

Modern slavery and adolescence

A rapid evidence review

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Table of Contents

Executive Summary	ii
1 Introduction.....	1
1.1 Background.....	1
1.2 Methodology	2
2 Modern slavery and adolescent experience	3
2.1 Defining adolescence.....	3
2.2 Defining modern slavery	3
2.3 Dynamics and drivers of adolescent vulnerability to modern slavery	5
2.4 How does modern slavery affect adolescents?.....	8
3 Prevalence	11
3.1 GAGE country analysis.....	12
4 Anti-modern slavery-related legal frameworks and programmes	26
4.1 International legal frameworks	26
4.2 National laws and policies	27
4.3 National programmes.....	42
5 Recommendations and conclusions	46
5.1 Conclusions.....	46
5.2 Recommendations.....	47
References.....	50
Annexes.....	59
Annex 1: Methodology	59
Annex 2: Relevant International Conventions.....	61
Annex 3: Mapping of initiatives related to modern slavery and adolescents in GAGE focal countries	63

Figures

Figure 1: GAGE 3C conceptual framework	10
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Tables

Table 1: Form of modern slavery identified in GAGE countries	11
Table 2: Walk Free Global.....	11
Table 3: Ratification of international instruments by GAGE country	26
Table 4: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Bangladesh	27
Table 5: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Ethiopia.....	30
Table 6: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Jordan	32
Table 7: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Lebanon	34
Table 8: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Nepal.....	35
Table 9: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Palestine	38
Table 10: Extent of Facilitator Training in Programmes Examined	40
Table 11: Total initiatives/programmes per GAGE country	42
Table 12: Number of initiatives/programmes per GAGE country per type of approach	45
Table 13: Number of initiatives/programmes per GAGE country per type of modern-slavery.....	45

Acronyms

ADB	Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics
C4ED	Centre for Evaluation and development
CBSN	Central Bureau of Statistics of Nepal
CEDAW	Convention on the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CSA	Central Statistics Agency
CSAC	Contemporary Slavery in Armed Conflict
CSE	Commercial Sexual Exploitation
CSEC	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
CTDC	Counter Trafficking Data Collaborative
DRC	Democratic Republic of Congo
GAGE	Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence
GSI	Global Slavery Index
HRW	Human Rights Watch
ICMPD	International Centre for Migration Policy Development
ILO	International Labour Organization
INTERPOL	International Criminal Police Organization
IOM	International Organization for Migration
IPEC	International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
OCSEA	Online Child Sexual Exploitation and Abuse
OECD	Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development
OHCHR	Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights
OSEC	Online Sexual Exploitation of Children
REA	Rapid Evidence Assessment
SDG	Sustainable Development Goal
UN	United Nations
UNHCR	United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
UNESCO	United Nations Educational, Scientific and Cultural Organization
UNODC	United Nations Office on Drugs and Crime
UNRWA	United Nations Relief and Works Agency
US	United States
USDOL	United States Department of Labor
USDOS	United States Department of State
WB	World Bank
WEC	World Economic Forum
WHO	World Health Organization

Executive Summary

Modern slavery refers to the exploitation of an individual for personal commercial gains, depriving this person of their freedom (Anti-Slavery International, n.d.). Around 50 million people currently live in modern slavery around the world, with estimates suggesting that 1 in 4 are children and 71% women and girls (International Labour Organization – ILO and Walk Free, 2017). Modern slavery can take multiple forms, commonly categorised as human trafficking, including sex trafficking, forced labour, debt bondage/bonded labour, descent-based slavery, child slavery (including child trafficking, child soldiers, and child domestic servitude, forced marriage (including child marriage), and domestic servitude. Although commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) has not yet been defined as a form of modern slavery, several organisations consider it as such. The international community has committed to ending modern slavery and all forms of child labour by 2030, as stated in UN Sustainable Development Goal 8.7.

The Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE) programme is the largest global study on adolescents, following 20,000 girls and boys aged 10 to 17¹ across seven countries (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Nepal, Palestine, and Rwanda). It seeks to generate evidence on what works in combating global challenges that adolescent girls and boys face and to enhance adolescents' capabilities and empowerment across six 'capability domains': education, health and nutrition, freedom from violence and bodily integrity, psychosocial well-being, voice and agency, and economic empowerment.

Existing literature on modern slavery often misses a specific focus on adolescents, lumping them together with children, minors under 18, or young people (18-24). In contrast, we identified a pressing need to focus on adolescents' specific experiences of modern slavery, which are shaped by and shape specific processes and dynamics. A greater focus on adolescents' experiences would also help enhance the design and delivery of effective initiatives.

In this literature review, we assess existing academic and grey literature on adolescent experiences of modern slavery in all the seven GAGE countries. We focus on all forms of modern slavery present in each country, connecting them to broader dynamics and drivers of modern slavery such as migration, conflict, poverty, and family dynamics, with a specific focus on gender. We then look at existing international and national legal frameworks in place to tackle modern slavery, and review evidence of four types of initiatives (preventive, remedial, rescue, legal/policy). We provide information on their different scopes and aims, and an overview of how they have worked so far. We conclude by providing a set of recommendations for program design and delivery, policies, and research.

¹ The study aims at following adolescents until the age of 19.

1 Introduction

1.1 Background

Modern slavery refers to “when an individual is exploited by others, for personal or commercial gain. Whether tricked, coerced, or forced, [exploited individuals] lose their freedom” (Anti-Slavery International, n.d.). Modern slavery traps an estimated around 50 million people worldwide, 1 in 4 of whom are children and 71% women and girls (International Labour Organization – ILO and Walk Free, 2017). Modern slavery can indeed take up multiple forms, which can all have specific impacts on adolescents. According to Anti-Slavery International (n.d.), the primary categories in the contemporary understanding of the term include:

- Human trafficking, including sex trafficking
- Forced labour
- Debt bondage/bonded labour
- Descent-based slavery
- Child slavery (including child trafficking, child soldiers, and child domestic servitude)
- Forced marriage (including child marriage)
- Domestic servitude

These practices both reflect and drive patterns of social exclusion– or as the Freedom Fund (2021, p.5) argues,

“Although slavery is illegal everywhere, it still happens in every single country... Slavery is also hugely profitable for criminals, generating over \$150 billion a year in profits for perpetrators. Built on intricate structures of bribery, deceit, coercion and profiteering, slavery thrives on and reinforces discrimination and inequality”.

While there is evidence that some forms of modern slavery have been declining – for example, a reported 25 million child marriages were prevented in 2018 (UNICEF, 2018) – other forms of modern slavery persist or are even increasing. Decreases in modern slavery cases have been driven in part by efforts to support economic development and education, while increases have been driven by factors including poverty and crises. In contexts of poverty and economic precarity, modern slavery has become lucrative and prevalent. According to the UN Office on Drugs and Crime, an increase in the number of violent conflicts worldwide over the past 30 years has contributed to an increase in the number of people at risk of slavery, particularly in the form of human trafficking (Hodal, 2019). The Covid-19 pandemic has also had a negative effect on these gains, placing a greater burden on the most vulnerable communities and increasing risk. For example, O’Connell (2021) reports that Covid-19 has deepened “economic and social inequalities, driving millions of people into situations of vulnerability and exploitation, including human trafficking, forced labour and debt bondage” (p. 2).

While there is extensive recognition of the plight of children in relation to modern slavery, there is a limited focus specifically on adolescence as a life stage. Instead, studies and actions tend to ‘lump together’ women and children, or focus on the impacts on ‘families’ or particular groups². Yet, the period of adolescence is a critical time, in which individuals are particularly exposed to social expectations and constraints that can influence their wellbeing, growth, and development. Young people who are already vulnerable as a result of gender and other interlocking identities, such as for instance disability, present a heightened risks of familial and social rejection and of multiple types of abuses, including exploitation in the form(s) of modern slavery (Baird et al., 2021; Emirie et al., 2021; Presler-Marshall and Jones, 2018). This suggests the need for an increased age-specific focus in research and programmes, which can shine a light on the vulnerabilities

² There is work, for example, on the specific impacts on LGBTQI+ individuals <https://polarisproject.org/wp-content/uploads/2019/09/LGBTQ-Sex-Trafficking.pdf> and people living with disabilities <https://www.anncrafttrust.org/people-learning-disabilities-forced-modern-slavery>

and challenges that adolescents face, and in turn identify what initiatives are most needed for their empowerment. The Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE) programme can address this gap through its research and outputs.

This literature and evidence review, commissioned by the GAGE programme, contributes to bridging the aforementioned gap through a focus on core GAGE study countries and drawing key findings from global literature. This research aims at exploring available evidence on adolescence and modern slavery with a focus on how age and gender intersect with other intersectional drivers of vulnerability. This literature review is intended as a starting point for further empirical research on adolescents and modern slavery.

[Section 2](#) explains how we define adolescence for the purposes of this report and introduces common definitions of modern slavery in academic literature and the global policy environment, around which there is a degree of global consensus. It considers how these definitions relate to specific concerns about adolescence, introduces the framing around adolescent capabilities and wellbeing upon which this study is based, and highlights the different types of modern slavery which can variously impact adolescents. The section also explores cross-cutting drivers of modern slavery, including an exploration of migration and displacement, crisis, poverty, peer and social pressure, and social and gender norms. [Section 3](#) provides an overview of relevant context and data on modern slavery practices affecting adolescents in the core GAGE focal countries: Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Nepal, Palestine, and Rwanda.³ [Section 4](#) reviews policies and programmes, primarily in GAGE focal countries, which aim to address modern slavery. Where possible, the section also offers insights on the aims and activities of these initiatives, and of their impact(s). Finally, [Section 5](#) focuses on concluding insights and recommendations for policy, programming, and research aiming to support and protect adolescents by preventing and addressing modern slavery.

1.2 Methodology

This report is based on a scoping literature review of current and recent literature that addresses the drivers, experiences, and responses to the core types of modern slavery identified above as they relate to adolescents. Its aim is to explore adolescents' experiences of modern slavery, map the available evidence, and identify gaps for further investigation. The study team reviewed available English-language literature published from 2011 onwards (although earlier works were used where more recent research was unavailable), with a focus on evidence related to GAGE countries alongside illustrations from the global literature. A full note on the literature review search strategy is available in Annex I.

A few topics have been excluded from the present report for reasons of space. Forced marriage, including early and child marriage, was designated a form of modern slavery by the ILO and Walk Free Foundation in their 2017 Global Estimates report. Given the vast amount of literature on this subject (though often not contextualised within modern slavery)⁴, the study team chose to exclude it from the literature review. Some GAGE focus countries (i.e., Jordan and Lebanon) are home to a large number of refugees; the review only discusses the specific vulnerabilities of refugees to modern slavery briefly. Care has also been taken to distinguish between commercial sexual exploitation (CSE) and the trafficking of adolescents for sex (which involves coercion, deceit, and exploitation), and instances in which adolescents engage in sex work voluntarily.

Finally, we also pay attention to adolescents' agency. Often in the literature, people who have experienced modern slavery are reduced to passive victims, and this is particularly the case in analyses of children. Previous GAGE research has explored questions of adolescent agency in constrained circumstances, including child marriage, humanitarian crises, migration, and contexts of social and cultural gender norms (Banati et al., 2021; Jones et al., 2020; Jones et al., 2019). There are tensions surrounding adolescents as developing young adults able to make their own decisions and their legal status as minors which limits their access to services in these constrained contexts. Thus, while discussing adolescents' vulnerabilities to and experiences of forms of modern slavery, we recognise their agency, and its limitations, in making decisions that they perceive will improve their livelihoods and income opportunities.

³ For further information on GAGE's work, see www.gage.odg.org

⁴ For exceptions see Lauren Eglén and Helen McCabe "I bought you. You are my wife" "Modern Slavery" and Forced Marriage, *Journal of Human Trafficking* (forthcoming); McCabe et al., "Forced Marriage and Modern Slavery: Analysing Marriage as a "Choiceless Choice,"" *Journal of Modern Slavery* 7, no.2 (2022): 33-57. See also discussions on forced marriage as modern slavery in conflict.

2 Modern slavery and adolescent experience

2.1 Defining adolescence

There is no universal consensus on the definition of ‘adolescence’, since the understanding of this life phase has changed a lot over the past century (Sawyer et al., 2018). The reasons for this are both biological and social, reflecting a move towards later transitional moments such as completion of education and/or parenthood in comparison to previous generations. Notably, there is some overlap between definitions of ‘children’ and ‘legal minors’ (sometimes viewed as those under 18 years of age) and those viewed as ‘adolescents,’ inclusive of up to age 19. In this report, we use the United Nations (UN) accepted definition of adolescence as “the phase of life between childhood and adulthood, from ages 10 to 19” (UNICEF, 2022). We draw on global literature and programming on adolescence to consider the implications of this life stage in relation to the issue of modern slavery, and how this connects to adolescents’ physical, neurological, and psychosocial development and the unique experiences that can arise during this life stage.

As Sawyer et al (2018, p.223) explain, “adolescence encompasses elements of biological growth and major social role transitions.” During this stage of life, adolescents are faced with multiple expectations around how they should behave. Many of these expected behaviours are based on social and gendered norms which – evidence has shown – work to the disadvantage of girls (Baird et al., 2019; Jones et al., 2021, 2019; Murphy et al., 2020; Marcus et al., 2021). Experiences during this time effect their lives and future trajectories. As such, an understanding of how modern slavery can impact adolescents is needed because of the particular dynamics that shape their lived experiences in different ways to children aged below 10 years old, young people (between the ages of 19 and 24), and adults aged 24 or older.

It is estimated that there are 12 million children in slavery across the world, including 3 million exploited in forced labour, and nearly 9 million in forced marriage. (Anti-Slavery International, 2018). However, global estimates of modern slavery do not include statistics specifically on adolescents.

2.2 Defining modern slavery

Definitions of modern slavery are contested, with some scholars presenting it as a monolithic concept that it is not possible to differentiate into single practices and others arguing for its use as an umbrella term under which to include a range of otherwise separately defined actions. This distinction between practices is important to bear in mind also in terms of response approaches and strategies. Anti-Slavery International and Walk Free Foundation employ a broad definition in which modern slavery is seen as “encapsulating situation(s) of exploitation that a person cannot refuse or leave because of threats, violence, coercion, deception, and/or abuse of power” (Walk Free Foundation, 2023). This broad definition covers a set of specific forms of exploitation, usually codified in legal concepts primarily covering the practices of human trafficking, forced labour, debt bondage, forced or servile marriage, descent-based slavery as well as the sale, exploitation, and worst exploitation of child labour (Anti-Slavery International, 2018; Walk Free Foundation, 2023). It is this definition of modern slavery as an umbrella term that this report uses in line with an emerging global consensus around the practices, motivations and types of abuse that occur, and that have shaped a range of protections in international and domestic laws. While modern slavery is admittedly underreported, and estimates are unlikely to reflect the true scale of its occurrence globally, expanding advocacy agendas aiming to identify and combat cases of modern slavery and their systemic drivers are contributing to a growing recognition of the issue and continued efforts to identify solutions.

Here below we narrow down on the definition of the main practices under the ‘modern slavery’ umbrella term:

Human trafficking as per the 2000 United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, includes the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harbouring, or receipt of persons:

1. by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability, or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, and/or
2. for the purpose of exploitation.

As per the same protocol as above, exploitation includes: prostitution of others; sexual exploitation; forced labour or services; slavery or similar practices; domestic servitude; financial exploitation; illegal adoption; criminal exploitation; removal of organs; and sham marriage.

Forced labour is all work or services exacted from a person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered themselves voluntarily – excluding compulsory military service, normal civil obligations, penalties imposed by a court action, that undertaken in an emergency and minor communal service (ILO Convention 29 on Forced Labour, 1930).

Child labour is not always modern slavery and not all work done by children should be classified as child labour. According to the 1973 *ILO Convention 138 on Minimum Age*, the participation of children or adolescents – albeit above minimum age for work set at 15 – in work that does not affect their health and personal develop or interfere with their education is generally regarded as admissible. But work that is hazardous, or that interferes with children’s education and physical, psychological, or emotional development, should be avoided in any circumstances. Children aged 15 or above are only counted in child labour statistic if they do hazardous work (Presler-Marshall and Jones, 2018).

The term ‘**worst forms of child labour**’ is generally understood as to include: a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for armed conflicts; b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography, or for pornographic performances; c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; or d) work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children (ILO Convention 182 on Worst Forms of Child Labour, 1999). Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) is linked, under the same ILO Convention as above, to child prostitution, child trafficking for sex trade, child sex tourism, “the production, promotion and distribution of pornography involving children, and the use of children in sex shows (public or private)” (ILO, n.d.). The Every Child Protected Against Trafficking (ECPAT) organisation now include Online Sexual Exploitation of Children (OSEC) in their definition of CSEC (ECPAT, INTERPOL, and UNICEF, 2018), but this has not yet been added in ILO definitions.

Debt bondage/bonded labour is a situation where one person is tricked into working for very little or no money in order to ‘repay a debt’. These workers are often physically and emotionally trapped and are not able to ask for help, while the debt can be passed on to their children. Debt bondage is often connected to human trafficking, for instance in cases when migrants have to pay extortionate fees to intermediaries and/or recruitment agencies that find them a job abroad. Yet, once arrived at destination they discover that the job either does not exist, or is radically different from what they were promised, but cannot leave because they are indebted with the intermediary/agency (Gangmaster and Labour Abuse Authority, 2023; Walk Free Foundation, 2022).

Descent-based slavery is defined by Anti-Slavery International as the status of people who are born into slavery, that is because their parents and/or ancestors were also slaves. Although often considered a historical practice, descent-based slavery still exists in some parts of the world, as do hierarchies based on descentance from slaves or slave-owners. According to Anti-Slavery International (n.d.), descent-based slavery can currently be found “across the Sahel belt of Africa, including in Mauritania, Niger, Mali, Chad, and Sudan.” People born into descent-based

slavery are treated as property: they can be sold, bought, or given away as ‘gifts’, while children can be taken away from their families at a very young age (Anti-Slavery International, n.d.).

Domestic servitude is a form of labour where workers work inside the employer’s home and are subject to abuse, control over their life, and have no possibility to leave. Domestic work, even when regularly paid, is harder to monitor than other sectors, because of its isolation. However, ILO considers domestic work as forced labour when one or more of the following conditions occur: “abuse such as physical and social isolation; restriction of movement; psychological, physical and sexual violence; intimidation and threats; retention of identity documents by their employer; withholding of wages; abusive working and living conditions and excessive overtime” (Office of the Higher Commissioner of Human Rights – OHCHR, 2018). When forced domestic labour coexists with lack of choice and control over the workers’ personal life, forced labour becomes domestic servitude (OHCHR, 2018). ILO, Walk Free Foundation, and the International Organization for Migration (IOM) connect domestic servitude to forced marriage: once an individual is forced into a marriage, they are under the constant control of their ‘spouse’, which implies “a greater risk of further exploitation, including sexual exploitation, domestic servitude, and violence, and other forms of forced labour both inside and outside the home” (p. 73).

Child slavery is defined by Anti-Slavery International (n.d.) as “the exploitation of a child for someone else’s gain.” This definition includes children forced to take part in armed conflicts (not limited to child soldiers), child marriage, children exploited for forced labour, abused through prostitution and/or pornography, and children forced to beg, commit crimes, and/or sell drugs. Child slavery presents the same causes and consequences as slavery more in general, but its power imbalance is even more extreme than the one identifiable in slavery, due to the vulnerability of children.

2.3 Dynamics and drivers of adolescent vulnerability to modern slavery

Academic and grey literature alike have identified a number of structural drivers of modern slavery – which include contexts of displacement, conflict, humanitarian settings, and poverty, together with some interpersonal dynamics such as those within families and social networks.

Migration and displacement are commonly identified as contexts which can lead to adolescents experiencing forms of modern slavery, as reported in the [GAGE country analysis section](#). Motivations behind migration vary hugely, and these highly diverse situations are associated with specific risks and vulnerabilities. Latham-Sprinkle et al. (2019) argue that migrants are most vulnerable to abuse and exploitation while on the move, dislocated from community and family support structures and without access to legitimate forms of employment, legal status, and social protection. In all GAGE countries, internal rural-to-urban migration is connected to a risk of modern slavery – especially human trafficking – as are the living condition of refugees in [Bangladesh](#), [Lebanon](#), [Jordan](#), and [Rwanda](#). Children and adolescents, especially when travelling alone or separated from family, are particularly prone to abuse and exploitation, including forms of modern slavery (Presler-Marshall and Jones, 2017; Walk Free Foundation, 2023). While adolescents’ decision to migrate does not always mean that they will experience exploitation and abuse, the irregular routes they are often forced to take, and their lack of financial resources can increase susceptibility. In addition, Latham-Sprinkle et al (2019) suggests that crimes against children tend to be underreported, in part because children have lower awareness of crimes but also because they face additional physical and psychological barriers to reporting them.

Furthermore, conflict and repressive regimes form two major external drivers of migration and, in turn, of modern slavery, as they force people to flee, and this often results in turning to irregular and dangerous routes. The generalised violence that characterises conflict-affected areas can lead to actors, including members of armed groups, to force civilians into exploitation or trafficking (Davy et al., 2020). Moreover, in situations of conflict, the state’s authority to make individuals respect the rule of law is scarce, and limits its capacity to protect against exploitation.

The same dynamics are at play in situations of displacement or humanitarian context (including climate/environment emergencies) (Davy et al, 2020).

Analysis of the nexus between climate change, natural hazards and modern slavery is in its relatively early stages, but existing literature on the subject points to the cyclical nature of this relationship. The Anti-Slavery International (2021) report *Climate-induced migration and modern slavery* finds that in the aftermath of sudden events, such as tsunamis or cyclones, local people are often trafficked and/or driven to forced labour. The 2015 earthquake in Nepal caused huge amounts of damage to private property. Almost a million houses were destroyed or damaged and Nepal's infrastructure and economy was severely impacted (ILO, 2021; Kiss et al, 2019). The event exacerbated hardship among those already experiencing poor financial situations, pushing thousands below the poverty line. In the aftermath, people turned to migration in search of livelihood opportunities abroad, many of these along irregular routes. Nepal's National Human Rights Commission reported a 15% increase in the number of people vulnerable to traffickers who were intercepted in the three months after the earthquake, and as far as three years later it was reported that over 5,700 vulnerable girls were intercepted, in contrasts with 2,900 in the year before the earthquake (Jaiswal, 2017).

Climate change acts as a stress multiplier, exacerbating existing vulnerabilities to exploitation: extreme events due to climate change are causing shocks within local communities and affecting livelihoods in ways that can push people to migrate and/or heighten the risks of slavery (Anti-Slavery International, 2021). Bangladesh is one of the most vulnerable countries to climate change impacts. It has limited adaptive capacity; 31.5% of its population live below the upper poverty line and the country is underperforming in education, nutrition, health, and access to safe water and sanitation, as well as inclusiveness, equality, safety, and security (UNICEF, 2016). This is exacerbated by limited institutional and financial capacity to plan for and respond to climate change risks and impacts. UNICEF also reports that 25% of the population live in coastal areas, which are highly vulnerable to cyclones, 50,000 to 200,000 people are displaced each year due to river erosion, there are major country-wide droughts occurring on average every five years, 60% of the country is prone to flooding, and that 4.7 million people were displaced due to disasters between 2008 and 2014 (UNICEF, 2016). By 2050, it is estimated that 1 in 7 people in Bangladesh will be displaced by climate change. Finally, internal rural-to-urban migration related to the climate crisis forces people to live in city slums where exploitation is rife: UNICEF reports that 70% of Dhaka slum dwellers are environmental migrants.

In addition to conflict, humanitarian situations, displacement, and extreme natural events, other types of external shocks can increase the incidence of modern slavery. These shocks often co-exist, for instance in the case of displacement and extreme natural events. In Ethiopia for instance, children have long been working to support their households' livelihoods, especially in cases of external obstacles such as the poor health of a family member (C4ED, 2020). Health threats – either at the personal or collective level such as the Covid-19 pandemic – trigger economic instability, to mitigate which an increasing number of families send their children to work (Walk Free Foundation, 2023) or supports their migration. The search for livelihoods is directly connected to labour migration and to its specific risks of exploitation.

This dynamic is common to several GAGE countries. For example, a study on bonded labour in Nepal found that, among 154 people interviewed, 44 had taken loans to cover healthcare costs, 48 for marriages and 33 to support their migration expenses (Cannon and Oosterhoff, 2021). Similarly, in Nepal, the USDOL (2021) found that, while most industries in which children worked were closed during national Covid-19 lockdowns, bonded labour in agriculture, domestic work, and in brick kilns continued to be performed. Poverty can directly or indirectly underpin vulnerability to modern slavery. Some studies argue that poorer migrants are more likely to be encouraged into dangerous situations due to a lack of economic opportunity in their home situations (Anti-Slavery International, n.d.; UNICEF, 2017; Kara, 2017; Latham-Sprinkle et al., 2019). However, other studies suggest that the group most at risk are not those in absolute poverty, but those able to leverage some financial resources to fund migration, sometimes incurring into debt but others just by mobilising family assets (Latham-Sprinkle et al., 2019).

While poverty can drive people's decisions to migrate and increase their vulnerability to trafficking when taking irregular routes, extreme poverty tends to be considered a barrier to migration.

Concerning a more direct link between poverty and modern slavery, much research has identified that, while families may express a desire for their children to pursue an education, poverty often pushes children out of school and into the workforce to contribute to the family income (Anti-Slavery International, n.d; Cannon and Oosterhoff, 2021; Roelen et al., 2020). Within GAGE countries, a study on the worst forms of child labour in the leather industry in Bangladesh found that on average, almost half of household income was earned by the adolescents and children participating in the study (Maksud et al., 2021). Almost half of the children shared that they started working in the leather sector because of the financial position of their families and many moved to Dhaka with their families because of poverty. Most of them said that the decision for them to start working was taken by their parents who needed them to contribute to household income (Maksud et al., 2021). Similarly, Cannon and Oosterhoff's (2021) study of the persistence of agricultural bonded labour under the Haruwa-Charuwa system in the Terai region of Nepal (described in [Section 3.1.4](#)) found that Haruwa-Charuwa are at risk of taking on high-interest debt when faced with financial crisis and that landlords offer them loans that are impossible to repay. Once in debt, they are forced to work on the landlord's land, herd cattle, or work as domestic workers – which traps workers in a “web of poverty” and bonded labour (Cannon and Oosterhoff, 2021).

Other meso-level dynamics influence the emergence of modern slavery too. Absence of parents or family, and or familial neglect and/or abuse can push adolescents into modern slavery and human trafficking (Burns et al., 2017; Sarkar, 2016; see also Wood, 2020). A study by Sharma et al (2020) in Nepal found that parental neglect and pressure (for instance to perform household duties or to get married at a very young age), alongside factors such as travel distance to school and the poor quality of education, contribute to girls dropping out of school as young as 12 or 13. A study conducted in Ethiopia found that children who live in a family where the household head has a higher level of education will be more likely to attend school, and are less likely than average to experience child labour, as were those living with a single parent or guardian (C4ED, 2020).

Social networks also play a role in facilitating the exploitation of children and adolescents, as family, friends, and neighbours, sometimes drive individuals either directly into forms of modern slavery or indirectly to take risks which increase their vulnerability. For instance, a GAGE report on the exploitation of adolescents in Nepal reveals that girls are often pulled into massage parlours and dance bars by their peers (Presler-Marshall and Jones, 2018). According to an earlier study including 292 adolescent girls in three districts in Nepal, 51% of participants reported that relatives or friends had been playing the role of broker for them (Shrestha et al., 2015).

Finally, individuals' personal characteristics intersect with broader dynamics, making some people more vulnerable to modern slavery than others. The impact of gender on vulnerability to modern slavery is well established in research. The higher prevalence of forms of modern slavery among women and girls is inherently connected to social and gender norms in societies across the world (Kiss et al., 2018, 2019; Walk Free Foundation, 2023) that aim at controlling their productive and reproductive agency. In Nepal, a relationship was found between trafficking and social norms that control female sexuality and prescribe submissive roles in the household for women and girls (Kiss et al., 2019). For example, harmful and unequal gender norms value boys more than girls as contributors to society which has led to a devaluation of girls' education and fewer employment opportunities for them (Sharma et al., 2020; Save the Children, n.d.). The literature has illustrated how women and girls from poor and marginalised communities are also more likely to rely on loans to facilitate their migration journeys. This often leads them to take unsafe irregular routes which increases dependency on brokers and the chances to get trapped in a spiral of forced/bonded labour and CSE (Kiss et al., 2019).

In addition, in certain cases the risk of marginalisation is exacerbated for individuals of marginalised ethnicity. The intersection of ethnicity and gender can be seen for instance in the experiences of sex trafficking and CSE among Rohingya refugees in Bangladesh, who are marginalised because of a combination of the stigma towards women victims of sexual violence and that faced by the Rohingya community (Hoque, 2021). Several studies have then shown how ethnicity and caste and gender can intersect to increase vulnerability to forced labour, as in the case of forced and bonded labour amongst lower-caste minorities in the tea gardens of Bangladesh (LSE, 2015; Islam and Al-Amin, 2019). Moreover, in a study with adolescent girl participants in Nepal, respondents suggested that girls as young as 12 years old from socially marginalised castes like Dalits, Tamang, Kumal and Chepang – together with other economically marginalised groups – were the most susceptible to trafficking (Sharma et al., 2020.).

In a Plan International report from 2019, Kiss et al. “highlight poverty, discrimination, gender-based violence, and family pressures [as] drivers that push women and girls to seek opportunities away from home” (p. 2). Bryant and Joudo (2021) also highlight how gender and age intersect to place adolescent girls at an increased risk of modern slavery, particularly in the form of CSE and forced marriage (p.20). During their transition to womanhood, girls are increasingly expected – and/or coerced – to take up roles as wives and mothers at a young age, which can increase their risk to physical, emotional, and sexual violence. In addition, while developing sexual desire in their adolescence, young girls rarely have the possibility to explore it freely and safely. In addition, they are often sexualised in advertising and popular culture representations or, in some cultures, their sexual maturity is seen as a sign that they are ready for marriage, both scenarios making them vulnerable to exploitation.

Other dimensions, such as disability, religion, and political beliefs, are comparatively less studied but no less important. For instance, Presler-Marshall and Jones (2018) identified that adolescents with disabilities are victims of discriminatory practices everywhere, including having lower access to education, being attacked and treated unequally at work, and are at particular risk of exploitation in urban areas, including in begging and domestic work (Groce et al, 2014). Concerning political beliefs as cause of modern slavery, Sarkar (2016) reported that 25.9% of migrant respondents had left their homes in Nepal in search of political and/or religious freedom when they were trafficked and forced into CSE.

2.4 How does modern slavery affect adolescents?

Existing scholarship and data collection often analyses people impacted by modern slavery through the dual categories of ‘adults’ and ‘children’. However, as the GAGE report ‘The Devil in the Detail’ states, this approach risks obscuring the specific needs and experiences of diverse groups of adolescent girls and boys, potentially leaving them behind as wider progress is made for other categories (Presler-Marshall and Jones, 2018).

Adolescence is an important period of human life that signifies the transformation from childhood to adulthood. Changes occurring in an adolescent’s physical body, psychology, and life can create exciting new opportunities but also vulnerabilities. The brain’s function starts to change both neurologically and psychologically: reward-seeking dynamics are particularly developed in adolescents, and this tends to emerge in form of risk-taking behaviours (WHO, 2014). In their analysis of commercial sexual exploitation and trafficking of children and adolescents in the US, Barnert et al. argue that adolescents’ “neurodivergent stage, favouring risk-taking and impulsivity,” highlights their unique vulnerability, demonstrating the need for a more age-specific approach to modern slavery research (2017,p3; see also Spear, 2013). Adolescence is also a period when social and gender norms start to become more rigidly enforced on young people by their families, acquaintances, and the wider society (Basu and Acharya, 2016; Basu et al., 2016 referenced in GAGE Consortium, 2019). At the same time, social norms also become more salient for young persons (Kågesten et al., 2016; McCarthy et al., 2016). For instance, adolescent girls begin to feel the constraining role and influence of gender norms across their lives, from education and marriage to mobility and career aspirations outside

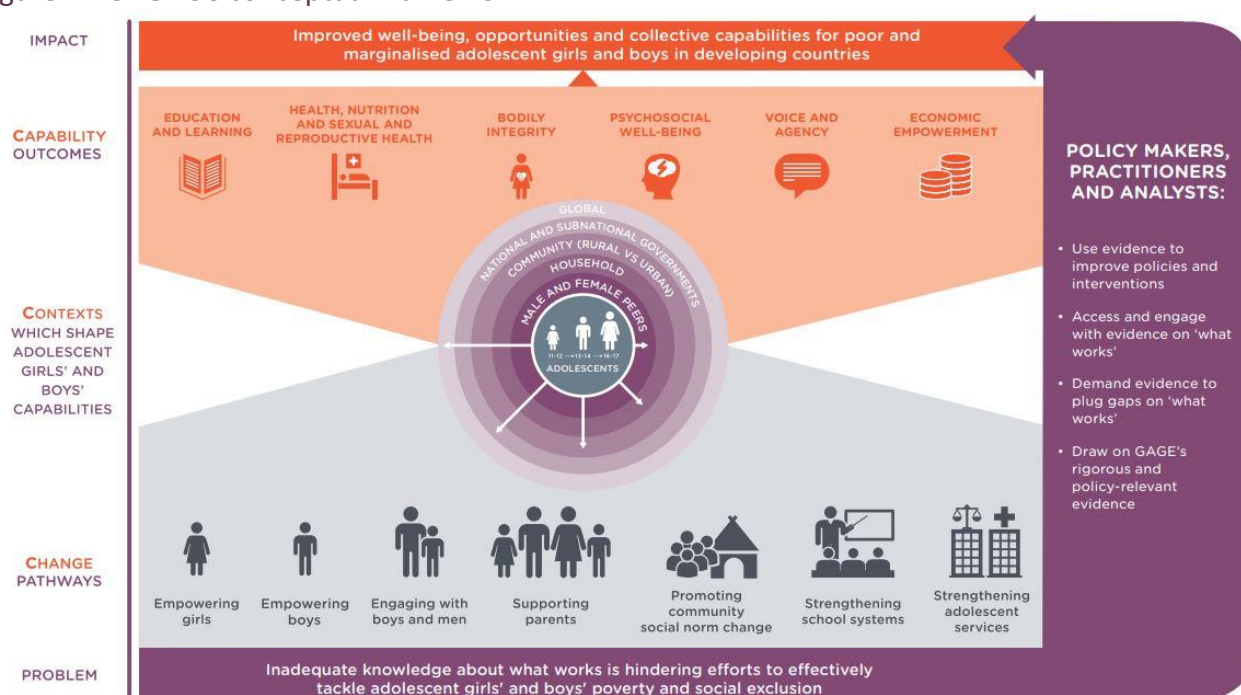
the home. These norms then play a key role in shaping adolescent girls' trajectories (GAGE Consortium, 2017).

However, there is limited academic and grey literature on adolescents who have experienced and/or are vulnerable to various forms of modern slavery, since their experiences are often amalgamated within the wider context of 'childhood'. UNICEF warns that effective and targeted programme design must be age-appropriate to efficiently respond to the participants' needs (UNICEF, 2018), but this has seldom been followed up in practice. An exception is Bryant and Joudo's (2021) analysis of how gaps in anti-modern slavery programmes perpetuate forced labour among adolescent girls in the garment and textile industries. In their analysis of Walk Free's Promising Practices Database, a repository of 262 evaluations of anti-slavery and counter trafficking programmes since 2000, they only found 10 initiatives specifically designed to meet the needs of adolescents, of which 6 were targeted exclusively at adolescent girls. While this does not mean that adolescents will not benefit from broader programmes focusing on children under eighteen years old, it does reflect a lack of attention to the specific needs of people during this stage of life. Five of these six were aimed at reducing child marriage and just one was targeted at debt bondage (Bryant and Joudo, 2021).

Existing data from the Counter Trafficking Data Collaborative (CTDC) database, the world's largest database of registered victims of trafficking, reveals that in 2018 (the most recent year data was collected) women and girls made up 81% of all trafficking victims (respectively 57% and 24%), while men made up 13% of the total, and boys 7%. The share of women was higher in lower age groups, peaking in the 18-20 bracket (85.94%), although women of all age ranges consistently make up most trafficking victims. Amongst boys and men, boys between 0-8 (46.22%) and men over 39 (44.43% for 39 to 47 years old, and 44.83% for 48+) are most likely to be trafficking victims. Most pertinent to this report, girls make up 74.4% of trafficking victims in the 9-17 years age group, and boys 25.6% (CTDC, n.d.). Interestingly, CTDC reports some statistics from IOM, according to which "the average duration of trafficking for female victims identified by IOM is 1.8 years, while male victims are trafficked for an average of 2.3 years" (CTDC, n.d.).

In their latest Global Estimates of Modern Slavery report, ILO and Walk Free Foundation (2022) estimate that, in 2021, almost 50 million (49.6) people worldwide were victims of modern slavery (p.2) – that is, 10 million more than in 2016. Of these, 27.6 million were in forced labour (p.22). When analysing these data, it is crucial to bear in mind that trafficking and on forced labour are not synonymous. ILO and Walk Free Foundation (2022) break down these figures showing that women and girls are disproportionately affected: 11.8 million of those in forced labour are women and girls, the majority in domestic labour, while 1 in 4 of the 6.3 million people in situations of CSE are women and girls. Women and girls are also a fourth of the people in forced labour imposed by state authorities – which is when national or local authorities force citizens to work under threat of menace or penalty. State-imposed labour is also used as a method of mobilising manpower for economic development, to punish political dissidents or discriminate against religious or ethnic minorities and includes the exploitation of conscripts and forms of prison labour (Anti-Slavery International, n.d.). As of 2021 there were 3.3 million children in situations of forced labour, around 12% of the total (p.4). Globally, 22 million people are in a forced marriage (p.59), two-thirds of whom are female.

Figure 1: GAGE 3C conceptual framework



This report will now consider the specific forms of modern slavery occurring in GAGE countries (Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Nepal and Palestine, and Rwanda) and how they impact adolescents.

3 Prevalence

Table 1 summarises the forms of modern slavery that have been identified in each GAGE country in this review. While forced marriage is not a focus of our analysis, it is present in literature as both a push factor for modern slavery, with those escaping a forced marriage being vulnerable to other forms of modern slavery, and as a mode through which women and girls are externally trafficked across borders for other forms of exploitation. It is therefore represented in Table 1 but is not considered in depth in individual country discussions.

Table 1: Form of modern slavery identified in GAGE countries

Country/type of modern slavery	Human trafficking	Forced labour	Child labour	Debt bondage	Sex trafficking / CSEC	Child marriage	Child soldiers
Bangladesh	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Ethiopia	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Jordan	X	X	X	X	X		
Lebanon	X	X	X	X	X	X	
Nepal	X	X	X	X	X	X	X
Palestine	X	X	X		X	X	X
Rwanda	X	X	X	X	X	X	X

The Global Slavery Index (GSI) by Walk Free Foundation measures the extent of modern slavery by country, as well as the steps governments are taking to respond to the issue, drawing together findings from estimates of prevalence, measurements of vulnerability, and assessments of governments responses, alongside trade flows and data on specific products. Table 2 provides information on modern slavery data in each GAGE country drawing on the GSI 2018, including prevalence index rank, estimated number of people living in modern slavery, estimated proportion living in modern slavery, and vulnerability to modern slavery.

The table shows that four out of the six GAGE countries have a vulnerability score over 50 out of a possible 100, calculated considering the dimensions and variables of governance issues, lack of basic needs, inequality, disenfranchised groups, and effects of conflict. Rwanda ranks 19th out of 167 countries in the Modern Slavery Prevalence Index, Ethiopia 30th, Nepal 55th, and Bangladesh 92nd, while Jordan and Lebanon rank quite low – respectively 141st and 145th. In Nepal, the estimated proportion of the population living in modern slavery is 5.95/1000, 3.67 in Bangladesh, 1.72/000 in Lebanon, and 1.80/1000 in Jordan. The GSI notes gaps and limitations to data on the Arab region, with national surveys only being carried out in Lebanon and Jordan. Data for Palestine in particular is extremely limited; the country is therefore not included in the index.

Table 2: Walk Free Global Index data

Country	Prevalence index rank (out of 167)	Estimated number living in modern slavery	Estimated proportion living in modern slavery (out of 1000)	Vulnerability to modern slavery (out of 100)
Ethiopia	52	614,000	6.15	64.47
Rwanda	16	134,000	11.56	61.72

Bangladesh	92	592,000	3.67	50.05
Nepal	55	171,000	5.95	44.13
Lebanon	145	10,000	1.72	58.92
Jordan	141	17,000	1.80	49.89

Table 2 demonstrates that modern slavery is clearly an issue in GAGE countries and, as Table 1 shows, almost all forms of modern slavery can be found in each of them. A closer analysis of existing literature on each country reveals the dynamics of modern slavery represented in the data, and how adolescents are specifically impacted. For some countries, where there is a lot of literature and the forms of modern slavery are distinguished under separate headings (though, as will also become apparent, there is overlap between forms of modern slavery). For other countries, where data is more limited (e.g., Palestine), the sections are shorter and there are no sub-sections. We also have grouped together Lebanon and Jordan as not only is literature on these countries limited, but both are often destination sites for forms of modern slavery, including from other GAGE countries.

3.1 GAGE country analysis

Bangladesh

Overview

As of 2017, there were an estimated 592,000 people living in modern slavery in Bangladesh (Walk Free GSI 2018). Existing studies that address adolescent experiences of modern slavery in the country (e.g. Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and ILO, 2015) have identified their exploitation in human trafficking, forced labour (including forced criminal activity and forced begging), domestic servitude, and CSE. Ahad et al (2021) report that, according to the National Child Labour Survey of the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (2015), in 2013, there were 3.45 million child labourers aged 5 to 17 years old, with 1.28 million of them engaged in hazardous work. There are national legal provisions in place that ban labour under 14 years of age and restrictive policies for adolescents aged 14 to 18 years old (labourers in this age group require a doctor's certificate to work). However, most children and adolescents work in the informal sector out of reach of these regulations (Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and ILO, 2015).

Moreover, Bangladesh is host to a large population of Rohingya refugees who reside in camps across the country and to whom national labour laws do not apply. In 2022, the Government of Bangladesh, in partnership with the UNHCR, reported a total of 943,529 Rohingya refugees living in camps in Bangladesh, and 52% of this population was below 19 (UNHCR and Government of Bangladesh, 2022). Rohingya children are pushed to look for work outside camps by the dire material conditions in which they live and the lack of formal work opportunities, but also by the lack of social sanctions against child employment – this increasing the likelihood of exploitation through forms of modern slavery (Hoque, 2021).

Human trafficking

Adults and children in Bangladesh are trafficked both within and outside the country. Although trafficking and facilitation of forced labour remain two separate practices, many times one follows the other, as many trafficked individuals end up exploited in forced labour and/or debt bondage. An example concerns Bangladeshi adults and children who engage in labour migration towards the Middle East and Southeast Asia

(US Department of State, 2021). The US Department of State's (2021) Trafficking in Persons Report reveals that many Bangladeshis migrate for work each year through illegal channels controlled by traffickers. A lack of opportunities of formal employment and a desire to improve their livelihood pushes older adolescent boys and girls towards unsafe migration, increasing risks to their security at all stages of their movement (UNICEF, 2017).

A 2018 report by Justice and Care reveals that trafficking of adolescent girls from Bangladesh to India is highly organised, whereby a vulnerable person is spotted, sourced, recruited, harboured, transported, exploited, and then sold into exploitative work such as for CSE (Justice and Care, 2018). The same report uncovers that traffickers sometimes marry women and adolescent girls in Bangladesh, leave the country with them through legal channels, and then sell them into bonded labour or CSE in the destination country, most commonly India (Justice and Care, 2018). Boys are vulnerable to trafficking for CSEC too, including in child sex tourism, not only internationally, but also within Bangladesh (ECPAT International, 2006). Boys aged 4 to 12 years old are also trafficked for camel racing in the Arab Gulf, forced to work as jockeys in the sport and often subjected to physical and sexual abuse (Rahman, 2018; Ahsan, 2022). It is relevant to state that, in some cases, it is the parents who willingly send their kids away in an attempt to escape poverty or sell them into bondage to alleviate and/or pay off debts.

Children in Bangladesh are trafficked not only internationally, but internally as well. Of the latter, many, especially girls, are trafficked into domestic servitude. They are mostly, though not always, from poor households in rural communities with limited access to education and skills development, which leaves them with few opportunities but also with a low awareness of their situation (Islam, 2013).

Rohingya refugee children, particularly adolescent girls, are highly vulnerable to human trafficking for CSE. Because of its location in proximity to the border with Myanmar, the Cox's Bazar district is a hotspot for the illegal sex trade. Many girls who flee the refugee camps work as domestic helpers in the host community, which often mutates into forced labour, bonded labour, domestic servitude, or CSE (Hoque, 2021). As local officials report, when Rohingya girls go missing, they are often found in forced prostitution or domestic slavery (Hoque, 2021). They are trafficked both internally within Bangladesh and internationally to India and Nepal.

Child and forced labour

Estimates by the Bangladesh Institute of Development Studies (BIDS), the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics (BBS) and UNICEF, based on the 2011 Bangladesh Population and Housing Census, estimated that around one million adolescents aged 10 to 14 years old were working in Bangladesh in 2011, mostly in the services sector (Mitu et al., 2019).

Child forced and bonded labour still exists in Bangladesh, particularly in certain sectors such as tea farming, brick-making, the dry fish industry, and the garment industry. While there is a lack of age-specific studies on the country's tea industry, whole families can be subjected to descent-based forced labour in tea gardens in Bangladesh. Many of the 300,000 workers in the industry are people originally from India, who were brought to East Bengal (now Bangladesh) by British tea planters in the 19th century and have since then remained isolated from the Bangladeshi society. Descendants of tea workers are living on land and in houses that have been in their families for generations, yet their right to abide there is tied to their work (Islam and Al-Amin, 2019). Workers whose labour is exploited in tea gardens are disproportionately women and girls. While Islam and Al-Amin's (2019) study does not indicate age groups, in 2015 it was estimated that of those working on different tea estates in Bangladesh, 9.33% were adolescent girls between 10 and 19 (LSE, 2015).

The dry fish industry is also one of several hazardous child labour sectors in Bangladesh. In a 2010 report on the issue, the Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and ILO found that, over a total of 54,980 workers in the industry, 7,719 were children (corresponding to 14%), 26.1% of whom were girls. The children were forced to work in the industry largely as bonded labourers, because their parents had taken an advance or loan that they needed to pay off, or in other cases were lured into work with false promises. Children and adolescents forced to

labour in the industry work all day without protective wear and are exposed to insecticides, such as DDT, as well as salt and the sun. They are often prevented from freely leaving the workplace, and some are forced to work during illness or injury, at any time of the day or night, or carry heavy loads. They also face deduction of their wages/salary as penalty for refusing any of the above (USDOL, 2020).

Perhaps most research on exploitative child labour in Bangladesh has focused on the garment industry (e.g. Baumann-Pauly et al., 2018). Exploitation in this sector is high since it is driven by increasing pressure from wider market dynamics. For instance, buyers put pressure on suppliers to keep prices low by threatening them to outsource the work to even cheaper markets in other countries such as Ethiopia. As Murray et al (2019) explain, “exploitation ranges from what is effectively bonded labour, where salaries are withheld to prevent workers from leaving, to the poor working conditions and low wages the industry is more widely notorious for” (p. 9). Although research and investigative journalism alike have focused on exploitation in factories producing garments for the international market, working conditions in factories working for the national market are no different. Moreover, Murray et al (2019) also include in their study that “burgeoning informal sector that supplies formal sector factories with specific services and goods” (p. 9), namely outsourcing and subcontracting practices. Child labour in this sector is commonplace, widely accepted, and largely unregulated.

In addition to these forms of forced labour, children in Bangladesh are also subjected to forced begging and forced criminal activity, including producing and trafficking drugs (Akther, 2022). Those who are homeless or refugees are the most vulnerable to this form of exploitation. Specifically, Rohingya adolescents and children that are recruited to work outside the camps are reported to be underpaid or unpaid, unable to communicate with their families and subjected to excessive working hours (USDOL, 2020). Rohingya boys typically work in construction, fishing, and in shops and are often sold into bonded labour in the dry fish industry by their parents, to pay off their parents’ debts (USDOL, 2020).

Domestic servitude

Child domestic work is extremely common in Bangladesh (Islam, 2013). The Bangladesh Bureau of Statistics and UNICEF (2007) revealed that, in 2006, there were approximately 400,000 child domestic workers between 6 and 17 years old. Although there are no more recent estimates, Akther (2022) reports that the majority of child domestic workers are adolescents between 12 and 17 years: specifically, 38% are 11-13 years old and 24% are between 5 and 10. Their working hours range from 9-12 hours per day in 36% of the cases, to 13-15 hours per day (30%), to reach 16-18 hours per day (16%) (Begama, 2010). Long working hours are one of the major indicators of the worst forms of child labour, according to ILO Convention 12 (Islam, 2013). A UNICEF study then points to the gendered nature of domestic work, with three quarters of child domestic workers being girls. Their report finds they face restrictions on mobility and freedom of association, are “forced to live inside their employers’ private households far from their families and community, are often forbidden from interacting with other domestic workers”, and many feel they do not have the freedom to leave their jobs (UNICEF, 2009, 127). While Murray et al (2019) suggest that most work in domestic service voluntarily, they recognise that workers can also be trafficked through false promises of jobs in different working environments. Moreover, those who voluntarily migrate (both internally and externally) for domestic service, can find themselves in situations of domestic servitude once they reach their destination. This is especially the case for Rohingya refugee children, due both to their vulnerable situation and to the discriminatory treatment they face in Bangladesh, ranging from social exclusion to violence (Human Rights Watch, 2021).

Commercial sexual exploitation

Although sex work is quasi-legal in Bangladesh for those aged 18 and over, trafficking people into CSE is not (Huda et al., 2022). Despite this, women and girls continue to be exploited in the country’s brothels, often lured by false promises of work, or abducted and held captive (USDOL, 2020). Moreover, the high social value placed on female purity means that communities often turn against women and girls who have been trafficked for sexual exploitation (UNICEF, 2009). Children born into brothels are also often subjects of CSE from a young age (UNICEF, 2020).

Adolescent girls are sometimes kidnapped and subjected to the *chukri* system – a debt bondage system in which adolescent girls, sometimes as young as 10-12 years old, are bought by older sex workers (who may also be victims of trafficking for CSE) or brothel owners and told they must work for free in order to pay off a non-existent debt for food, clothes, make-up, and living expenses (ILO, 2005; Redfern, 2019). They are not allowed outside the brothel, cannot choose their customers and are under strict surveillance to stop them running away (UNICEF, 2009). Bagley et al. (2017) suggest that brothel managers require teenagers from the ages of 12 to 17 to take Oradexon, a steroid hydrocortisone medication used to fatten cattle that results in plumpness, so that they can be passed off as older. Recruiters often target street children and/or children living in slums, as they are particularly vulnerable and often do not live with their family/guardian.

Although research on the topic is limited, adolescent boys are also subjected to CSE in Bangladesh. ECPAT International focused on the commercial exploitation of boys between 11 and 18, highlighting how urban to rural migration has led, on the one side, to the formation of an urbanised male migrant population isolated from their own social context. Coupled with gender segregation and norms around sexual morality limiting interaction between opposite sexes, this has led to a demand for same-sex commercial sexual relations (ECPAT 2006). On the other side, the migration of adolescent boys to the city in search of work opportunities has created a vulnerable group who easily be coerced or lured into CSE (ECPAT, 2006).

Ethiopia

Overview

According to the GSI, in 2017 an estimated 614,000 people lived in modern slavery in Ethiopia, which corresponded to 6.15% of the population (Walk Free Foundation, 2018). People in Ethiopia are vulnerable to trafficking due to years of war, civil strife, famine, and poverty, while gender inequality is a persisting issue (Beck et al., 2017). Internal conflict and drought have also resulted in 5.1 million displaced people in 2021 alone (Habib, 2022) and people in resettlement camps remain increasingly vulnerable to trafficking (USDOL 2021). An increase in rural-to-urban migration by adolescent girls in search of education and work opportunities, as well as to escape forced marriage, has led to many being forced into commercial sexual exploitation, while irregular migration to meet demand for domestic workers in the Middle East, including in Lebanon and Jordan, has increased the risk of Ethiopians being exploited in domestic servitude in these countries. While girls are more prone to sexual exploitation by individuals or in brothels and to domestic servitude, boys are vulnerable to exploitation in forced labour in traditional weaving, construction, agriculture, and street vending (USDOS 2021, 234).

Human trafficking

Trafficking in Ethiopia occurs internally and externally in the form of child labour and sex trafficking (USDOL 2021, 234). There have also been reports of organ trafficking and other rights violations, such as child marriage, child soldiering, and exploitative intercountry adoptions (Beck et al., 2017). Adolescent experiences of human trafficking in Ethiopia are closely connected to their experiences of migration. Recent studies of child and adolescent migration have moved away from trafficking narratives, focusing instead on adolescent agency in the decision to migrate and the challenges they face (see de Regt and Mihret, 2020). However, migration, especially of unaccompanied minors, does carry with it the risk of trafficking. Not all children migrate ‘voluntarily’ in search of a better life, rather some are forced to migrate – and even those that do migrate voluntarily, are often tricked by false promises. ECPAT notes that children, especially girls, are often sent away by families which cannot support them. They are placed under the custody of relatives, neighbours’ relatives, and even strangers, who agree to take care of the child and provide them with employment. However, many end up in forced or bonded labour to ‘cover the expenses’ of their migration, such as flights, accommodation, visa fees and food (ECPAT, 2018).

Rural to urban migration in Ethiopia has long been one of the strategies enacted by adolescents to find employment or pursue education. Girls mostly migrate to look for or with the promise of domestic work, or to escape the practice of forced marriage in their rural homes (Jones et al., 2014; de Regt, 2016, 2020; Dad, 2021). Yet when they reach Addis Ababa, they very often fall into what de Regt (2020) describes as “very constraining circumstances”, which most of the time result in in sex work and/or sexual exploitation. In her 2016 study analysing adolescent girls’ motivations for migration, Marina de Regt found that ‘escaping early marriage and abduction were important reasons for migration for girls that grew up in areas where these practices are still common, such as in the Amhara region.’ (de Regt, 2016, p.29). Girls Not Brides also report that migration is a coping strategy for young women and girls to delay marriage in Ethiopia, as they search for improved livelihood and education opportunities (Kakal, 2019). While marriage under 18 years old is illegal in Ethiopia, social norms that dictate a woman’s role as wife and mother, and as a consequence devalue their education and earning potential, contribute to the persistence of child and early marriage in some parts of the country. As a result, some girls see running away to urban areas as the only way to escape being married off by their parents or being abducted and forced into marriage by members of the community (de Regt, 2016, p.29).

Adolescents also take part in irregular migration across borders, either voluntarily or not, in many cases following prospects of work in the countries of the Middle East. Whether this migration can be formally considered trafficking or not is debated, as adolescents are capable of and do exercise their own agency, but always in a context of restricted choices and possibilities. Relying on US Department of State and ILO’s data, Abebe et al (2019) report that, in 2012, over 160,000 Ethiopians migrated regularly to Saudi Arabia (over a total of 200,000 migrating to the Middle East, 85% of whom were women) to work in the domestic sector – yet irregular migration to Saudi Arabia was estimated to be double that size. Abebe et al (2019) also report that the US Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs estimated that the total of 200,000 labour migrants in the Middle East to represent just 30-40% of all Ethiopians in Middle East, suggesting that the remaining 60-70% were either “smuggled with the facilitation of illegal brokers or trafficked” (Abebe et al, 2019, 276). In this context, reports of women being exploited at the hands of their employers were frequent, abuse ranging from passport confiscation and inadequate pay to physical, sexual, and emotional abuse – which all qualify as forced labour and domestic servitude. In 2021, the IOM, together with Ethiopia’s Central Statistical Agency (CSA) launched the Labour Force and Migration Survey report, which included figures on Ethiopian migrants’ employment. According to this report, over the previous 5 years, “an estimated 839,000 Ethiopians migrated abroad [...], with 78 per cent aged between 15 and 29 years. Close to 31 per cent of these migrants travelled to the Kingdom of Saudi Arabia”, followed by South Africa, the UAE, the US, and Yemen.

Schewel (2022) questions the binary between voluntary and forced migration for Ethiopian women migrating to the Middle East, arguing that their “labor emigration is often a long-distance, short-term strategy to access the capital needed to realize a long-term, short-distance move to town” (p. 1619) and that the aspiration to migrate emerges in the period of transition from adolescence to adulthood. Migrating is, for these women, a strategy to fulfil their aspirations, which cannot be fulfilled locally. In their research on Ethiopian adolescent domestic workers in the Middle East, Jones et al (2018) discuss girls’ labour migration’ financial, physical, and psychological cost. Although acknowledging that most girls move voluntarily, they conclude the narrative of trafficking represents an appropriate lens through which to see their situation, as they find a very exploitative work environment at destination. Although currently there are no statistics reporting the exact figures of Ethiopian adolescent girls moving to the Middle East, this combined evidence on migration for domestic work suggests that adolescent girls are among the women who move, particularly irregularly.

While not all Ethiopian internal and external adolescent migration involves human trafficking, those migrating alone and irregularly face an increased risk of being trafficked. Ethiopian adolescent boys and girls are trafficked for forced labour abroad, with boys being trafficked mainly to the Middle East to work as drivers, factory workers, mechanics, labourers, farmers, guards, or waiters, and girls for sexual exploitation and domestic servitude (Beck et al, 2016). Moreover, the migration ban to the Countries of the Gulf imposed by the government in 2013 (Walk Free, 2019), increased migration to via irregular routes, resulting in a higher risk

of trafficking and exploitation. Consequently, the Ethiopian government lifted the ban in 2018, introducing instead regulations for recruitment agencies, minimum age and level of education requirements, and training for migrant workers before departure to protect citizens from ill treatment. While a positive step forward, many Ethiopians are unlikely to meet these requirements and, if they choose to migrate anyway, could be rendered even more vulnerable (Walk Free, 2019).

Child and forced labour

Child labour in Ethiopia is rife. By age 14 – the end of compulsory schooling – it is reported that 60% of adolescents are in work (UNICEF, Centre for Statistical Analysis of Ethiopia – CSA, and the Centre for Evaluation and Development – C4ED, 2020). Contrastingly, adolescents aged 12 or 13 were less likely to only be in work, and more likely to attend a school or combine work and school (UNICEF, CSA, and C4ED, 2020). While 25% of working adolescents aged 14-17 made an autonomous decision to work (compared with 10% of working children aged 5-11), over 70% reported that their families had decided for them. While not all child labour can be considered forced labour – as explained in [Section 2.2](#), children in Ethiopia continue to be subjected to forced labour in agriculture, industry, and sexual exploitation. The results of the UNICEF, CSA, and C4ED (2020) Child Labour Analysis in Ethiopia, based on the 2015 National Child Labour Survey (NCLS) report, find that 42.7% of children aged 5–17 is engaged in child labour. While not covering all ages of adolescence (and including younger children), these statistics suggest that a significant number of Ethiopian adolescents are working a significant number of Ethiopian adolescents are working in conditions considered harmful and exploitative.

Trafficking for forced labour is the most widely studied form of modern slavery in the literature (Beck et al., 2017), with adolescents and young people aged 10-24 years being trafficked internally for forced labour or sexual exploitation in the weaving industry, farm labour, domestic labour, commercial sex work, child marriage, and child soldiering (Beck et al., 2017). Reuters (2021) reports that the streets around the main Addis Ababa market for traditional clothes (Shiro Meda) were a hub for the illegal child weaving trade until the government shut down the workshops. However, this has not stopped child forced labour in the weaving industry. Thousands of boys continue to be exploited, now mostly working out of sight on the outskirts of Addis Ababa (Wuilbercq and Tsegaye, 2021). Taye and Huijsmans' study (2020) reveal that not all children taking part in the weaving economy in Addis Ababa are in forced labour. Historically, this has been an important part of children's skill development, with many combining work with school as a form of apprenticeship and receiving *senbeta misa* (financial compensation literally translated as 'sabbath lunch'). However, the forced labour of adolescents in the weaving industry, particularly boys, who have migrated voluntarily from rural locations to the city in search of other jobs or to pursue an education continues to be an issue.

Domestic servitude

The exploitation of adolescent girls in domestic servitude in Ethiopia, and Ethiopian migrants in the Middle East, has received significant focus in academic and grey literature (see Nisrane, Ossewaarde, and Need, 2019; Nasrabadi, 2020; Population Council, 2021; Sinha 2021). Domestic work is one of the most common and traditional forms of paid work among girls in Ethiopia, especially among those who engage in rural-to-urban migration (Population Council, 2021; Schewel, 2022). While not always exploitative or harmful, domestic work can morph into domestic servitude in which children and adolescent girls experience subjugation, intimidation, restriction of movement and the withholding of wages. Walk Free (2020) finds that girls as young as 11 years old are working as unpaid domestic workers in Ethiopia, with many reporting suffering physical and verbal abuse in private households.

It is estimated that 60% of current migrants from Ethiopia that cross borders are female, most of them migrating to the Middle East to take up positions as domestic workers (de Regt and Mihret, 2020). Destination countries include Saudi Arabia, Lebanon, Kuwait, United Arab Emirates and Yemen in the Middle East as well

as Sudan, Kenya, Djibouti, Somalia, and Europe (Beck et al, 2016). Several studies have focused on the exploitation of Ethiopian domestic workers in Lebanon and Jordan (see [Section 3.1.5](#)).

Commercial sexual exploitation

While the procurement of children for prostitution and sex with minors is illegal in Ethiopia, child prostitution remains widespread across the country (ECPAT, 2018). The last official numbers are from 2002 when the Women's Affairs Department in the Ministry of Labour and Social Affairs estimated that 90,000 females were involved in commercial sex work, with approximately 20% of them between 12-18 years of age. Still today, according to de Regt and Mihret (2020), the number of sex workers in Ethiopian cities is high. Even though not all of them are trafficked, many among them are minors and therefore formally fall under trafficked status⁵. The widespread presence of sex workers is also one of the results from the structural inequality of the Ethiopian labour market, which greatly limits the job opportunities of adolescent girls and young women (de Regt and Mihret, 2020). Many adolescent girls, but also boys, can therefore be found working in brothels, hotels, bars, rural tuck stops, and resort towns and exploited in sex tourism (guides sometimes serve as sex brokers, arranging for travellers and tourists to have sex with children exploited in prostitution) (ECPAT, 2018).

As with forced labour in other sectors, adolescent girls and young women experience CSE during their migration journey (de Regt and Mihret, 2020). Finally, while still an understudied form of modern slavery – and still not officially part of the ILO modern slavery definition, an ECPAT, INTERPOL, and UNICEF (2022) study found that 1 in 10 internet-using children aged 12-17 years (approximately 300,000 children) were victims of online child sexual exploitation and abuse (OSEC) in the previous year. Children are blackmailed into engaging in sexual activities and/or persuaded to engage in sexual activity through promises of money or gifts (ECPAT, INTERPOL, and UNICEF, 2022).

Lebanon and Jordan

Overview

As of 2017, the GSI counted approximately 10,000 people living in modern slavery in Lebanon, and 17,000 in Jordan (Walk Free GSI 2018). Both are destinations for adolescent girls from other countries, including GAGE countries such as Ethiopian and Nepal, who mostly migrated for domestic work. A 2016 Anti-Slavery International report revealed that Lebanon hosted approximately 200,000 female migrant workers from African and Southeast Asian countries – a lot of whom experienced trafficking, exploitation, abuse, control, and racist and discriminatory practices. Extant literature highlights trafficking of women and girls for domestic servitude from Ethiopia, Sri Lanka, Syria, Palestine, Nepal and Rwanda to Lebanon and Jordan, driven by rising living costs, unemployment, and poverty in their home countries.

One of the causes of exploitation is the sponsorship or kafala system that entirely bonds the migrant worker's residency and work permit to a specific employer (Majzoub, 2022). The system gives private citizens and companies in Jordan and Lebanon (as in other countries in the Middle East, such as the Gulf ones) almost total control over migrant workers' employment terms and immigration status as only workers' sponsors can renew or terminate the employees' contract. It is a heavily skewed system that often results in forced labour – including low wages, hazardous working conditions, and employee abuse, and debt bondage (Council on Foreign Relations, 2021). It is estimated that there are around 250,000 workers under the Kafala system in Lebanon, most of them women and girls from Africa and South Asia (Vohra, 2021).

In Lebanon, the USDOL (2020) identifies adolescents as among those engaged in the worst forms of child labour in construction and agriculture (specifically in the production of potatoes and tobacco), sometimes as a result of trafficking. They also found evidence of begging, street vending, and portering, as well as the use of children and adolescents in illicit activities including the production and trafficking of drugs and CSE. The exploitation

⁵ Child trafficking, as opposed to trafficking of adults, does not need to involve the use of force, fraud, deception, or coercion to be qualified as such.

of adolescents in forms of modern slavery in Lebanon is occurring in the wider context of country's protracted economic and political crises, exacerbated by the presence of a caretaker government. UNICEF has published a number of reports on the growing prevalence of child labour in Lebanon in the context of an increasing cycle of poverty, political instability, and neighbouring conflicts such as the war in Syria (UNICEF, 2021a, 2021b).

In Jordan, adolescents are subjected to the worst forms of child labour in forced begging, drug trafficking, and CSE, sometimes as a result of human trafficking. In 2016, it was estimated that almost 76,000 children in Jordan were engaged in economic activities, 60% of whom were in hazardous conditions and thus count as child labour (Latham-Sprinkle, 2021). In 2021, this number is estimated to have at least doubled as poverty levels have increased, living conditions have deteriorated, and Jordan's youth unemployment rate has gone up, reaching 53.7% (Latham-Sprinkle, 2021). The gender dynamics of those involved in the worst forms of child labour in Jordan are in line with other GAGE countries, with boys mainly being affected in sectors including agriculture, forestry and fishing, and girls in domestic work and servitude.

Like Rwanda and Bangladesh, Lebanon and Jordan host significant refugee populations from conflict-affected countries, including Syria and Palestine. In 2022, of the 5.9 million Palestinians formerly registered as refugees with the United Nations Relief and Works Agency (UNRWA), 2.4 million lived in Jordan and 487,000 in Lebanon (UNRWA, 2023). Previous GAGE research has highlighted the risks of age and gender-based violence among older adolescent Palestinian refugees in Lebanon and Jordan, noting that they are largely excluded from labour markets due to blockades and national laws and subsequently experience high rates of poverty (Presler-Marshall et al., 2021). This affects their access to essential humanitarian aid and services, including education, accommodation, vocational training and healthcare, and their ability to earn an income. These circumstances can lead people into situations of exploitation as they search to support themselves and their families.

Child trafficking, exploitation, child labour, and CSEC have long affected children and adolescents in Lebanon and Jordan, but, since the inception of the war, Syrian refugees in Lebanon and Jordan are affected as well. Noak, Wagner, and Jacobs (2020) has indeed stressed how conditions of displacement impact on people's vulnerability to exploitation. Child labour (including begging) have been affected in the sense that conditions have become more severe, with more serious rights abuses, while the incidence of these phenomena has also overall increased. The Lebanese agricultural industry is heavily dependent on low-wage workers to reduce costs and bolster profits. Therefore, despite legal restrictions on employment imposed by the state, employers in the Beqaa region have benefited from an exploitable Syrian workforce (ILO, 2016). Refugee children are subjected to forced labour in agriculture and some are kept in bonded labour in the Beqaa Valley, home to 42% of Lebanon's total cultivated land. While there have been few studies on child labour in Lebanon that have focused exclusively on Syrian refugees, there is evidence to suggest that the issue is widespread, with preliminary reports noting Syrian children are performing tasks such as bagging potatoes, picking up rocks and cleaning fields where pesticides are present (ILO, 2016). As mentioned above, this practices do not exclusively affect Syrians, but Lebanese children as well. Particularly in the case of sexual exploitation, currently mostly Syrian women and girls are exploited in prostitution, where before people trafficked for this purpose were of other nationalities (Jones and Ksaifi, 2016).

Nepal

Overview

In 2017, there were an estimated 171,000 people living in modern slavery in Nepal (Walk Free GSI, 2018). Existing studies that address adolescent experiences of modern slavery in the country have identified their exploitation in human trafficking (Worthen, 2011; Sarkar, 2016; Sharma et al., 2020) forced labour – especially in the carpet industry, construction, debt bondage in brick kilns, and forced begging (ILO, 2021; USDOL, 2021; Thapa, 2021), domestic servitude (Kiss et al, 2019), and CSE (Ghimire et al, 2020a). Despite economic growth averaging 4.8% over the last decade, Nepal remains one of the poorest countries in the world and has a ranking

of 149 out of 189 on the Human Development Index (Kiss et al., 2019). Large disparities in poverty rates between genders, social groups and geographic areas remain strong, and poverty is often coupled with deeply entrenched discriminatory practices directed at lower castes (Kiss et al., 2019). While caste-based discrimination is illegal in Nepal, the caste system continues to shape the social stratification of society and place restrictions on lower caste social mobility preventing poverty alleviation (Kiss et al., 2019). As a consequence, people from lower castes are more vulnerable to exploitation.

In addition, social norms that historically condone the control of female sexuality and promote women and girls' subservient roles in the household shape their vulnerability to forms of modern slavery in the country. Their lower level of education (only 3% of girls complete upper secondary education in contrast to 10% of boys) limits their access to decent work. While education levels in the country are generally low, with both girls and boys having poor learning outcomes and lacking the basic skills necessary to transition into decent work, this issue is compounded for girls who are often expected to take up the role of wife and mother and are forced into early marriage (Kiss et al., 2019).

Trafficking

As with other GAGE countries, both cross-border and internal trafficking impacts Nepali adolescents. Extant scholarship is particularly focused on the trafficking of women and girls for CSE from Nepal (Worthen, 2011; Sarkar, 2016; Sharma et al., 2020) – which we discuss in the CSE sub-section.

Traffickers of adolescent girls is often initiated by people they know, with a 2015 study finding that 51% of 292 sampled adolescent females mentioned relatives and/or friends as mediators of sex trafficking (Shrestha et al., 2015; also see Dank et al., 2019). In a study of the trafficking of women and girls for sex from Nepal to India, Sarkar (2016) also reports that girls were trafficked by relatives via criminal networks (reported by 36.1% of respondents), fathers (26.6%), boyfriends (21.5%), and local criminal gangs (4.4%), while the remaining percentage of participants in the study (11.4%) reported to have run away from home. The brokers in the destination country were reported as including hotel managers, taxi drivers or friends of the victims (Sarkar, 2016). Those aged 14-18 years old in Sarkar's (2016) study were mostly trafficked by pimps (reported by 29.6% respondents) while young people (20-24 years old) were mostly trafficked by close friends and relatives (40.8%). This is corroborated further by Anti-Slavery International in their 2020 report on child and adolescent survivors of sexual exploitation and trafficking in Nepal. The study participants stated that traffickers were their employers and/or the employers' guests, neighbours, and other known persons, including from the family (Sharma et al., 2020).

Nepal shares a porous border with India, which according to the USDOL (2018) is used by sex traffickers to transport Nepali women for CSE and labour traffickers to exploit men, women, and children who are crossing the border in search of decent work. This open border is also used by traffickers who force children to transport drugs. Ghimire et al. (2020a) report that adolescents make up a significant proportion of the population trafficked across the border into India to take part in the adult entertainment sector, with around 5,000 to 15,000 women and girls trafficked annually for commercial sex work. They report that adolescents are also trafficked for forced labour in circuses, suggesting 600 to 2,000 children can be found working in this sector.

Adolescent boys and girls are lured in trafficking by agents' promises (reported by 5.7% of respondents); better employment prospects (36.7%), are coerced through fake marriages (19.6%), drugs (2.5%), or physical coercion (3.8%), or turn to traffickers in agreement with their parents (24.1%) (Sarkar, 2016, 450). Push factors for those who are trafficked vary, but Sarkar's (2016) research finds that 42.4% were unemployed prior to trafficking, while 29.7% of those interviewed worked in agricultural labour, 13.3% were domestic workers, 7.6% rural artisans and 7% were students, suggesting that many were trafficked while searching to improve their livelihoods. Similarly, not only adolescents but adults too are at increased risk of being trafficked into forced labour as they migrate internally to Nepal's urban centres in search of decent work and to escape poverty (Thapa, 2021).

There have also been reports of Nepalese people being trafficked to India for organ harvesting, most often for their kidneys, with Adhikari (2016) suggesting that India has become an international hub for the kidney trade. Impunity and poverty are reported to be the main contributors to organ trafficking, with those from remote and impoverished communities often lured by financial incentives (Adhikari, 2016). This is an understudied form of trafficking and more research is needed to understand its prevalence among adolescents in Nepal.

Child and forced labour

The ILO reports that of 7 million children aged 5-17 in Nepal, 1.1 million were found to be engaged in child labour, with prevalence for 5 to 13 year-olds at 18% and those aged 14-17 years old at 10% (ILO, 2021). They report that girls are more likely to be engaged in child labour than boys (17% compared to 14%), however boys were more likely to be engaged in hazardous work. They also found that caste was a factor, with the highest percentage found among Dalit (19.4%) followed by Janajati (18.1%) Brahmin/Chhetri (14.5%), Terai (12.7%), and Muslims and other caste categories (12.8%) – while the lowest percentage is among Newar (9.9%) (ILO, 2021). The report also found that child labour prevalence is higher in rural (20.4%) than in urban areas (12.1%), with 87% of child labourers working in the agricultural sector (ILO, 2021). Amongst the most represented sectors, a USDOL's (2021) report identified textiles embellishment (zari), carpet weaving, domestic work, agriculture, producing bricks, quarrying and breaking stones, as well as forced begging.

In terms of recruitment, the USDOL (2021) explain that traffickers promise families work and education opportunities to children (and their families), but instead bring them to often under-resourced and sometimes unregistered orphanages in urban centres where they are subjected to forced labour and forced begging (USDOL, 2021). 75% of registered orphanages and children's homes are located in Nepal's five main tourist districts (out of 77 national districts) where children and young adolescents are forced to beg and/or entertain tourists for donations. Some of these children are also sexually abused by tourists (USDOL, 2021).

Bonded labour/debt bondage

Nepal's Central Bureau of Statistics, UNICEF, and ILO's Report on the Employment Relationship Survey in the Brick Industry (2020) indicates that bonded labour is still an issue among children and adolescents in Nepal, particularly in the brick-making industry. An estimated 34,593 children and adolescents (between ages of 5 and 17) are living in brick kilns. A previous study conducted by the National Human Rights Commission of Nepal (2016) estimated that 74% of these children from 19 districts working in brick kilns were 14-18 years old, while the rest were below 14 years old, demonstrating the prevalence of adolescent workers. Children account for approximately 10% (17,738) of total workers in this sector, and 96% of these working children (17,032) were classified as being in child labour (ILO, UNICEF, and CBSN, 2021, 27). The report found that 75.7% of workers received an advance payment from naikes (labour contractors) to start working and 3.5% receive advance payments directly from employers (ILO, UNICEF, and CBSN, 2021). These advances are connected to a guarantee of work called peski, which comes with unfavourable conditions that are not widely understood by the labourers accepting them, and constitutes a form of bonded labour with unpayable loans (Daly et al., 2020).

44.5% of children living in the kilns were found to be in hazardous work due to exposure to dust and flames (64.3% working children), working excessively long hours (over 36 hours per week) (42.6%), working at night (29.5%) or carrying heavy loads (32.1%) (ILO, UNICEF, and CBSN, 2021, XVI). The growing demand for bricks has been fuelled by rapid urbanisation and exacerbated by the 7.8 magnitude earthquake of 2015 which killed 9,000 people and destroyed approximately 600,000 homes and 7,000 schools. The consequences of the earthquake have led to an increase in child, forced, and bonded labour in the brick industry (ILO, UNICEF, and CBSN, 2021, XVI).

As with child and forced labour more broadly, the issue of bonded labour is shaped by the social stratification of society, with marginalised and poor communities being overly represented, such as the those in the western hills and eastern Terai districts, many of whom are Haliya workers (indicating agricultural labourers working on another person's land, often subject to bonded labour). Throughout Nepal (though concentrated in certain

locations) there are communities of agricultural labourers who have traditionally been forced to work another person's land. When they find it too difficult to support their family through these means, they are forced to take out loans from their landlords, and thus end up in a circle of ever-increasing debt (Giri, 2009). The Kamaya system is similar: agricultural workers make a verbal contract with a landlord or a moneylender to work for a year (Giri, 2009) – which also results in an ever-harder to pay debt.

In her study of bonded child labourers in Nepal, Giri (2009) reported that an estimated 300,000 to 2 million people were working as bonded labourers under the Haliya and Kamaiya systems, and that children often worked alongside their parents to earn household income. While the government of Nepal formally abolished the Kamaiya system in 2000 and the Haliya system in 2008, attempts to eradicate this form of bonded labour was met with mixed success as lower-caste Dalits who make up most of the bonded labourers' population, especially women and children, continue to be trapped in it.

The ILO (2013) reports that children in Nepal are also an integral part of the age-old bonded labour system known as Haruwa-Charuwa, also found in Terai. While Harawa are adult labourers who plough mid-sized and large plots of land for high-caste landowners in eastern districts, Charawa – normally their children – are employed for herding cattle. In their examination of the 12 districts in which these systems of bonded labour are most prevalent, the ILO (2013) found that 12% of an estimated 942,000 households were affected by bonded labour. They note, however, that when looking at the Haruwa-Charuwa and Haliya systems together, that proportion rose to 94%. There are high levels of out-migration of boys and young men from Harawa-Charawa communities. Families take out additional loans to send them overseas for employment, but some escape bonded labour in Nepal only to find themselves in another situation of modern slavery (Oosterhoff et al., 2017).

In their analysis of over 150 life stories from individuals in the Terai region, Cannon and Oosterhoff (2021) sought to understand contemporary agricultural bonded labour in Nepal, paying particular attention to children's experiences. They found common characteristics between exploited individuals, which sit at the intersection of gender and caste inequalities. One example among many for ending up in bonded labour concerned taking out loans to cover for dowry and marriage costs. Cannon and Oosterhoff (2021) also stress how the practice of bonded labour among adults and children, including adolescents, is intimately tied to other contextual and global factors such as labour migration, cultural practices, ubiquitous poverty, and minimal public services.

Domestic servitude

Social norms and discrimination shape gendered participation in the workforce, with female participation often limited to low-skilled, hazardous sectors where exploitative practices are commonplace. The South Asia Work in Freedom Transnational Programme (SwiFT) conducted surveys with 521 returnee female migrants, among whom 45 were adolescents aged 10-18 and 105 were 19 to 24 years old. The empirical findings revealed that scarcity of employment in Nepal, especially in rural areas, is a driver for female migration to urban centres and to countries such as the United Arab Emirates, Malaysia and Kuwait – while another study pointed at Lebanon as country of destination for female Nepali migrants. They migrate primarily for domestic work but, once in the country of destination, are at high risk of domestic servitude (Kiss et al, 2019).⁶ Domestic work accounted for 76% of work among adolescent migrant girls, with 7% in retail, 2% in agriculture, 9% working as caregivers, 2% in garment factories and 9% in other industries.

Nepali migrant domestic workers were often exposed to abuse and control, including through physical violence, being locked in work premises, denied freedom of movement, not being given breaks during long

⁶ The Nepali government has also put age limits on female migration to curb exploitation, but civil rights community service organisations have argued it discriminates against young women, denies freedom of movement, and drives unsafe migration.

shifts, experiencing threats to withhold wages or of dismissal, and having their wages deducted as punishment (Kiss et al 2019).

Commercial sexual exploitation

Girls, boys, and transgender youth are trafficked into the adult entertainment sector, including sexual exploitation on the streets, as well as in dance bars, massage parlours, a type of brothel called ‘cabin restaurant’. Traffickers are also increasingly using private apartments, rented rooms and guesthouses (USDOS, 2021). Vincent et al (2021) found that approximately 1,650 minors were working in adult entertainment venues in the Kathmandu Valley, making up 17% of the sector as a whole. 99% of workers aged 17 and under working in the adult entertainment sector are considered to be working in the worst forms of child labour. The risk increases with age with the rate of sexual exploitation being 6% among workers aged 15 to 17 years, compared to 9% among those 18-21 years old (ibid.).

Of 292 adolescent female students in a study conducted between August and September 2013 in three districts in Nepal, 60.4% mentioned that a promise of a better job was the primary factor that could attract an adolescent girl into what is then revealed to be sex trafficking (Shrestha et al., 2015). Similarly, Thapa (2021) reports that false promises or performances of fake marriages are used by traffickers who subsequently sell victims on to brothels in India. Increasingly, these scams are carried out through social media rather than in person, as traffickers can easily fabricate fake jobs to lure victims in.

Crucially, not all adolescent girls are commercially sexually exploited; some engage in sex work to support themselves and/or their families, with some noting its appeal as it guarantees earnings without requiring education or experience (Ghimire et al., 2020a). Some also use it as a means to escape domestic abuse as a result of child marriage (Oosterhoff & Hacker, 2020).

Palestine

Overview

Literature and data on modern slavery in Palestine is extremely limited. As discussed above, a number of Palestinian refugees are residing in Jordan and Lebanon where they experience human trafficking, forced and bonded labour, as they do not have access to work permits or to service provisions due to their refugee status.

In a 2020, the USDOL reports on the worst forms of child labour in the West Bank and Gaza strip, which finds that children, including adolescents in the 10-14 age bracket, are subjected to the worst forms of child labour as forced begging, illicit activities such as smuggling drugs and food, are used for CSE, and are recruited by non-state armed groups as child soldiers (USDOL, 2020).

Rwanda

Overview

There are an estimated 134,000 people living in modern slavery in Rwanda (Walk Free GSI 2018). While not often a destination country, Rwanda has been identified as a transit country for trafficking across borders to Saudi Arabia, Uganda, the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC), Tanzania, and Burundi, with Uganda being the primary destination for trafficked children (Baguma et al., 2019). Internal rural-to-urban migration for child and adolescent labour also presents increased risks of trafficking and further exploitation, including forms of modern slavery. While Rwanda has seen some economic growth, trafficking and modern slavery continue to be driven by high levels of unemployment, homelessness, poverty, and gender inequality. Extant literature highlights different forms of modern slavery in Rwanda, including human trafficking, forced labour, domestic servitude, commercial sexual exploitation, forced begging and child soldiering (USDOL, 2020). While most studies focus on children, a closer look at age ranges demonstrates how these issues disproportionately affect adolescents.

Human trafficking

Rwanda is primarily a source and transit country for trafficked children. A 2019 report by Never Again Rwanda indicates that 18.8% of intercepted trafficking victims were below 18 years of age and that women and girls were over-represented (77.67%) among victims of trafficking (Baguma, et al 2019, 12). In fact, over 90% of reviewed cases of trafficking concerned women and girls who were subjected to forced labour, particularly as domestic servitude, and sexual exploitation, while male victims of trafficking were more likely to experience forced labour in agricultural and industrial sectors, including on plantations and in mines (Baguma et al, 2019, 29,62).

One of the reasons for young people falling victims of trafficking is poverty. The World Bank reports that “measured against the national poverty line, poverty declined from 77% in 2001 to 55% in 2017”, but that this decline was rapidly brought to a halt by Covid-19. Compared to pre-pandemic times, “the headcount poverty rate is likely to rise by 5.1 percentage points (more than 550,000 people) for 2021” (WB, 2022). In addition, unemployment is an issue particularly among young people, with data showing that 20.6% of youth were unemployed in May 2020 (The Borgen Project, 2020). The unemployment rate for 2021 was 1.61% - a 0.12% increase from 2020, while for young people it stood at 2.93% - a 0.35% increase from 2020 (Macro Trends, 2023). This increases their vulnerability to human trafficking and other forms of modern slavery as they migrate from rural-to-urban spaces within Rwanda and abroad in search of work. Children and adolescents are often offered jobs and the prospect of a better life by family members, neighbours, members of their community, or even strangers, and often find themselves trafficked for labour and sexual exploitation. The rapid expansion of internet and mobile phone use in the country has also facilitated human trafficking in a way that has particularly impacted adolescents and youth – not just in Rwanda, but in other countries as well (see Williams, 2018; Ghimire et al., 2020b).

Rwanda is also home to substantial numbers of refugees from neighbouring countries, who overwhelmingly live in camps, in particularly marginal situations and thus highly vulnerable to trafficking (USDOL 2018). According to UNHCR, at the end of 2021, Rwanda hosted slightly over 127,000 refugees, mainly from the DRC and Burundi, 76% of whom were women and children (UNHCR, 2023). Besides material deprivation, Baguma et al (2019) report that the social stigma refugees in Rwanda face prevents them from accessing virtually any form of legitimate employment (p. 15), thus more easily falling into trafficking.

Child and forced labour

There are high rates of child labour in Rwanda due to widespread poverty, poor access to education and a lack of both awareness and enforcement of labour laws (IMPAQ International, 2017). It is estimated that 11.2% of children aged 5 to 17 years old are engaged in economic activities, with almost half working full time (IMPAQ International, 2017). Save the Children, as reported in Baguma et al (2019) estimates that of children who work for money outside the household, 12.4% are aged 10-15 and 51.4% are between 16 and 17 years old. While not all labour performed by adolescents in Rwanda can be qualified as forced or child labour, children and adolescents often work in hazardous occupations, such as “on tea and banana plantations, in planting and harvesting crops, cattle herding, caring for small livestock and producing coal, and in industrial services such as construction, brick making and mining” (Baguma et al., 2019) – which qualifies as modern slavery as explained in [Section 2.2](#). While there is little research on the forced labour of individuals, including adolescents, in Rwanda more generally, child labourers are estimated to make up 29% of workers on tea plantations in the country and are identified as a workforce vulnerable to trafficking and forced labour in a 2018 Verité report (Verité, 2018). In Winrock International's study on child labour in Rwanda's tea sector, children aged 9 to 17 reported being involved in almost every aspect of work in the tea growing process, including tilling land, tea picking, fetching firewood for tea factories, road construction, tea planting, and spraying insecticides (Winrock International, 2012). They are predominantly employed by families, neighbours, and cooperatives. The study also found that over half of the children surveyed had been mistreated while at work (Winrock International, 2012).

The USDOS (2020) additionally highlights that children and young adolescents are also being exploited in forced begging both by their parents and in transit centres set up by the government with the purpose of reintegrating people with ‘deviant’ behaviours.

Domestic servitude

As mentioned above, adolescent girls migrating from rural-to-urban locations such within Rwanda in search of paid domestic work or other work can instead find themselves trapped into domestic servitude. Save the Children (2017) reports that Nyarugenge and Gasabo districts in Kigali are among the places that receive the largest number of child domestic workers, while the districts sending the highest number of children are Muhanga and Ruhango. A 2016 study of domestic workers across Rwanda found that 59.5% were between 10-20 years old, highlighting the significant role that adolescents play in domestic work and therefore the increased risk of modern slavery they face (IDAY, 2016). They report the main reasons for entering domestic work as parents' extreme poverty and orphanhood, and that the appeal of urban life, the will to build capital, and facing unemployment were additional drivers for young people. They also note that terms of employment for the large majority are verbal; a situation which leaves workers easily vulnerable to abuse and exploitation (IDAY, 2016).

Commercial sexual exploitation

CSE of children and adolescents in Rwanda has been studied little in comparison to trafficking and forced labour more broadly, and almost exclusively in relation to refugee camps (Iyakaremye and Mukagatare, 2016; Williams et al, 2012, 2018), thus the available data is still scarce. However, available sources highlight the link between forced migration and sexual abuse. Iyakaremye and Mukagatare (2016) studied the situation of Congolese refugees in the Kigeme refugee camp, demonstrating that women and girls are disproportionately affected. They undergo several forms of violence in and outside of camps, including rape, forced pregnancy, forced abortion, trafficking and sexual slavery. While some adolescent girls may turn to sex work as a means for survival, in exchange for goods and services, or because of constraining circumstances, and as such exercise some degree of agency, others are lured outside the camps with promises of paid work and trafficked into CSE, often returning pregnant or HIV positive (Iyakaremye and Mukagatare, 2016). In addition, Williams et al (2018) argue that camps, which should provide security, actually introduce new forms of vulnerability for the refugee population, concluding that “the convergence of material deprivation, lack of economic opportunity, and vulnerability led to transactional sex and exploitation within and around the camps” (p. 158).

Child soldiers

There are some, although very few, recent reports of forced conscription among Rwandan youth, who are promised jobs in southern African countries and end up being forced to join armed groups upon arrival (Baguma et al., 2019). However, generally speaking, literature on the use of child soldiers in Rwanda is scarce, with most of it being produced in the early 2000s and receiving little attention since (Achvarina & Reich, 2006).

4 Anti-modern slavery-related legal frameworks and programmes

In this section, we first explore the international legal instruments that have been designed to eradicate modern slavery either directly or indirectly. We then zoom in on the legislation in each GAGE country, with extensive details of programmes in Annex 3.

4.1 International legal frameworks

Modern slavery is addressed in international law and policy concerning forced labour, human trafficking, gender-based violence, labour rights, and children's rights. There are several relevant international conventions and protocols establishing regulations on these matters and they are outlined in Annex 2 in chronological order. Table 3 shows which of the countries covered in this report have ratified which international instruments.

Table 3: Ratification of international instruments by GAGE country (Colour codes: green: ratified/ blue: ratified with reservations/ purple: not signed) *Yet to enter into force.
Source: treaties.un.org

	Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Jordan	Lebanon	Nepal	Palestine	Rwanda
ILO Convention 29	1972	2003	1966	1977	2002		2001
UN Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery (1956)	1985	1969	1957		1963	2018	2006
Convention on Consent to Marriage (1962)	1988		1992			2019	2003
CEDAW (1979)	1984	1981	1992	1997	1991	2014	1981
UNCRC (1989)	1990	1991	1991	1991	1990	2014	1991
Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers (1990)					2011		2008
ILO Convention 182 (1999)	2001	2003	2000	2001	2002		2000
TIP (2000)	2019	2012	2009	2005	2020	2017	2003
Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants (2000)		2012	2006	2005			
Optional Protocol on the Sale of Children (2000)	2000	2014	2006	2004	2006	2017	2002
Optional Protocol in the involvement of children in armed conflicts (2000)	2000	2014	2007		2007	2014	2002
ILO Convention 189 (2011)							
Protocol to the Forced Labour Convention (2014)					2023		

4.2 National laws and policies

Modern slavery is addressed in national law and policy through labour legislation, penal codes, personal status or civil law, specialized human trafficking law, children's rights legislation, and to a lesser degree also through gender-based violence provisions. The following subsections provides an overview of the legislation and policies in each GAGE country that offer protection to adolescents against modern slavery.

Bangladesh

Bangladesh has contradictory legislation, defining children as those under 14 years of age or as those under 18 years of age, depending on the legal instrument. As a result, in terms of child labour, Bangladeshi law allows for children between the ages of 14-18 to be employed.

Table 4: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Bangladesh

Legislation	Modern slavery addressed	Relevance	Gaps	Source
Constitution (1971)	Forced labour	Article 14 abolishes all forms of exploitation for workers and peasants and establishes the responsibility of the state to do so. Article 34 prohibits and criminalises forced labour. Article 38 prohibits the recruitment of children by armed forces.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022; USDOL, 2022
Penal Code (1860)	Human trafficking, forced labour	Criminalises forced labour, the sexual exploitation of children, human trafficking, and any other deprivation of a person's liberty.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022; USDOL, 2022
Oppression of Women and Children Act (1995)	Human trafficking, CSE	Criminalises child trafficking and the trafficking of women, as well as sexual exploitation.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022

Women and Children Prevention Act (2000)	Human trafficking, CSE	Criminalises human trafficking for sexual exploitation – which includes the commercial sexual exploitation of children. It establishes the death penalty or imprisonment for up to 20 years.	Prohibits but does not criminalise the use of children in pornographic performances.	Anti-Slavery Law, 2022
Human Trafficking Deterrence and Suppression Act (2012)	Human trafficking, forced labour	Prohibits and criminalises human trafficking for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labour, or any other form of exploitation. Penalties are established between five years and life imprisonment and fines at no less than 50,000 Taka. It also criminalises bonded labour.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022
Children Act (2003)	Child labour, human trafficking	Body of law created to comply with the obligations acquired through the UNCRC. Defines children as those under 18 years of age, sets the working age at 18, and criminalizes any form of exploitation of children.		UNICEF, 2018
Amendment of 2006 Labour Act (2013)	Child labour	Prohibits the employment of children below 14 years old and under 18 years for hazardous works (identified in sections 39-42). However, it allows for children aged 12-13 to perform work under certain conditions.	The minimum age for work is lower than international standards and there is a different threshold for employment prohibitions. The act does not regulate domestic work or agricultural sectors, nor informal economy sectors where an estimated 93% of child labour occurs. Hazardous forms of employment do not	Ali, 2021; Anti-Slavery Law, 2022; USDOL, 2020

			cover the textile or fishing industries.	
National Plan of Action on the Elimination of Child Labour (2012-2025)	Child labour	Set of strategies to develop institutional capacity for raising awareness, prevention and rehabilitation programs, and law enforcement on human trafficking.		USDOL, 2020
National Plan of Action for Prevention and Suppression of Human Trafficking (2018-2022)	Human trafficking	Sets strategies to build institutional capacity to combat human trafficking and offers protection and support to survivors.	Past plans have only been partially implemented. The monitoring organism of this plan was reportedly inactive and without funds. Covid-19 also reportedly impacted the implementation of the plan.	Brand et al., 2016; USDOL 2020
7th Five Year Plan (2016–2020)	Child labour	Aims to address the gaps regarding children in labour legislation. It includes an explicit focus on children in the domestic work sector and vulnerable groups of children.		USDOL, 2020
Domestic Workers Protection and Welfare Policy	Child labour	Sets the minimum age for domestic work at 14. However, all children under 18 require parental permission to work.	Not yet in force	USDOL, 2020
Child Marriage Restraint Act (2017)	Child marriage	Sets the minimum age for marriage at 18 for women and 21 for men.		UNICEF, 2017

Ethiopia

The legislation in Ethiopia currently covers all different manifestations of modern slavery. However, as reported in Section [3.1.2](#), modern slavery still persists in the country.

Table 5: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Ethiopia

Legislation	Modern slavery addressed	Relevance	Gaps	Source
Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Persons Proclamation No. 1178 (2020)	Human trafficking, forced labour, bonded labour, domestic servitude, CSE	Articles 3 and 4 prohibit forced labour, human trafficking, bonded labour, servitude, slavery, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. This instrument establishes penalties for people facilitating any form of human trafficking with fines and up to 25 years of imprisonment.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022; USDOL, 2020
Criminal Code	Human trafficking, forced labour, CSE	Prohibits forced labour, human trafficking, slavery, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022; USDOL, 2020
National Constitution	Human trafficking, forced labour, domestic servitude	It recognizes the right to safety, protection, liberty, and decent work. It also establishes a prohibition of inhumane treatment. More specifically, Article 18 prohibits forced labour, slavery, servitude, and human trafficking.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022; USDOL, 2020
Labor Proclamation 1156 (2019)	Child labour	Establishes 14 as the minimum age to be employed, and 18 in the case of hazardous employment. The proclamation also defines and identifies hazardous forms of labour for minors. It allows for special provisions for workers between 14 and 18 years of age.	The minimum age is still too low for international standards.	OHCHR, 2015; USDOL, 2020

Directive on Prohibited Occupations for Young Workers	Child labour	Defines and identifies hazardous forms of labour for minors.		USDOL, 2020
Proclamation to Provide for the Prevention and Suppression of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants	Child soldiers	Articles 3 and 4 prohibit the recruitment of children into armed groups or forces.	The instrument does not meet international standards.	USDOL, 2020
National Human Rights Action Plan II (2016–2020)	Human trafficking	The plan aims to create guidance for government officials on how to deal with trafficking investigations and prosecutions. It also seeks to improve coordination with civil society, and to engage the private sector.		USDOL, 2020
The United Nations Development Assistance Framework (2016–2020)	Exploitation	Aims to increase the protection of children from exploitation, and to support survivors.	Its implementation has not yet been confirmed.	USDOL, 2020
National Action Plan to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2016–2020)	Child labour	Provides guidelines how to identify, investigate, and tackle cases of child labour. It is overseen by the National Steering Committee on the Worst Forms of Child Labor.		USDOL, 2020
Revised Family Code Proclamation No.123 (2000)	Child marriage	Establishes 18 as the minimum age for marriage.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022
National Roadmap to End Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (2020-2024)	Child marriage	Evidence-based policies comprised of strategies and initiatives aimed at eradicating child marriage and FGM.		UNICEF, 2019

Jordan

Over the last decades, Jordan has developed a legal framework that specifically addresses modern slavery. In addition, the country has extensive legislation regulating child labour, as the table below shows.

Table 6: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Jordan

Legislation	Modern slavery addressed	Relevance	Gaps	Source
Constitution of the Hashemite Kingdom	Forced labour	Guarantees personal freedom and criminalises any violation of it. Prohibits forced labour and recognizes the right to decent working conditions.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022
Abolition of Slavery Act (1929)	Slavery	Abolishes and prohibits the sale of human beings.		
Labour Code (1996)	Child labour	Article 16 establishes 16 as the minimum age for work. Article 74 establishes 18 as the minimum age for hazardous work.	Minimum age low.	USDOL, 2020
Ministerial Order of 2011	Child labour	Article 2 identifies definitions and type of hazardous labour for children.		USDOL, 2020
Law on the Prevention of Human Trafficking (2009)	Child labour	Article 3 prohibits forced labour, child trafficking, and CSEC. It prescribes penalties of up to 10 years' imprisonment and a fine between 5,000-20,000 dinars (\$7,060-\$28,250) in cases involving children.	The article regarding forced labour does not meet international standards.	USDOL, 2020, 2021
Jordan Penal Code	CSE	Prohibits commercial sexual exploitation of children. Criminalises marriage practices in contradiction to the Family Rights Law and establishes a penalty of up to 1 year		USDOL, 2020

		imprisonment for breaking the law. Criminalises any deprivation of liberty.		
National Service Act	Child soldiers	Prohibits the recruitment of children by the national military.	Legislation does not cover armed groups other than the military.	USDOL, 2020
Counter-trafficking unit	Human trafficking	This is a government unit in charge of conducting research, raising awareness, and building capacity to tackle human trafficking. Cases of human trafficking are also referred to the unit.		
Plan of Action to Eliminate Child Labour in Tourism in Petra	Child labour	Seeks to raise awareness about hazardous child labour and to incorporate child labour prevention strategies in government programmes.	Not implemented since it was passed in 2015.	USDOL, 2020
Jordan Response Plan for the Syria Crisis (2018–2022)	Child labour	The plan includes a section on social protection and child labour in relation to Syrian refugees.		USDOL, 2020
National Framework to Combat Child Labor	Child labour	Sets the tasks and responsibilities of key stakeholders (government agencies, civil society, etc.) and sets the procedure for the monitoring and prosecution of child labour cases.		USDOL, 2020
Personal Status Law	Child marriage	Sets the minimum legal age at 18.	Allows for exceptions under Sharia Law. Girls between 15 and 18 can get married under exceptional circumstances.	Reliefweb, 20202

Lebanon

Lebanon does not currently have a robust legal framework for the protection of children from modern slavery. There is also no minimum age for marriage, but since 2015 there have been initiatives to legislate in this area (UNICEF, 2017).

Table 7: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Lebanon

Legislation	Modern slavery addressed	Relevance	Gaps	Source
National Constitution (2004)	General	Recognizes the right to personal freedom and establishes the responsibility of the state to guarantee it.		Anti-Trafficking Law, 2022
Labour Code	Child labour	Article 22 establishes the minimum working age as 14.	The minimum age is lower than international standards.	USDOL, 2020
Decree No. 8987	Child labour	Establishes the minimum age to work in hazardous conditions at 18, as well as defining and identifying hazardous forms of child labour.		USDOL, 2020
Lebanon Trafficking in Persons Law	Human trafficking	Defines and criminalises human trafficking – including for CSE, slavery, and forced labour, among other types. It establishes penalties for up to 15 years and a fine to up to 600 times the minimum wage for breaking the law.		Anti-Trafficking Law, 2022
Penal Code (as amended by Law 164 on the Punishment for the Crime of Trafficking in Persons)	Human trafficking, forced labour	Criminalises human and child trafficking, forced labour, CSE, and CSEC. Article 586 prohibits the recruitment of children by armed groups. Law 422 of the Penal Code also establishes children’s right	Only the prohibition of child trafficking meets international standards. Protections do not extend to more vulnerable children	USDOL, 2020; UNICEF, 2017

		to physical safety and protection. Article 569 prohibits any deprivation of personal freedom.	such as those in contexts of displacement or refugees.	
National Defence Law	Child soldiers	Sets the minimum age for participation in the armed forces at 18.		USDOL, 2020
Work Plan to Prevent and Respond to the Association of Children with Armed Violence in Lebanon	Child soldiers	Framework to prevent the involvement of children in armed groups.	Its implementation remains unconfirmed.	USDOL, 2020

Nepal

Nepal has different laws addressing modern slavery for adolescents. However, legislation against child trafficking is insufficient as it fails to criminalize recruitment, receipt, harbouring, or transportation (if forced), fraud, or coercion (see USDOL, 2020). The country still needs to amend its legislation to fulfil its obligations as a signatory of the TIP. The table below offers an overview of existing legislation and policies addressing modern slavery for adolescents.

Table 8: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Nepal

Legislation	Modern slavery addressed	Relevance	Gaps	Source
Constitution 2015	Human trafficking	Recognizes the right to freedom, the right against exploitation, and the right to decent labour. It also recognizes women's rights against exploitation and violence, as well as prohibiting the recruitment of children by armed groups and/or forces.	Despite the prohibition, there is no specific legislation penalizing the recruitment of children by armed groups.	Kiss et al, 2018, 2019; Anti-Slavery Law, 2022; USDOL, 2020
Nepal General Code	Human trafficking	Prohibits any deprivation of a person's freedom. Chapter 11 criminalises human trafficking and establishes penalties of up to 20 years. It makes an explicit mention of child		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022

		trafficking, criminalising any person who separates a child under 16 years old from their parents or legal guardians.		
Human Trafficking and Transportation (Control) Act (2007)	Human trafficking	Prohibits and criminalises any form of human trafficking. Established up to 20 years of imprisonment as punishment for offenders and it provides that in cases where the offender is the parent or legal guardian of the child, the penalty is increased by 10%. It also prohibits child forced labour and CSEC.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022; USDOL, 2020
Child Labour Act	Child labour	Sets the minimum working age at 14, and at 17 for hazardous work. It defines and identifies types of hazardous labour. It also prohibits the engagement of children in forced labour.	The minimum age is too low for international standards, and types of hazardous work included do not include brickmaking.	USDOL, 2020
Children's Act 2018	Child labour, child soldiers, domestic servitude	Outlines children's right to protection from sexual and economic exploitation, and any activity which may be harmful, obstacles education, or is detrimental to physical, mental, moral health, and social development. Also outlaws the use of children in armed forces and delineates that children below 14 years of age shall not be deployed in any risky work or used as a house-servant or housemaid.	It does not meet the international standard for the minimum age for hazardous work (17).	Anti-Slavery Law, 2022
Labour Act (2017)	Forced labour	Prohibits all forms of forced labour.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022

Bonded Labour Act (2002)	Bonded labour	Prohibits labour or services provided by a person to his creditor without any wages or at low rates of wages to repay loans.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022
National Civil Code Act 2017	Child marriage	Sets the legal age for marriage at 20 for both boys and girls.	There is still a wide gap between purpose of law and practice and social norms, although this is not strictly a flaw of the law.	GoN, 2017
National Master Plan on Child Labour	Child labour	Aims to end hazardous forms of child labour by 2022, and all child labour by 2025. It establishes an annual monitoring mechanism.	Its timeline has been extended to 2028.	USDOL, 2020
National Plan of Action on Combating Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2011–2022)	Human trafficking	Establishes the responsibility of the state to protect human trafficking survivors, and outlines policies for doing so and for the prosecution of perpetrators.	It needs to be updated to reflect governance change to federalism.	USDOL, 2020
15th National Plan of Nepal (2019/20–2023/2024)	Child labour	Incorporates the goal of abolishing child labour through legislative change and increased monitoring/inspections.		USDOL, 2020

Palestine

Palestine does not have specific legislation against human trafficking, nor does it criminally prohibit child trafficking (USDOL, 2020). The National Policy Agenda (2017-2022) does not explicitly include policies on modern slavery (USDOL, 2020). However, the legislation below currently addresses some forms of it. Sharia and customary law are also in force in the country (UNICEF, 2017), which may influence the enforcement of the legislation below (see OHCHR, 2015).

Table 9: Laws and policies addressing modern slavery and adolescence in Palestine

Legislation	Modern slavery addressed	Relevance	Gaps	Source
Palestinian Labour Law	Child labour	Prohibits employment of children under 15 and children between the ages of 15-18 in hazardous work.	The minimum age is low for international standards. Article 99 excludes application of these provisions to children who work for their immediate family.	HRW, 2015
Muslim Personal Status Laws	Child marriage	Sets the minimum legal age of marriage as 15 years for girls and 16 years for boys in the West Bank, and 17 and 18 respectively in the Gaza Strip.	Different personal status laws apply for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip and laws pertaining to child marriage do not apply uniformly to all Palestinians. The minimum age is low for international standards, while exceptions can be made by a judge and with the approval of the girl's guardian.	UNDP, 2018
Child Law (2004)	Child labour and child soldiers	Establishes children's right to safety and protection from violence and exploitation, together with the state's responsibility to guarantee those rights. It also prohibits the employment of	The strength of this law is compromised by missing definitions and by an omission on the forms of violence that children experience.	OHCHR, 2015

		children under 15, and the recruitment of children by armed forces.		
Basic Law (1979)	General	Contains a clause on children's rights in accordance with the Constitution, recognizing their right to protection and to live free of exploitation, hazardous labour, and violence.	Very generic in its formulation.	OHCHR, 2015
Penal Code (Draft)	CSE	Establishes stronger penalties for sexual violence against children under 15 (Article 257, 260, 263), and for children between the ages of 15-18.	Fragmentation of penalties by age groups.	OHCHR, 2015
Minister of Labour's Decree on Hazardous Work for the West Bank and the Gaza Strip	Child labour and child trafficking	Prohibits child labour and child trafficking. It also defines and identifies forms of hazardous labour for children.	Does not meet international standards.	USDOL, 2020
Jordanian Penal Code (art 306 & 310)	Sexual exploitation	Prohibits commercial sexual exploitation of children in the West Bank.	Does not meet international standards.	USDOL, 2020
Penal Code for the Gaza Strip (Article 167 & 172)	Sexual exploitation	Prohibits commercial sexual exploitation of children in the Gaza Strip.	Does not meet international standards.	USDOL, 2020

Rwanda

Rwanda has existing legislation addressing all forms of modern slavery and according to the USDOL (2021) it all meets international standards. There remain, however, issues in implementation and enforcement relating to prosecution and victim support (see USDOL, 2021).

Table 10: Extent of Facilitator Training in Programmes Examined

Legislation	Modern slavery addressed	Relevance	Gaps	Source
Law on Prevention, Suppression, and Punishment of Trafficking in Persons (2018)	Human trafficking, CSEC	Penalizes sex trafficking and labour trafficking. Explicitly criminalises child trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Establishes up to 15 years of imprisonment for offenders.	The law has been poorly implemented regarding internal trafficking. It also fails to promote cooperation between the government and the civil society.	USDOL, 2020, 2021
Law on Prevention and Punishment of Gender-Based Violence	Human trafficking	Criminalises child trafficking.		USDOL, 2020
National Constitution	General, forced labour	Recognizes people's right to physical and mental integrity, liberty, and security. It also establishes the responsibility of the state to guarantee them. Article 25 prohibits all forms of slavery and Article 40 prohibits forced labour.		Anti-Slavery Law, 2022
Labour Law	Child labour	Article 5 establishes 16 as the minimum age for work. Article 3 and 7 criminalise forced labour.		USDOL, 2020; Anti-Trafficking Law, 2022.
Ministerial Instruction Relating to Prevention and Fight Against Child Labor	Human trafficking, child labour	Article 9 establishes 16 as the minimum age for work. It also defines and identifies hazardous forms of labour for children, as		USDOL, 2020

		well as criminalising forced labour, child trafficking and CSEC.		
Ministerial Order Determining the List of Worst Forms of Child Labor	Child labour	It defines and identifies hazardous forms of labour for children.		USDOL, 2020
Law Relating to the Rights and Protection of the Child	Human trafficking, child labour, CSEC	Criminalises forced labour, child trafficking and the commercial sexual exploitation of children.		USDOL, 2020
Penal Code (2012)	Human trafficking, forced labour, child soldiers, CSEC	Criminalises forced labour, human and child trafficking, and the commercial sexual exploitation of children. Article 221 prohibits the recruitment of children into armed forces. Article 120 criminalises enslavement, sexual slavery and forced prostitution as crimes against humanity.		USDOL, 2020; Anti-Trafficking Law, 2022
Presidential Order 72/01 on Army General Statutes	Child soldiers	Establishes the minimum age for recruitment at 18.		USDOL, 2020
Civil Code	Child marriage	Article 171 establishes 21 as the minimum age for women and men to get married.		Girls Not Brides, 2013
Strategic Plan for Integrated Child Rights Policy 2019–2024	Child labour	Seeks to improve the implementation of child protection provisions – specifically through enhanced cooperation between relevant bodies.		USDOL, 2020

4.3 National programmes

Over the last 10-15 years, several initiatives have been tackling one or more types of modern slavery in relation to adolescents. As Table 11 shows, most of these initiatives are concentrated in Nepal, followed by Bangladesh and Ethiopia. It should be noted that while a large proportion of these initiatives are concerned with children, they generally include adolescents aged 10-17 as well.

Table 11: Total initiatives/programmes per GAGE country

Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Jordan	Lebanon	Nepal	Palestine	Rwanda	Total
35	20	10	11	54	12	10	152

Table 12 below disaggregates these initiatives depending on their approach (preventive, rescue, remedial, and legal/policy). In the paragraphs that follow, we provide an overview of each type of initiative and its effectiveness, based on the evidence available so far. In the interest of clarity, we only report on a selected number of interventions per type of modern slavery and country. (For details of further initiatives, see Annex 3).

Preventive initiatives are those that tackle the drivers of modern slavery, addressing its causes in order to lower people's vulnerability and prevent their likelihood of falling into modern slavery. **These programmes typically focus on providing alternative livelihoods through education opportunities and vocational/professional training – aimed at equipping children and adolescents with a set of skills employable in the job market. They also raise public awareness of the human, social, and legal risks of modern slavery, in particular human trafficking.** Preventive programs are by far the majority. For instance, the Central Nepal Hotspot Project, which lasted for a total of 5 years (2015-2020), was established “to bring an end to the issue of internal trafficking and [CSEC] in Kathmandu’s adult entertainment sector” (Freedom Fund, 2020). Freedom Fund reports that, before the launch of the hotspot, Terre des Hommes has estimated that between 11,000 and 13,000 women and girls were working in Nepal’s adult entertainment sector, a third of whom were children. This initiative targeted minors and their communities through the provision of education and professional training, liaised with the Nepali government, and aimed at raising awareness in owners and manager of brothels and clubs where CSE takes place. Concerning this initiative’s impact, Freedom Fund (2020) reports that “[i]n total, our partners provided social and legal services to 24,673 individuals, which directly contributed to 2,258 children and adults leaving situations of exploitation in Kathmandu’s adult entertainment industry. The program also supported 2,347 at risk children to attend school and enabled 760 individuals to find an alternative livelihood by starting a micro-enterprise or job placement.” Similarly, the South-Eastern Nepal Hotspot, established in 2014, focused instead on eradicating the Harawa-Charawa system of bonded labour described in [Section 3.1.4](#) through the creation of community-based freedom groups which provided literacy classes, human rights awareness, and alternative livelihood sessions/support, through the removal of over 5,000 children from hazardous labour. Program officers worked with government officials, law enforcement, and teachers to implement services and laws for addressing bonded labour, and through advocacy support. This was a broad preventive, but also remedial, rescue, and legal/policy initiative. Freedom Fund reports that “[d]uring 2020, 3,516 people have been provided with social or legal services, such as access to registration documents, and 1,926 people received government services and schemes, such as the ‘educate the daughter, save the daughter’ program run in Province 2. In total, the programme has reached 68,833 individuals” (Freedom Fund, 2021).

While there are no details for a few of these preventive initiatives in Nepal, such as for the Women and Children Helpline Service, the Pokhara Emergency Service, or the Protection of children from the risk of commercial sexual exploitation in Kaski District, most preventive initiatives have reportedly reached positive results in terms of number of people involved, either by including them in educational and/or professional development programs or in awareness-raising sessions. However, some concerns about these programs’ efficacy were raised in academic literature. For instance, Zimmerman et al (2021) questioned the results achieved by the ILO and DFID-funded program ‘Work in Freedom’, implemented

in Nepal, Bangladesh, and India between 2013 and 2018. This initiative targeted women and girls suffering discrimination and social exclusion due to their gender, caste, ethnicity, or religion, and thus are particularly at risk of being trafficked internationally. Findings from Zimmerman et al. (2021) indicate that the initiative was not well-targeted, as the trainings were not adequately delivered and did not address the expectations or concerns of women. For example, in Nepal, only 2% of participants considered learning about migrant workers' rights as the most important piece of information they had gained from the programme. In Bangladesh, women's knowledge and beliefs about the risks of migration did not match the advice given by Work in Freedom, and in Nepal women ignored advice given by the project. Moreover, this evaluation finds that the initiative was hindered due to poor integration of context-related factors and power inequalities. For example, the programme disregarded the (in)ability of women to participate in decision-making in their families and communities, as well as created false expectations about services such as a hotline and rescue.

Besides the evaluation of this single initiative, a much broader caveat must to be made regarding the efficacy of employment and education programs conducted in the Global South intended to mitigate inequality through vocational/professional training. Even if mostly intended to decrease the appeal of international migration, research suggests that programs actually increase its likelihood (OECD, 2017; Hagen-Zanker and Hennessey, 2021) for two main reasons. First, in many cases the skills gained do not match the work opportunities available in the local market and, second, individuals who have achieved new skills might feel even more motivated to employ them in a different place, where they have more chances to profit from them.

A Rapid Evidence Assessment (REA) conducted by Marcus et al. (2020) on programs protecting children on the move, reviewed, among others, 22 initiatives aimed at strengthening community child protection systems, 12 of which were conducted in emergency contexts. Most of these initiatives were community-based and consisted in setting up and/or training local child protection committees and focal points to 1) prevent, 2) respond to, and 3) report cases of trafficking and/or unsafe migration. Two initiatives that worked particularly well were the Safe Migration and Reduced Trafficking (SMART) project in Cambodia and the ILO/IPEC-funded child labour programme in Thailand. The former trained individuals in positions of authority such as village leaders, teachers, and health workers on safe and legal migration pathways and trafficking risks, which in turn provided them with the necessary skills to advise others. It also provided information directly to potential migrants at risk of trafficking. The latter similarly focused on training the same categories of individuals in order to enable them to report suspected violations of child labour laws. In terms of efficacy, Marcus et al. (2020) report that evaluations on all the 22 initiatives reported "some degree of positive change in local engagement with and alertness to child protection issues, and in willingness to take action in case of concerns" (p. 57). However, in general good-quality data on the effectiveness of these initiatives (for instance, in terms of people involved and/or identified cases) is still lacking.

Rescue initiatives are those that focus on **identifying cases of modern slavery and extracting victims from these settings**, but comprise only a small proportion of initiatives identified. These initiatives have often been paired with preventive objectives (and to a lesser extent with remedial ones) to maximise their impact. There are no available details concerning the evaluation of rescue programs in Ethiopia, such as the 'New Life for Girls' or the 'Child Protection' initiatives, aimed at rescuing and rehabilitating adolescent victims of trafficking and labour exploitation, and respectively conducted by HOPE Ethiopia and the Mission for Community Development Program. Similarly, there are no available details on the impact of two rescue (while also preventative) initiative in Palestine, but this is likely to be due to their recent inception. The 'Closing the Accountability Gap' Project conducted in Palestine, Ethiopia, and Bangladesh, targets CSE, abuse, and harassment, aiming at identifying accountability gaps through listening to people affected by the aforementioned forms of modern slavery and violence and other national/local actors through Participatory Action Research. It also aims at assessing organisational-level accountability and examining collective accountability at country level. The rescue, preventive, and legal/policy Project 'Naseej: Connecting Voices and Action to End Violence Against Women and Girls in the MENA Region' focuses on CSE and forced marriage, as well as on other forms of violence against women. In Palestine, its keys aims are to strengthen support and referral services and reporting systems for women and girls survivors, to transform social norms that perpetuate gender-based violence with a

special focus on youth engagement, and to strengthen the development and implementation of national legislation against gender-based violence.

Nepal, where the majority of rescue initiatives have taken place, offers more information on the success rate of rescue initiatives, yet details on this are missing for quite a few programs – and it is the same for Bangladesh. One of the well documented rescue initiatives in Nepal is ‘Ending bonded labour’, established in 2017. Its goal is to monitor the implementation of the government’s rehabilitation scheme for Haliya bonded labourers to ensure it is responsive to the needs of the Haliya community, especially women, to support 36,000 women, men, and children to escape bonded labour through education and right awareness, to provide educational support (tuition classes, materials, etc.) for 3,000 children so that they can enter and remain at school, and to provide support to young people through vocational and skills training. Reportedly, by 2021, 498 Haliya children had received support with schooling or tuition, and 495 of these children have stayed in school. 172 young people completed business training and 39 graduated from technical courses, 1,483 families have been registered for state rehabilitation; and 4,345 families received nutritional support (Anti-Slavery International, 2023).

Overall, the scarcity of information on rescue initiatives’ impact is certainly an issue, particularly because it is not the most widespread type of program. Conducting and sharing evaluations on it could in fact enhance understanding on its strength and weaknesses across the NGO and governmental sector.

Remedial initiatives are also well represented amongst all the different types of initiatives against modern slavery. **These aim to provide protection and legal, physical, socio-economic and/or psychological support to survivors of modern slavery to rehabilitate and reintegrate in their communities.** Most remedial initiatives are combined with preventive ones to support to victims of modern slavery and reduce others’ risk of recruitment. Remedial initiatives are also matched with rescue programs to provide both immediate and long-term support and/rehabilitation – although a few such initiatives stand alone. One example of the latter is the ongoing rehabilitation program ‘Free a Girl’, targeting girl victims of sex trafficking, in Nepal and Bangladesh (and also in India and Brazil). The goal of this initiative is to support the eventual return of girls to their families or their transition to live independently. So far, there are only partial results on this: in 2020, the initiative provided acute medical aid, formal and information education, accommodation, food, counselling, empowerment training, sport sessions, and creative therapy to Nepali girls (although there is no information on the number of girls reached), while in Bangladesh the program provided care for 26 girls in the form of informal schooling. In both cases, initiatives were impacted by Covid-19 (Free a Girl, 2020). Another remedial initiative targeting child labour in Bangladesh between 2018 and 2020 is the ‘Elimination of Hazardous Child Labor, Phase IV’. This program’s goal is to remove children from hazardous child labour situations and provide them with skills training and financial support, while raising awareness with parents and employers. The previous phases of the program had removed 90,000 children from hazardous work, and the USDOL (2021) states that Bangladesh has “made moderate advancement in efforts to eliminate the worst forms of child labor.”

Unfortunately, there are no details on the impact or success rate of quite a few remedial initiatives in GAGE countries, especially the less recent ones. However, when they are available, they show positive results. For instance, the Child Hope – Child Waste-pickers Project, conducted in Bangladesh and targeting children, adolescents, and women, aimed at providing primary education to children, vocational training and employment opportunities for adolescents and mothers, but also at improving the health of mothers and their children, and at raising awareness on waste pickers’ working conditions. As of 2019, 231 students returned to primary education, 30 teenagers completed vocational training course, 109 women joined group savings schemes, 328 children and adolescents received lessons on health and hygiene, 43 children and 71 women were vaccinated under government’s immunization programme, and 26 newspaper articles were published, which raised awareness on waste pickers’ situation (Child Hope, 2023). These results are undoubtedly encouraging, yet what is missing in the project’s impact evaluation is an explanation of how the figures above compare to those of children, adolescents, and women in need prior to the initiative in the area of interest.

Lastly, **legal/policy initiatives** are those that **support legal reform, institutional capacity building, and advocacy that will provide a legal framework to eradicate modern slavery.** The overall number of

legal/policy initiatives identified by our search is lower than that of preventive, remedial, and even rescue programs, and it is often combined with one or more other types. As such, there is comparatively less information on the way these initiatives work – and, where it exists, it is not very recent, although available data show an encouraging picture. For instance, the ‘Isange One Stop Centre (IOSC)’ Project, established in 2009 (both remedial and legal/policy in nature), aimed at assisting victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking in Rwanda. It also offered psychosocial, medical, police, and legal services to victims, while aiming at improving communication between Ministries on the issues of gender-based violence and human trafficking. Reportedly, the initiative was successful in many ways, although the need for additional work was emphasised (Bernath and Gahongayire, 2019). For instance, “the IOSC has provided high quality comprehensive services in the form of medical-legal, psychological, and police support to approximately 4845 victims of gender-based violence and child abuse in the three-and-half-year period under evaluation” and its excellence has been acknowledged by other national institutions (Bernath and Gahongayire, 2019, 45). However, there were still some progresses to be made on the coordination side. Specifically, Bernath and Gahongayire (2019, 45) advised that “it [would] be important for information on prosecution of cases to be gathered by the IOSC from the Police Gender Desk and the National Public Prosecution Authority (NPPA). Such information will give the IOSC coordination greater sense of the links between the quality of the medical reports that are being provided to the NPPA and the rate of successful prosecutions. Ideally gathering this information will help show where additional training of IOSC medical doctors is needed.”

As before, wider application and more thorough evaluations of this type of initiatives would increase understanding of its potential and suitable use.

Table 12: Number of initiatives/programmes per GAGE country per type of approach

Type of initiative	Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Jordan	Lebanon	Nepal	Palestine	Rwanda	Total
Preventive	25	10	8	10	31	5	2	91
Remedial	20	5	2	2	34	3	7	73
Rescue	6	3			9	2		19
Legal/policy	3		3	1	7	2	2	16
Unclassified	N/A	1	N/A	N/A	NA	N/A	1	2

Regarding the types of modern slavery these initiatives aim to tackle, Table 13 shows that almost half of them focus on human trafficking more broadly while a quarter focus on respectively sex trafficking/CSEC and child labour. However, the proportion of initiatives that tackle different types of modern slavery varies by country.

Table 13: Number of initiatives/programmes per GAGE country per type of modern-slavery.

N.B. some initiatives tackle more than one type of modern slavery, therefore numbers are different from Table 11

Type of modern slavery	Bangladesh	Ethiopia	Jordan	Lebanon	Nepal	Palestine	Rwanda	Total
Trafficking	19	9	NA	3	26	3	3	63
Commercial sexual exploitation/sex trafficking	5	4	NA	2	19	5	1	36
Forced labour / bonded labour	N/A	1	NA	NA	7	2	NA	10
Child labour	11	2	6	4	11	1	4	35
Child soldiers	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	4	4
Child marriage	5	2	4	4	7	1	1	24
Unclassified	1	NA	NA	NA	NA	NA	N/A	1

5 Recommendations and conclusions

5.1 Conclusions

This literature review started by defining the different forms of modern slavery currently existing in the world – human trafficking, forced labour, child labour, bonded labour, domestic servitude, and child slavery, including CSEC. The latter has not been officially recognised by the ILO as a self-standing form of slavery, although some organisations such as Anti-Slavery International treat it as such ([Section 2](#)). Although acknowledging its persistence, we have not addressed child marriage due to the vast literature on the topic. Just to mention a few recent studies, Baird et al. (2022) explore the “intersecting disadvantages of married adolescents” (p. S86) in refugee settings in Bangladesh and Jordan before and after the Covid-19 pandemic. Emirie et al. (2021) focus instead on “the gendered experiences of child marriage amongst girls and boys in Amhara and Oromia regions” (p. 1252), highlighting how local economic and gender norms drive early marriage and their experiences for both boys and girls.

We also defined adolescence as a phase of life that is particularly prone to risky behaviour, as adolescents are more sensitive than other age groups to reward mechanisms and group belonging, while being unaware of their own rights and/or simply inexperienced. We then discussed the different applications of the definition of ‘adolescents’ in the literature, highlighting that this category is often merged with that of children and/or minors below 18 years old. Our definition of adolescence spans from 10 to 17 years. The core aim of this literature review has been to signal the comparative lack of research on modern slavery amongst adolescents, in contrast with studies targeting children and/or adults. This does not mean that research excludes them, but rather that often there is no specific focus on the 10-17 age bracket and its vulnerabilities. Most studies on the topic focus on childhood and few disaggregate further within the below-18 age group, and those analyses that consider age ranges often do so in overlapping age categories (examples featured in the report include 5-17 years, 7-14 years, 14-18 years, and under 15 years). Different definitions of adolescence in the legal instruments of the GAGE countries – and of countries mode in general compound the lack of one harmonised definition in the literature. For instance, Bangladesh defines the period of adolescence as between 14 and 18 years old, at odds with the international 10-19 years age range. Moreover, some studies group adolescents with ‘youth’ or ‘young people’, defined as those aged 18-24 years. This presents the same problem, in which the nuanced experiences that occur during adolescence are not visible, which translates into the endurance of data gap.

In [Section 2.3](#), we analysed the structural dynamics and drivers of modern slavery. Grounding on available literature, we identified migration and displacement, conflict, the climate crisis, and poverty as contexts where people’s vulnerability is exceptionally high, In many of these the state and other monitoring bodies have little access and low capability to enforce the law to protect them. The vulnerability people experience in this instances paves the way for higher likelihood of exploitation and modern slavery – in particular for adolescents, but for others too. Following, we identified family dynamics and social networks as factors impacting on adolescents’ vulnerability to modern slavery, for instance through the imposition of certain tasks or roles to adolescents, or the high number of cases in which family members are involved in the trafficking of adolescents, and those where parents knowingly sell their children into bonded labour to pay off debts. It is important to remember that we are discussing “very constraining circumstances” (de Regt, 2020) where individuals do not always have freedom of choice. For the same reason, it is worth reiterating that adolescents are not just victims of modern slavery, but also agents of their own choices, for instance when taking up work that then results in exploitative situations. We have pointed this out throughout the report, citing studies that highlight adolescents’ own agency and the reasons behind it.

Adolescents’ experiences of modern slavery are shaped by several intersecting dimensions, such as gender, sexuality, race, ethnicity, age, caste, religion, political beliefs, or disability. Due to GAGE’s focus and to its relevance in the literature, our review has paid particular attention to the gender dimension, discussing how gender influences the likelihood of falling victim of one type of modern slavery rather than another. For instance, the literature reviewed suggests that while forced labour affects both boys and

girls, in GAGE focal countries boys affected by modern slavery are more represented in industries such as construction, mining, or the dry fish industry, while girls overwhelmingly work as domestic servants and are commercially exploited for sex, as well working in smaller numbers in other sectors in different countries.

In [Section 3](#), our review has then focused on the prevalence of each form of modern slavery across the 7 GAGE countries: Bangladesh, Ethiopia, Jordan, Lebanon, Nepal, Palestine, and Rwanda. Despite the disparity of data available across countries, peaking for Bangladesh and Nepal and troughing for Palestine, the review revealed the presence of all forms of modern slavery in all GAGE countries, although with different incidence. Human trafficking, including for sexual exploitation, forced labour, and to a lesser extend domestic servitude are by far the most widespread, while bonded labour and CSE are more prevalent in certain countries than others. For instance, bonded labour is particularly rife in [Bangladesh](#), while CSE is so in [Nepal](#) and [Ethiopia](#). A connected theme that emerges from the literature is adolescents' agency, with many choosing to migrate in search of improved livelihood prospects, be that internally in rural-to-urban migration, or external migration abroad. While agency should not be overestimated (de Regt, 2016) this review has identified ways in which adolescents employ agency at different stages of their modern slavery experiences: for instance, in choosing to migrate, fleeing abusive situations such as forced marriage, and in engaging in paid labour, even if it results in exploitation. However, this report has also highlighted the limitations to this agency in the lack of access to and exclusion from legal protection and social services.

Finally, in [Section 4](#), we provided an overview of international and national legal instruments to tackle modern slavery across the GAGE countries, and of the different types of initiatives that tackle modern slavery in the GAGE focal countries. They are of 4 possible types, and often one program includes more than one. They can be preventive, rescue, remedial, or legal/policy initiatives, according to whether their goal is to prevent to emergence of modern slavery drivers, rescue people from a condition of modern slavery, provide protection and legal, physical, socio-economic and/or psychological support to survivors of modern slavery in order to reintegrate them, or improve the legal framework of a country in relation to the outlawing and tackling of modern slavery. Preventive initiatives are by far the most common and better documented, while there is comparative use and scarcity of data on rescue and legal/policy ones. A detailed breakdown of initiatives that tackle modern slavery in GAGE focal countries can be found in Annex 3.

Overall, this report has demonstrated that there is still much to be done in researching adolescents' specific experiences of forms of modern slavery. This review has drawn largely studies on children that include adolescents of relevant age ranges. More in-depth research on the differences between childhood and adolescence in the context of modern slavery is needed to fully understand the risks, needs and policy and programming implications for an adolescent-focused anti-slavery strategy.

5.2 Recommendations

In this section, we provide some brief recommendations for programs, policy, and research that would contribute to an increased understanding of adolescents' experiences of modern slavery and help address the problem in GAGE focal countries and around the world.

Program design and delivery:

- **Develop programs specifically targeted at adolescents, their needs, and stage of life, instead of grouping them together with children or young people.** Possible way to improve the targeting and functioning of these programs could be i) to actively take adolescents' priorities and views into account when designing and/or evaluating an initiative; ii) facilitate pathways for older adolescents to continue working in a safe environment; iii) to facilitate pathways for children and younger adolescents to continue education and/or obtain professional training; iv) include psycho/social support for formerly trafficked/exploited adolescents.
- **Ensure programming and service provision initiatives take into account the gender norms** specific to the place where the initiative is carried out, in order to tackle prejudices and constricting

roles that adolescents are expected to take on. Develop programmes to combat social norms that underpin gender-based violence and the stigmatisation of women and girls.

- **Ensure other dimensions intersecting with gender are taken into account when designing and delivering an initiative**, namely age, ethnicity, race, disability, class, religion, migration status and caste.
- **Maintain the focus on preventive initiatives** - programmes and approaches with longer-time horizons that tackle the systemic or underlying drivers of modern slavery, including poverty and gender inequality. This could be achieved both through designing new programs and connecting them to existing ones.
- **Develop other types of initiative as well (remedial, rescue, and legal/policy)** and evaluate them periodically, in order to better understand their strengths and weaknesses but also to cover the entire range of needs connected to modern slavery.
- **Integrate anti-slavery programming and/or monitoring into humanitarian assistance/crisis work.**
- **Engage survivors of modern slavery, including adolescents, in programme/initiative design** (using co-design/human-centred design approaches), development and implementation/service provision, while recognising their agency in decision-making.
- **Develop initiatives at the community level to raise awareness of situations potentially leading to modern slavery** among adolescents and inform adolescents and their parents about their labour and human rights.
- **Coordinate the development of these programs with wider efforts at political and policy level on improving the local economic situation** and attracting economic investments, which will lower the risk of outmigration and exposition to situations of vulnerability.
- **Include information on modern slavery and support services in pre-departure training** for labour migrants.
- **Improve service provision for survivors of modern slavery**, human trafficking, and exploitation more broadly.

Policy

- **Revise national personal (including marriage), labour, and criminal legal frameworks** to comply to international standards and ensure that all forms of modern slavery are criminalised in national law.
- **Promote the harmonisation of laws and policies** to prevent dilution of responsibility within government agencies.
- **Ensure labour protection extends to all groups and sectors**, including migrant workers and children in formal and informal economies and high-risk sectors, by strengthening and enforcing national laws and policies and regulating recruitment processes. This will require awareness of the political and commercial interests that underpin modern slavery practices, and which may represent obstacles to the enforcement of laws and policies.
- **Promote realistic and attractive local livelihoods** for adolescent girls and boys to mitigate the risks associated with low wage economic migration.
- **Improve social protection measures to enable people**, especially poor and vulnerable people, to cope with crises and shocks, find employment, and invest in health and education.
- **Establish strong multi-agency governance** that takes a holistic approach to the support and protection of adolescents and young people at risk of exploitation. Ensure clear pathways and referral mechanisms to access this support.

- **Develop cross-sector, cross-regional and international partnerships** for policymaking to combat human trafficking of adolescents and integrate anti-trafficking policy within policies on socio-economic, labour, gender, health, and disability issues.

Research

- **Design research that addresses current gaps in GAGE focal countries and other countries where modern slavery is present.** Themes on which more focus is needed include:
 - the dynamics at play among adolescents, between them and their families, and between them and brokers or traffickers within the context of modern slavery;
 - adolescents' perceptions and experiences of anti-slavery support mechanisms and of their reintegration process;
 - a nuanced approach to age, ethnicity, race, disability, class, religion, and/or caste and,
 - a deeper focus on the drivers of modern slavery for adolescents, especially trafficking, forced labour, and CSE to better understand how it can be eradicated.
- **Expand research on stigmatisation and de-stigmatisation of adolescents** (especially girls) who have been trafficked and/or victims of CSE.
- **Improve collaboration and data sharing between academic and policy institutions** to tackle adolescent modern slavery.
- **Include survivors of modern slavery at all stages of research design, development and implementation.**
- **Conduct more programme evaluations** to understand effectiveness and improve outcomes.

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Annexes

Annex 1: Methodology

Websites and online libraries of INGOS, IOs, and think-tanks searched:

- Freedom Fund;
- Anti-Slavery International;
- Program to end Modern Slavery;
- Global Fund to End Modern Slavery;
- Stop Modern Slavery;
- Global Slavery Index;
- ECPAT;
- Save the Children;
- Walk Free Foundation
- Shakti Samuha
- UN Women
- UNICEF
- UNICEF Office of Research - Innocenti
- Institute of Development Studies
- Overseas Development Studies, including GAGE ALIGN

List of academic databases searched:

- Google Scholar
- Taylor and Francis Online
- EBSCO Discovery Service

List of research/data repositories:

- Initiatives for reducing violence against children: An evidence and gap map in low- and middle-income countries by UNICEF

Research criteria and limitations:

- Date: 2011 onwards — if the publication is published annually or regularly, the most recent one will be used
- Language: English, French
- Geographic focus: GAGE countries (Ethiopia, Rwanda, Bangladesh, Nepal, Jordan, Lebanon, Palestine), relevant global literature
- Type of literatures: Empirical studies (e.g. based on data and or fieldwork), qualitative or quantitative literature, programme/project evaluations, policy reports, laws, regulations, government documents, grey literature, approaches, websites, newspaper articles, blogs, studies/ documents probing issues, identifying good practice, systematic/ rigorous reviews, secondary literature-based overviews case studies, theses/ dissertations
- Exclusion criteria: literature about modern slavery issues in general but not about adolescent's specific experience, literatures about children experience of modern slavery, but not about adolescents'

Search terms and strings:

- modern slavery
- forced and early marriage
- early marriage
- child marriage
- adolescent modern slavery
- adolescence modern slavery
- adolescent soldier

- adolescence soldier
- adolescent domestic servitude
- adolescence domestic servitude
- adolescent debt bondage
- adolescence debt bondage
- adolescent bonded labour
- adolescence bonded labour
- adolescent descent-based slavery
- adolescence descent-based slavery
- adolescence (used when searching at a theme-specific library - on the slavery issue and child exploitation issue)
- adolescent (used when searching at a specific library - on the slavery issue and child exploitation issue)
- slavery (used when searching at library specifically on child exploitation issue)
- bondage (used when searching at library specifically on child rights issues)
- bonded (used when searching at library specifically on child rights issues)
- adolescent human trafficking
- adolescence human trafficking
- adolescent forced labour
- adolescence forced labour
- adolescent forced labor
- adolescence forced labour
- adolescent trafficking
- adolescence trafficking.

Annex 2: Relevant International Conventions

ILO Convention 29 on Forced Labour (1930): This Convention establishes the responsibility of states to abolish all forms of forced labour (with some exceptions for able-bodied men between 18 and 45 years in military service, as part of civic obligations, as a consequence of conviction or in case of emergencies such as wars or natural calamity). It defined forced labour as “all work or service which is exacted from any person under the menace of any penalty and for which the said person has not offered himself voluntarily”. It does mention children or adolescents explicitly; however, they do not form part of the group for which the Convention allows exceptions.

United Nations Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956): this convention follows the Slavery Convention of 1926. It prohibits slave trade in any form and establishes the obligation of states to abolish any related institution or practice, including debt bondage, child labour, and serfdom. Regarding children, the Convention includes in its definition of slavery “any institution or practice whereby a child or young person under the age of 18 years, is delivered by either or both of his natural parents or by his guardian to another person, whether for reward or not, with a view to the exploitation of the child or young person or of his labour”.

Convention on Consent to Marriage, Minimum Age for Marriage, and Registration of Marriages (1962): based on Article 16 of the Human Rights Declaration, which establishes the right of people of full age to marry free from constraints, the convention requires states to legislate a minimum age for marriage and to enforce its implementation. It also establishes the full consent of both parties is strictly necessary for the couple to undertake marriage. However, the Convention does allow for exceptions to be granted regarding the minimum age of spouses, if this is deemed to be in the interest of the couple (see UN, 1962).

Convention of the Elimination of All Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) (1979): also known as the International Bill of Rights for Women, the CEDAW establishes the obligation for states to end all forms of gender-based discrimination, and to uphold the rights of women and girls. Article 6 establishes obligation to take appropriate measures to address all forms of human trafficking and exploitation that concern women, while Article 16 establishes the obligations for governments to eliminate all forms of violence against women. The latter includes setting a minimum age for marriage and making consent of both parties compulsory, as well as registering all unions. Its Palestinian Protocol (1999) set up the Committee on the Elimination of Discrimination against Women, aimed at monitoring state compliance and to allow individuals or groups to submit cases to the Committee.

Convention on the Rights of the Child (CRC) (1989): the UNCRC recognizes the civil, political, economic, social, and cultural rights of children, as well as establishes the responsibilities for governments to take the appropriate legislative, socioeconomic and educational measures to protect children from all forms of violence. More specifically, Article 34 protects children from all forms of sexual exploitation, and Article 32 protects them from economic exploitation and from performing any forms of hazardous labour that may be in any way harmful. While the UNCRC outlaws the recruitment of children in armed conflicts, it sets the threshold at 15 years of age for professional recruitment in general terms.

International Convention on the Protection of the Rights of All Migrant Workers and Members of their Families (1990): the convention outlines governments’ responsibility to set sanctions for human trafficking and labour exploitation of migrants.

ILO Convention 182 on Worst Forms of Child Labour (1999): this Convention draws from ILO Forced Labour Convention (1930) and the United Nations Supplementary Convention on the Abolition of Slavery, the Slave Trade, and Institutions and Practices Similar to Slavery (1956). The Convention understands children as all those under 18 years of age. It seeks to eradicate the most detrimental forms of child labour, which it understands as encompassing child slavery, forced labour, sexual exploitation, participation in illicit activities (such as drug fabrication or dealing) or work in hazardous conditions (physical and/or psychological). It establishes the obligation for governments to take the appropriate measures to eradicate all these forms of child labour, as well as to prevent the trafficking of children (Article 35). Created in 1992, its monitoring mechanism – the International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) – supports states in the implementation of the necessary policies to address this issue. It also receives child labour violation reports.

United Nations Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children (2000): also known as the TIP (Trafficking in Persons) Protocol, it sets the current international definition of human trafficking. It supplements the UN Convention against Transnational Organized Crime, establishing the rights of victims and survivors to state support and therefore to not be criminalised, deported or re-victimised. It also establishes states' responsibility to criminalise human trafficking, to take action to provide physical, psychological, and social support to victims and survivors, and to take action to alleviate people's vulnerability to trafficking. Regarding children (defined as under 18), the protocol explicitly prohibits their trafficking, as well as seeks to facilitate the return of those who have been trafficked across national borders and to ensure mechanisms addressing trafficking respond to the needs of children. The convention has an independent monitoring mechanism and an experts' group called GRETA (Group of Experts on Action against Trafficking in Human Beings) to oversee the implementation and compliance of parties.

Optional Protocol to the CRC on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution, and Child Pornography (2000): this protocol establishes the states' responsibilities to criminalise the offering, delivery, or acceptance of a child for the purpose of sexual exploitation, forced labour, and/or organ removal, as well as of pursuing the perpetrators of these crimes. It also establishes the responsibility to engage in international cooperation in order to facilitate investigations and prosecutions of perpetrators, and that to protect and implement the rights of child victims and survivors according to the TIP lines.

Optional Protocol to the Convention relating to the Rights of the Child, on the involvement of children in armed conflicts (2000): this instrument prohibits the recruitment of children in any form into an armed force or group, understanding children as individuals under 18 years of age. It sought to address the gap in the UNCRC regarding a child's right to be free from violence and establishes the responsibility of states to ensure children are not involved in, or recruited into, armed conflicts.

Protocol against the Smuggling of Migrants by Land, Sea, and Air (2000): also referred as the Smuggling Protocol, the instrument supplements the Convention against Transnational Organised Crime. It recognizes and enshrines the rights of migrants to integrity and freedom. It also establishes the responsibility of states to criminalise smugglers in order to reduce the power of organized crime groups over migrants.

The Principles and Guidelines on Children Associated with Armed Forces or Armed Groups (2007): also known as the Paris Principles, this instrument seeks to use existing knowledge on child soldiers to promote greater legal, policy, and administrative coherence in internal and international frameworks on the topic and to inform initiatives. It emphasizes the need to prevent the recruitment of children in armed forces or armed groups and to support their unconditional release.

ILO Convention 189 on Domestic Workers (2011): this Convention recognises domestic workers' labour rights and establishes the responsibility of states to guarantee them by issuing the necessary laws. The Convention includes children indirectly by explicitly mentioning the elimination of all forms of forced labour and of child labour in the domestic sector.

Protocol to the ILO Forced Labour Convention (2014): this protocol provides specific guidelines and recommendations in order to complement existing international instruments that address forced labour. It mandates states to take the appropriate measures for the prevention, protection, and remedy of forced labour, and to eradicate all forms of forced labour.

UN Sustainable Development Goals (2015): Target 8.7 calls to end child labour in all its forms by 2025 and to eradicate forced labour, modern slavery, and human trafficking by 2030. In 2017, various countries signed a Call to Action to End Forced Labour, Modern Slavery, and Human Trafficking, which seeks to outline key actions that states can take to achieve Target 8.7 (See Alliance 8.7, 2017). The end to modern slavery had not been included amongst the Millennium Development Goals.

UN Security Council Resolution 2388 (2017): in light of the trafficking of people undertaken by the Islamic State of Iraq and the Levant (ISIL), this resolution reiterates a condemnation of human trafficking and stresses the importance of gathering data on this issue in the context of conflict for the sake of holding those responsible to a

Annex 3: Mapping of initiatives related to modern slavery and adolescents in GAGE focal countries

Location	Name	Date	Funder/ Implementer	Target population	Focus	Type of slavery targeted	Aims and activities	Impact	Source
Nepal, Kathmandu	Central Nepal Hotspot Project	2015 - 2020	Freedom Fund	Children	Preventive & remedial	CSE	To bring an end to the issue of internal trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC) in Kathmandu's adult entertainment sector (AES).	The programme provided social and legal services to 24,673 individuals, contributing to 12,258 children and adults leaving situations of exploitation in Kathmandu's adult entertainment industry. The program also supported 2,347 at risk children to attend school.	https://freedomfund.org/programs/hotspot-projects/central-nepal-hotspot/
Nepal, Province 2	South- Eastern Nepal	Since Nov 2014	Freedom Fund	Individuals and families in situations of agricultural bonded labour (includes children)	Preventive, remedial/ rescue, legal	Bonded labour	To contribute to the eradication of bonded labour by: creating community-based freedom groups (with literacy, human rights awareness, savings and alternative livelihood sessions/support); removing over 5,000 children from hazardous labour and helping them attend non-formal education; working with government officials, law enforcement and teachers to implement services and laws for addressing bonded labour; and supporting advocacy.	During 2020, 3,516 people have been provided with social or legal services, such as access to registration documents, and 1,926 people received government services and schemes, such as the 'educate the daughter, save the daughter' program run in Province 2. In total, the programme has reached 68,833 individuals.	https://freedomfund.org/programs/hotspot-projects/south-eastern-nepal-hotspot/ https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/SENepal_Annual_Report_2020.pdf
Nepal (not furthered specified)	Ending bonded labour	Since 2017	Anti-Slavery International in partnership with Nepal National Dalit	Haliya communities (emphasis on	Remedial/rescue	Bonded labour	To monitor the implementation of the government's rehabilitation scheme to ensure it is responsive to the needs of the Haliya community, especially women; to support	By 2021, 498 Haliya children had received support with schooling or tuition. 495 of these children have stayed in school; 172 young people completed	https://www.antislavery.org/what-we-do/nepal-bonded-labour/

			Social Welfare Organisation (NNDSWO) (some funding provided by UK Aid)	children and women)			36,000 women, men & children to escape bonded labour (access education, become aware of their rights and have economic stability); to provide educational support (tuition classes, materials, etc.) for 3,000 children so that they can enter and remain at school learn; and to support provide young people through vocational and skills training.	business training and 39 graduated from technical courses; 1,483 families have been registered for state rehabilitation; and 4,345 families received nutritional support.	https://www.antislavery.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/ASI_IR20_web.pdf
Nepal (not further specified)	Nepal: Preventing trafficking	Concluded (date not available)	Anti-Slavery International in partnership with Children and Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH) and Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE)	Children – specifically girls affected and/or vulnerable to trafficking	Preventive	Trafficking	Aims to increase girls' knowledge in order to "give them the tools to escape or avoid exploitation". The programme also aims to "change attitudes of the society in relation to child protection, child rights and gender equality" and does so through broadcasting information and organizing campaigns.	The project developed a school awareness programme targeting individual communities "to highlight the risks of trafficking, how to recognise it and how to help survivors recover from their trauma". It also ran a training for survivors to become paralegals and helped their placement in police stations where they could "build up their skills and confidence, [and]... help improve the police's response to other trafficking cases". Police were also trained in child trafficking protection.	https://www.antislavery.org/what-we-do/past-projects/nepal-preventing-child-trafficking/
Nepal	Women and Children	Since 2020	Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE)	Children and women affected by	Preventive & remedial	Trafficking, sexual	To tackle the social norms and practices that hinder women's rights; to provide instant support to	No details	https://sasane.org.np/programs/helpline-service/

	Helpline Service			“human trafficking, sexual abuse, sexual exploitation, domestic violence and child marriage”.		exploitation, child marriage	survivors so that they can achieve justice against perpetrators; and to support the reintegration of survivors.		
Nepal, Kathmandu & Pokhara	Paralegal Service Program	2021	Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE)	Female trafficking survivors (women and girls)	Remedial	Trafficking	Delivers paralegal training to 45 survivors each year, The program provides in-depth paralegal skills training with a goal of paralegal certification. It is aimed that through this, women are empowered to attain financial independence, leadership skills, and legal resources for their communities.	Provided paralegal training to 328 women, with over 270 becoming certified, and 415 women and girls received legal help.	https://sasane.org.np/programs/paralegal-service/ https://sasane.org.np/impact/
Nepal	Community Interaction Program	No date	Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE)	Children and young people	Preventive	Commercial sexual exploitation	Increase community level actions on violence against children and strengthen the Village Committees to Combat Human Trafficking and Child Protection Committees.	Children’s vulnerability to trafficking and discriminatory attitudes towards survivors has reduced in the communities participating in the project.	https://sasane.org.np/programs/community-interaction-program/
Nepal	School Awareness Program	No date	Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE)	Students (does not specify age)	Preventive	Trafficking	To identify and mitigate the gaps in the educational setting regarding awareness of human trafficking.	Reached over 3,000 children in 60 schools.	https://sasane.org.np/programs/school-awareness-program/ https://sasane.org.np/impact/

Nepal, Sindhupalchok & Nuwakot	ChildHope Community Led Action against Modern slavery and poverty Project (CLAMP)	2018-2021	ChildHope, VOC Nepal & Shakti Samuha (funded by DFID)	Communities (focus on children and adolescents)	Preventive, remedial, legal	Human trafficking, forced labour, bonded labour, sexual exploitation, forced marriage	To strengthen, in districts affected by 2015 earthquake, community and government mechanisms to reduce modern slavery and support survivors. The programme aims to ensure children complete their education, support young people and families to increase their income; and to provide survivors with reintegration support. The project has also included working with different stakeholders to improve policies, where Youth Change Agents have been important actors.	113 children and young women have been repatriated from human trafficking; 596 children have re-enrolled in schooling; and 188 volunteer youth change agents lead community-based advocacy activities.	https://www.childhope.org.uk/our-work/projects/clamp/ http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/community-led-action-against-modern-slavery-and-poverty-clamp/
Nepal, Provinces 4 and 3	Prevention and empowerment of children at high risk and women/survivors of human trafficking	2018 (9 months)	Shakti Samuha (funded by UNICEF)	Women, adolescents and children	Preventive, remedial, legal	Human trafficking	To foster “community mobilization to prevent children and women from human trafficking along with developing effective coordination with local stakeholders on strengthening child protection system and anti-human trafficking issues”. Also aimed to provide services to children and women at risk/survivors of trafficking.		http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/prevention-and-empowerment-of-children-at-high-risk-and-womensurvivors-of-human-trafficking-on-anti-human-trafficking-and-child-protection-issues/
Nepal, Pokhara,	Pokhara Emergency Shelter	2018	Shakti Samuha & Child Welfare	Children survivors of commercial	Remedial	Commercial sexual	To support the rehabilitation of survivors of CSEC.	No details	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/pokhara

Kaski District			Scheme Hong Kong	sexual exploitation		exploitation of children			ara-emergency-shelter/
Nepal, Kathmandu	Transit Home for girls rescued from slavery	2018-2019	Shakti Samuha	Girls survivors of slavery (under 14 years old)	Remedial/rescue	Human trafficking	"To rescue girls from a situation of slavery, address their immediate needs and enhance their capacities through vocational training in order to prepare them for social reintegration".	The project aimed to rescue 10 girls.	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/transit-home-for-the-girls-child-rescued-from-slavery/
Nepal, Pokhara, Kaski District	Protection of children from the risk of commercial sexual exploitation in Kaski District	2017-2019	Shakti Samuha & Ecpat Luxembourg	Children at risk of human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation	Preventive & remedial	Human trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation	To reduce the risk of vulnerable children to CSEC and human trafficking; to enhance the capacity of district level actors working against human trafficking; and to support survivors (though orientation, income generation, legal and educational support, and counselling).	No details	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/protection-of-children-from-the-risk-of-commercial-sexual-exploitation-in-kaski-district/
Nepal	LUNGTA Project	2017-2018	Shakti Samuha	Girls in situations of human trafficking	Remedial/rescue	Trafficking	To rescue and repatriate Nepalese survivors of human trafficking in India and enable their self-reliance by providing them with skills training.	No details	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/lungta-project/
Nepal, Kathmandu	Prevention and support to the trafficking	2016-2017	Shakti Samuha	Children	Preventive	Commercial sexual exploitation	"To increase access to rights of CSEC survivors and raise awareness on the high-risk of human trafficking to community members in order to reduce entry of minors into CSEC	No details	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/prevention-and-support-to-the-

	and CSEC survivors						and sensitize stakeholders to help in the effective withdrawal of minors from CSEC”		trafficking-and-csec-survivors/
Nepal, Pokhara, Kaski	Program for prevention, protection, rehabilitation and reintegration of girls and young women at risk	2012-2018	Shakti Samuha (funded by KIDASHA)	Girls and young women under 18 years old at risk	Preventive & remedial	Commercial sexual exploitation	To increase awareness about CSEC; to protect girls and young women who are survivors or at risk of abuse and exploitation; and to rehabilitate and reintegrate survivors of CSEC. The shelter provided emergency accommodation, counselling and medical services, education, vocational training, and legal support.	Follow up stage of a project that resulted in the opening of an emergency shelter and rehabilitation center (2007).	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/program-for-prevention-protection-rehabilitation-and-reintegration-of-girls-and-young-women-who-at-risk/
Nepal, Kathmandu	Repatriation, Rehabilitation and Reintegration of Trafficking survivors, Girls/women at the risk of trafficking and subjected to sexual abuse	Since 2013	Shakti Samuha (funded by Free a Girl)	Girls and women	Remedial	Trafficking	To support the physical, social and mental wellbeing of trafficking survivors and empower them to be independent and self-sufficient.	No details	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/repatriation-rehabilitation-and-reintegration-of-trafficking-survivorsgirlswo men-at-the-risk-of-trafficking-and-subjected-to-sexual-abuse-shakti-kendra-and-

									sangharshasil-mahila-aawas/
Nepal, In Makawanpur, Sidhuli, Rasuwa, Nuwakot, Gorkha, Dadhing, Kathmandu & Bhaktapur	Prevention and support to children and women survivors of trafficking in 8 EQ districts	2016-2017	Shakti Samuha	Children and women survivors	Preventive	Trafficking	To “protect women, children, and adolescents at risk or survivors of victims of trafficking”.	No details	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/prevention-and-support-to-children-and-women-survivors-of-trafficking-in-7-eq-districts/
Nepal, Bardiya and Jhapa Districts	Reintegration and Empowerment of Trafficking Survivor Women and Girls	Since 2013	Shakti Samuha	Women and girls survivors of trafficking	Preventive and remedial	Trafficking	To support survivors in their reintegration. This includes economic support, education and training, and legal support. It also aimed to create various networks of survivors, as well as to increase awareness about human trafficking.	The group achieved 5 groups in Bardiya and 4 in Jhapa, with a total membership of 158 members. The members engaged in saving and credit groups, network meetings, awareness programs, artistic initiatives, as well as received income generating support and legal & psychological counselling.	http://shaktisamuha.org.np/shakti_programs/anti-slavery-program-for-the-women-working-in-the-entertainment-sectoranti-slavery-program-for-trafficking-survivorscapacity-building-project-for-trafficking-survivors/
Nepal (also in India)	School for Justice	Since 2019	Free a Girl with Samrakshak Samuha Nepal (SASANE)	Women and girls	Preventive & remedial	Sex trafficking	Aims “to educate the survivors so they can bring those responsible for this crime to justice, spark the conversation as a change agent, grow support from the community,	The programme won the Mother Teresa Memorial award for Social Justice in 2019 for their program School for Justice. It has 23 students.	https://www.freeagirl.com/how-we-work/special-programmes/school-for-justice/

							... and raise awareness about sexual exploitation of children on a national- and an international platform".	<p>According to their 2020 Annual Report, "In Nepal... our 23 students mainly received online tuition and supervision... The students were nevertheless able to take part in online campaigns, tell their stories to various media agencies, and actively find ways to study, with fantastic grades as a result. Partly thanks to our teams' supervision, most of the girls passed their exams".</p>	<p>https://sasane.org.np/programs/school-for-justice/</p> <p>https://www.freegirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2021/07/2020-FAG-Annual-Accounts-English-version-incl.-Auditors-Report-OSB.pdf</p>
Nepal	Rescue Programme	Since 2019	Free a Girl (supported by the National Postcode Lottery of the Netherlands)	Girl survivors of sex trafficking	Remedial/rescue	Sex trafficking	To rescue children from sex trafficking	<p>In 2020, 32 girls were rescued and 114 were intercepted. They were also supported economically. In 2019, 274 young women were rescued (34 who were under 18 years old) and 392 women were intercepted (105 where under 18).</p>	<p>https://www.freegirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2021/07/2020-FAG-Annual-Accounts-English-version-incl.-Auditors-Report-OSB.pdf</p> <p>https://www.freegirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2020/07/Annual-Report-Free-a-</p>

									Girl-incl.-CV-OSB.pdf
Nepal	Fighting impunity programme	Since 2020	Free a Girl	Girls survivors of sex trafficking	Remedial	Sex trafficking	To provide legal aid to survivors in their efforts to file charges against perpetrators, as well as raise awareness among police, judiciary, and other government officials.	In 2020, 45 survivors received assistance to file charges.	https://www.freeagirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2021/07/2020-FAG-Annual-Accounts-English-version-incl.-Auditors-Report-OSB.pdf
Nepal	Maiti Café Social Enterprise	Since 2019	Free a Girl (funded by the Dutch National Postcode Lottery)	Girl survivors of sexual exploitation	Remedial	Sex trafficking	To provide vocational training for survivors of sexual exploitation.	In 2019, 13 survivors took vocational training and 10 survivors were employed by the café.	https://www.freeagirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2020/07/Annual-Report-Free-a-Girl-incl.-CV-OSB.pdf
Nepal, Sindhulpachok, Dhading and Nuwakot	Survivor-centered action to prevent and address trafficking of children and young people into commercial sexual	2018-2020	Antislavery International (funded by Comic Relief). Implemented by CWISH and SASANE	Schoolgirls, out-of-school girls, adolescents and survivors of CSE	Preventive & remedial	Commercial sexual exploitation	To reduce the vulnerability of children to trafficking; to reduce discrimination towards children survivors of trafficking; to improve the management and support of trafficking cases in Nepal. This was achieved through: “awareness programs in schools as well as communities, paralegal training and their placement in police stations in Kathmandu and Pokhara, dissemination of IEC materials, broadcast of PSAs, and district and national level advocacy”.	No details	https://www.cwish.org.np/projects/survivor-centred-action-to-prevent-and-address-trafficking-of-children-and-young-people-into-cse-(sca)

	exploitation (SCA)								
Nepal	Shelter and Rehabilitation Centre	2010-2018	Planete Enfants & Developpement with Prayas Nepal	Girls and women	Remedial	Human trafficking, sex trafficking	To provide protection and rehabilitation services to survivors	No details	https://planete-eeed.org/en/project/nepal-femmes-victimes-dexploitation-sexuelle/
Nepal	A hostel for Chepang teenagers	2015-2023	Planete Enfant & Developpement with Prayas Nepal	Girls	Preventive	Child marriage	To support girls to continue their studies and escape the risks of violence and early marriage.	The hostel houses 30 girls.	https://planete-eeed.org/en/project/nepal-leducation-des-filles-avec-planete-enfants-developpement/
Nepal	Family Group Homes	Ongoing	ASHA Nepal	Girl survivors	Remedial	Trafficking	To provide family-based care for survivors until they are able to reunite/reintegrate with their families, or become adults	The organization runs 4 family group homes, each of which houses 4 or 6 girls. To date, 24 girls live in these houses altogether.	http://www.asha-nepal.org/family-group-homes
Nepal	Keeping Families Safe in the Community	Ongoing	ASHA Nepal	Girl survivors and their families	Remedial	Trafficking	"To create a socially inclusive community where the trafficking survivors their children and sexually abused girls are accepted". More specifically, the project aims to strengthen 97 families educationally, economically and socially and to raise awareness about child protection.	Currently working with 94 families.	https://www.asha-nepal.org/family-strengthening-project

Nepal	Community Centre	Ongoing	ASHA Nepal	Children survivors	Remedial	Trafficking	Support the recovery of children survivors.	The center has a wide range of facilities and provides various workshops, hosts cultural celebrations and organizes student exchanges in Australia.	https://www.ashanepal.org/community-centre
Nepal, Kathmandu Valley and Makawanpur	Preventive Initiatives against Commercial Sexual Exploitation in Nepal	2019-2020	Centre for Legal Research and Resource Development Nepal (CeLRRd) (funded by Freedom Fund)	Commercially sexually exploited children, local community girls,	Preventive & remedial	Commercial sexual exploitation	To provide legal aid to children survivors of CSEC and to raise awareness of CSEC among at risk populations.	No details	http://celrrd.org/ongoing-programs-projects/
Nepal, Makwanpur, Bara, Parsa, and Sindhuli	HimRights Helpline	Ongoing	Himalayan Human Rights Monitors (HIMRIGHTS)	Women and young people	Preventive, remedial /rescue	Trafficking	"To provide information on safe migration processes and distribute Safe Migration Booklet".	"Around 30,000 women and youths have received the safe migration and foreign employment procedure and orientations from helpline centers. ... Through the helpline centers many have realized that they were going to be trafficked and Palestineed not to go abroad, others have chosen to migrate with an informed choice and followed government policies. HimRights rescued and intercepted internal and external trafficking of 63 women and children to brothels, circus,	http://www.himrights.org/hpage.php?id=14

								and hazardous foreign employment including men.”	
Nepal	Preventing Child Labour and Trafficking	Ongoing	World Education	Children survivors	Remedial	Trafficking, forced labour, sex trafficking	“To provide services to trafficking survivors who were exploited in the commercial sex industry, hazardous child labor in the brick and sari industries, and international labor migrants trafficked into exploitative labor”.	No details.	https://nepal.worlded.org/our-work/preventing-child-labor-and-trafficking/
Nepal	Family Reintegration Programme	Since 2009	Umbrella Organisation Nepal	Children survivors	Remedial / rescue	Trafficking (among other issues)	“To reunite displaced, abandoned or trafficked children [living at the shelter]... with their family, extended family, or with community care”. Regular monitoring visits and on-going financial support is provided.	200 children have been successfully reintegrated to their families. 400 children have been rescued.	https://umbnepal.org/family-reintegration-program/
Nepal	Next Step Education Program	Ongoing	Umbrella Organisation Nepal	Children survivors	Remedial	Trafficking (among other issues)	To provide ongoing support to children who have left the shelter and who are completing vocational education. Regular monitoring visits and on-going financial support is provided	“The Next Steps Education Programme has proved a huge success so far with Umbrella’s young adults moving out of the homes and finding their own places, often with relatives or friends. Having commenced academic or vocational courses, they thrive under the guidance and supervision of our youth and education team”.	https://umbnepal.org/next-step-education-program/
Nepal	Rescue and reintegration	Ongoing	Next generation Nepal	Children	Remedial	Trafficking	To rescue children that are trafficked or that live in abusive homes/orphanages, and to rehome them in a transitional home where they are provided with education	Results from 2007-2019: 433 missions have been organized in 36 districts of Nepal, including family tracing, reconnections, reintegration, reunifications and	https://www.nextgenerationnepal.org/about/our-programs/reintegration/

							until they can be reunited with their families.	monitoring; 244 trafficked and displaced children have been permanently reunified with their families; 33 youth have been supported through financial educational support, mentoring, shelter, food, and medical costs.	
Nepal	Protection against child trafficking	Ongoing	Next Generation Nepal	Children	Preventive	Trafficking	To educate parents and communities about risk of trafficking for children	Results from 2007-2019: “11 child-friendly spaces supporting 1,418 children have been established following the 2015 earthquake to protect the children against trafficking. 81,612 vehicles have been stopped and searched in earthquake affected areas, out of which 132 ‘at risk’ children have been intercepted and protected. Over 81,125 families have been reached in earthquake affected areas to warn them about the dangers of trafficking and the importance of family preservation”.	https://www.nextgenerationnepal.org/about/our-programs/prevention/
Nepal	Rupantran programme	unclear	UNICEF (under the UNFPA-UNICEF Global Programme to end child marriage)	Boys and girls	Preventive	Child marriage	“to equip adolescent girls and boys with key social and financial skills” (presumably to prevent child marriage)	No details	https://www.unicef.org/nepal/stories/i-am-changed

Nepal	Beti Padhau Beti Bachau (BPBB)	Since 2018?	UNICEF	Girls	Preventive	Child marriage (among other issues)	To improve the education of girls, empowering them and addressing sex-selective abortion, child marriage and school drop-out	At the time of the evaluation, there was not enough evidence. However, the evaluation mentions it was likely for rates of child marriage to decrease in the areas where the programme was implemented.	https://www.unicef.org/nepal/media/14101/file/BPBB_BKCSJV_Report.pdf
Nepal	Bank Khata Chhoriko Suraksha Jivan Variko (BKCSJV)	2017-?	UNICEF	Girls	Preventive	Child marriage	“Aims to reduce the relatively high rates of gender-based discrimination and violence in Karnali Province, focusing on increasing girls’ access to secondary education and reducing child marriage”	Increased discussion and action at the municipal level of early marriage and early pregnancy.	https://www.unicef.org/nepal/media/14101/file/BPBB_BKCSJV_Report.pdf
Nepal	Hamro Samman	2017-2022	Winrock International, funded by USAID	At risk populations	Remedial	Trafficking	“to strengthen national and local efforts to counter trafficking in persons, improve civil society advocacy and engagement, and increase private sector partnerships to empower survivors and prevent trafficking of at-risk populations”	68 children survivors had received shelter and support	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/nepal
Nepal	Sakriya	2018-2022	World Education, Terre des Hommes, and other implementing partners (funded by USDOL)	Children	Prevent, legal/ policy	Child labour	“to build the capacity of Nepalese civil society to more effectively detect and combat forced child labor and other labor abuses in Nepal’s brick, embroidery, and carpet weaving sectors. It leverages partnerships across Nepal’s child protection networks to facilitate access to services for survivors of labor abuses and to reduce the risk that adults and children will be	Data has been collected and is being used to advocate for policies to prevent exploitation of children.	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/sakriya http://www.swatantrataabhiyan.org/en/projects/sakriya.html

							forced into harmful work in these sectors.”		
Nepal	Sponsored Education Programme	Since 2001	Nepal GoodWeave Foundation	Children	Preventative	Child labour	Prevent children from entering the carpet industry as child labourers. The project sponsors children who meet the criteria, focusing on their potential future involvement in child labour activities. Form one-on-one agreements with parents/guardians detailing expectations before enrolling children in nearest available schools.	281 children are studying at different levels, from nursery to Secondary Education Examination levels at schools nearby the factories.	http://www.goodweavenepal.org/read.php?gwan=article_psp
Nepal	Livelihood Support/Weaving Training	2013 - 2017	Nepal GoodWeave Foundation (support from Greater Impact Foundation)	Women	Preventative	Child labour	Tackle the issue of child labour in carpet supply chains by developing a replicable, market-driven training and job placement procedure to support vulnerable women and families.	300 women participated in Weaving Training, 20 got Carpet Designing Training and 35 people got Carpet Finishing Training., enhancing 'omen's capacity to earn a livelihood,	http://www.goodweavenepal.org/read.php?gwan=article_lswt
Nepal	Rehabilitation Programmes	Ongoing	Nepal GoodWeave Foundation	Children	Rescue	Child labour	Rehabilitate children who have been identified as participating in child labour, providing them 'transit homes', counselling, and re-integrating children back into their homes and communities where possible. Providing School-based rehabilitation where re-integration is not possible.	No details.	http://www.goodweavenepal.org/read.php?gwan=article_rh
Nepal	Better Brick Nepal	August 2013 - 2019	Nepal GoodWeave Foundation,	Children	Rescue and Preventative	Child labour, forced labour, bonded labour	To eliminate child, forced, and bonded labour on brick kilns in Nepal by implementing an	Created Better Brick Nepal Standard requirements	http://www.goodweavenepal.org

			Global Fairness Initiative and local Implementing Organizations, (funded primarily by Humanity United)				incentive-based system that creates improvements in labour and enterprise practices linked with market demand.		/read.php?gwan=article_bbnp
Nepal	Building Better Futures under the Naya Bato Naya Palia project	2018	World Education	Children and teenagers	Preventative	Child labour, human trafficking, debt bondage	To understand the interrelated nature of factors that lead to debt bondage to prevent child labour and human trafficking. Six interlocking initiative areas to reduce vulnerability, mitigate negative effects of brick work and build resistance to future financial shock through improved education, financial literacy and services, improved alternative livelihoods, safer work environment, meeting needs of unaccompanied teenagers, advocacy and capacity building.	Improved school attendance, smoother integration of migrant children into schools, increased financial resilience, diversified livelihoods.	https://3vvvxa37b4sa2ci1ug2o2qwg-wpengine.netdna-ssl.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/04/World-Ed-Building-Better-Futures-Technical-Brief-03.28.18.pdf
Nepal (among other countries)	Country Level Engagement and Assistance to Reduce Child Labor II	2014-2019	Winrock International and USDOL	Children	Legal/policy	Child labour	To increase the capacity of the government to reduce child labour by: promoting improvements in legislation, promoting compliance of national laws with international standards, improving the monitoring and enforcement of laws and policies, improving the	The project contributed to national efforts to combat child labour and increase local capacity for monitoring, enforcement and implementation.	https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/GlobaICLEARII_FY14_final.pdf

							implementation of national plans and policies.		
Nepal	From Protocol to Practice: A Bridge to Global Action on Forced Labor (The Bridge Project)	2015-2022	ILO (funded by USDOL)	Children (among other groups)	Legal	Child labour	“To effectively eliminate traditional and state-imposed forced labor systems and to significantly reduce contemporary forms of forced labor, which are often linked to human trafficking”. Done though increasing knowledge and implementation of 2014 ILO Protocol and Recommendation; promote evidence-based policies and their strong implementation; enhancing capacity to collect national statistics; increase capacity of grassroots organisations and supporting livelihoods programs.	“The project supported the integration of a forced labor module into Nepal’s National Labor Force Survey, which will enable the collection of much needed data on forced labor in Nepal. ... [and] it provided livelihood support to 700 bonded laborers (66% of whom are women) across 16 different trades in three remote districts of Nepal. The livelihood initiatives are integral to combatting gender stereotypes and discrimination”, among other results.	
Nepal and Bangladesh	Ending Child Marriage	Since 2016	UNICEF and UNFPA (funded by various European government and Canada)	Girls	Preventive, legal	Child marriage	To support initiatives to end child marriage. The programme works with adolescent and communities, as well as with a range of actors in order to create supportive environments for change.	The Bangladesh UNICEF 2019 Report mentions about a component of this programme: “the End Child Marriage (ECM) national multimedia campaign has reached more than 50 million people have been reached through mass and social media with especially high engagement figures on Facebook. The campaign won numerous national and international awards and was	https://www.unicef.org/nepal/media/401/file/Ending%20Child%20Marriage%20in%20Nepal.pdf https://www.unicef.org/bangladesh/media/2356/file/UNICEF%20Young%20Lives%20Matter%20Bang.pdf

								recognised by the highest levels of the government"	
Nepal and Bangladesh (also India)	Work in Freedom	2013-2018	ILO and DFID – implemented in Nepal by ABC Nepal	Women and girls interested in migration and at risk of trafficking	Preventive	Trafficking	<p>"To minimize the risks of migration and to empower women at all stages in their quest for decent work and economic independence". This is done through predeparture community activities such as awareness-raising on the value of work; the costs, benefits and risks of migrating; training on women's and workers' rights and skills capacity building" (Zimmerman et al, 2021).</p>	<p>Findings from Zimmerman et al. (2021) indicate that the initiative was not well-targeted. The trainings were not adequately delivered, and did not address the expectations or concerns of women. For example, in Nepal only 2% of participants saw learning about migrant workers' rights as the most important knowledge they had gained from the programme. In Bangladesh, women's knowledge and beliefs about the risks of migration did not match the advice given by WiF, and in Nepal women ignored advice given by the project. Moreover, it funds that the initiative was hindered due to poor integration of context-related factors and power inequalities. For example, the programme disregarded the (in)ability of women to participate in decision-making in their families and communities, as well as created false expectations about services such as a hotline and rescue.</p>	<p>https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---dgreports/---dcomm/documents/projectdocumentation/wcms_217626.pdf</p> <p>https://www.lshrm.ac.uk/files/swift-evaluation-research-summary.pdf</p> <p>https://www.frontiersin.org/articles/10.3389/fpubh.2021.645059/full</p> <p>http://abcnepal.org.np/wp/ourpartners/</p>

Nepal and Bangladesh (also India)	Educate, Empower and Lead	Ongoing	Free a Girl and Malala Fund	Girl survivors and girls at risk of sexual exploitation	Preventive & remedial	Sex trafficking	To provide education for girls at risk, or who have survived, sex trafficking.	<p>In Bangladesh, in 2019: “110 sex-workers’ children growing up in red-light districts took part in workshops on the importance of education and ... about how to get help to prevent sexual exploitation... [They also participated in] advocacy and leadership training....; 87 mothers in red-light districts took part in information meetings about the importance of education for their children and attended empowerment training... ; 75 children were given items for school, such as books and uniforms; 50 children received study coaching, helping them to perform better at school”, among other indicators.</p> <p>In Nepal in 2019: “118 girls took part in empowerment workshops on trafficking, sexual exploitation and ...education; 49 survivors were given education and everything they needed for school. Fourteen girls also received extra lessons; 15 girls were given computer training ... ; 454 children from high-risk</p>	<p>https://www.freegirl.com/how-we-work/special-programmes/educate-empower-lead/</p> <p>https://www.freegirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2020/07/Annual-Report-Free-a-Girl-incl.-CV-OSB.pdf</p>
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								communities took part in an orientation program on human trafficking and the importance of education [leading to 18 children rejoining school]", among other indicators.	
Nepal and Bangladesh (also in India and Brazil)	Rehabilitation programme	Ongoing	Free a Girl	Girls survivors of sex trafficking	Remedial	Sex trafficking	To support the eventual return of girls to their families, or to live independently.	2020 results: In Nepal, acute medical aid, formal and information education, accommodation, food, counselling, empowerment training, sport and creative therapy was provided to girls (does not mention numbers). In Bangladesh, they provided care for 26 girls (only informal schooling could be provided because of COVID 19).	https://www.freegirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2021/07/2020-FAG-Annual-Accounts-English-version-incl.-Auditors-Report-OSB.pdf
Nepal and Bangladesh (also in India and Laos)	Reintegration programme	Ongoing	Free a Girl	Girls survivors of sex trafficking	Remedial	Sex trafficking	To support the eventual return of girls to their families, or to live independently.	In 2020, in Nepal 191 were supported and 24 in Bangladesh.	https://www.freegirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2021/07/2020-FAG-Annual-Accounts-English-version-incl.-Auditors-Report-OSB.pdf
Nepal and Bangladesh	Action-Research Innovation	2019-2022	Consortium led by the Institute of	Children in, or vulnerable to, the worst	Preventive & remedial	Child labour	To generate an evidence base on the key drivers of the worst forms of child labour, and to create	Currently focused on evidence collection stage (done through	https://www.cwisha.org.np/project/s/child-labor:-

	n in South and South-Eastern Asia (CLARISSA)		Development Studies (IDS). Implemented by Children-Women in Social Service and Human Rights (CWISH) and Voice of Children. Funded by DFID	forms of child labour			innovative initiatives to counteract them. In Bangladesh, the programme has focused on the slums in Dhaka and also included a concern for child marriage and child labour. Early married girls are supported through access to education, increased livelihood opportunities and knowledge about their sexual and reproductive health. Children in hazardous forms of labour will be supported through cash assistance and vocational training.	story collection, the aim is to collect 1200 personal stories). In Bangladesh, the programme aims to support 1500+ families with children in hazardous forms of labour.	action-research-innovation-in-south-and-south-eastern-asia-(clarissa) . https://clarissa.global/ https://www.tdh.ch/en/our-initiatives/bangladesh
Bangladesh, Dhaka	Combating Early Marriage in Bangladesh	2021-2022	Dhaka Ahsania Mission & Plan International Bangladesh (funded by Global Affairs Canada)	Adolescents and adults	Preventive	Child marriage	“Aims to combat child early and force marriage (CEFM) and reduce the vulnerability of adolescents, particularly girls”. It aims to do so by: Increasing the agency of girls and boys, fostering a supportive social environment for married and unmarried girls and strengthening the effectiveness and functioning of institutions and governance mechanisms to prevent CEFM”.	The programme has reached 24 adolescents (between the age of 11 and 17, 12 girls and 12 boys), and 456 adults (320 of them men).	https://www.ahsaniamission.org.bd/combating-early-marriage-in-bangladesh-cemb/
Bangladesh	Drop-in Centre for Street and Working Children	2019-2022	Dhaka Ahsania Mission (funded by Comic Relief UK)	Children	Preventive.	Human trafficking	Aims to address the risks faced by children on the move (from rural areas to city slums), as they are more vulnerable to child labour, specially hazardous forms, as well as	Follow up of Stage 1, which ran from 2013 to 2018.	https://www.ahsaniamission.org.bd/drop-in-centre-for-street-and-working-

	in Dhaka City (Dic) II (connected to the five year project "Urban Community Learning Centers)						to human trafficking and sexual exploitation. More specifically, the project aims to target 400 children (250 between the ages of 0-10, 110 of them male and 140 female & 150 between the ages of 11 and 17, 70 of them male and 80 female)		children-in-dhaka-city-dic-ii/
Bangladesh	Rescue Programme	Ongoing	Free a Girl with SMS and Bangladesh National Women Lawyers' Association	Girls survivors of sex trafficking	Remedial/rescue	Sex trafficking	To rescue children from sex trafficking	In 2020, 6 girls were rescued and 15 girls were intercepted before they fell victim to exploitation. In 2019, 20 children were rescued. In 2019, 20 children were rescued and given medical, psychological and legal support.	https://www.freeagirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2020/07/Annual-Report-Free-a-Girl-incl.-CV-OSB.pdf https://www.freeagirl.com/app/uploads/sites/7/2021/07/2020-FAG-Annual-Accounts-English-version-incl.-Auditors-Report-OSB.pdf
Bangladesh, Jessore & Satkhira	Action to reduce urban slavery (ARUSE)	Unclear (duration of 12	Bangladesh Integrated Social Advancement Programme (BISAP)	Children between 8 -14	Preventive	Child labour including the worst forms of child labour, specifically	To protect child domestic workers by: Creating a better environment through advocacy with local stakeholders for recognition of the right of domestic child workers; to	No details.	https://www.bisapbd.org/action-to-reduction-urban-slavery-through-education-aruse/

		month s)	funded by UN Slavery			domestic servitude	raise-awareness and mobilize local stakeholders in favour of the protection of child workers, promote the access to education, psychological counselling, and legal support for child survivors, among other activities.		
Bangladesh	Communit y-based movemen t to prevent child trafficking	Since 2016	Bangladesh Integrated Social Advancement Programme (BISAP) funded by Children International UK	Children and women	Prevention	Trafficking	Reduce the incidence of child and women being trafficked through community engagement.	No details.	https://www.bisapbd.org/non-formal-basic-education-programme-for-unschooled-dropout-children-of-refugee-camp/
Bangladesh, Jashore and Jhenaidha	Combatin g Human Trafficking through Empoweri ng Women and Providing Protection Services for the Survivors	2021	Rights Jessore (funded by BONO Direct Association and Chance Swiss- Germany)	Children and women survivors	Remedial / rescue	Trafficking	To reduce human trafficking of women and children. Achieved through: livelihood support, artistic initiatives, school orientation, fact finding of missing cases, legal assistance to survivors, and rescue, repatriation and reintegration of trafficking survivors.	“Women and children in the project areas are aware about violence and harassment and motivated against trafficking and reduced human trafficking”.	https://rights Jessore.org/?p=16479

Bangladesh, Jessore, Jhenaidah, Magura, Chudanga, Khulna, Narail and Satkhira districts	Combat Trafficking in Per	2007-2010	Rights Jessore (funded by DANIDA)	Women and children	Preventive	Trafficking	To reduce human trafficking of children and women, and increase organizational capacity of stakeholders.	To reduce human trafficking of children and women by 20%, and to increase the capacity of 42 organisations.	https://rightsjesore.org/?p=15916
Bangladesh, Jessore, Jhenaidah, Satkhira, Meherpur, Chuadanga and Kushtia districts	SANJOG II- Building Linkages and Local Capacities on Poverty Reduction, Education, Empowerment and Rehabilitation of Children Vulnerable to, or Survivors of, Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation in	2008-2011	Rights Jessore (funded by ECPAT Luxembourg)	Children, adolescents and women	Prevention & remedial	Trafficking	“To strengthen the capacity of the network NGOs/CBOs both in Bangladesh and India; to establish social safety net at grassroots level at bordering areas through community participation; and to repatriate victims of trafficking in children, adolescents and women from India”	No details.	https://rightsjesore.org/?p=15912

	Bangladesh								
Bangladesh, Jessore, Satkhira, Jhenaidah, Chuadanga, Meherpur and Kushtia	Regional Project on Case Management and Fight Against Trafficking within and from South Asia "SANYUKT"	2011-2012	Rights Jessore (funded by ECPAT Luxembourg)	Children, adolescents and women	Remedial	Trafficking	To facilitate repatriation, from India to Bangladesh, of Bangladeshi trafficking survivors	No details.	https://rightsjesore.org/?p=15910
Bangladesh, Jessore district	Empowering Girls and Mainstream Survivors	2014	Rights Jessore (funded by Free a Girl Netherlands)	Women and girls	Preventive & remedial	Trafficking	To reduce human trafficking through the development of the capacities of women and girls, and to support survivors of trafficking.	The project aimed to support (with resilience building training) 10 girls survivors of human trafficking.	https://rightsjesore.org/?p=15895
Bangladesh, Jessore district	Combat human trafficking through empowering girls functioning counters trafficking committee	2015-2016	Rights Jessore (funded by Free a Girl Netherlands)	Women and girls	Preventive & remedial	Trafficking	To reduce human trafficking through the development of the capacities of women and girls; to create a counter trafficking committee as a community-based prevention mechanism; to provide counselling and support to survivors.	The project aimed to support (with resilience building training) 20 girls survivors of human trafficking	https://rightsjesore.org/?p=15882

	e and mainstreaming survivors								
Bangladesh, Jessore and Jhenaidah district	Empowering Girls through capacity building and education to Prevent CSEC	2017-2018	Rights Jessore	Girls	Preventive & remedial	Trafficking	To prevent commercial sexual exploitation by empowering vulnerable girls at risk.	The project ran empowerment workshops for 80 rescued girls and 600 students in 20 secondary schools; vocational training for 10 repatriated girl survivors, and literacy workshops and coaching support for 30 survivors, coach.	https://rights Jessore.org/?p=15802
Bangladesh, refugee camps in Ukhiya	Women Led Gender Sensitive COVID-19 Response Project	2020-2021	Light House Bangladesh with PHALS and LoCos (funded by UN Women)	Women and girls in refugee camps and host communities	Preventive	Trafficking (among other issues)	To mobilize women to reduce the prevalence of trafficking (among other issues such as gender-based violence and COVID 19)	56,246 women and 14,238 girls of the targeted camps and 17,796 women and girls of adjacent host communities	http://www.light housebd.org/highlight-of-current-works/
Bangladesh, Cox's Bazar district	Rohingya Humanitarian Response	Since 2019?	Light House Bangladesh (funded by UNHCR, Global Fund and Save the Children)	Girls in refugee camps and host communities at risk of trafficking	Preventive	Trafficking	To protect women and girls at risk from trafficking, sexual and gender-based violence.	The project has established 5 services centers at various locations where counselling, legal support and health treatment is provided. It has also established a Safe Home for GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE and trafficking victims, which has supported 130 gender-based violence and human trafficking survivors in 2019.	http://www.light housebd.org/highlight-of-current-works/

Bangladesh, Satkhira, Rajshahi and Dhaka	Good Cause Campaign	2016-2020	Save the Children with Association for Community Development (ACD), Breaking the Silence and INCIDIN Bangladesh (funded by IKEA Foundation)	children	Preventive	Trafficking	"To mitigate unsafe migration and advance the right for children on the move to protection, education, play and development"	The project aimed to make children and caregivers aware of the risks of migration and have gender sensitive information on how to manage these risks; to improve basic education opportunities for children; to increase the access of children to gender sensitive support; and to create and solidify a Community Based Child Protection mechanisms. The project has impacted 27,706 children (directly) and 67,566 (indirectly).	https://bangladesh.savethechildren.net/sites/bangladesh.savethechildren.net/files/library/IKEA%20Good%20Cause%20Campaign%20%28GCC%29.pdf
Bangladesh, Daulatdia, Rajbari district and Sadar Upzila, Faridpur district	Protection through better education and better health	2015-2018	Save the Children Bangladesh (funded by Save the Children Korea) with Karmojibi Kallayan Sangstha(KKS), Mukti Mohila Samity(MMS) and Shapla Mohila Sangstha (SMS)	Children of sex workers	Remedial / rescue	Trafficking	To protect children of sex workers from abuse, exploitation and trafficking	Children of sex workers have access health, education and protection services. Children living in safe homes have been reintegrated with families/communities children are empowered by participating in Child Club activities. Advocacy with local stakeholders helped create a protective environment for children with attitudinal changes regarding the rights of children of sex workers, and governmental Anti-trafficking Committees were activated to rescue girls trafficked to brothels.	https://bangladesh.savethechildren.net/sites/bangladesh.savethechildren.net/files/library/Child%20Protection-Project%20Brief_SSS%20Project_0.pdf

Bangladesh, Bandarban, Chittagong, Chapai Nawabgonj, Dhaka, Gazipur, Jessore, Meherpur, Mymensing, , Maulovibazar, Rajshahi, Satkhira (also in India)	Reducing exploitation and Abuse of Children through strengthening National Child Protection System in Bangladesh	2011-2016	Save the Children (Funded by DANIDA and SIDA) with Association for Community Development-ACD, Bangladesh Institute of Theatre Arts-BITA, Bangladesh National Women Lawyers Association-BNWL, Bangladesh Legal Aid and Services Trust-BLAST, Breaking the Silence-BTS, INCIDIN Bangladesh, MAMATA, Nari Maitree, SANLAAP	Children	Preventive and remedial	Trafficking (among other issues)	To protect children "...from sexual and gender-based violence, physical and humiliating punishment, unsafe migration and trafficking"	The project reports successfully engaging men and boys approach to reduce sexual and gender based violence (including child marriage) and successfully rescuing trafficked children and reuniting them with families.	https://bangladesh.savethechildren.net/sites/bangladesh.savethechildren.net/files/library/Child%20Protection-Project%20Brief_REACH_0.pdf
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Bangladesh	UN Women	Unknown	UN Women	Women	Preventative, legal/policy and Remedial		Enhancing awareness on issues related to VAW throughout Civil Society Organization, engaging youth and elected representative with implementation of CEDAW, capacity building of government officials on CEDAW, formulating CEDAW bench book development and strengthening network of women migrant workers	Policies and legal framework to prevent VAW, protecting and supporting survivors adPalestineed, implemented and monitored	https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/countries/bangladesh/programmes
Bangladesh	UN Women	Unknown	UN Women	Women	Remedial and Preventative	Trafficking	Capacity development of stakeholders such as governments agencies, NGOs etc. for enforcing policy on women's issues; community based research to identify vulnerable sections of society and take measures to uplift them; advocating adequate services for prevention, care and support services for women who live with HIV/AIDS, or who are survivor of trafficking; reduce violence against brothel based sex workers and their vulnerability to HIV/AIDS		https://asiapacific.unwomen.org/en/countries/bangladesh/programmes
Bangladesh	Bangladesh Counter Trafficking -in- Persons (BC/TIP) Program	2018-2022	Winrock International (funded by USAID)	Children	Preventive and remedial	Trafficking, child marriage	To provide technical assistance to governmental institutions in the implementation of the National Plan of Action 2010-2018, to strengthen the capacity of stakeholders to identify victims of child marriage and trafficking, to improve access of survivors to	The project successfully increase awareness and capacity of local stakeholders, as well as promoted collaborative work between them. The project also improved access to survivor services – one of the most important services being	https://pdf.usaid.gov/pdf_docs/P A00XKQF.pdf

							assistance and to increase the responsiveness of criminal justice.	psychological support -, identified 37 victims of child marriage and provided them with relevant support, and improved responsiveness of judicial actors to child marriage, among other results.	
Bangladesh	Child Labour Improvements in Bangladesh	2017-2021	Winrock International (funded by USDOL)	Children	Legal/policy	Child labour	“To build the capacity of civil society to more effectively detect and combat forced child labor and other labor abuses in the dried fish sector in Bangladesh”	<p>The project built the capacity of five partner civil society organizations by an average of 37.8 percent; it increased the knowledge base on child labor in the dried fish sector through publications; it</p> <p>Influenced the creation of the National Child Labour Welfare Council and the National Plan of Action. The project’s advocacy campaigns also contributed to the dried fish sector being added to the Government of Bangladesh’s list of hazardous child labor sectors.</p> <p>The project helped create an Information Service Center that resulted in 954 individuals being referred for services and the resolution of 31 reported grievance cases.</p>	<p>https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/bangladesh</p> <p>https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/climb</p>
Bangladesh	Child Helpline 1098		UNICEF and the Ministry of Welfare	Children	Remedial	Trafficking, child labour	To provide an emergency hotline for children vulnerable to exploitation, violence and abuse.	No details	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/bangladesh

									orts/child-labor/bangladesh
Bangladesh	Elimination of Hazardous Child Labor, Phase IV	2018-2020	Ministry of Labour and Employment	Children	Remedial	Child labour	To remove children from hazardous child labour situations and provide them with skills training, financial support, and raise awareness of parents and employers.	Previous phases removed 90,000 children from hazardous labor by providing education, stipends, and by raising awareness of employers and families.	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/bangladesh https://mole.portal.gov.bd/sites/default/files/files/mole.portal.gov.bd/project/6038e47e579245f48fc0958f113443f9/NPA.pdf https://www.ahsaniamission.org.bd/eradication-of-hazardous-child-labour-in-bangladesh-4th-phase-project
Bangladesh	Child Sensitive Social Protection in Bangladesh	2020	Ministry of Social Welfare's Department of Social Services, supported by UNICEF	Children	Rescue	Child labour	To strengthen social services for street children engaged in child labour including protection from violence, abuse, and exploitation, safe accommodation; food; and education.	In 2020, supported 2,000 street children in different urban locations and rescued 400 children from child labour through family reintegration and referral services, alternative care, and schooling using case management tools. Reached	USDOL, 2020

								20,000 children with psychosocial counselling and over 7,000 children with case management.	
Bangladesh	Child Help Line	2020-ongoing	Ministry of Social Welfare and UNICEF	Children	Preventative	Child labour and other forms of exploitation and abuse	Implemented and supported a 24-hour emergency hotline under the CSPB project. Connections children vulnerable to violence, abuse and exploitation with social protection services.	During the pandemic, call agents received four times more calls than in other years. In 2020, the help line supported 180,000 children through information on child protection issues, rescue, and referrals.	USDOL, 2020
Bangladesh	Child Labor Improvements in Bangladesh (CLIMB)	2017 - 2021	USDOL funded and implemented by Winrock International	Children	Preventative	Child labour	Aimed to build the capacity of civil society to more effectively detect and combat forced child labour and other labour abuses in the dried fish sector in Bangladesh.	Built the capacity of its five partner civil society organisations to counter child labour and forced child labour; increased the knowledge base on child labour in the dried fish sector; advocacy work helped spur the mobilization of the National Child Labour Welfare Council and the National Plan of Action; dried fish sector being added to the list of hazardous child labour sectors; helped create an Information Service Centre that resulted in 954 individuals being referred for services; helped reduce vulnerability posed by covid-19 through the provision of emergency relief.	USDOL, 2020

Bangladesh	Accelerating Protection for Children	2017-2021	UNICEF, implemented by Ministry of Women and Children Affairs	Adolescent girls and boys	Preventative and Remedial	Child labor and child marriage	To provide life skills education, awareness and self-protection techniques to adolescent girls and boys ages 10-19 years, and empower them as agents of social change to combat risks and protection issues like child marriage, child labour, reproductive health and adolescent nutrition.	In 2020, directly supported 118,722 adolescents and reached another 200,000 through digital platforms.	USDOL, 2020
Bangladesh	Child Sensitive Social Protection in Bangladesh	2015-2016	Ministry of Social Welfare and UNICEF	Children	Legal	Child labour	“to enhance the protective environment for children and adolescents, particularly girls (females), against violence, abuse and exploitation through strengthening child protection systems which encompass appropriate laws, policies, and services, and through social change”.	No details.	https://socialprotection.gov.bd/social-protection-pr/child-sensitive-social-protection-in-bangladesh/
Bangladesh	ChildHope Child Waste Pickers Project	2015-2018	ChildHope and Grambangla Unnayan Committee	Children, Adolescents, and Women	Remedial	Child labour	To provide primary education to children, vocational training and employment to adolescents and mothers, improve health of mothers and their children, help women, adolescents, children and men be aware of their rights.	328 children and adolescents received lessons on health and hygiene, 109 women joined group savings schemes, 570 birth certificates issued, 43 children and 71 women vaccinated under government's immunization programme, 26 newspaper articles raised awareness of waste pickers' situation, 231 students returned to primary education, 30	https://www.childhope.org.uk/assets/uploads/assets/uploads/ChildHope%20Child%20Waste%20Pickers%20Project%20-%20Grambangla%20Bangladesh.pdf

								teenagers completed vocational training.	
Bangladesh	Child Protection Project	2018-2019	Plan International (funded by DEC)	Rohingya refugee children, adolescents and youth	Preventative	Trafficking and Child marriage	Two main aims were that the risk of abuse and other protection issues for adolescents and youth, especially adolescent girls and young women is reduced in refugee and host communities through safe space activities and awareness raising and that adolescents and youth in need of protection are receiving age and gender friendly adequate support by strengthening access to child protection and case management and efficient coordination. Key activities included safe spaces, provision of gender and age appropriate services including case management, family tracing and re-unification and enhancing community based child protection mechanisms.	Effectively implemented a range of activities to reduce the risk of abuse. The evaluation found evidence and cast stories of how the project changed positively the life of children. Practices and stories show impact on education, family relationship, violence against children, child trafficking, child marriage, hygiene and preparedness measures before natural hazards. Some areas of improvement, including that some cases of early marriage went 'underground' because of the increased awareness of its illegality.	https://reliefweb.int/report/bangladesh/external-evaluation-plan-international-uks-dec-ii-funded-response-rohingya-refugee
Rwanda	Second Emergency Demobilization and Reintegration Project	2009-2017	World Bank	Ex-combatants, with a particular focus on female and child soldiers	Remedial	Child soldiers	To demobilize members of armed groups and provide socio-economic reintegration support	The project demobilized 284 children.	https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P112712
Rwanda	Friends of the Family	Since 2015	Ministry of Gender and	Children	Preventive & remedial	Child labour	"To train volunteers to prevent and respond to child protection issues	"managed over 600 cases of child labor, child trafficking, and	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila

	(Incuti Z'Umurya ngo)		Family Promotion (MIGEPROF)				and to establish monitoring committees at various levels to combat child labour"	other cases involving abuses against children." There are around 30,000 volunteers to date.	b/resources/reports/child-labor/rwanda https://childrensvoicetoday.org/what-we-do/who-are-friends-of-family/
Rwanda	Unknown	Unknown	MIFOTRA and USAID	Children	Preventive	Child labour	To foster a "series of talk shows focusing on child labour".	No details	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/rwanda
Rwanda	Musanze Child Rehabilitation Center in Northern Province	Since 2011?	Sisters of St. Vincent de Paul of Lendeledede?	Children	Remedial	Child soldiers	To assist children that have participated in armed groups	No details.	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/rwanda
Rwanda	Gitagata Center	Unknown	Unknown	Children	Remedial	Child soldiers	"To provide education, vocational training, and psychosocial support, and aims to reunite former street children with their families".	No details.	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/rwanda
Rwanda	Isange One stop Centre	Since 2009	MIGEPROF, Ministry of Health, Rwanda National Police, and	Children	Remedial, legal/policy	Trafficking	To assist victims of gender-based violence and human trafficking. Offers psychosocial, medical, police and legal services. It also aims to	Centers are located in 44 hospitals. It has increased collaboration between stakeholders, decreased evidence manipulation and survivors' re-traumatization,	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/rwanda

			Ministry of Justice (funded by the Netherlands Embassy)				improve the communication between Ministries.	increase reporting rates by more than 50%. The program was awarded the UN Public Service Award in 2012.	http://197.243.22.137/migeprof/index.php?id=169 https://evaw-global-database.unwomen.org/fr/countries/africa/rwanda/2009/isange
Rwanda	Rwanda Counter Human Trafficking Joint Programme	2011-2012	IOM Rwanda and Rwandan government (funded by UN GIFT)	Women and children	Legal/policy	Trafficking	To increase the capacity of the national government to respond to all forms of cross-border and internal human trafficking. This was done by: increasing knowledge of key actors, increasing the capacity of law enforcement and migration officials, raising public awareness and establishing a victim referral and assistance mechanism.	30 stakeholders were trained on human trafficking, 48 officers increased their capacities, multiple campaigns were implemented in different spaces (such as schools, community meetings, radio, etc), among other indicators	https://www.iom.int/sites/g/files/tmzbd1486/files/country/docs/rwanda/IOM-Rwanda-Counter-Human-Trafficking-Joint-Programme.pdf
Rwanda	Victim Assistance Programme	Unknown	Rwanda Demobilisation and Reintegration Commission	Children	Remedial	Child soldiers	Support ex-child soldiers by offering psycho-social support, vocational training, and education.	In 2020, it provided services to 82 children.	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/rwanda
Rwanda	Strengthening Social Protection Project	2017-2021	MINALOC, World bank funded	Children	Remedial	Child labour	"To improve the effectiveness of Rwanda's social protection system, notably the flagship Vision 2020 Umurenge Program (VUP), for targeted vulnerable groups". Aims to deliver cash transfers to households and increase safety nets	By the end of 2020, the program has exceeded its target, reaching 1840258.00 people.	https://projects.worldbank.org/en/projects-operations/project-detail/P162646

Rwanda	Children's Forum	Since 2012?	MINALOC and NCDA	Children	Unclear	Child labour, trafficking, child marriage	To allow for children to express their needs and opinions and influence policy and legal change	No details	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/rwanda
Ethiopia	Ethiopia BETE project	Since 2020	AGAR Ethiopia (funded by Freedom Fund)	Women	Remedial	Trafficking (for domestic labour)	Support returnee women from the Middle East, trafficked for domestic labour. The project provides rehabilitation and reintegration support	By March 2022, the project had supported 452 returnees.	https://www.fac ebook.com/agar ethiopia2005 https://agarethio pia.org/major-programs/
Ethiopia, Addis Ketema	Unknown	2015-2018	Bethsaida Restoration Dvelopment Association	Young women and girls	Prevent	Sex trafficking	To prevent trafficking of girls and young women to the Middle East, particularly focused on women and girls engaged in sex work in Addis Ketema. This aims to be achieved by: increasing income in vulnerable households, and improving knowledge and practices of migration.	No details	https://freedomfund.org/partners/bethsaida-restoration-development-association/
Ethiopia		2015-2016	COMPASS evaluated by Columbia University	Adolescent	Preventative	CSE, Trafficking, and Child Marriage	13–19-year-old girls in refugee camps in Ethiopia were placed in initiative clusters where they received 30 life skills sessions delivered in safe spaces and 8 complementary sessions were given to caregivers.	A 12-month follow-up showed that initiative was not significantly associated with a reduction in exposure to sexual violence, other forms of violence, transactional sex or feelings of safety. It was associated with improvements in attitudes around rites of passage and identified social supports.	https://gh.bmj.com/content/3/5/e000825

								There was also a decrease in reported child marriage.	
Ethiopia, Addis Ketema	Unknown	2015-2018	Bethsaida Restoration Development Association	Young women and girls	Prevent	Sex trafficking	To prevent trafficking of girls and young women to the Middle East, particularly focused on women and girls engaged in sex work in Addis Ketema. This aims to be achieved by: increasing income in vulnerable households, and improving knowledge and practices of migration.	No details	https://freedomfund.org/partners/bethsaida-restoration-development-association/
Ethiopia	Multi-Spectral Child Protection program	No date	Emmanuel Development Association	Children	Preventive	Trafficking (among other issues)	Prevent exploitation and abuse (sexual abuse, trafficking for labour, sex trade, early forced marriage and FGC).	Has raised awareness of 18,470 individuals (7,388 males and 11,082 females). 1,300 young victims of trafficking have been intercepted and hosted in shelters – with the majority being reunited with their families.	https://www.edaethiopia.org/index.php/programs/18-child-protection
Ethiopia, Addis Ababa and BahirDar	Trafficking Victims Reintegration Program (TVRP)	No info	AGAR ETHiopia	Women	Remedial	Trafficking	Support the reintegration and rehabilitation of women survivors of trafficking. The project provides psychosocial support, vocational skills training, and legal support	“More than 6,000 and 3,000 survivors of violence trafficking and 2,500 street children rehabilitated in the rehab centre and reintegrated to families and communities since founded in 2005.”	https://agarethiopia.org/major-programs/
Ethiopia	Reducing trafficking & GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE	No info	AGAR Ethiopia	Communities	Preventive	Trafficking	To engage the community in eradicate human trafficking. The programme carries out awareness-raising activities, such as the Reach-to-Reach program, and different digital or print productions.	As above.	https://agarethiopia.org/major-programs/

	Programme								
Ethiopia	Children in Need Program	Since 2018	AGAR Ethiopia	Children	Unclear	Internal trafficking	To protect children on the move from internal trafficking	No details	https://agarethiopia.org/major-programs/
Ethiopia, Addis Ababa and Amhara region	Ethiopia hotspot	Since July 2015	Freedom Fund (in partnership with the Ethiopian government)	Women and girls	Preventive	Domestic servitude, trafficking	To complement existing efforts to reduce the vulnerability to trafficking of potential migrants (and returnees) to the Middle East for domestic work. It aimed to create alternative livelihood Palestineions, increase knowledge about safe migration and improve institutional support.	3,667 individuals provided with social and legal services; 500 returnee migrant women and children accessed a range of services such as shelter, counselling, life-skills training and entrepreneurship workshops. Community freedom groups reached almost 7,000 individuals and 316 previously out-of-school children resumed schooling.	https://freedomfund.org/programs/hotspot-projects/ethiopia-hotspot/ https://freedomfund.org/wp-content/uploads/Ethiopia_Annual_Report.pdf
Ethiopia, Adama, Addis Ababa, Bahir Dar, Dessie and Dire Dawa	Protection programme	No details	Forum on Sustainable Child Empowerment	Children	Preventive & remedial	Trafficking	To support abused and exploited children, as well as to prevent further cases. The program includes elements of prevention, protection, rehabilitation and reintegration. In particular, it supports children survivors of trafficking by safeguarding them and reuniting them with their families.	No details	https://www.fsc-e.org/index.php/what-we-do/care-and-support
Ethiopia	Safe home based child care and support	No details	Organisation for Prevention, Rehabilitation and	Young female victims of sexual exploitation and abuse	Remedial	Sex trafficking or CSEC?	To offer safe homes to girls at risk and survivors of sexual abuse and exploitation. It provides integral support such as food, shelter, clothes, education, healthcare,	No details	https://www.oprifs.org.et/programs#programs_detail

			Integration of Female Street Children (OPRIFS)				counseling, vocational training, family tracing, reunification, and follow-up.		
Ethiopia	Safe migration project	Since 2015	Organisation for Prevention, Rehabilitation and Integration of Female Street Children (OPRIFS)	Girls , young women and returnees	Preventive	Trafficking	To prevent trafficking of girls and young women in Addis Ketema when migrating. This is achieved by improving their knowledge of the process, changing their practices, and increase their economic security through vocational training and income-generating support..	No details.	https://www.oprifs.org.et/programs#programs_detail
Ethiopia	New Life Girls	Uncle ar	HOPE Ethiopia	Girls victims/survivors of forced prostitution	Remedial / rescue	Sex trafficking	To rescue female adolescents from forced prostitution and support their reintegration (through career training and life skills workshops).	No details.	https://www.hope-ethiopia.com/youth-empowerment/
Ethiopia	Promotion of Safer Migration	Uncle ar	Mission for Community Development Program	Women and girls	Preventive	Trafficking (into domestic servitude)	To prevent trafficking through “awareness raising, economic empowerment and education to school girls, domestic worker and community’s members”.	No details.	https://mcdpethiopia.org/7preventionof.html
Ethiopia	Awareness Raising	Uncle ar	Mission for Community Development Program	Women and girls	Preventative	Trafficking, CSE, child trafficking, child labour	Key activities include the use of music and drama as a tool for effective communication in rural and urban settings for educating communities on social issues using contemporary dance and theatre. They also have a radio listening group that brings 15-20 households together to listen to pre-tailied	No details.	https://mcdpethiopia.org/4awarness.html

							messages using local language on particular issues. MDC have a public campaign on Child labour and child trafficking that they communicate through radio and television.		
Ethiopia	Child Protection	Unclear	Mission for Community Development Program	Children	Remedy / rescue	Trafficking	To protect children from trafficking and labour exploitation. It provides safe home services, child labour monitoring and reporting systems, training on child trafficking to a range of stakeholders, as well as intercepting, rehabilitating and reintegration children survivors (among other activities).	No details.	https://mcdpethiopia.org/6childprotection.html
Ethiopia	End Child Marriage	2020-2025	UNICEF	Girls under 18	Preventive	Child marriage	To successfully implement the National Costed Roadmap to End Child Marriage and Female Genital Mutilation (2020-2024) and to accelerate progress towards achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. The project aims to work in five areas: education, child protection, social protection, communication and emergencies.	It aims to have 84,000 people participate in vocational training and sex education, to reach 4 million people through media and have 4.6 million people attend sessions that include preventive messaging on ending child marriage.	https://www.unicef.org/ethiopia/media/6091/file/End%20Child%20Marriage%20Flagship.pdf
Ethiopia	Transitional Shelter	Unknown	Tewodros Ashenafi Foundation and the Addis Abbaba Bureau of	Children	Remedial	Child labour	To provide basic services, such as shelter and food, psychosocial support, life skills training and education for children survivors of child exploitative labour.	No details.	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/ethiopia

			Labor and Social Affairs						
Ethiopia	Effective approaches in Ending the Worst Forms of Child Labour	2019-2020	World Vision, Global Compact UK, UN Global Compact, War Child UK and others	Children	Remedial	Child labour	“To test and measure innovative approaches to reduce the worst forms of child labor, targets approximately 500,000 at-risk youth in the Democratic Republic of Congo, Central African Republic, and Ethiopia, including victims of child commercial sexual exploitation and child soldiering, and children engaged in hazardous work”	“In 2020, World Vision expanded training programs designed to build detection capacity to all nine regional governments. The NGO trained regional labor inspector team leads to operate monitoring equipment. In addition, World Vision is working directly with Ethiopia's nine regional governments to incorporate child labor issues into their action plans.”	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/ethiopia
Jordan	Girls Leaders for Change	2019-2021	Save the Children Jordan and People's Postal Code Lottery	Girls	Preventive	Child marriage (among other issues)	“...to make underage women more aware of their rights and empower them so they can learn how to defend themselves and claim their right”.	No details	https://www.savethechildren.org.jo/ChildProtectionEnglish#page-title
Jordan	Leading the Way to Change	2021-2022	UNPF and Save the Children Jordan	Girls	Unclear	Child marriage (among other issues)	Designed through a teenage-led approach, the project aims to promote innovative answers to address the topics raised by girls themselves.	No details	https://www.savethechildren.org.jo/ChildProtectionEnglish#page-title
Jordan	Child marriage	2012-2021	UNICEF, Save the Children Jordan, Save the Children Spain, Save the Children	Children at risk of marriage	Preventive	Child marriage	To reduce child marriage. The programme identifies children at risk of marriage and refers them to social workers, as well as provides training and empowerment workshops for girls who have	No details	https://www.savethechildren.org.jo/ChildProtectionEnglish#page-title

			Italy, Save the Children UK, Procter & Gamble, UNHCR				experienced it. The project also involves parents to promote positive parenting skills.		
Jordan, Zarqa and Amman	Program to End the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Zarqa and Amman	Since 2020	UNICEF	Children	Preventive	Child labour	To identify the most vulnerable children to the worst forms of child labour and offer psychosocial support, access to education, and other training in order to reduce their chances to engage in these forms of labour.	Aims to reach 400 children	https://www.unicef.org/jordan/press-releases/unicef-launches-programme-end-child-labour-zarqa-and-amman
Jordan (among other countries)	Measurement, Awareness-Raising, and Policy Engagement Project on Child Labor and Forced Labor (MAP16)	2016-2022	ILO (funded by USDOL)	Children	Preventive, legal/policy	Child labour	“ To research and develop new survey methodologies, improve awareness, strengthen policies and government capacity, and promote partnerships to combat child labor and forced labor”	No details specifically for Jordan	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/resources/reports/child-labor/jordan
Jordan	Moving Towards a Labour Free Jordan	2010-2016	ILO (funded by USDOL)	Children	Legal/policy	Child labour	“To equip the government and other stakeholders with tools needed to eliminate all worst forms of child labor in Jordan”.	The project expanded the National Framework on Child Labor to all Jordanian Governorates, creating a network for coordinated action, enhanced the capacity of the	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/moving-towards-child-labor-free-jordan

								Ministry of Labor's Child Labor Unit, and supported the Ministry of Social Affairs in establishing a new Child Labor Unit, among other results.	
Jordan, in Greater Amman, Zarqa, Irbid, Madaba, and Aqaba and in hazardous agriculture in Jerash, Balqa, and Karak	Combating Exploitative Child Labour Through Education	2008-2012	CHF International (funded by USDOL and implemented by ZENID and Jordan River Foundation)	Children	Preventive & remedial	Child labour	To reduce the number of children involved in the worst forms of child labour.	"The project withdrew 2,373 children and prevented 5,185 from exploitive labor in small and informal industries"	https://www.dol.gov/sites/dolgov/files/ILAB/pdf_override/Jordan_CECLE_CLOSED_0.pdf
Jordan, East Amman, Zarqa, Mafrq and Ma'an.	Promising Futures: Reducing Child Labor in Jordan Through Education and Sustainable Livelihoods	2010-2014	(funded by USDOL)	Children working in construction, small workshops, manufacturing, transport, and domestic servitude	Preventive & remedial	Child labour	"To reduce the number of children who work and at risk of becoming engaged in exploitive child labor in Jordan and enhance family livelihood opportunities to address its root causes"	"The project provided education services to 8,716 children who were engaged in or at high-risk of entering exploitative child labor, and livelihood services to 3,959 to members of households with children who were engaged in or at high-risk of entering exploitative child labor".	https://www.dol.gov/agencies/ila/b/promising-futures-reducing-child-labor-jordan-through-education-and-sustainable
Lebanon and Jordan	Tackling Child	2015-2017	ILO and DANIDA	Children	Preventative and Policy	Child Labour	Contribute to the elimination of child labour, especially in its worst	No details.	https://www.ilo.org/beirut/proje

	Labour Among Syrian Refugees and their Host Communities in Jordan and Lebanon						forms, among Syrian refugees and host communities in Jordan and Lebanon; facilitate policy reform; build the technical capacity of government, civil society and workers' and employers' organisations to leverage national platforms to combat child labour. This was to be done by conducting evidence-based research on occupational health and safety, engaging in policy dialogue; developing and disseminating audio-visual and printed materials to promote awareness; advocacy; facilitate inter-agency communication and cooperation; provide training to government, civil society and workers' and employers' organisations. Train security forces to bolder the enforcemet of child labour laws.		cts/WCMS_384766/lang--en/index.htm
Lebanon and Jordan	Protecting Syrian refugee girls from child marriage	No details	Terre des Hommes	Young female refugees	Preventive	Child marriage	To involve religious leaders (sheiks) - given their influential position within communities - in discussing topics such as violence against children and child marriage. They are also involved to improve justice processes such as conciliation or mediation. The project also seeks to empower girls by informing them about their rights and contraception use, developing their life skills and	360 Syrian refugee girls in Lebanon and Jordan have received psychosocial support; collaboration has been set up with 25 sheiks who have addressed around 3000 people.	https://www.tdh.ch/en/projects/early-marriage

							support networks, as well as support income generation for families.		
Lebanon	Phase II Ending Worst Forms of Child Labour amongst Syrian Refugees and Lebanese Host Communities	2017-2019	ILO	Children, refugees, women	Preventative	Child labour	The protection of workers from unacceptable forms of work and improved regulatory framework and implementation mechanisms to promote equal opportunity for women in the world of work.	Association of Lebanese Employers encouraged Industrialists to effectively remove child labour from their chains of production through supporting direct action programmes; Ministry of Labour adPalestineed an easy to use guide on the hazardous child labour list; the adPalestineion of Decree no. 8987 on the prohibition of the employment of minors under the age of 18 in works that may harm their health, safety or morals. Moreover minors under the age of 16 shall not be employed in such types of hazardous work which are listed in Annex 2 of the Decree.	https://www.ilo.org/gateway/faces/home/projects/projectdetails?locale=EN&projectsymbol=LBN%2F17%2F02%2FNO_R&adf_ctrl-state=104th2ybv_c_63&cid=LBN&adf_ctrl-state=1alm1cmxo9_4
Lebanon (Beirut, Nabatieh, Tyre, Bekaa, Hermel, Bint Jbeil, Marjeoun)	Stand up for social change: towards better prevention and protection of the	No details	UNICEF (donor) / PWHO, SJ, TSS, SAMA, Terre des Hommes	Children and youth	Preventive	Child marriage (not exclusive focus of programme)	Unclear	6,880 girls, boys, caregivers and municipal police have participated in the project. 2,930 girls and women received remote sensitization on GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE, among which topics was child marriage. (Workshops also	https://www.tdh.ch/sites/default/files/lebanon.pdf

	most vulnerable children and youth from violence, abuse and exploitation							included awareness raising about COVID19)	
Lebanon (Bekaa, Baalbek, Beirut, and Mount Lebanon)	We Adolescents girls, We Can: Specialized Child and Early Marriage Response in Lebanon	No details	Terre des Hommes (funded by US Department of State)	Adolescent girls and young women	Remedial	Child marriage	To offer support for adolescent girls exposed to child marriage, such as advisory and legal services, medical consultations, psychosocial support, and emergency cash assistance.	No details	https://www.facebook.com/TdhLebanon/posts/within-stand-up-for-social-change-project-funded-by-the-unicef-terre-des-hommes-/1226770607699224/
Lebanon, Beirut	Combating Child Trafficking	No details (running in 2016)	Dar Al Amal with Diakonia and ECPAT France	Children	Preventive	Trafficking	"To reduce the vulnerability to sexual abuse and trafficking of children in the residential area of Sabra and Chatila southern suburbs of Beirut. This will be achieved through increasing the targeted children ability to protect themselves from exploitation and abuse while at the same time increasing the awareness of the targeted children community and	No details	http://www.dar-alamal.org/read-more.php?id=4

							the public opinion on child abuse and protection”.		
Lebanon	Min Ila cash Transfer Programme for Displaced Syrian Children in Lebanon	2016 – 2017	UNICEF and WFP in co-ordination with MEHE in Lebanon	Children	Preventative	Child Labour	Child-transfer programme designed to reduce negative coping strategies harmful to children and reduce barriers to children’s school attendance, including financial barriers and reliance on child labour.	A seeming decrease in the demand for children to contribute to household chores, but parents and children rarely reported child engagement in economic activities; hence, there is no evidence the programme reduced these activities.	https://www.unicef-irc.org/publications/pdf/UNICEF%20Min%20Ila%20Impact%20Evaluation.pdf
Lebanon	Socio-Legal Defense for Children	Since June 2021	Dar Al Amal and Defense for Children International	Children	Preventative	Forced begging, forced labour	The prevention and protection of children at risk from all sorts of violence, exploitation and abuse	No details.	http://www.dar-alamal.org/readmore.php?id=131
Lebanon	Ending Worst Forms of Child Labor Among Syrian Refugees and Lebanese Host Communities	November 2018 to March 2019	Dar Al Amal and ILO	Children	Remedial	Forced labour, child labour	Protect vulnerable children from all kinds of risks, including child labour, protect weak children exposed to violence and exploitation, improve protection mechanisms and living situation of children working in the worst forms of child labour. Activities include education, accelerated vocational training courses, training sessions for parents, awareness raising sessions addressed to children, training sessions for social workers, increase knowledge and cooperation between Ministries and NGOs.	No details.	http://www.dar-alamal.org/readmore.php?id=82

Lebanon	Combattin g Child Trafficking	Unkno wn	Dar Al Amal, Diakonia, ECPAT France	Children	Preventative	Trafficking	The project aims to prevent child trafficking and protect children in danger of prostitution, sexual Exploitation and abuse. It also aims to identify children victims of trafficking and provide them with needed support and protection	No details.	http://www.dar-alamal.org/readmore.php?id=4
Lebanon	Support Lebanon's Efforts in Addressin g the Increased Risk of Trafficking in Persons and Smuggling of Migrants in Aftermath of the Beirut Explosion and COVID-19	2016-2021	UNODC (funded by Austria)	Men, women, and children at risk of trafficking	Preventative	Trafficking	An initiative in Lebanon embarked upon in the aftermath of the Beirut explosion and covid-19. UNODC cooperates with the government, civil society organisations and UN agencies to provide targeted protection services and capacity building to address the increased risk of trafficking in persons and smuggling of migrants.	No details.	https://www.unodc.org/romena/en/mena-projects.html
PALESTINE	Education and Awarenes	Ongoi ng	SAWA	Women and children	Remedial	Trafficking, CSE and all forms of VAWG	It raises awareness and educates to combat all forms of violence, abuse and neglect against women and	No details.	https://sawa.ps/en/breeding-program-2/

	s Programm e						children and educates about relationships and family life, by providing workshops and awareness lectures for all segments of society		
PALESTINE	General programm e Shielding Everyone from Sexual Exploitati on, Abuse or Harassme nt	Ongoi ng	Women's Centre for Legal Aid and Counselling (WCLAC)	Women and girls	Remedial	CSE and all forms of VAWG	Strive to ensure as duty-bearers and providers of services to victims/survivors or gender-based violence we provide quality services and cultivate safe and healthy operational environment. Recently launched studies on sexual harassment in the workplace, sextortion and corruption from a gendered perspective and a review of Palestinian legislations concerning SEAH.		
PALESTINE, Ethiopia and Bangladesh	Closing the Accounta bility Gap	2022- 2025	WCLAC, CHS Alliance and the International Institute of Social Studies at Erasmus University Rotterdam	Women and girls	Preventative and Rescue	Sexual exploitation, abuse, and harassment	Assessing the current state of SEAH in-country and identifying accountability gaps through listening to affected people and other national/local actors through Participatory Action Research; assessing organisational-level accountability; considering organisational culture; examining collective accountability at country level. The project will host national workshops; co-design, test and adapt new strategies; share lessons from the project at a global learning event.		

PALESTINE	State of Palestine's Child Protection Programming	Unknown	UNICEF	children	Preventative	Child forced labour, child marriage, other forms of abuse and exploitation	Overall purpose is to ensure that more children, especially the most vulnerable, are better protected from violence, exploitation and grave violations. UNICEF SoP is working towards Strengthened investment in national child protection and prevention and response delivery systems; strengthening prevention and protection services for children in humanitarian settings; strengthening monitoring and documentation on grave violations; research to expand the evidence base on the vulnerabilities and gaps faced by children.N	No details.	https://www.unicef.org/sop/what-we-do/child-protection
PALESTINE	HAYA Project	2018-2021	UNODC and coalition of UN Agencies, funded by the Government of Canada	Women and girls	Preventative and Remedial	VAWG including forced marriage			
PALESTINE	Child Protection and Advocacy programming	Ongoing	World Vision						

PALESTINE	Improving Human Security in Palestine Through Life-saving Sexual and Reproductive Health (SRH) Services for People Most in Need	Since 2022	Palestinian Family Planning and Protection Association, funded by the government of Japan	Women, youth and vulnerable communities	Preventative	VAWG including sexual abuse and CSE	Address unmet needs b providing quality clinic-based sexual and reproductive health services for women, youth and vulnerable communities in Gaza and the West Bank	No details.	https://www.ippf.org/news/palestine-set-receive-600000-japan-support-human-security-and-sexual-and-reproductive
PALESTINE	UNWRA and SDG 8: Decent Work and Economic Growth	Ongoing	UNWRA	Refugees	Preventative, Policy and Remedial	Trafficking, child labour, CSE	Promote livelihoods by building the human capital of Palestine refugees and providing access to income generating opportunities and employment. Key activities include microfinance programmes, vocational training and technical education, and emergency cash for work programmes.	2.87 million refugees access UNRWA health services, 5.7 million refugees covered by our protection mandate, 390, 443 refugees supported by social safety net, 571, 003 microfinance loans provided.	https://www.unrwa.org/what-we-do
MENA countries including OTP	Connecting Voices and Action to End Violence Against Women	Since 2020	NASEEJ	Women and girls	Preventative, Rescue and Policy	CSE and forced marriage as well as other forms of VAWG	The project aims at supporting women's rights civil society organisations (WROs) in the target countries to effectively prevent and respond to sexual and gender-based violence (SGENDER-BASED VIOLENCE) during conflict. Support 23 partner WROs to be more	No details.	https://www.oxfamitalia.org/en/naseej/

	and Girls in the MENA Region						effective and independent in their work of providing response to sexual and gender-based violence in conflict settings. In Palestine, keys aims are to strengthen support and referral services and reporting systems for women and girls GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE survivors, transform social norms that perpetuate GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE with a special focus on youth engagement, and strengthen the development and implementation of national GENDER-BASED VIOLENCE legislation.			
OTP	Enhanced Knowledge and Capacity of Tripartite Partners to address the Worst Forms of Child Labour in the occupied Palestinian territory	2012-2014	ILO	children	Preventative and Policy	Forced labour	child	the project seeks to achieve three main objectives: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• To enhance the knowledge base on child labour in the occupied Palestinian territory.• To build the capacities of the Ministry of Labour (in the West Bank), and workers’ unions, and employers’ organizations (in the West Bank and Gaza) to address the WFCL more effectively.• To promote an institutional, legal and policy environment conducive to combatting child labour on a national level.	No details.	https://www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/WCMS_222638/lang-en/index.htm

OTP	Strengthening labour market governance in the Occupied Palestinian Territory through reformed labour law and enhanced social dialogue	2013-2018	ILO	Government	Policy	Forced labour	Project aims to revise the legal framework of market regulation; and strengthen social dialogue institutions in line with international labour standards by assessing existing laws to bring them in line with international labour standards; supporting the Ministry of Labour to advocate for the Palestineion of reforms; implement training activities and on the job technical support for members of a new tripartite committee to enable them to contribute to the process of labour reform; prepare an assessment of awareness-raising and training needs on the content of the new laws.	No details.	https://www.ilo.org/beirut/projects/WCMS_230264/lang-en/index.htm
OTP	Gender Equality and Women's Empowerment (GEWE)	2011	ILO	Women and girls	Preventative and Policy	CSE and trafficking	To strengthen the national Gender Machinery in PALESTINE	Development and implementation of national VAW strategy in 2011, draft of the Cross-Sectoral National Strategy on Gender 2011-2013, development of Media and Advocacy Strategy on GEWE issues, development of guidelines for Family Protection Units of the Police, curricula to eliminate VAW in schools and one for lawyers, judges and prosecutors, establishment of the National Committee on Women's Employment.	https://www.ilo.org/wcmsp5/groups/public/---ed_mas/---eval/documents/publication/wcms_205210.pdf



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About GAGE

Gender and Adolescence: Global Evidence (GAGE) is a nine-year longitudinal research programme generating evidence on what works to transform the lives of adolescent girls in the Global South. Visit www.gage.odi.org.uk for more information.

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Front cover: Jordanian, 15, m, out of school works in street coffee shop © Marcel Saleh/GAGE 2023