly person before noon was a common sight. The observers/researchers reported that the traveling children looked like they were flustered and in despair. It should be noted that, most of these children who were being guided by an elderly person of no family relation were being accompanied by people referred to as "mets" locally. These "mets" gain a monetary commission from people seeking labor in India when they provide these children to them. This form of child migration illustrates the economic exploitation of children that is prevalent in Nepal due to the prevalent poverty and further research on this topic may even prove that such practices can be possibly be considered as a form of ongoing child trafficking.

Also, most traveling groups heeded to the advice of astrologers while crossing the borders. In these western regions of Nepal, astrologers often proclaimed "good days" for traveling on Wednesdays and Thursdays. Mondays and Saturdays are believed to be "bad days" for traveling in the western and southern direction for the long trips.

The above chart shows the timeframe and the numbers of outgoing children who arrived at the checkpoints to enter India for each of the three months the research was



conducted. In the period between July and early October the numbers of the outgoing children decreased each month, with nearly half of the children crossing the first month, between July 3rd and August 3rd. The reason for this may be that paddy field planting would have started in agricultural western Nepal by mid-July, requiring many of the local children, who might otherwise have migrated to India for seasonal work, to work in the paddy field plantation and following harvest after that. Moreover, the relatively low number of children crossing to India during the last month, September, is likely explained because this is the month prior to Nepal's major festivals of Dasain and Tihar, when families typically gather. Indeed, as demonstrated in Chapter 3, inflows of children during the month of October, just in advance of these festivals was very high — though, notably, did not offset the balance of children leaving (see discussion in Chapter 3).

Origin Districts

TABLE: I.1 Outgoing Children by Origin Districts and Checkpoints

District	Number at each checkpoint					Total Number of children
	Bhairahawa	Nepalgunj	Tikapur	Dhangadhi	Mahendranagar	
Kailali	3	77	1,010	1,131	1,212	3,433 (20 %)
Dang	13	1267	0	1	64	1,345 (8 %)
Surkhet	1	686	33	95	244	1,059 (6 %)
Dailekh	1	676	8	1	184	870 (5 %)
Achham	2	63	108	395	236	804 (5 %)
Kanchanpur	0	4	21	47	703	775 (4 %)
Rolpa	3	657	0	0	73	733 (4 %)
Salyan	1	579	0	0	6	586 (3 %)
Banke	0	572	3	0	10	585 (3 %)
Bardiya	7	392	39	10	107	555 (3 %)
Rupandehi	512	3	0	0	11	526 (3 %)
Myagdi	457	5	0	0	24	486 (3 %)
Jajarkot	0	467	0	0	18	485 (3 %)
Doti	0	1	7	213	260	481 (3 %)
Rukum	4	271	0	0	16	291 (2 %)
Kalikot	0	10	0	8	217	235 (1 %)
Pyuthan	17	68	0	0	127	212 (1 %)
Nuwakot	35	154	0	0	9	198 (1 %)
Kavrepalanchok	177	3	0	0	12	192 (1 %)
Bajura	0	0	0	12	178	190 (1 %)
Tanahu	186	1	0	0	2	189 (1 %)
Syangja	173	0	0	0	3	176 (1 %)
Dadeldhura	11	28	0	0	133	172 (1 %)
Kaski	143	2	0	2	23	170 (1 %)
Jumla	1	161	0	0	6	168 (1 %)
Dhading	19	81	1	1	54	156 (1 %)
Baglung	63	75	0	0	17	155 (1 %)
Chitwan	127	9	0	0	16	152 (1 %)
Bajhang	0	0	0	0	143	146 (1 %)
Nawalparasi	118	2	0	0	15	135 (1 %)
Mustang	132	0	0	0	0	132 (1 %)
Arghakhanchi	106	0	0	0	23	129 (1 %)
Bara	121	0	0	0	1	122 (1 %)
Okhaldhunga	117	2	0	0	0	119 (1 %)
Ramechhap	96	2	0	3	10	111 (1 %)
Parbat	106	0	0	0	0	107 (1 %)
Palpa	78	7	0	0	20	105 (1 %)
Gorkha	88	0	0	0	16	104 (1 %)
Gulmi	70	5	0	0	27	102 (1 %)
Rasuwa	96	1	0	0	0	97 (1 %)
Dhankuta	86	2	0	0	3	91 (1 %)
Makwanpur	74	0	0	0	0	74 (0 %)

Contd.

District	Number at each checkpoint					Total Number of children
	Bhairahawa	Nepalgunj	Tikapur	Dhangadhi	Mahendranagar	
Sarlahi	70	0	0	0	0	70 (0 %)
Baitadi	28	0	0	0	27	55 (0 %)
Udayapur	42	0	0	0	12	54 (0 %)
Saptari	40	1	0	0	4	45 (0 %)
Morang	44	0	0	0	0	44 (0 %)
Bhojpur	21	9	0	0	13	43 (0 %)
Sindhupalchok	14	9	0	10	10	43 (0 %)
Kapilbastu	20	1	1	4	5	31 (0 %)
Solukhumbu	11	4	0	1	3	19 (0 %)
Darchula	8	0	0	0	7	15 (0 %)
Bhaktapur	10	1	0	3	0	14 (0 %)
Dolakha	10	2	0	0	0	12 (0 %)
Kathmandu	9	0	0	0	0	9 (0 %)
Lamjung	3	0	0	0	2	5 (0 %)
Panchthar	2	0	0	0	0	2 (0 %)
Dhanusha	0	0	0	0	1	1 (0 %)
Not Mentioned	48	43	12	13	52	168 (1 %)
Total	3,624	6,406	1,243	1,950	4,360	17,583

By far the origin district with the most children was Kailali, with 20% of the child population heralding from this district. This is surely in part because of the district's close proximity to the border (two of the checkpoints were within Kailali district itself) but also likely because Kailali is one of the more conflict-affected districts of the country. Other high outflow districts were Dang at 8%, followed by Surkhet (6%), Dailekh and Achham (both 5%) and Kanchanpur and Rolpa (both 4%). Again, while these districts are all relatively close to the border, they are also highly conflict-affected. Proximity to the border alone does not likely explain these numbers since from Banke, which is home to Nepalgunj, we can see that only 3% of the total outgoing children crossed while 36% of all the outgoing children used this border-checkpoint.

A regional breakdown also suggests that conflict-affected regions are over-represented among outflows. Out of the 17,583 outgoing children, there are 7,124

(40.51%) from the most conflict affected Mid-Western Development Region alone. Following this figure, the second highest number of 6,071 (34.52%) outgoing children come from the Far-Western Development region. Similarly 2,552 (14.51%) outgoing children are from the Western Development Region, 1,251 (7.11%) outgoing children are from Central Development Region, and 417 (2.37%) are from the Eastern Development Region.

Bhairahawa Checkpoint

Out of the 3,624 outgoing children via Bhairahawa checkpoint, the largest numbers are from Rupandehi (512 or 14%) and Myagdi (457 or 12%). Other districts with more than a hundred children each were from Tanahu, Kavreplanchok, Syangja, Chitwan, Mustang, Nawalparasi, Kaski, Bara, Okhaldhunga and Parbat.

Nepalgunj Checkpoint:

The Nepalgunj checkpoint recorded the highest number of 6,404 outgoing children.

By far the highest proportion of children came from Dang, at 1,267 or 19% of all children crossing there. Other disproportionately represented districts were Dailekh, at 676 or 11%, Rolpa at 657 or 10%, Salyan at 579 or 9%, Banke at 572 or 9%, Jajarkot at 467 or 7%, and Bardiya at 392 or 6%.

Tikapur Checkpoint

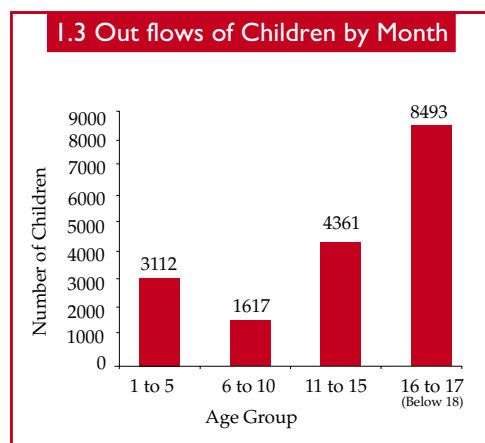
Out of the 1,243 outgoing children using the Tikapur checkpoint the vast majority came from Kailali district itself, with 1,010 or 81 % of children crossing there calling Kailali home. Accham was the next most represented, with 108, or 9% of the children.

Dhangadhi Checkpoint

Out of the 1,950 outgoing children from Dhangadhi checkpoint, the largest number, again, came from Kailali, with 1,131 or 58% of children coming from Kailali. Children were from Kailali district alone. Children from Accham (395 or 20%) and Doti (213 or 10%) were also highly represented.

Mahendranagar Checkpoint

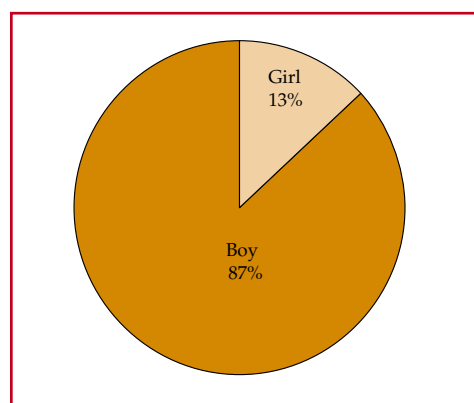
Out of the 4,360 outgoing children from Mahendranagar checkpoint, children from Kailali were once again the most represented, with 1,212 or 27% of children. The second most represented group was children from



Kanchanpur, with 703 or 16%. Other well-represented districts were Accham, Surkhet, Doti, Bajhang, Bajura, Bardiya, Dadaldhura, Dailekh, Kalikot, and Pyuthan.

Chart 1.7 illustrates the age groups of the outgoing children⁵. Nearly half (48%) of the children reported themselves to be between 16 to 17 (below 18) years of age,⁶ the age group most likely to be migrating for labor reasons or to flee forced conscription by the Maoists (or both). Children in the 11 to 15 age bracket represented 25% of all children, which could also include many children likely to work in India. Nearly 18% of children were age five or younger, and were generally accompanying their families to India.

Interestingly the low representation of children within the age group of 6 to 10 (only 9%) suggests that many children of this age group may be left behind by migrating families as they are considered



old enough to stay home and perform the necessary work there, but too young to perform hard labor in India, and perhaps young enough to seem at low risk for forced conscription.

The vast majority of outgoing children were found to be boys, at 87%. This data is not

⁵ It should be noted that the ages were provided by the children themselves or their parents and no formal tool or means of verifying their age was used during the research.

⁶ Enumerators did report in some case that they felt children were overstating their age.

surprising as Nepal's patriarchal society limits the mobility of women and girls and does not encourage their mobility for work. This finding also lends statistical support to the extensive anecdotal reports that many villages in the western part of Nepal are populated primarily by women and girls and younger boys – populations often left behind to tend the farm and which are not seen as likely to find well-paying labor jobs in India.

Ethnic/Caste of the Children

As the above table and chart show, the caste and ethnic composition of migrating children is quite striking when compared to national census data. Dalits in particular are extremely disproportionately represented among the outgoing children, being represented there at almost three times the rate they are represented in Nepal's overall population. Brahmin and Chhetri children are also over-represented among the migrating children, although at a much less alarming rate. Even when focusing on just the far-western, mid-western, and western ethnic population breakdowns, we find that

Dalits are far more disproportionately represented among the outgoing children than any other ethnic group. For example, even when Chhetries represent 17.49% of the total population (with the highest ethnic representation of 32.62% in the mid western development areas and 44.30% in the far western development areas) compared to 12.96% represented by Dalits (with only 16.23% and 17.99% ethnic representation in the mid and far western development areas respectively).

Janjyatis besides Magars and Tharus, by contrast, are notably under-represented among the migrating children, as are members of "other" ethnic groups. This is likely because other groups, such as Rais, Limbus, Gurungs, Sherpas and Yadavs are based in the central and eastern parts of the country more than the western areas captured in this study.

The high representation of Dalit children within the outgoing children probably results from two factors. First, their low

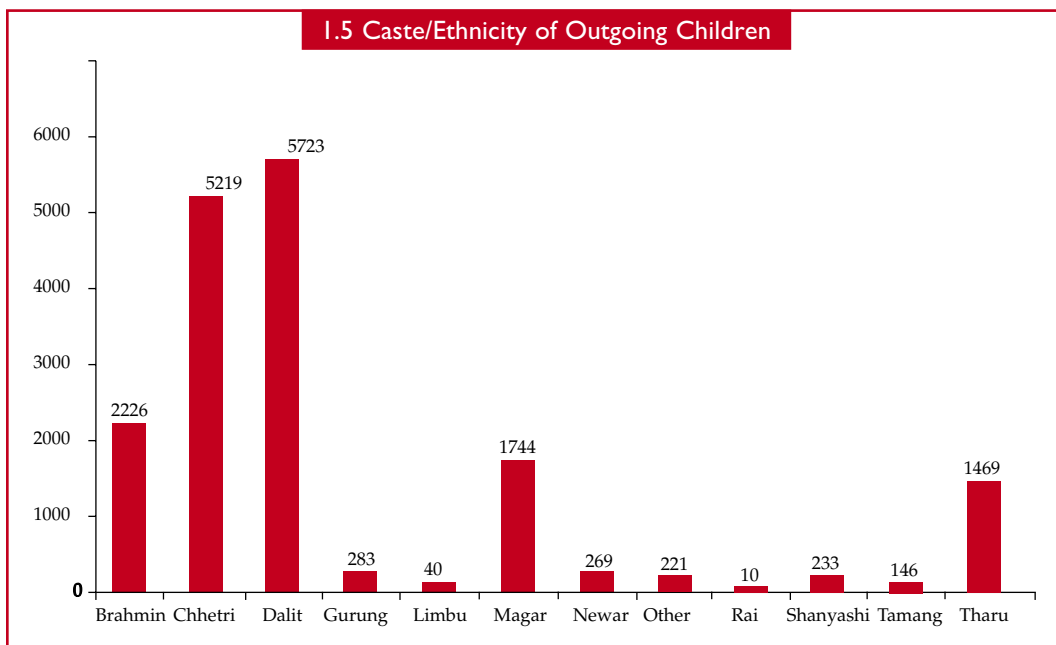


TABLE: I.7. Comparisons to Caste/Ethnicity of Nepal's Population as a Whole

S.N.	Caste/Ethnic Group	Number of Outgoing children (with Percentage of total outgoing number)	Total Number of the Caste/ ethnic groups Population (with percentage of total National population)	Outflows Higher or Lower than Proportion in Nepal Population
1	Brahmin/Chhetri (Including Hill & Tarai Brahmins/ Thakuris/Rajputs/ Shanyashi)	7,668 (44%)	7,206,170 (32%)	Higher
2	Magar	1,744 (10%)	1,622,421 (7%)	Higher
4	Tharu	1,469 (9%)	1,533,879 (7%)	Higher
5	Newar	269 (2%)	1,291,303 (6%)	Lower
6	Other Janjyati	479 (3%)	4,978,959 (22%)	Much Lower
7	Dalit	5,723 (33%)	2,913,595 (13%)	Much Higher
8	Other	221 (1%)	3,190,607 (14%)	Much Lower

economic, social, and health status, reported in various development and government reports,⁷ probably also results in a lower threshold to withstand being displaced during conflict than other better off communities. In addition, Dalit communities have tended to be directly targeted by the Maoists for recruitment – and also by government security forces for harassment since there is widespread belief that Dalits are more likely sympathetic to the Maoist cause.

Educational status

Among the 17,583 outgoing children, only 6,193 or 35% of them had ever gone to school in Nepal. The rest of the 11,390 children, or 65% reported never having attended school. Even when considering that 3,112 of the children were not yet school age, that still means 8,278, or 47% of school age children never attended school. This rate is significantly higher than the national average of 38.9% who do not enroll in school (the net enrollment rate of Nepal is 61.1%), and demonstrates again that it is

generally the most impoverished sector of society migrating to India⁸.

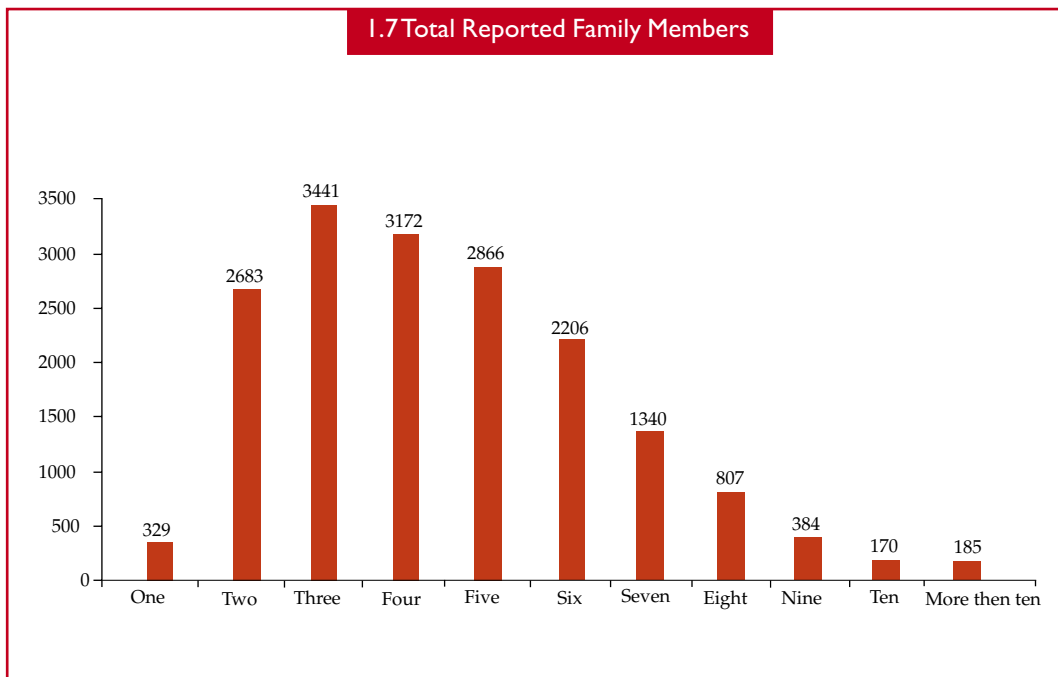
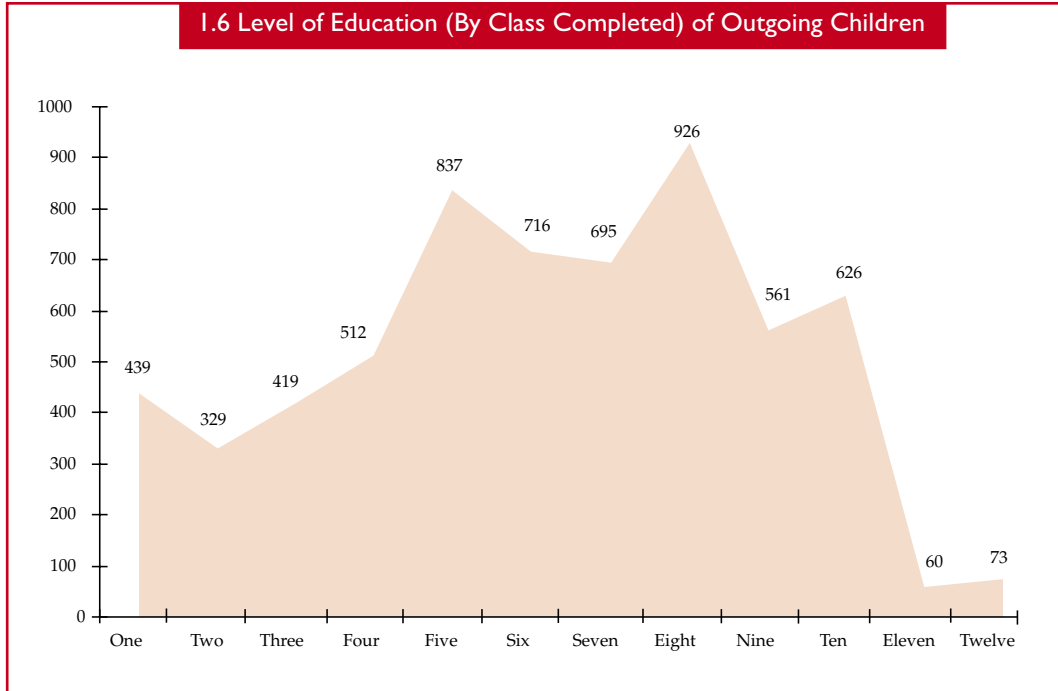
Interestingly, however, of those children who reported attending school, many had completed primary school. A total of 4,494 children, or 26%, had completed grade five or above, a, perhaps, surprisingly large minority.

Generally speaking, outgoing children did not appear to have disproportionately large families, with the vast majority reporting their families (14,697 or 84%) were comprised of six members or fewer (four members was most common at 20%). This number of six or fewer family members demonstrated in the vast majority of the outgoing children is in lines with Nepal's mean household size of 5.3 .

Three hundred and twenty nine of the outgoing children, constituting around 2%, reported themselves as their sole family member. This number shows a realistic number of how many outgoing children are orphans.

⁷ Save the Children US and New Era, "A Study on Chamar, Musahar, and Dom Communities in the Maithili Belt of Nepal," 2005

⁸ School Level Educational Statistics of Nepal 2003 (BS 2060), His Majesty's Government, Ministry of Education and Sports, Department of Education, Research and Educational Information Management Section, August 2003



Family Size according to number of Family Members

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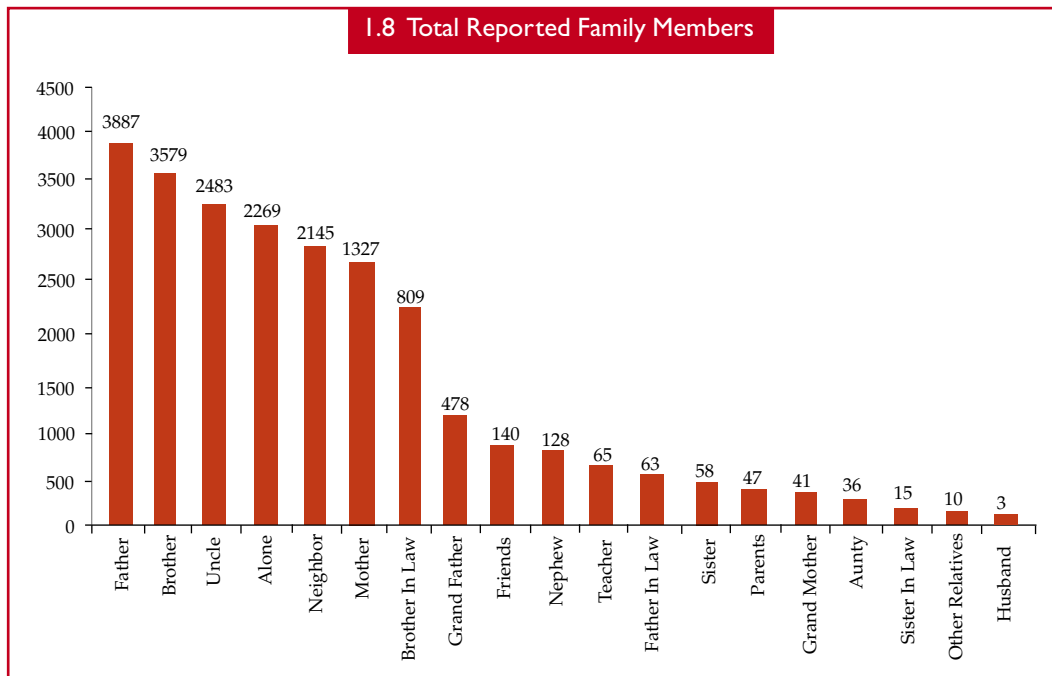
Head of Traveling Group/ Child Guardians

Children were asked the open-ended question "Who is accompanying you in your journey," and asked for name and

relationship. In all cases, respondents provided only one person, who was most likely the person the child perceived as his or her guardian or head of household if traveling with a family.

As shown in the chart above, a total of 8,898 children (51%) reported being accompanied by a nuclear family member (father, mother, brother or sister) with fathers and brothers making up the vast majority. This means nearly half were not accompanied by a nuclear family member, and a notable, 2269 or 13%, reported they were not accompanied by anyone but were traveling alone. Observation by enumerators indicated that in almost all cases children who traveled alone were comprised of those who had frequented India more than two times and were older than 15.

Other relatives or acquaintances frequently mentioned were uncles, neighbors, brothers-in-law and grandfathers. It is important to note, however, that the field



⁹ Nepal Demographic and Health Survey 2001, Family Health Division, Department of Health Services, Ministry of Health, His Majesty's Government, Kathmandu, Nepal

research staff did not have the means to verify the relationships of the people accompanying the outgoing children. Locally-based enumerators knew that it was common practice for contractors, referred to as 'Mets' in the local dialect in the Western regions of Nepal, to take children into India, and they receive commissions from both the child and their employers in India. In the course of this research, many enumerators doubted some of the relationships reported and thought that the adults accompanying the children were actually 'Mets.' This raises the concerning specter for child trafficking, which was outside the scope of this study, but may be an important consideration for the future.

Purpose of Visit

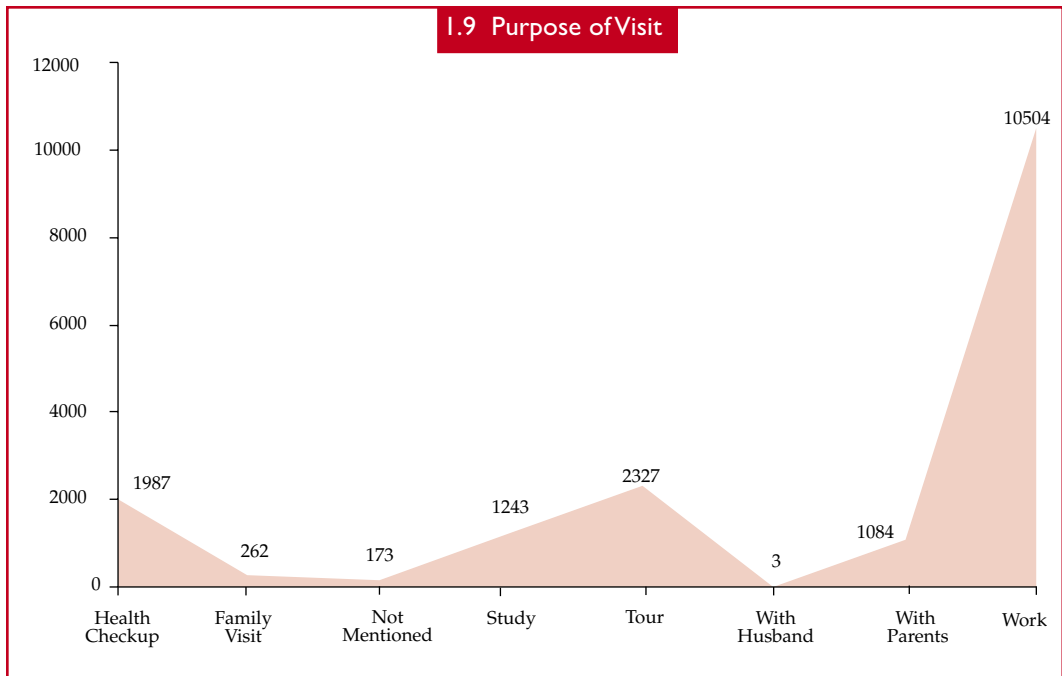
As shown in the chart below, the clear majority of children, 10,504 or 60%, reported that the main purpose of their visit to India was work. Other, much less common purposes, included touring, health

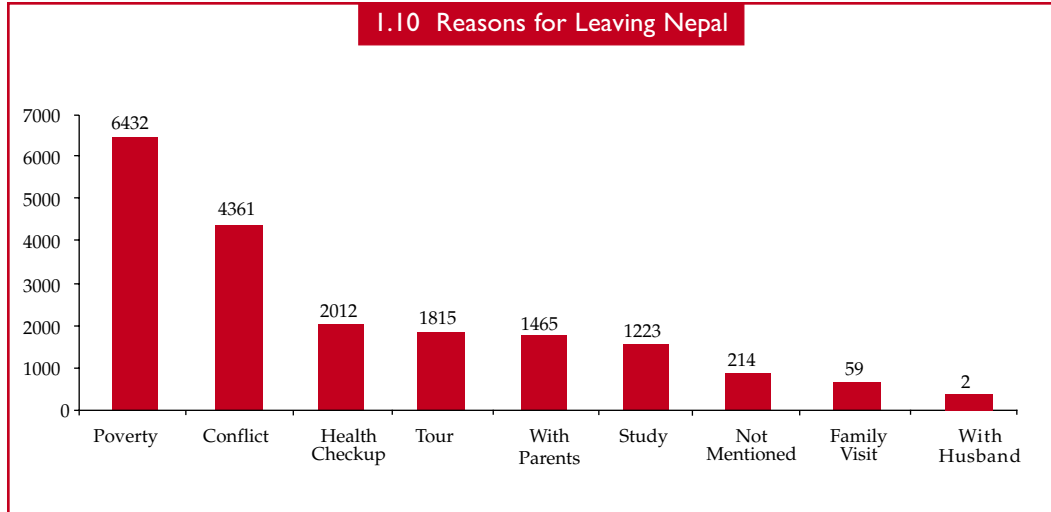
checks and studies. As discussed in the following section, some of these responses may not have been completely accurate.

Reason for Leaving Nepal

While "work" was the main pull factor for children heading to India, a series of more complex push factors were identified when children were asked their reason for leaving Nepal.

Perhaps unsurprisingly, the most common answer provided was poverty, with 6,432 children (36%) reporting this as the main impetus for leaving. Poverty as a single word tells many things in the Nepalese context. Poverty can be associated with the lack of jobs, educational, health services and other opportunities. Moreover, poverty and conflict have a mutually reinforcing relationship, where conflict can be viewed as the outcome of poverty and visa versa. Whether reported poverty was specifically conflict-induced poverty was not possible to ascertain.





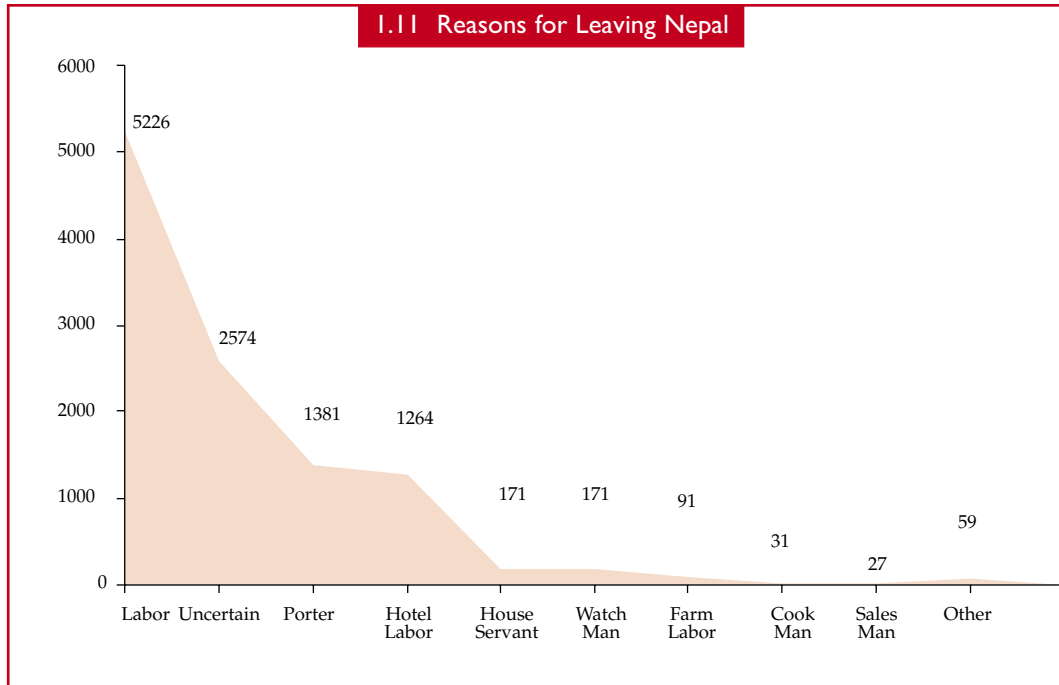
Following poverty, the second largest number of 4,361 (24%) children mentioned the armed conflict as their primary reason for leaving. Given the sensitivities involved in providing this answer, it was in fact a surprisingly large sub-set of the children. It was assumed at the outset of this study that many children or their guardians might fear telling the enumerators, who were basically strangers to them, in a crowded checkpoint that they were traveling to flee the conflict in their districts.

Indeed, there are some indications from the data that some children, who might otherwise have reported "conflict" as their reason for leaving, did not feel safe doing so. For example, at the Tikapur checkpoint, the majority of the outgoing children mentioned their primary reason for traveling to be for health checkups, whereas this answer was given much less frequently elsewhere. Other disproportionately common responses in Tikapur were study and tour. The Tikapur checkpoint lacks the presence of governmental as well as security personnel and is considered a Maoist stronghold. More willingness of the children to express conflict as their primary reason for traveling to India was found where there was a strong presence of security forces and the children as well as their guardians felt secure.

Only 1,223 or 7% of the outgoing children have mentioned studies as their primary purpose for leaving Nepal, and of those who responded so, many appeared to be children of doctors, lecturers, high ranking civil servants and staff of the Indian army.

Those children who mentioned traveling with their parents as their main purpose of leaving were mostly below 5 years in age and had no other reason for leaving than to be cared for by their parents. However, 214 outgoing children who were under five years in age did not mention their reason for leaving Nepal and many children from this young age group mentioned touring as their primary reason for leaving Nepal. The reason provided by this young age group of children below 5 as touring India seems dubious. It can be assumed that these young children had other reasons for leaving Nepal which they did not feel secure enough to reveal to the enumerators.

As presented in the above chart, 10,995, or 63% of the children, specifically intended to perform some kind of work in India. The other 6,588 children (27%) reportedly planned to study, accompany their parents, "visit" India or have health check ups. Among the 10,995 with plans to work, nearly half (48%) intended to obtain "labor"



jobs, probably construction or other heavy labor jobs. A significant minority, 23%, of those planning to work did not have a specific job in mind. Other common answers were portering or hotel work,

All of the work options mentioned by the children raise serious concerns about their vulnerability to exploitation. They are likely low paid jobs in poor conditions that may have serious negative consequences on the health and development of the children. Furthermore, as mentioned above, there is concern that some of the children crossing were accompanied by self-interested contractors, or “Mets,” which raises the risk of child trafficking significantly.

Relatives in India

In an effort to better understand the extent of social safety networks in India, children were asked whether they had any relatives currently living in India. Remarkably, only 188 (1 %) of children reported having relatives in India at all, although as noted

above, most children appeared to accompanied by a relative or friend.

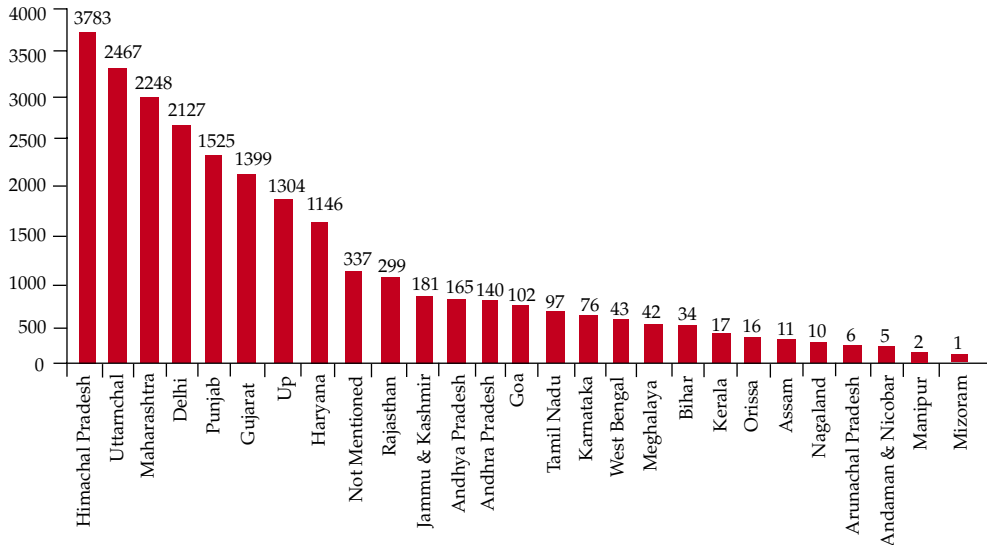
Of those relatives in India, nearly all were male.

Destination States in India

Children (or the guardians with whom they were traveling) were asked to which state in India they intended to go. Interesting, the vast majority had a specific destination in mind, with only 2% not providing a destination. This suggests that children and their families or traveling companions are not generally fleeing in a sudden, unplanned manner, but that there has been at least some forethought to their travels, and as will be discussed below, in some cases are returning to a known place they have been to before.

The majority of children (10,625 or 60%) reported heading for Himachal Pradesh, Uttaranchal, Maharashtra or Delhi, all within the north-western areas of India.

1.12 Reasons for Leaving Nepal



Within those states, children generally reported that they planned to move to urban areas such as Shimla, Dehradun and Bombay. Given that most children were traveling from more rural areas of Nepal, their adjustment to big city life in India may prove difficult and, again, likely makes them more vulnerable to exploitation.

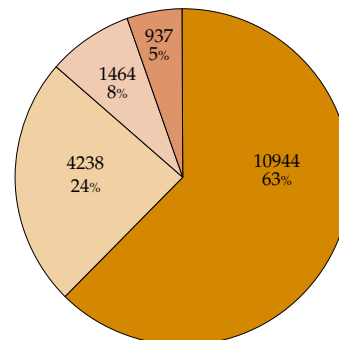
The children of the Mid-Western development region of Nepal have usually selected Uttaranchal and Himachal Pradesh as their destination spots. The children from the Far Western development regions are traveling more towards the industrial centers of north-western India, such as Delhi and Mumbai, amongst others. Interestingly, among the top eight destinations, only two, Uttaranchal and UP, border directly with Nepal.

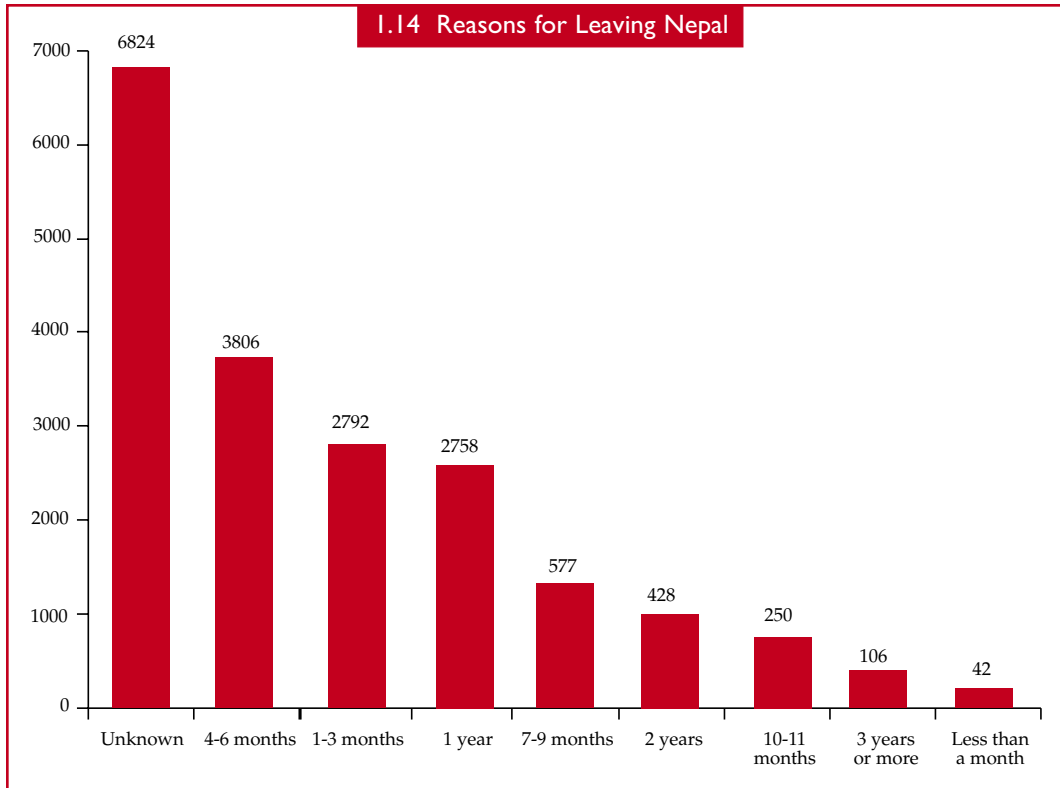
First, Second or Third Visit?

A significant majority (10,994 or 63%) of the outgoing children reported they were

entering India for their first time. Although not conclusive, when this information is combined with the fact that most incoming children reported a plan to return to India (see Chapter 3) – that children tend to visit India more than once – it suggests outflows of children may be on the rise. It may also indicate that many outgoing children do not return to Nepal, but settle in India.

1.13 Visit Frequencies among Children Month





The majority of children (10,225 or 58%) plan to stay in India for one year or less. Another 3,806 or 22% plan to stay only four to six months (most only 4 months) reveals the trend of seasonal migration in which people from western part of Nepal travel to the north western parts of as a seasonal migrants. Most of these children probably planned to return for the harvest and accompanying festivals.

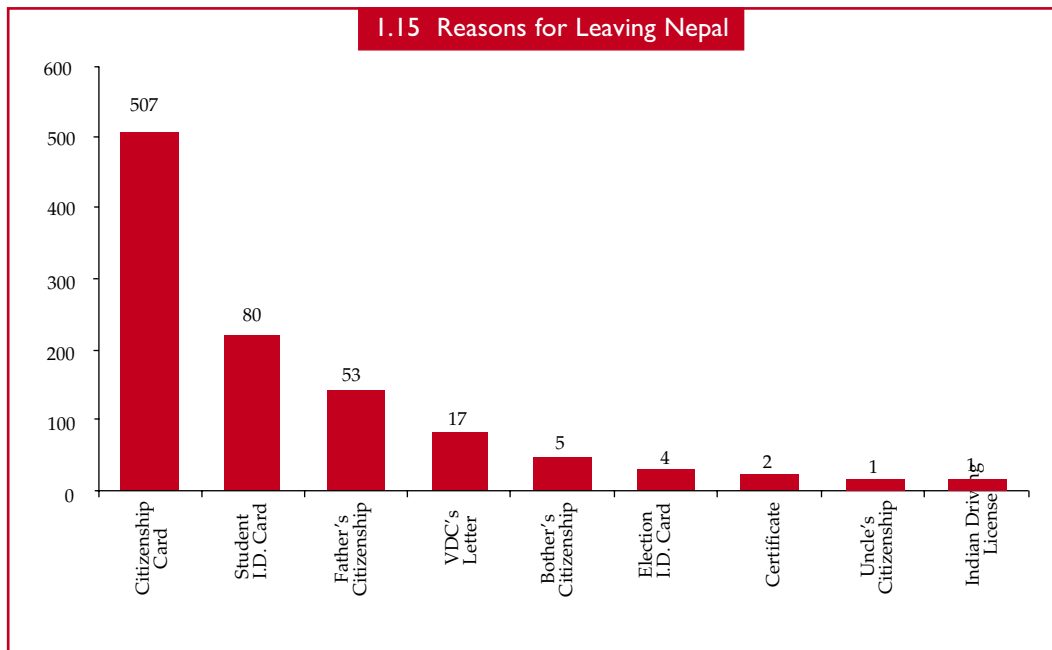
A significant minority, 39%, indicate that they not have a definite timeframe planned for their stay in India. As with those children reporting they did not know what work they hoped to find in India, this group of children is somewhat concerning. Lack of plans suggests both more urgency to

their journey (and perhaps indicates it is more likely conflict-induced displacement) as well as suggests greater vulnerability to exploitation.

Identification Documents

In order to assess levels of vulnerability to exploitation, children were asked whether they had any form of official identification documents. The response was alarming: only 670, or 4%, of outgoing children possessed any identification document while crossing the Indo-Nepalese border into India¹⁰ (see Chart 1.11) This means that 96% of children possessed nodocumentation that would identify them as citizens of Nepal while traveling into India, making them highly vulnerable to exploitation.

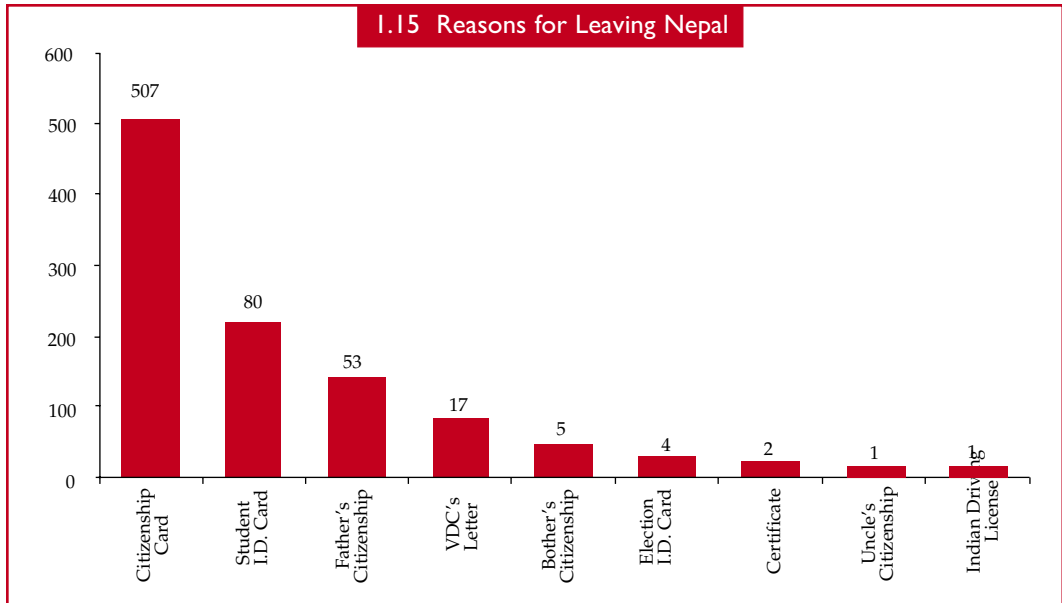
¹⁰Of those with identification, most of them (507 or 76%) had citizenship cards. Other commonly reported forms of identification were student I.D.s or citizenship cards of their fathers or brothers.



C H A P T E R - 3

Findings of Incoming Children

This chapter analyses the data collected on children returning from India to Nepal (“incoming children”). Similar, but not identical, information was collected from these children as was collected from the outgoing children.



As a reminder, data collection took place only over two months (October 4th to December 4th, 2004), not three months as was done for outgoing children. Also, no data was collected from Tikapur checkpoint, the checkpoint with relatively few children found to be crossing the border in the first phase of the study.

Finally, it should be noted that enumerators all reported that collecting data from incoming children was much more difficult than for outgoing. While outgoing populations were more willing to provide time to enumerators and delay crossing the border, returning populations were generally rushing to get home and not as willing to spend much time responding to queries. As a result, some of the information appears incomplete.

Numbers of Incoming Children

A total of 8,210 children were found to be crossing the border from India into Nepal during the two months studied. This figure averages out to 4,105 children per month,

which is 30% less than the 5,861 children per month found to be crossing from Nepal to India in the preceding time period. This difference is noteworthy since, while the outgoing children data was collected during the planting and harvest seasons (July 3rd, 2004 to October 3rd, 2004) which precedes the festival seasons of Nepal making it a low outflow period, the incoming children data was collected just before and during the Dasain and Tihar holiday periods, a very high inflow period. Thus, while not conclusive, these figures suggest that outflows of children may be higher than inflows in general, and that thus child migration to India — and children staying for longer periods of time in India — is on the rise.

Checkpoint wise number of incoming children

As with outgoing children, the Nepalgunj checkpoint was used by the highest proportion of incoming children, at 49%. By contrast, the second most common checkpoint for incoming children was Bhairahawa, at 30%, followed rather

distantly by Mahendranagar at only 15%. This is the reverse of outgoing children, where Mahendranagar was just ahead of Bhairahawa in terms of the numbers of children crossing the border. It is possible this was due to insecurity or *bandhs* that were taking place in the western part of the country during part of the data collection period, resulting in returning travelers to avoid using the Far Western crossing point.

Destination States VS Districts of Nepal

While analyzing information given by the incoming children some relationships between the Nepalese districts from which the incoming children originated and were returning to and their destination points in India where they were coming stood out. Among the most significant relationships observed in terms of the number of

children leaving a particular district to settle in a particular province or state in India, 45 children from Surkhet and 12 from Jajarkot district had traveled to Andhra Pradesh to settle. In the same way from 20 children from Salyan and from 46 children from Bardiya had traveled to settle in the conflict prone Indian state of Jammu and Kashmir. In the same manner, 12 children from Bajhang district had traveled to the southern Indian state of Karnataka to settle in India. Although the rest of the incoming children mentioned the north western Indian states or cities such as of Uttranchal, Jammu & Kashmir, U.P., Punjab, Haryana, Delhi, Rajasthan and Mumbai of Maharashtra as their place of settlement in India, the number of children and their Nepalese districts of origin were scattered and bore no major relationship

TABLE: 2.3 List of district address according to the number of incoming children

<u>District</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Number</u>	<u>District</u>	<u>Number</u>
Kailali	698	Parbat	94	Jhapa	8
Dang	670	Dadeldhura	90	Morang	8
Salyan	597	Bajhang	78	Solukhumbu	7
Surkhet	557	Kathmandu	70	Dhankuta	6
Gulmi	418	Jumla	67	Mahottari	6
Rukum	384	Gorkha	63	Darchula	5
Jajarkot	372	Lamjung	56	Dhanusha	5
Banke	318	Bajura	50	Humla	5
Kanchanpur	318	Dhading	35	Khotang	5
Palpa	291	Kalikot	34	Kavrepalanchok	4
Dailekh	261	Kapilbastu	31	Mugu	4
Rupandehi	251	Myagdi	29	Rasuwa	4
Syangja	241	Sindhupalchok	29	Parsa	3
Bardiya	236	Baitadi	23	Sankhuwa-Sabha	3
Rolpa	231	Nuwakot	20	Lalitpur	2
Nawalparasi	224	Udayapur	15	Panchthar	2
Doti	196	Makwanpur	14	Saptari	2
Achham	176	Sindhuli	14	Sunsari	2
Tanahu	173	Okhaldhunga	11	Bara	1
Pyuthan	157	Ramechhap	11	Bhaktapur	1
Baglung	147	Siraha	11	Ilam	1
Arghakhanchi	128	Dolakha	9	Rauthat	1
Chitwan	109	Sarlahi	9	Tota	8101

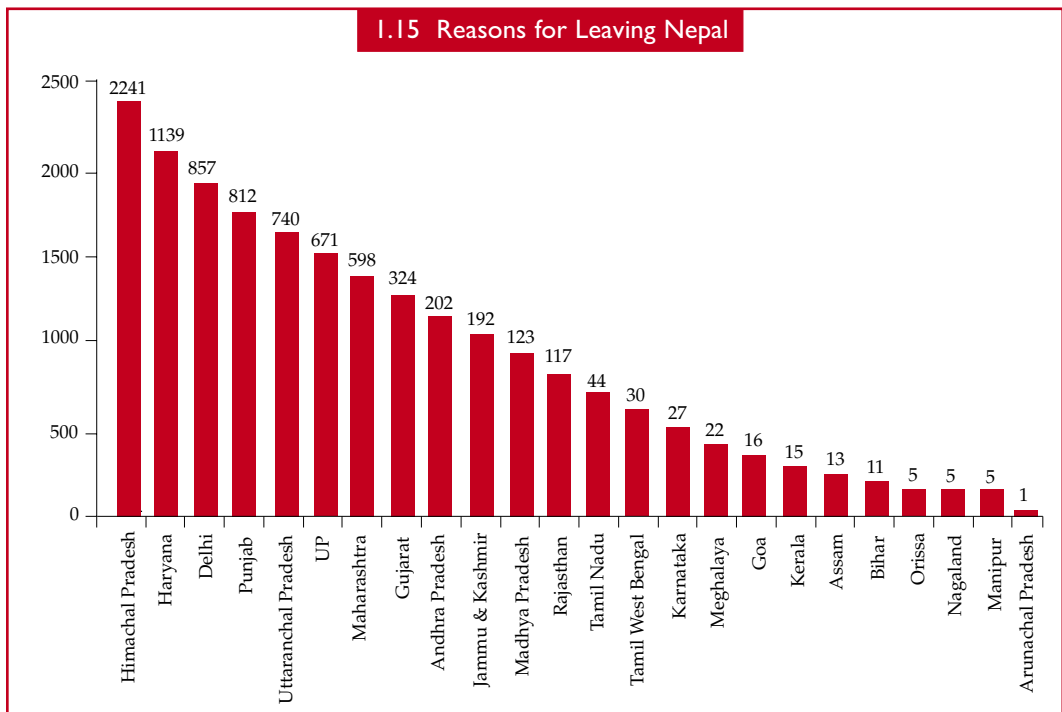
The above table shows the number of incoming children according to their district of origination in Nepal. As with outgoing children, Kailali district was the most common origin district among incoming children, although it was not as disproportionately represented, with only 698 (9%) of incoming children from Kailali compared with 20% of outgoing children. The other most frequently reported origin districts were: Dang, with 670 or 8% of the children; Salyan with 597 or 7% of the children; Surkhet with 557 or 7% of the children; Gulmi with 418 or 5% of the children; and Rukum with 384 or 5% of the children. This is somewhat different from the frequency of origin district found among outgoing children, where neither Rukum nor Gulmi were particularly well represented. Again, this may have been in part due to the fact that, at the time this data was collected, movement in the Far Western and Mid Western Regions of the Nepal was adversely affected by *bandhs*,

and may have meant fewer people returning to those districts relative to other places in the country.

It was also interesting to note that children heralding from eastern parts of Nepal, such as Jhapa, Ilam, Panchthar, Morang, and Sunsari, were much more represented among incoming children than outgoing children. A presumable reason for these children, originating from the eastern regions of Nepal, to be returning to Nepal through the western border checkpoints could be because their destination points in India are located in the northwestern territories of India, making it quicker to travel to the western border checkpoints to cross over to Nepal.

Indian States from which Children Traveled

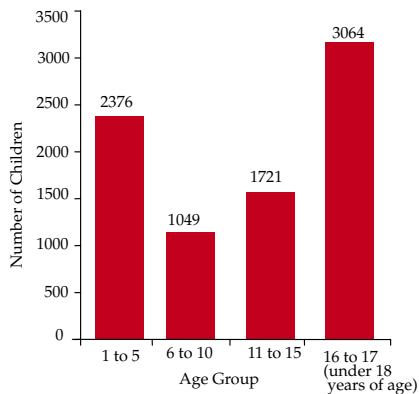
Children were asked to provide information on where they were traveling from in India. As with the most common



destination for outgoing children, incoming children were most likely to have traveled from Himachal Pradesh, from where 27% of the children reportedly came. The second most common Indian State, from which incoming children had traveled was Haryana, from where 14% of the children traveled, which was only the seventh most common answer among outgoing children. This may be due to patterns of seasonal work, although it is uncertain. Still, the same eight states were listed by both outgoing and incoming children as their most frequent destination/starting points, albeit in different orders: Himachal Pradesh, Haryana, Delhi, Punjab, Uttaranchal, UP, Maharashtra and Gujarat.

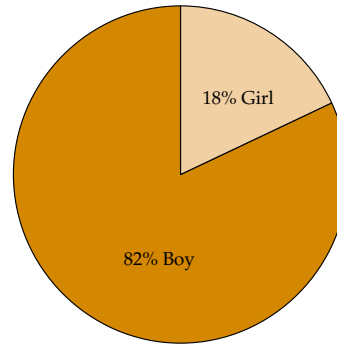
As shown in the above chart, the ages of incoming children are similar to those of outgoing children, with children from 16 – 17 (under 18 years of age) comprising the largest age grouping, at 37%. In the case of incoming children, the second highest age group is the under fives, with 29% of incoming children falling into this age bracket, and 21% of incoming children falling within the 11 to 15 age group. These two groups are reversed with outgoing children.

2.4 Age Group-wise counting of incoming children



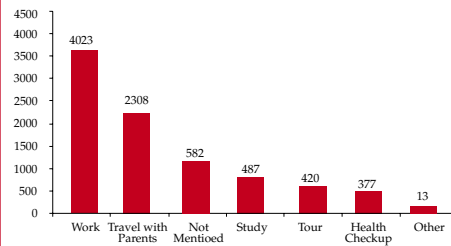
Sex of Incoming Children

2.5 Sex according to number of the children



As with outgoing children, the vast majority of incoming children are boys (6,745 or 82%). This is, of course, logical, given that those who have left (mostly boys) are likely to be the ones who return (mostly boys).

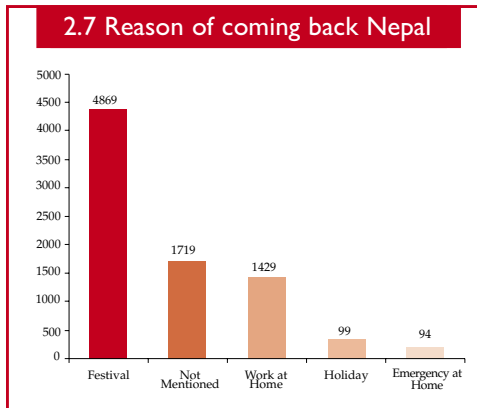
2.6 Reasons of leaving Nepal



Incoming children were asked in an open-ended question the original reasons they left Nepal. Unsurprisingly, “work” received the highest number of answers, mentioned by 49% of respondents, which can be considered similar to the “poverty” answer provided by a similar number of outgoing child respondents.

More surprisingly, perhaps was that “travel with parents” was the second most common response (28%), which was a much less common answer (8%) among outgoing children. When this answer is taken

together with the fact that not one returning respondent mentioned "conflict" as the reason for leaving, it may be fair to hypothesize that it was frequently an answer used in lieu of "conflict" by children or their guardians. The enumerators mentioned that children seemed generally fearful of mentioning conflict as a reason for leaving Nepal. It is, indeed, logical that people returning to a land with conflict may be much more fearful in referring to the conflict than children or guardians had felt when leaving Nepal for the presumably safer India.



Reasons for Coming Back to Nepal

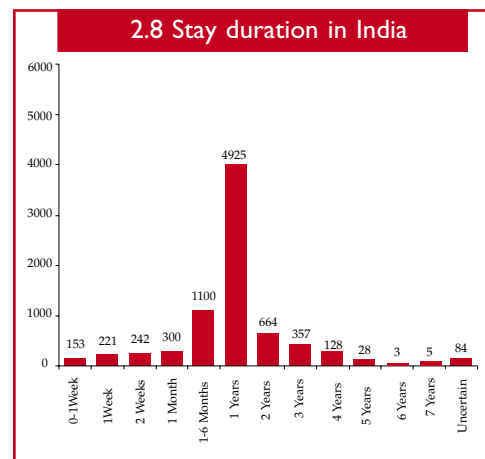
The vast majority of returning children (59%) reported they were coming back to Nepal for the Dasain and Tihar festivals, which fell from October 15th to 27th and November 12th to 14th respectively in 2004. This high percentage of incoming children who are coming back to Nepal to celebrate the traditional festivals may represent a large majority of children who are planning to return back to India after the festival season is over. (See below). Nearly one-

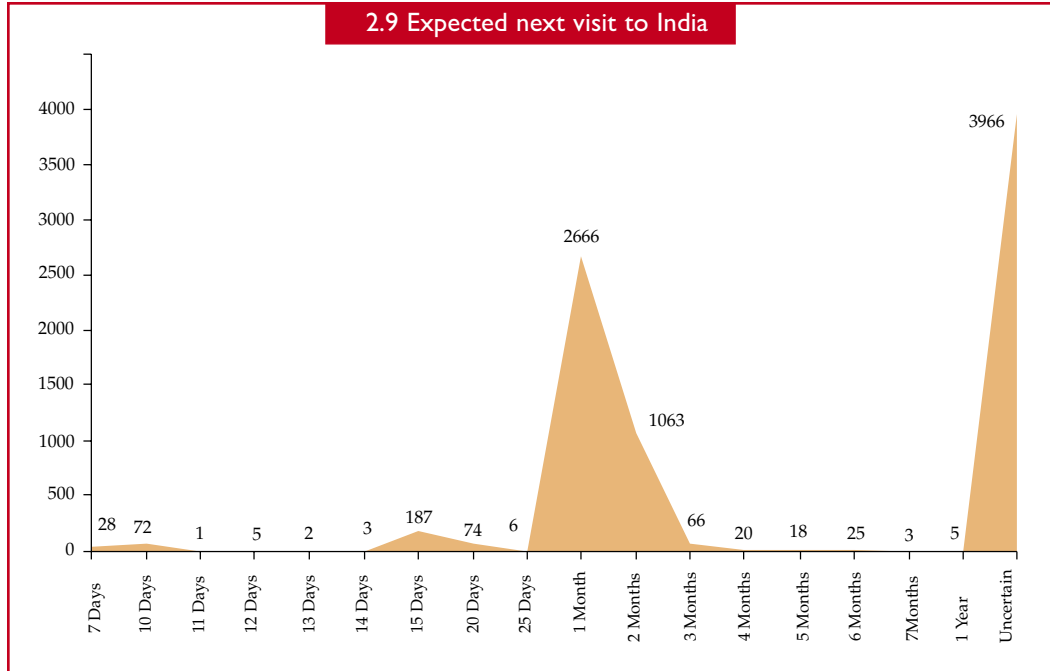
fourth of children did not mention their reason for returning and another 17% reported they were returning to work at home, presumably for the harvest.

Duration of Stay in India and Planned Timeframe to Re-enter India

A significant majority of children (60%) reported that they had spent one year in India, which is substantially higher than the number of outgoing children who reported intending to stay for one year (16%). It may be that children returning at this time (festival season) disproportionately represent longer-term staying children. Or it could simply be that children end up staying in India longer than they had initially anticipated.

In any case, in taking all the figures into account, it is quite clear that most Nepalese children returning to Nepal from India have stayed a considerable amount of time in India.



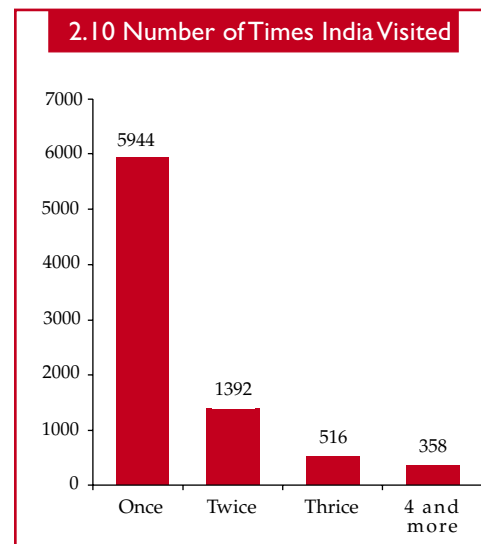


According to the data collected from incoming children, 4,244, or 52%, have mentioned a specific time frame in which they expect to return to India. Thus, in just over half of the cases, children had a definite plan to return to India, and usually relatively quickly. Most often this was within one or two months (45% of children), suggesting they would return following the Dasain and Tihar festivals and harvest time. However, a full 48% of respondents said that they were uncertain if they would ever re-enter India.

First, Second or Third Visit?

While more than half of the returning children did indicate that they would return to India, suggesting that children come and go regularly across the border, for a full 72% of them, they were returning from their first visit to India. This figure is slightly higher than the 63% of outgoing children who reported they were traveling to India for the

first time. This fact, combined with the stated intention of 52% of children to return, may indicate that recurring child migration may be on the rise.



Type of Work in India

TABLE: 2.1 Work Done in India

Type of occupation in India	Number
Not Mentioned	6042
Labor	1351
Hotel Labor	354
Porter	276
Home (domestic work)	60
Agriculture	30
Watch Man	29
Shopkeeper	24
Cook	9
Business	6
Carpenter	6
Driver	5
Dairy	3
Mechanist	3
Office	3
Peon	2
Service	2
Faire Man	1
Police	1
Priest	1
Sport	1
Sweeper	1
Total	8210

Although 4,023 children did report that their reason for traveling to India was work, only 2,168 (26%) actually provided information on the nature of the work they performed there. This may have been because their guardians were reluctant to share the nature of the work of their accompanying children, or simply that travelers were in a rush to return home to Nepal and did not take the time to respond.

Of the 2,168 children who did share the kind of work they had been doing in India, the substantial majority, 62%, reported they had been doing labor. The next two most common answers were hotel work (16% of

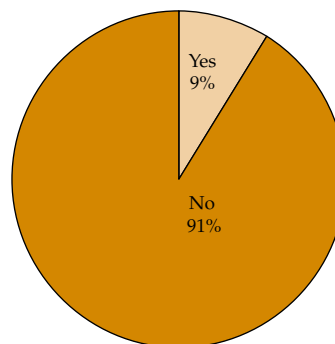
those responding) and portering (13% of those responding).

Educational status in India

A mere 9% of children reported that they were studying while in India. Of those who did study there, most indicated that they had traveled to India with plans to study in the first place.

The 91% of the incoming children who do not receive any form of education in India indicates that the Nepalese children who travel to India for whatever reason are most likely to grow up uneducated and possibly illiterate. This figure is disturbing as these children are forced to jeopardize their future by being uneducated while trying to seek short-term solutions to escape poverty, gain better livelihoods, or live in a more secure environment.

2.11 Whether the Child Studied in India

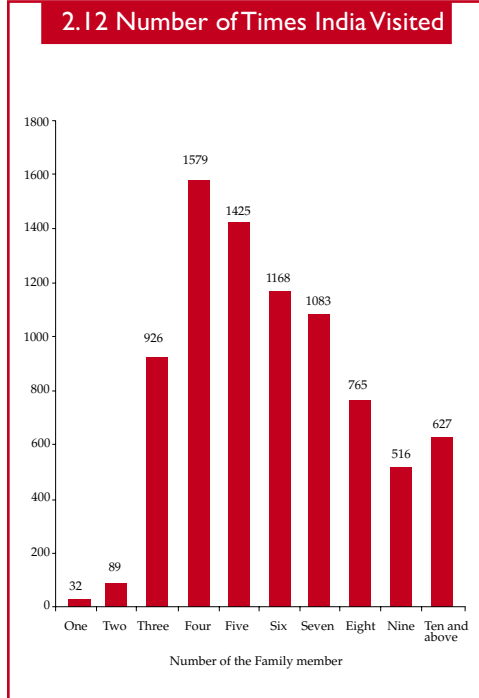


Parent's Work

Incoming children were asked to provide information about their father's profession. By far the most frequently provided responses were "agriculture" (3,314 or 40%) and "labor," (2,442 or 30%). While a small handful of respondents mentioned professions such as businessmen, doctors, bankers and civil servants the vast majority of other responses were lower paying jobs such as cooks, drivers, peons and

watchmen. This is not surprising since all other indications are that children moving across the border are poorer and less educated than the rest of the population.

2.12 Number of Times India Visited



Generally speaking, similar to the outgoing children, the incoming children did not appear to have disproportionately large families, with the vast majority reporting their families (5,478 or 66%) were comprised of six members or fewer (four members was most common at 19.2%) which is consistent with Nepal's overall mean family size of 5.3. Thirty two incoming children constituting less than half a percentage (0.4%), reported themselves as their sole family member. This figure shows a realistic number in terms of how many incoming children might have been orphans.

No direct relationship can be inferred from the number of family members a child has and their likelihood to return back home from the above data. However, it will be interesting to explore in the future if those children who have less numbers of family members back home return back to Nepal more frequently as their care and support might be needed more than those children with many siblings who are able to divide family responsibilities amongst them.

C H A P T E R - 4

Conclusions and Recommendations

The over-arching finding of this study is that child migration from Nepal to India appears to be on the rise.

The heavy outflows of children during what is traditionally low-migration season in comparison to somewhat light inflows during the festival month of October - a traditionally high inflow season -- make it clear children are leaving Nepal at a faster rate than they are returning. It also seems clear that this increased outflow is, at least to some degree, driven by the conflict. A full 24% of respondents actually named conflict as the reason for their departure from Nepal, and a majority of migrating children herald from districts that are particularly conflict-affected.

The vast majority of children reported that they were traveling with the intention of finding work in India – only a small proportion planned to study (and only 9% of incoming children were found to have done so). In most cases this was work that has potential to be highly exploitative, such as labor, portering or hotel work. This study did not seek to obtain information on the detailed situation of working Nepalese children in India, but given the nature of work sought and the fact that the majority of children were completely uneducated, it can be assumed that conditions are difficult at best and fit the definitions of child trafficking at worst (slavery-like conditions). More research needs to be done to better understand their actual circumstances.

It was nonetheless heartening to find that 51% of children were reportedly traveling with at least one member of their nuclear family (father, mother, brother or sister). Most others reported traveling with uncles, neighbors and friends. Only 13% were traveling alone, and those that were, were older (15 to 17 years) and experienced migrants. This suggests that children may be somewhat protected from the risks of exploitation if they are accompanied by a loving family member or friend.

Still, in some cases enumerators reported they had doubts about the true identities of some of the adults accompanying children, and believed sometimes they were actually “Mets,” or labor contractors, not the friends or relatives they claimed to be. This concern was supported by the observation that groups of children traveling with one adult were not uncommon – exactly the scenario one would envision for trafficking of children for labor or other exploitation. Furthermore it can be assumed that in at least some minority of cases where children were actually accompanied by a relative, they still may have been vulnerable to trafficking. While this study did not find

(and was not designed to find) any concrete evidence of child trafficking, some circumstantial evidence suggests it is occurring, and the conflict may be leading it to increase.

The extremely high proportion of Dalit children was also a concerning finding. Dalit children comprised 33% of migrant children, while only comprising 13% of the general population of Nepal. To the extent that migration was driven by poverty, this is perhaps not surprising, since Dalits tend to be poorer than other caste and ethnic groups. It may also be because Dalit communities have been more heavily hit by the conflict than some others, with the Maoists targeting Dalits for recruitment, and government security forces therefore putting them at increased surveillance. But it may also be that Dalit communities are being specifically targeted by labor contractors or child traffickers. Again, this is a topic for future studies.

For all migrating children, Dalit or otherwise, it is clear that vulnerability is high. Although, this research was a provisional look to identify the trends, demography, and status of Nepalese children migrating to India from Nepal's western borders, we hope that the recommendations provided in this chapter both bolster a strong effort to better understand the difficulties and crisis faced by these children and deliver a positive impact on the lives of Nepalese children traveling to India.

Specific recommendations are as follows:

Initiate safe migration programming targeted to benefit children

It is crucial to educate the children from the remote areas of Nepal traveling towards the urban destinations in India about how they can protect themselves from

exploitation or danger at the borders, while traveling, and at their destination points. Children who are planning to migrate to India and their parents/guardians should have access to information on precautions and measures to take for traveling safely.

Agencies working with potential and actual child migrants should consider developing a child-friendly "safe migration" package that could be used and distributed in schools, child clubs, at border crossing points, and in transit or migrant resource centers in India. To the extent possible, trainings for such a "safe migration" package should be provided through hands-on programs and/or radio programs since so many children are likely illiterate. But written packages in simple language could also be of use to the significant minority of children with some education. With these basic skills children who plan to migrate will likely face fewer risks of exploitation.

Such a package should include information on how to keep records of contact addresses and telephone numbers that can be referred to while asking for help, the importance to have knowledge of border procedures, travel routes, contact names, and the crucial importance of having one's own identification documents and money for emergency purposes. It could also include information on basic child rights, risks of child trafficking, and any available support services in India. Further services that would bolster an efficient "safe migration" program are:

Migrant Resource Centers with programs for child migrants

Migrant Resource Centers, if established, could provide legal, educational, and refuge facilities for migrants, including children. Such migrant resource centers could also be of great service to child migrants, particularly if located in cities like Shimla,

Deradhun, Delhi and Mumbai, which are now known to have high concentrations of child migrants from Nepal. Children could be provided safe migration education as described above at such centers, and they also could serve as "contact points" where parents of migrating children and the children themselves would have telephone and message board facilities to establish crucial contacts with relatives, contact persons, employers, and schools in order to settle in the urban destination spots in India.

Child Migrant Safety Hotlines

If any Nepalese children finds themselves in a situation where they are in potential danger of being exploited or physically harmed while migrating to India, or if an adult finds a Nepalese child migrant in this situation, there should be a telephone hotline or number at which such cases could be reported. This phone number could be included in any safe migration package for children, as well broadcast through radio or other media. Cases coming through these hotlines could be linked with local NGOs and law enforcement authorities who could intervene to help protect child rights. Moreover, it will be crucial to co-ordinate the administration of these hotlines with the respective District Child Protection Committee (DCPCs) and DCWB (District Child Welfare Boards). Local NGOs such as Child Workers in Nepal (CWIN) have already implemented hotlines to report cases of child abuse and exploitation in Biratnagar, Pokhara, and Kathmandu. However, there is no hotline service for children that has focused on the plights of children that migrate from Nepal to India. Therefore, in light of the low levels of education, unplanned travels, and insufficient identification documents, amongst other characters that make Nepal's migrating children a very susceptible group for exploitation it is crucial to collaborate with the concerned agencies and implement a hotline to ensure the safe migration of

children. Furthermore, cases coming from these hotlines can provide valuable information to identify areas of vulnerabilities that child migrants face and this data can be incorporated in the safe migration programming targeting children discussed in the first recommendation (point 1).

Call Centers as contact points in district headquarters

Call centers, if established, would allow migrating children to phone these contact points in their home district to leave a message for their family of their safe arrival at their respective destination points, or to alert them to any trouble they have had along the way.

Safe Havens for child migrants at the Indo-Nepal borders

If in any case a child has been coerced into traveling, is being trafficked, or simply finds it overwhelming to make the trip to India which they had earnestly planned, they should have a place to turn to for help when reaching the Indo-Nepal border. The Safe Havens could protect these children until their parents or guardians arrive to pick them up after being contacted or until these children are escorted to their homes or to their planned destinations. These Safe Havens could be publicized through media, billboards and through safe migration packages implemented as per recommendation #1.

Expand educational programs that benefit Dalit and disadvantaged children

Given the disproportionate number of Dalit children migrating to India, and the fact that they tend to be uneducated and migrating for work purposes, it is crucial to continue and expand educational programs targeting Dalit children. Children who are better educated may be less likely to migrate to India for labor, and if they do, will be in a

better position to protect themselves from exploitation. Other children who are disadvantaged due to their poverty, lack of parents, and ethnic discrimination, amongst other reasons should also be targeted while expanding educational programs as the likelihood of them traveling to India in an unprepared fashion with high risks of exploitation is great.

Increase income-generation initiatives in the Far and Mid-Western districts of Nepal, especially targeting adolescents

The increasing numbers of Nepalese children, particularly adolescents, leaving for India seems to be driven by the belief that there are more economic opportunities at the other side of the border. Income generation programs through seed grants or the formation of adolescent savings and credit groups, among others, should be expanded and targeted at conflict-affected adolescent youth. Youth should also be provided business literacy skills in conjunction with seed grants or savings and credit programs. This same group should also be targeted for intensive vocational training programs, providing useful skills such as masonry and animal husbandry.

Initiate a Government Child Tracking System to track the level of child migration across the Indo-Nepal border

Given the fact that child migration to India appears to be on the rise, the government should consider developing and implementing a simple tracking system to monitor outflows of child migrants. Such a system could track the number of child migrants by month (both outgoing and incoming), as well as, possibly, their district of origin. This relatively simple system would allow programmers to identify when child migrants seem most on the move and where they are most likely to come from.

This would allow initiative such as safe migration programs or the establishment of district call centers to target the most appropriate district at the most appropriate time. It would also allow government and others to track whether the migration trend is increasing or decreasing, and thus have some measurement of program impact.

Form partnerships between the governments of India and Nepal in both countries to jointly protect the child rights of Nepalese child migrants

As more and more Nepalese children take advantage of the 1950 border treaty between India and Nepal and migrate to India in search of jobs, better livelihoods, security, and education, amongst other reasons, it is imperative that the rights of these children not be violated by any party. These vulnerable children traveling and trying to settle in a foreign land may find major obstacles along the way. Moreover, as illustrated within this report, most of these Nepalese children entering India are entering for their first time, have very little knowledge of what they will do when they reach their destination, have few or no contacts in India, have very low levels of education, and come from the most disadvantaged communities of Nepal, making them very prone to being exploited or taken advantage of. Therefore, the governments of both Nepal and India should help these children by focusing on protecting the child rights of these Nepalese child migrants who enter India. The governments of India and Nepal can devise joint programs and laws that prosecute those who violate child rights and exploit or traffic migrating children. Similarly, both governments can devise programs that safely return those Nepalese children who are stranded in India and are living in destitute, circumstances.

Increase cross-border collaboration among NGOs, INGOs, and donors working to protect children

The implementation of many of the above recommendations will be dramatically enhanced through cross-border collaboration among agencies in India and Nepal working for the protection of children. To date, there has been only limited coordination, and mostly on issues related to trafficking of women and girls for commercial sexual exploitation. Much less has been done with regard to other forms of trafficking and exploitation, which may well be more prevalent. Agencies should more consistently share information about child migrants, which could be used to develop suitable responses. In addition, they should work together to develop suitable advocacy strategies to promote the rights of child migrants. To support this cross-border collaboration, donors should consider funding regional programs addressing the needs of child migrants.

Pursue further research

This study takes a provisional look at the status of children crossing the western Indo-Nepal borders while going or coming back from India and many areas of further in-depth research on Nepalese child migrants can be identified. Some possible areas of further in-depth research are listed below:

Study of Nepalese Children living and working in the urban centers of India

This study revealed many reasons to be concerned about the vulnerability and possible exploitation of child migrants to India. But it did not provide any concrete information on their actual circumstances upon arrival. In order to develop appropriate responses to their needs, it is crucial to better understand their situation

on arrival in India. An in-depth, qualitative study in some of the top destination cities would be of great use in developing suitable programmatic responses.

Study of trends in child trafficking

This study provided some indication that child trafficking is occurring across the Indo-Nepal border, especially when considering the fact that enumerators observed groups of 5-12 children guided by an elderly person of no family relation and referred to as "mets" locally was a common sight. These "mets" gain a monetary commission from people seeking labor in India when they provide these children to them. However, this study was unable to verify the number of children guided by these "mets" nor could it substantiate these movements as child trafficking. A future study aimed at examining the extent and nature of child trafficking, particularly in the context of Nepal's armed conflict, would be of use in developing appropriate responses.

Study of internally displaced children in Nepal

The number of outgoing children of this study (17,583) which only included those

children crossing from the five border checkpoints of Bhairahawa, Nepalgunj, Tikapur, Dhangadi and Mahendranagar. It can be estimated that a much higher number of children are migrating to India from the other checkpoints of Nepal. If the total numbers of children migrating to India from Nepal include those who have been forced to leave their homes and be internally displaced or to travel to the closest border checkpoints in order to cross over to India, there is a lack of data on such children. Therefore, further research should be warranted in order to study the numbers, conditions and vulnerabilities faced by those children who are internally displaced in Nepal.

Annex

ANNEX-I

Section I: Outgoing Children

TABLE: I.1 List of outgoing children according to checkpoints

Checkpoint	Number
Nepalgunj	6,406.00
Mahendranagar	4,360.00
Bhairahawa	3,624.00
Dhangadhi	1,950.00
Tikapur	1,243.00
Total	17,583.00

TABLE: I.2 List of states of India according to the number of children

State	Number
Himachal Pradesh	3783
Uttaranchal	2467
Maharashtra	2248
Delhi	2127
Punjab	1525
Gujarat	1399
UP	1304
Haryana	1146
Not Mentioned	337
Rajasthan	299
Jammu & Kashmir	181
Andhra Pradesh	140
Goa	102
Madhya Pradesh	165
Tamil Nadu	97
Karnataka	76
West Bengal	43
Meghalaya	42
Bihar	34
Kerala	17
Orissa	16
Assam	11
Nagaland	10
Arunachal Pradesh	6
Andaman & Nicobar	5
Manipur	2
Mizoram	1
Total	17583

TABLE: 1.3 List of more than 10 children according to destination place of Indian states

Name of State	Total Number of OCs	Name of Places	Number of OCs
Andaman & Nicobar	5		
Andhra Pradesh	140	Hyderabad	87
Arunachal Pradesh	6		
Assam	11		
Bihar	34		
Delhi	2127		
Goa	102		
Rajkot	181	Surat	485
		Ahmadabad	213
		Rajkot	181
		Badala	33
		Bhabnagar	26
		Baroda	24
		Bapi	20
		Jamnagar	21
Haryana	1146	Panipat	73
		Gudgaun	57
		Saket	23
		Faridabad	22
		Okhada	18
		Pharidabad	14
		Hisar	12
		Kalka	12
Himachal Pradesh	3783	Shimla	3034
		Kullu Manali	166
		Solan	77
		Ruru	60
		Kannour	59
		Gopeswor	23
		Sapatu	22
		Khayarjhala	19
		Rampur	14
Jammu & Kashmir	181	Kashmir	70
		Shrinagar	48
		Ladak	20

Contd.

Name of State	Total Number of OCs	Name of Places	Number of OCs
Karnataka	76	Bangalore	71
Kerala	17	Bhopal	62
		Indore	22
		Barauda	10
Maharashtra	2248	Merath	69
		Malad	17
		Kolhapur	15
		Center	12
		Bhaindar	10
		Miraroad	12
		Mumbai	1166

TABLE: 1.4 List of destination states of India according to the districts of Nepal visited by the children (Data is recorded on the basis of descending order up to seven destinations) * This sign shows the scattered and less number of outgoing children

District	State of India	Number
Kailali	Rajasthan	772
	Uttaranchal	564
	UP	480
	Gujarat	440
	Maharashtra	437
	Himachal Pradesh	241
	Delhi	210
Dang	Himachal Pradesh	658
	Uttaranchal	210
	Delhi	197
	Punjab	192
	Punjab	112
	Haryana	60
	UP	45
Surkhet	Himachal Pradesh	350
	Gujarat	280
	Maharashtra	150
	Uttaranchal	140
	Delhi	50
	UP	29

Contd.

District	State of India	Number
Dailekh	Himachal Pradesh	870 270
	Uttaranchal	157
	Gujarat	131
	Delhi	34
	Punjab	72
Kanchanpur	Uttaranchal	775 244
	Himachal Pradesh	243
	Delhi	170
	Maharashtra	130
	Tamil Nadu	18
	Karnataka	10
Rolpa	Himachal Pradesh	733 400
	Punjab	200
	Uttaranchal	159
	Delhi	49
Salyan	Himachal Pradesh	586 455
	Uttaranchal	102
	Punjab	18
Banke	Himachal Pradesh	585 209
	Uttaranchal	70
	Goa	65
	Delhi	39
Bardiya	Himachal Pradesh	555 154
	Uttaranchal	135
	Gujarat	68
	Delhi	57
Rupandehi	Delhi	526 165
	Haryana	148
	Maharashtra	51
	UP	50
	Punjab	32

Contd.

District	State of India	Number
Myagdi	Haryana	200
	Delhi	143
	Maharashtra	38
	Punjab	21
	Andhra Pradesh	15
	Tamil Nadu	10
	486	
Jajarkot	Himachal Pradesh	340
	Uttaranchal	79
	Gujarat	28
	485	
Doti	Maharashtra	108
	Orissa	107
	Punjab	83
	Tamil Nadu	14
	481	
Rukum	Himachal Pradesh	260
	Uttrancal	40
	Goa	15
	291	
Kalikot	Himachal Pradesh	101
	Delhi	50
	Tamil Nadu	30
	Karnataka	29
	235	
Pyuthan	Haryana	95
	Himachal Pradesh	34
	Punjab	28
	Delhi	25
	212	
Kavrepalanchok	Goa	49
	Delhi	45
	Maharashtra	34
	Punjab	26
	UP	17
	Madhya Pradesh	15
	192	

Contd.

District	State of India	Number
Achham	Maharashtra	198
	Gujarat	135
	Punjab	111
	Maharashtra	84
	Gujarat	57
	Himachal Pradesh	51
	Andhra Pradesh	42
Nuwakot		198
	Himachal Pradesh	140
	Uttaranchal	44
Bajura		190
	Delhi	28
	Not mentioned	28
	Maharashtra	12
Syangja		176
	Delhi	78
	Maharashtra	58
	Punjab	34
Dadeldhura		172
	Uttaranchal	70
	Himachal Pradesh	18
	UP	17
	Maharashtra	15
Kaski		170
	Delhi	57
	Punjab	50
	UP	30
Jumla		168
	Himachal Pradesh	114
	Uttaranchal	40
Not Mentioned		168
Baglung		155
	Himachal Pradesh	56
	Punjab	29
	Delhi	17

Contd.

District	State of India	Number
Chitwan	Haryana	70
	Delhi	34
	UP	11
		152
Bajhang	Delhi	53
	Andhra Pradesh	16
	Delhi	8
	Uttaranchal	6
		146
Nawalparasi	Delhi	45
	Haryana	35
	Maharashtra	22
	Punjab	20
		135
Mustang	Delhi	46
	Punjab	30
	Maharashtra	26
		132
Arghakhanchi	Delhi	48
	Maharashtra	16
	Haryana	9
		129
Bara	Punjab	58
	UP	20
	Delhi	17
	Haryana	10
		122
Okhaldhunga	Delhi	41
	Punjab	31
	UP	28
		119
Ramechhap	Delhi	38
	Haryana	27
		111
Tanahu	Haryana	80
	Delhi	52
	Tamil Nadu	10
		189

Contd.

District	State of India	Number
Parbat	Maharashtra	30
	Delhi	12
	UP	10
		107
Palpa	Punjab	31
	Delhi	28
	Maharashtra	25
	Tamil Nadu	13
	105	
Gorkha	Delhi	25
	Jammu & Punjab	20
		19
	104	
Gulmi	Haryana	37
	Delhi	36
	102	
Rasuwa	UP	29
	Uttaranchal	25
	Delhi	19
	Maharashtra	19
	Tamil Nadu	12
	97	
Dhankuta	Delhi	29
	Himachal Pradesh	17
	UP	13
	Maharashtra	13
	Uttaranchal	10
	91	
Makwanpur	Jammu & Delhi	21
		15
	Himachal Pradesh	12
	74	
Sarlahi	Haryana	51
	70	
Baitadi	Punjab	6
	Not mentioned	6
	Gujarat	5
	55	

Contd.

District	State of India	Number
Udayapur		54
	Maharashtra	18
	Delhi	15
Saptari Morang		45
		44
	Haryana	20
	UP	15
Bhojpur	*	43
	Punjab	20
Sindhupalchok		43
	Andhra Pradesh	15
Kapilbastu Solukhumbu		31
	*	19
Darchula Dhading		15
	156	
	Himachal Pradesh	63
	Uttaranchal	60
	UP	31
Bhaktapur	*	14
Dolakha	*	12
	Rajasthan	11
Kathmandu		9
Lamjung	*	5
Panchthar	*	2
Dhanusha	*	1
Total		17318

TABLE: 1.5 List of purpose of visit of the children according to number

Purpose of Visit	Number of OCs
Work	10504
Tour	2327
Health Checkup	1987
Study	1243
With Parents	1084
Meeting	262
Not Mentioned	173
With Husband	3
Total	17583

TABLE: 1.6 List of reasons for leaving according to the number of the children

Reason for leaving	Number of OCs
Poverty	6432
Conflict	4361
Health Checkup	2012
Tour	1815
With Parents	1465
Study	1223
Not Mentioned	214
Meeting	59
With Husband	2
Total	17583

TABLE: 1.7 List of caste/ethnic group according to number

Ethnic/Tribe/Caste	Number of OCs
Dalit	5723
Chhetri	5219
Brahmin	2226
Magar	1744
Tharu	1469
Gurung	283
Newar	269
Shanyashi	233
Other	221
Tamang	146
Limbu	40
Rai	10
Total	17583

TABLE: 1.8 List of sex ratio of the boys and girls

Sex	Number of OCs
Boy	15312
Girl	2271
Total	17583

TABLE: 1.9 List of age according to years and number of the children

Age	Number
1	677
2	626
3	660
4	572
5	577
6	380
7	354
8	289
9	255
10	339
11	280
12	583
13	604
14	996
15	1898
16	2433
17	2580
18	3480
Total	17583

TABLE: 1.10 List of work or professions according to the number of children

Work/Job Type in India	Number of OCs
Labor	5226
Uncertain	2574
Visit	2091
Health Checkup	1922
Porter	1381
With Parents	1370
Hotel Labor	1264
Study	1205
House Servant	171
Watch Man	171
Farm Labor	91
Cook men	31
Sales Man	27
Mechanics	15
Business	8
Driving	8
Army	7
Office Work	6
Shepherd	4
Marketing	3
Health Checkup	2
Computer	1
Laundry	1
Painting	1
Pilgrimage	1
Sports instructor	1
Sewing/Cutting	1
Total	17583

TABLE: 1.11 List of visit frequency from first time to other

Frequency	Number of OCs
First	10944
Other	937
Second	4238
Third	1464
Total	17583

TABLE: 1.12 List of duration period of the children according to number

Duration	Number of OCs
1 Week	21
2 Weeks	21
1 Month	814
2 Months	818
3 Months	1160
4 Months	2848
5 Months	415
6 Months	543
7 Months	158
8 Months	357
9 Months	62
10 Months	250
1 Year	2758
2 Years	428
3 Years	54
4 Years	20
5 Years	27
6 Years	3
8 Years	2
Uncertain	6824
Total	17583

TABLE: I.13 List of accompanying person during the visit of the children

Duration	Number of OCs
Father	3887
Brother	3579
Uncle	2483
Alone	2269
Neighbor	2145
Mother	1327
Brother In Law	809
Grand Father	478
Friend	140
Nephew	128
Husband	65
Father In Law	63
Sister	58
Parents	47
Grand Mother	41
Aunty	36
Sister In Law	15
Other Relatives	10
Teacher	3
Total	17583

TABLE: I.14 List of accompanying person during the visit of the children

Relatives in India	Number of OCs
Father	72
Neighbor	43
Brother	29
Uncle	21
Brother In-law	6
Maternal Uncle	4
Father In-law	3
Friend	3
Grand Father	3
Nephew	3
Total	188

TABLE: I.15 List of document posed by the children in their visit

Document	Number of OCs
Citizenship Card	507
Student I.D. Card	80
Father's Citizenship Card	53
VDC's Letter	17
Brother's Citizenship Card	5
Election I.D. Card	4
Certificate	2
Driving License of India	1
Uncle's Citizenship	1
Total	670
Grand total	17583

TABLE: I.15 List of educational status according to the class of the children in Nepal

Class	Number of OCs
One	439
Two	329
Three	419
Four	512
Five	837
Six	716
Seven	695
Eight	926
Nine	561
Ten	626
Eleven	60
Twelve	73
Total	6193
Grand Total	17583

TABLE: I6 List of relatives of children staying in India

Duration	Number of OCs
Ashadh 20 - Shrawan 20	8579
Shrawan 21 - Bhadra 20	5755
Bhadra 21 - Ashwin 20	3249
Total	17583

TABLE: I.18 List of dates during the visit period of three month by the children

Date of Visit	Number of OCs	Date of Visit	Number of OCs
2061/03/20	142	2061/05/06	207
2061/03/21	167	2061/05/07	166
2061/03/22	205	2061/05/08	150
2061/03/23	283	2061/05/09	222
2061/03/24	180	2061/05/10	182
2061/03/25	260	2061/05/11	169
2061/03/26	176	2061/05/12	108
2061/03/27	266	2061/05/13	151
2061/03/28	181	2061/05/14	88
2061/03/29	211	2061/05/15	126
2061/03/30	278	2061/05/16	135
2061/03/31	165	2061/05/17	27
2061/04/01	240	2061/05/18	165
2061/04/02	169	2061/05/19	141
2061/04/03	246	2061/05/20	164
2061/04/04	340	2061/05/21*	117
2061/04/05	349	2061/05/22	133
2061/04/06	477	2061/05/23	110
2061/04/07	235	2061/05/24	109
2061/04/08	314	2061/05/25	76
2061/04/09	231	2061/05/26	90
2061/04/10	304	2061/05/27	74
2061/04/11	351	2061/05/28	34
2061/04/12	350	2061/05/29	96
2061/04/13	368	2061/05/30	47
2061/04/14	268	2061/05/31	49
2061/04/15	330	2061/05/32	3
2061/04/16	354	2061/06/01	62
2061/04/17	320	2061/06/02	77
2061/04/18	449	2061/06/03	114
2061/04/19	132	2061/06/04	98
2061/04/20*	238	2061/06/05	139
2061/04/21	240	2061/06/06	119
2061/04/22	223	2061/06/07	212
2061/04/23	186	2061/06/08	132
2061/04/24	238	2061/06/09	94
2061/04/25	230	2061/06/10	156
2061/04/26	192	2061/06/11	145
2061/04/27	187	2061/06/12	115
2061/04/28	200	2061/06/13	102
2061/04/29	249	2061/06/14	161
2061/04/30	183	2061/06/15	120
2061/04/31	122	2061/06/16	87
2061/04/32	134	2061/06/17	118
2061/05/01	175	2061/06/18	124
2061/05/02	205	2061/06/19	45
2061/05/03	440	2061/06/20	43
2061/05/04	159	2061/06/21	23
2061/05/05	191	2061/06/22*	25
		Total	17583

Section 2: Incoming Children

TABLE: 2.1 List of the checkpoints and number of the children

Checkpoint	Number of ICs
Bhairahawa	2426
Mahendranagar	1231
Nepalganj	4002
Dhangadhi	549
Total	8208

TABLE: 2.3 4 List of incoming children according to the destination state

State	Number of OCs
Himachal Pradesh	2241
Haryana	1139
Delhi	857
Punjab	812
Uttaranchal Pradesh	740
UP	671
Maharashtra	598
Gujarat	324
Andhra Pradesh	202
Jammu & Kashmir	192
Madhya Pradesh	123
Rajasthan	117
Tamil Nadu	44
West Bengal	30
Karnataka	27
Meghalaya	22
Goa	16
Kerala	15
Assam	13
Bihar	11
Orissa	5
Nagaland	5
Manipur	5
Arunachal Pradesh	1
Total	8210

TABLE: 2.4 List of reasons of incoming children

Reason of leaving	Number of ICs
Work	4023
Stay with parents	2308
Not mentioned	582
Study	487
Tour	420
Health Checkup	377
Other	13
Total	8210

TABLE: 2.5 List of reason of coming back Nepal

Reason for Coming Back	Number of OCs
Festival	4869
Not Mentioned	1719
Work at	1344
Holiday	99
Urgent	94
Farming	85
Total	8210

TABLE: 2.7 List of study status

Studying Status	Number of OCs
No	7436
Yes	774
Total	8210

TABLE: 2.8 List of relatives of children staying in India

Sex	Number of OCs
Boy	6745
Girl	1465
Total	8210

TABLE: 2.9 List of districts and states of India (Data is recorded on the basis of descending order up to five destinations and the districts which have scattered and less number of children is not mentioned here)

District	State of India	Number of OCs
Kailali	Maharashtra	135
	Himachal Pradesh	94
	Uttaranchal	96
	Haryana	81
	Gujarat	66
Dang	Himachal Pradesh	245
	Haryana	117
	Delhi	95
	Punjab	84
Salyan	Himachal Pradesh	418
	Uttaranchal	60
	UP	26
	Jammu & Kashmir	20
Surkhet	Himachal Pradesh	206
	Uttaranchal	117
	Gujarat	57
	Andhra Pradesh	45
Gulmi	Delhi	132
	Haryana	98
	Punjab	71
	UP	47
Jajarkot	Himachal Pradesh	261
	Andhra Pradesh	11
	Uttaranchal	69
Banke	Himachal Pradesh	131
	Jammu & Kashmir	46
	Uttaranchal	37
	Gujarat	28

Contd.

District	State of India	Number of OCs
Rukum		385
	Himachal Pradesh	287
	Maharashtra	30
	Jammu & Kashmir	21
Kanchanpur		296
	Haryana	89
	Uttaranchal	48
	Delhi	45
Palpa		291
	Haryana	81
	Delhi	61
	Punjab	43
Dailekh		261
	Himachal Pradesh	108
	Uttaranchal	54
	Gujarat	40
	Uttaranchal	44
Rupandehi		251
	Delhi	53
	UP	51
	Haryana	48
	Punjab	41
Bardiya		243
	Himachal Pradesh	74
	Uttaranchal	42
	Haryana	27
	UP	26
Syangja		242
	Delhi	60
	Haryana	58
	Maharashtra	34
	UP	34
Nawalparasi		224
	Haryana	48
	UP	44
	Delhi	42
Rolpa		231
	Himachal Pradesh	125
	Uttaranchal	27
	Haryana	22

Contd.

District	State of India	Number of OCs
Doti	Punjab	60
	Maharashtra	44
	Rajasthan	14
		191
Achham	Maharashtra	81
	Himachal Pradesh	26
	Gujarat	22
		176
Tanahu	Delhi	35
	Haryana	30
	UP	30
	Punjab	25
		174
Pyuthan	Punjab	64
	Himachal Pradesh	30
	Rajasthan	10
		157
Baglung	Punjab	42
	Delhi	26
	Haryana	24
		146
Arghakhanchi	Punjab	50
	Haryana	27
	Delhi	21
		128
Chitwan	Haryana	27
	Delhi	24
	UP	15
		109
Kaski	Punjab	24
	Haryana	22
		109
Parbat	Delhi	24
	Haryana	16
	UP	14
		94

Contd.

District	State of India	Number of OCs
Dadeldhura		90
	Haryana	29
	Punjab	16
	Delhi	13
Bajhang		78
	Haryana	35
	Karnataka	12
	Uttaranchal	10
Kathmandu		70
	UP	14
	Rajasthan	12
	Uttaranchal	12
Jumla		67
	Himachal Pradesh	46
	UP	8
	Uttaranchal	8
Bajura		63
	Haryana	37
	Himachal Pradesh	10
	Kerala	12
Gorkha		62
	Haryana	18
	UP	16
	Delhi	12
Lamjung		56
	Haryana	18
	Punjab	11
	Delhi	10
Kalikot		34
	Himachal Pradesh	12
	UP	11
	Uttaranchal	10
Total		8210

TABLE: 2.10 List of stay duration and the time of next visit

<u>Stay Duration</u>		<u>Next visit</u>	
<u>Period of time</u>	<u>Number of OCs</u>	<u>Next visit After</u>	<u>Number of OCs</u>
0-1 week	153	7 Days	28
1 Week	221	10 Days	72
2 Weeks	242	11 Days	1
1 Month	300	12 Days	5
2-6 Months	1100	13 Days	2
1 Year	4925	14 Days	3
2 Years	664	15 Days	187
3 Years	357	20 Days	74
4 Years	128	25 Days	6
5 Years	28	1 Month	2666
6 Years	3	2 Months	1063
7 Years	5	3 Months	66
Uncertain	84	4 Months	20
Total	8210	5 Months	18
		6 Months	25
		7 Month	3
		1 Year	5
		Uncertain	3966
		Total	8210

TABLE: 2.11 List of visit frequency according to the number of children

<u>Visit Frequency</u>	<u>Number of OCs</u>
1	5944
2	1392
3	516
4	209
5	80
6	26
7	26
8	8
9	2
10	5
11	1
15	1
Total	8210

Annex-2

विस्थापित बालबालिकाको तथ्याङ्क संकलन तथा अनुसन्धान फारम-२०६१

१. नाका

२. अनुसन्धानकर्ताको नाम

३. मिति

क.सं. संकलन गरिनुपर्ने तथ्याङ्कअन्य जनाउनुपर्ने कुरा भएमा

- १ बालकको नाम : सुश्री/ श्री :
- २ पुरा ठेगाना :
- ३ जन्म मिति र उमेर :
- ४ स्कूलको नाम (अध्ययनरत भए) :
- ५ कक्षा वा तह
- ६ **पारिवारीक विवरण**
बाबुको नाम :
आमाको नाम :
दाजुभाइ र दिदीबहिनीको संख्या : दिदी :
बहिनी : दाजु : भाई :
- ७ **परिवारका अरु सदस्यहरुको संख्या**
(७ नं.मा उल्लेख भए बाहेकका) :
- ८ गन्तव्य /पुग्ने ठाँउ :
- ९ भ्रमणको उद्देश्य :
- १० कामको प्रकृति : (कुनै काम गर्न गएको भए)
- ११ कति समय अवधिका लागि जाने :
- १२ घर छोड्ने कारण :
- १३ यो कुन भ्रमण हो ? : (✓ चिन्ह लगाउने)
(क) पहिलो (ख) दोश्रो (ग) तेश्रो (घ) अन्य
- १४ कोसँग साथलागेर जाँदै गरेको ?
(क) नाम :
(ख) नाता :
(ग) ठेगाना :
- १५ यात्रामा लिईएको कागजात :
- १६ **भारतमा बसोवास गर्ने कोही आफन्त भए**
नाम :
ठेगाना :
- १७ भारतबाट फिर्ने बालबालिकाको संख्या (दैनिक रुपमा सम्भवभए सम्म उल्लेख गर्ने)

Annex-3

भारत प्रवासबाट फिर्ने बालबालिकाको तथ्याङ्क संकलन फाराम (२०६१)

१. नाका	२. मिति	३. अनुसन्धानकर्ताको नाम
क.सं	संकलन गरिनुपर्ने	विवरण
१	बालबालिकाको नाम, नेपालको ठेगाना, भारत जानु अघि नेपालमा पढ्ने भए विद्यालयको नाम, कक्षा र ठेगाना	नाम : सुश्री/श्री उमेर : जिल्ला : गा.वि.स. : वडा नं : स्थान/टोल : विद्यालयको नाम : ठेगाना : कक्षा : राज्य : स्थान गाँउ/शहर :
२	भारत बसाईको ठेगाना, आफन्त, रोजगार दाता र कामको प्रकृति, काम गरेर बस्नेभए कम्पनि वा रोजगार दाताको नाम	को संग बस्ने गरेको (संबन्ध) : के गरेर बसेको: (✓) यस्तो चिन्ह लगाउने घकाम गरेर <input type="checkbox"/> स्वास्थ्य उपचार <input type="checkbox"/> पढेर <input type="checkbox"/> परिवार सँग (काम गर्ने गरेको भए) कम्पनिको नाम : कम्पनि मालिकको नाम : भारत जान थालेको कति बर्ष वा अवधी भयो ? के काम गर्ने गरेको ?
३	शिक्षा (भारतमा अध्ययनरत भए)	विद्यालयको नाम : ठेगाना : कक्षा :
४	पारिवारीक विवरण र सदस्य संख्या (सदस्य संख्या अंकमा लेख्ने)	बाबुको नाम : केगर्नुहुन्छ ? आमाको नाम : केगर्नुहुन्छ ? दाजुको संख्या : भाइको संख्या : दिदीको संख्या : बहिनीको संख्या : परिवारका अन्य सदस्यहरूको संख्या :
५	भारत गएको मिति पटक र साथ : पटकमा (✓) यस्तो चिन्ह लगाउने	अन्तिम पटक भारत गएको मिति : पटक : १ / २ / ३ / ४ अन्य कोसँग नेपाल फिरेको ? नाता : ठेगाना :
६	भारत जाने कारण ?	
७	भारतछोड्नेकारण ?	

Annex-4 Central Cell Research Coordinator researchers/ enumerators

<u>S.N.</u>	<u>Designation</u>	<u>Name</u>	<u>Institution/Checkpoints</u>
	Executive Director	Deepak Raj Sapkota	CCWB (Central Cell)
	Senior Programme Officer	Anjalee Thakali Shakya	Save the Children US (Central Cell)
	Senior Programme Managar	Bhola Prasad Dahal	Save the Children Norway (Central Cell)
1	Consultant/ Research Coordinator	Raghunath Adhikari	CCWB/Center
2	Researcher	Balmaya Thapa Magar	Bhairahawa
3	Researcher	Shankar Kumar Rana	Bhairahawa
4	Researcher	Rajendra Bahadur Sunar	Nepalgunj
5	Researcher	Suman Dhimal	Nepalgunj
6	Researcher	Dhansari Koirala	Tikapur
7	Researcher	Surendra Chaudhari	Tikapur
8	Researcher	Laxmi Kumari Sunar	Dhangadhi
9	Researcher	Lokendra Babli	Dhangadhi
10	Researcher	Madan Tamata	Mahendranagar
11	Researcher	Sangita Lohar	Mahendranagar

Annex-5

ORIENTATION TRAINING PROGRAMME

1. Topice Two days Orientation training Programme on "Inter-country child displacement sample survey" 2004.
2. Participants Researchers, who have passed Proficiency certificate level.
3. Time 14 hours (2 days)
4. Objectives The participant will be able to conduct the Inter-Country Child Displacement sampling Survey as a researcher and report it to the central cell.
5. Venue: Nepalgunj

Day: I
Date: 2004-6-...

S.N	Subject	Facilitator	Time
	<i>Breakfast and opening session</i>		9.00-9.15
	<i>Introductory session</i>		9.15-9.50
1.	Discussion on Objectives, importance, relevance, coordination and challenges of the survey and its starting procedures.		9.50-10.50
	<i>Tea brake</i>		10.50-11.00
2	Child Rights in present context		11.00-12.00
3	Group discussion on "problem and prospects in the field".		12.00-12.30
	<i>Lunch Break</i>		12.30-1.30
4	What is research? How to conduct sampling survey? What is PRA?		1.30-2.30
5	Discussion on Checklist, Questioner, and case study methodology.		2.30-3.30
6	Field exercise		4.30-4.30

Day: 2
Date: 2004-6-...

S.N	Subject	Facilitator	Time
	<i>Breakfast and opening session</i>		9.00-9.15
	<i>Review of the field exercise</i>		9.15-9.45
1	Interview skills and psychosocial method in interview		9.45-10.45
	<i>Tea brake</i>		10.50-11.00
2	Children in Conflict		10.50-11.20
	<i>Group discussion and role play about Interview</i>		11.20-12.00
	<i>Lunch Break</i>		12.00-1.00
3	Report writing		1.00-2.00
	<i>Group discussion</i>		2.00-2.50
4	Field exercise		2.50 4.30
	Evaluation and closing		4.30-5.00

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