



Bidlisiw Foundation Inc.



BASELINE STUDY

PH 2023 Strengthening the Community-based
Protection Systems to Eliminate Worst Forms of
Child Labour (WFCL) in Visayas Region

**TERRE DES HOMMES NETHERLANDS
PHILIPPINES COUNTRY OFFICE**

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TABLE OF CONTENTS

ACKNOWLEDGEMENT	2
ACRONYMS	3
DEFINITION OF TERMS	4
LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES	6
EXECUTIVE SUMMARY	9
A. INTRODUCTION	17
B. METHODOLOGY	20
B.1. Data Collection Methods and Sample	22
B.2. Challenges and Limitations	24
C. FINDINGS	26
C.1. RESPONDENTS' PROFILE	26
C.2 IMPACT	35
C.3 OUTCOME 1	42
C.4 OUTCOME 2	57
C.5 OUTCOME 3	65
C.6 OUTCOME 4	69
D. BASELINE FIGURES	80
E. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS	85
ANNEX 1. REFERENCES	90
ANNEX 2: LIST OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS MET	91
ANNEX 3: DETAILED DATASETS ON KEY QUESTIONS PER STUDY AREA	92
ANNEX 4: VALIDATION HIGHLIGHTS	101

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ACRONYMS

4Ps	Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program
BCPC	Barangay Council for the Protection of Children
CFLGA	Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit
CL	Child Labour
CLPEP	Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program
CP	Child Protection
CSEC	Child Sexual Exploitation of Children
CSO	Civil Society Organization
CWC	Council for the Welfare of Children
CWG	Community Watch Group
DILG	Department of Interior and Local Government
DOLE	Department of Labor and Employment
DSWD	Department of Social Welfare and Development
FBO	Faith-based Organisation
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
KII	Key Informant Interviews
IACAT	Inter-agency Council Against Trafficking
ILO	International Labour Organization
LCAT	Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking
LCPC	Local Council for the Protection of Children
LGU	Local Government Unit
NCACL	National Council Against Child Labor
MSWDO	Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office
NGO	Non-governmental Organisations
OSAEC	Online Sexual Abuse and Exploitation of Children
OSEC	Online Sexual Exploitation of Children
PPACL	Philippine Program Against Child Labor
PSA	Philippine Statistics Authority
QRT	Quick Response Team
RA	Republic Act
TESDA	Technical Education and Skills Development Authority
TdH NL	Terre des Hommes Netherlands
VAWC	Violence Against Women and Children
VF	Voice of the Free
WFCL	Worst Forms of Child Labour

DEFINITION OF TERMS

Terms	International Labour Standards	Philippines
Child	all persons under the age of 18	person below eighteen (18) years of age or those over but are unable to fully take care of themselves or protect themselves from abuse, neglect, cruelty, exploitation, or discrimination because of a physical or mental disability or condition (RA 7610)
Child Labour	Work that deprives children of their childhood, their potential, and their dignity, and that is harmful to physical and mental development. It refers to work that is mentally, physically, socially, or morally dangerous and harmful to children; and/or interferes with their schooling by: depriving them of the opportunity to attend school; obliging them to leave school prematurely; or requiring them to attempt to combine school attendance with excessively long and heavy work	any work or economic activity performed by a child that subjects him or her to any form of exploitation or is harmful to his/her health, safety, or physical, mental, or psychosocial development (RA 9231 IRR)
Worst Forms of Child Labour	<p>The worst forms of child labour comprise:</p> <p>(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 use in armed conflict;</p> <p>(b) the use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;</p> <p>(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;</p> <p>(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 No. 182)</p>	<p>The worst forms of child labour shall refer to any of the following:</p> <p>(1) All forms of slavery, as defined under the "Anti-trafficking in Persons Act of 2003", or practices similar to slavery such as sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom and forced or compulsory labour, including recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;</p> <p>(2) The use, procuring, offering or exposing of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances; or</p> <p>(3) The use, procuring or offering of a child for illegal or illicit activities, including the production and trafficking of dangerous drugs and volatile substances prohibited under existing laws;</p> <p>(4) Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is hazardous or likely to be harmful to the health, safety or</p>

		<p>morals of children, such that it:</p> <p>a) Debases, degrades or demeans the intrinsic worth and dignity of a child as a human being;</p> <p>b) Exposes the child to physical, emotional or sexual abuse, or is found to be highly stressful psychologically or may prejudice morals;</p> <p>c) Is performed underground, underwater or at dangerous heights;</p> <p>d) Involves the use of dangerous machinery, equipment and tools such as powerdriven or explosive power-actuated tools;</p> <p>e) Exposes the child to physical danger such as, but not limited to the dangerous feats of balancing, physical strength or contortion, or which requires the manual transport of heavy loads;</p> <p>f) Is performed in an unhealthy environment exposing the child to hazardous working conditions, elements, substances, co-agents or processes involving ionising, radiation, fire, flammable substances, noxious components and the like, or to extreme temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations;</p> <p>g) Is performed under particularly difficult conditions;</p> <p>h) Exposes the child to biological agents such as bacteria, fungi, viruses, protozoans, nematodes and other parasites;</p> <p>i) Involves the manufacture or handling of explosives and other pyrotechnic products. (RA 9231)</p>
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LIST OF TABLES AND FIGURES

List of Tables

Table 1. Project Profile
Table 2. Distribution of Survey Respondents
Table 3. Distribution of KII Participants
Table 4. Distribution of FGD Participants
Table 5. Attitude Towards Child Labour Scoring
Table 6. Location of child respondents
Table 7. Gender of Child Respondents
Table 8. Age of Child Respondents
Table 9. Type of Disability
Table 10. School Attendance
Table 11. Living Arrangement
Table 12. Household size
Table 13. Parents' /Guardians' Work
Table 14. Gender of Parent/Guardian
Table 15. Age of Parent/Guardian
Table 16. Marital Status
Table 17. Highest Educational Level
Table 18. Main Occupation
Table 19. Status of Employment
Table 20. Main Source of Income
Table 21. Working Household Members
Table 22. Estimated Total Monthly Household Income
Table 23. Household's Additional Source of Income
Table 24. Household's Savings
Table 25. Household's Access to Credit
Table 26. Does any member of your family have insurance?
Table 27. Family Type
Table 28. Children in the Households
Table 29. 4Ps Beneficiary
Table 30. Participation in Skills Trainings or Income-generating Programs
Table 31. DOLE's 2022 Child Labour Data in Regions VI and VII
Table 32. Work Status of Children
Table 33. Duration of Work
Table 34. Payment for Work Performed
Table 35. Children's Daily and Monthly Earnings from Work
Table 36. Children and Parents' Awareness of Child Labour Cases in their Communities
Table 37. Forms of Child Labour in their Communities
Table 38. Do you know about the worst forms of child labour?
Table 39. If yes, where did you know or learn about WFCL?
Table 40. Are you aware of the hazards of WFCL?
Table 41. Children - Examples of WFCL that the respondents are aware of
Table 42. Children - Source of Information about WFCL issue
Table 43. Do you know about the worst forms of child labour
Table 44. Parents - Examples of WFCL that you are aware of?
Table 45. Parents - Source of information about WFCL
Table 46. Are you aware of the potential dangers that your children may be exposed to when engaged in WFCL?

Table 47. Source of Information about these dangers

Table 48. Reasons people engage in WFCL

Table 49. Do you think a child should be working?

Table 50. Why do you think children are engaged in the worst forms of child labour?

Table 51. What do you think are the effects of child labour on children?

Table 52. Do you think children should be hired to work?

Table 53. What do you think are the effects of child labour on children?

Table 54. Awareness of existing laws or local ordinances on child labour

Table 55. Source of information about relevant laws and local ordinances on WFCL

Table 56. Awareness of existing laws or local ordinances on WFCL in your city/ municipality or barangay

Table 57. Source of information about these laws and local ordinances

Table 58. Community or school activities promoting awareness on child rights and WFCL

Table 59. Children's willingness to engage in activities that will promote child's rights and prevent WFCL

Table 60. Parent/Guardian's willingness to participate in activities that will help prevent and protect their children from WFCL

Table 61. Do you have any suggestion/s on how children should prevent WFCL?

Table 62. How do you think your community should respond to minimise or stop these WFCL?

Table 63. Do you have any suggestion/s on how parents should respond, educate, and protect their children from WFCL?

Table 64. Awareness of service/s in the community that can help those who experience WFCL

Table 65. Available services in the community to help WFCL victims

Table 66. Are these services easily accessible to children and families in your community?

Table 67. Source of Information about services to help WFCL children

Table 68. Do you know any service/s in your community that can help those who experience WFCL?

Table 69. If yes, what services are available in your community to help children engaged in WFCL?

Table 70. Are these services easily accessible to children and families in your community?

Table 71. Who provided these services?

Table 72. Source of Information about these services

Table 73. What other support/services related to protection and prevention against WFCL do children need?

Table 74. Do you know of other organizations or groups that respond to child labour issue?

Table 75. If yes, what are the activities conducted by these groups?

Table 76. Are you a member of any children's associations/ organisations?

Table 77. What are the activities conducted by these groups?

Table 78. Do you know of other organisations or groups that respond to WFCL?

Table 79. Is your LGU doing anything to address WFCL in your community?

Table 80. Have you heard about the barangay or local council for the protection of children or BCPC?

Table 81. Do you know if your barangay has a Barangay Council for the Protection of Children?

Table 82. Have you heard about the barangay or local council for the protection of children or BCPC?

Table 83. Do you know what to do if your friend or a child you know is engaged in the WFCL?

Table 84. Where did you know or learn about these?

Table 85. Will you report cases of WFCL in your community to authorities?

Table 86. What would you do if you learned that your child or another child/ren in your neighbourhood was involved in any form of WFCL?

Table 87. Parents - Have you reported cases of any form of WFCL to authorities in the past year?

Table 88. Parents - Will you report cases of WFCL to authorities?

Table 89. List of NGOs/CSOs in Iloilo City and Negros Oriental and their Programs to address WFCL and Child Protection

Table 90. LGU Capacity in responding to WFCL

Table 91. Project Outcome/Output Indicators and Baseline Values

List of Figures

Figure 1. Children - What do you know about WFCL?

Figure 2. Parents - What do you know about WFCL?

Figure 3. Comparison of Attitude on WFCL: Children vs Parents

Figure 4. Detailed Children's Attitude on WFCL

Figure 5. Detailed Parents' Attitude on WFCL

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

Terre des Hommes and its partners, Bidlisiw Foundation and Children's Legal Bureau are implementing a project aimed at Strengthening Community-based Protection Systems to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in the Visayas Region, particularly Iloilo City and four (4) municipalities in Negros Oriental through a multi-stakeholder approach. The project aims to achieve the following: 1) Community members, Civil Society Organizations (CSOs), private sector, and government agencies have increased knowledge on WFCL issues and protection within the COVID context; 2) Improved access to services for WFCL victims and their families; 3) Increased capacity of children, families, and duty bearers in addressing WFCL issues; and 4) Improved WFCL-related policies and programs at the local, district, and national levels.

This study was commissioned to establish baseline data for the set of indicators outlined in the project's results framework. The baseline results will be used as a measurement to monitor the project's progress against the set indicators throughout the project implementation. The baseline study was carried out in Iloilo City and four areas in Negros Oriental, namely Dumaguete City, Dauin, Sibulan, and Zamboangita. A mix of quantitative and qualitative methods, particularly document review, survey, focus group discussions (FGD), and key informant interviews (KII), were employed to gather data to understand the communities' current condition in relation to the project's Theory of Change.

361 child respondents were surveyed of which, 56% were males, 43% were females and 1% opted not to disclose their gender. The majority (69%) of children were 12-15 years old while the remaining 31% were ages 16-17. Most (73%) of them reported not having a disability. Nearly all (96%) children were enrolled in school and were living with their parents.

A large percentage (86%) of the 361 parent/adult respondents were females with only 14% males. Many (35%) were between the ages of 31 and 40, and the 41 to 50 age range (29%). The vast majority (64%) were married or living together with a partner (10%). Almost all had completed some form of schooling up to the tertiary (college) level. A little more than three-fourths (77%) of adult respondents were economically active at the time of the survey and were engaged in various forms of livelihoods/sources of income. However, a large proportion of respondents (more than 63%) were living below the poverty line, confirming respondents' low-income status. The average household size of respondents was 6, greater than the national average of 4. Most households do not save but can borrow money from individuals they know. 4 in 10 households were recipients of the government's 4Ps or Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, which provides conditional cash grants to extremely poor households. Very few (13%) adult respondents have participated in skills training or income-generating programs.

MAIN FINDINGS AND CONCLUSIONS

I. Project Outcome/Output Indicators

Project Outcomes/ Outputs	Project Indicators	Key Baseline Information
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<p>Impact: Elimination of Worst forms of Child Labor (WFCL) through a multi-stakeholder approach in Visayas Region</p>	<p>Decrease in incidence of WFCL in the targeted areas.</p>	<p>Based on DOLE Regions VI and VII 2022 monitoring data, there were 329 profiled child labourers in Iloilo City, with the largest prevalence of child labour in barangays Hinactacan, La Paz (59), Calumpang (36), and San Pedro, Molo (28). Around 79%, or 260 out of 329 children, were removed from child labour, while 69 remained. In Negros Oriental, there were a total of 5,664 profiled child laborers in the province. DOLE failed to provide the study with information on the number of child laborers removed and the number of remaining child laborers in Negros Oriental. However, according to DOLE Region VII 2022 monitoring data, 3,850 children were removed from child labour while 11,928 remained. Profiled child labourers and their families were provided direct interventions such as livelihood assistance, among others or DOLE directed them to other agencies and organisations through the Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program (CLPEP).</p>
	<p>% of under-age children removed from worst forms of child labour and enrolled in education, and are mainstreamed into formal education, or have completed compulsory education</p>	<p>According to DOLE 2022 monitoring data, 260 children were rescued from child labor in Iloilo City, while 3,850 were removed from child labor across Region VII, including Negros Oriental.</p> <p>Based on Department of Education's enrollment data, Regions VI and VII each have 2.2 million or a total of 4.4 million students enrolled for the school year 2022-2023. These include learners from kindergarten to Grade 12.</p> <p>Further, the Philippine Statistics Authority's 2022 Annual Poverty Indicators Survey shows that 80.9% of Region VII's population aged 5 to 24 years old was enrolled or attending school in 2022, while 19.1% were not. 80% of Region VI's students aged 5 to 24 were enrolled in 2022, while 20% did not attend school.</p>

Outcome 1: Community members, CSOs, Private Sectors, and Government agencies have increased knowledge on Worst forms of Child labour (WFCL) issues and protection within the COVID context	<p>Increased % of community members, children, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Private sectors and government agencies with knowledge on WFCL issues</p>	<p>According to the survey data, there is a low level of awareness among children of the worst forms of child labour, with only 15% being aware of it (55% Cis-Male, 43% Cis-Female, 2% Prefer not to say). When asked what they knew about WFCL, many of the respondents who were familiar mentioned construction work (28%), exploitation and abuse (13%), forced labour (13%), and prostitution (11%). Children learned about WFCL through their school (49%), barangay (25%), the internet (25%), and television (15%).</p> <p>Similarly, only 24% of parents knew about the WFCL (15% Cis-Male, 85% Cis-Female), which was slightly higher than the children's level. Those knowledgeable with WFCL described incidents they were aware of, including forced labour (32%), CSEC (21%), OSEC (20%), forced begging (11%), farming (11%), child domestic work (6%), mining and quarrying (2%), and child soldiers (1%). Their primary sources of information on WFCL were the barangay (43%), television (38%), and the internet (25%).</p> <p>Voice for the Free works throughout Negros Oriental in several projects to prevent and respond to human trafficking and domestic slavery, it is currently implementing Community Watch Group (Bantay Komunidad) to address child labor issues in the municipality of Zamboanguita.</p> <p>Key informant interviews also show that representatives of LGUs of Iloilo City, Dumaguete City, Zamboanguita and Sibulan - to a varying extent - have awareness of WFCL issues.</p>
	<p>Number of private companies/ CSOs with Child safeguarding policy/ standard in place to prevent WFCL</p>	<p>2 CSOs that were interviewed said that they have a child safeguarding policy</p> <p>0 private companies</p>
Outputs Output 1.1. Increased awareness on WFCL issues among children, families,	<p>Number of boys/girls participated in awareness raising sessions relevant to WFCL</p>	<p>0</p>

communities, CSOs, private sectors and local government agencies	Number of male/female community members that participated in awareness raising activities	0
	Number of CSO representatives/private sector staff/local government officials participated in the sensitisation sessions.	0
	Number of WFCL reported cases received from different stakeholders at the local level	0
Outcome 2: Improved access of services for the WFCL victims and their families	Number of WFCL male and female victims' and their family members accessing specialised services	<p>Survey data (from 361 child respondents) show that the percentage of children who are aware of the services for WFCL victims in their communities is extremely low at 6%, with almost all (94%) children not knowing or unsure if such services existed. The great majority of children were not aware of organisations or groups responding to child labour issues. In particular, most child respondents were unaware (71%) and unsure (19%) of organisations or groups such as NGOs, CBOs, churches, and businesses that address child labour issues.</p> <p>Awareness of support services for victims of WFCL among parents is very low, with only 14% (49 out of 361 parent respondents) being familiar with such services. Awareness among parents of organisations or groups that respond to WFCL is low, with only 18% being aware of organisations or groups that respond to WFCL, including churches, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations (CBOs), and youth groups</p> <p>In addition, a large proportion of parents/adult respondents did not know (47%) and were unsure (34%) whether their local government is doing anything to address WFCL in their community.</p>
	Number of agencies providing services for WFCL victims and their families	19 organisations with projects or programmes related to WFCL and child protection in general are present in the communities. 12 of

		<p>them are operating in Iloilo Province while 7 are in Negros Oriental.</p> <p>Some of the organisations operating in the target areas include World Vision, World Hope International, CHILD Initiative, CAMELEON, ERDA Foundation, Little Children of the Philippines, Voice of the Free and GWAVE. A complete list is reflected in Table 89.</p>
Output 2.1. Boys and girls know where to find and how to access specialised services	Number of boy/girl WFCL victims or at risk accessing specialised services (e.g. shelter, health services, counselling, educational services, legal aid, foster care)	0
Output 2.2. Community based child and family protection mechanisms (CBCPMs) and committees strengthened to effectively prevent and support the response to WFCL	Number of child protection committees (CPC) supported	0
	Number of local Child Protection Committees (CPC) with approved action plan and a corresponding budget proposal	0
	Number of trained CPC members on how to respond to WFCL cases	0
Outcome 3: Increased capacity of children, families and duty bearers in addressing WFCL issues	Number of children and parents who report WFCL cases	0
	Number of under-age working children who have left child labour and who are enrolled in formal or informal education or training	0
Output 3.1. Rights holders (children, youth, families) and Duty bearers and service providers are capacitated on addressing and responding to WFCL issues	Number of boys/girls trained on WFCL and how to report cases	0
	Number of service providers trained on how to handle WFCL cases	0
Output 3.2. Private sector actors work towards eliminating	Number of private sector staff trained on WFCL prevention	0
	Number of dialogues with	0

WFCL from their value chain	private sector representatives on WFCL prevention	
	Number of private companies compliant with child labour free community and workplace (Republic Act 9231)	0
Outcome 4. Improved WFCL related policies and programs at the local, district and national level	Number of Local Government Units (LGUs) / Government Agencies developed programs and budget appropriation for WFCL issues	1 - Iloilo (programs specific to WFCL issues) 4 - Dauin, Dumaguete, Zamboanguita, Sibulan (programs for children in general)
	Number of policies/guidelines created/amended to prevent WFCL	8 1. Iloilo City (Children's Welfare Code) 2. Dumaguete City (Local Code on Children, Executive Order on Creation of LCPC) 3. Zamboanguita (Local Children Welfare Code, Executive Order Child Friendly Local Governance Audit Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force) 4. Sibulan (Child and Youth Welfare Code and ordinances on Creating Anti-Human Trafficking Help Desk, Establishing a Crisis and Rehabilitation Center)
Output 4.1. Increased coordination and collaboration between CPS actors	Number of partnerships established with Barangay Council for the protection of children (BCPC) and/or government agencies	0
	Number of and frequency of multi-stakeholder meetings on WFCL/ Child protection (CP)	0
	Number of WFCL cases referred to local authorities for appropriate intervention	0
Output 4.2. Relevant government agencies improved policies, guidelines and programs to effectively combat WFCL	Number of policies relevant on addressing WFCL issues passed by government agencies and LGU	8

RECOMMENDATIONS

Outcome 1: Community members, CSOs, Private Sectors, and Government agencies have increased knowledge on Worst forms of Child labour (WFCL) issues and protection within the COVID context

- Develop a long-term social and behaviour change communications (SBCC) strategy that focuses on raising WFCL awareness and co-developing engaging and innovative materials with target audiences that are age- and context-appropriate, focusing on practical tips to increase awareness among the covered communities and encourage reporting of cases.
- Maximise the use of technology, including social media platforms, to raise WFCL awareness and prevention, as well as to reach out to more children.
- Design a robust capacity building curriculum for different groups in the community that is not only focused on WFCL and the project's thematic areas but also on project implementation support to include safeguarding, communication, and monitoring.
- Build the capacity of people's organisations/sectoral associations and local champions in the communities not only to support implementation but also for establishing project sustainability and social accountability mechanisms.

Outcome 2: Improved access of services for the WFCL victims and their families

- Develop and carry out holistic programs to tackle WFCL that should focus on strengthening household capacity, including providing livelihood assistance or linking to organisations that can support livelihood or income generating opportunities for community members.
- Provide technical assistance and capacity building support to local governments and local child protection structures, particularly at the barangay and municipal level, in developing programs, projects, and activities, including the development of local policies to address WFCL, and strengthening WFCL reporting, referral and case management systems.

Outcome 3: Increased capacity of children, families, and duty bearers in addressing WFCL issues

- Develop the capacities of local government units and local child protection structures, particularly at the barangay level, to develop programs, projects, and activities, including the development of local policies to address WFCL, and strengthen reporting, referral and case management systems on WFCL.
- Influence local government's social welfare and development and law enforcement authorities to create an organised, centralised, digitised and LGU-managed database of WFCL cases that includes age and gender disaggregation data to serve as the primary reference for regular monitoring and identification of appropriate support services for families affected by WFCL.
- Promote community action against WFCL. Acknowledge the important role of local community members and engage them in preventing and combating WFCL through capacity strengthening on relevant training themes. Consider organising Community Watch Groups (CWGs) and linking them with local government structures to help in proactively addressing the child labour issue by monitoring the education performance and work status of children and promoting awareness on WFCL prevention.
- Adopt participatory community-based approaches (e.g. community catch-up program to directly engage community members to ensure that needs, priorities, and vulnerabilities of the people are addressed properly. This should help facilitate an effective implementation and delivery of projects and at the same time boost community members' ownership of the interventions, as they see themselves as active participants to the process and not merely passive recipients.

- Support responsible and positive parenting initiatives to combat harmful social norms that perpetuate child labour. Some sociocultural views endorse child labour, such that some parents believe that allowing their children to work has positive effects on character development and skill improvement in children. Through strengthened parental responsibility, parents will be guided to act in their child's best interests to the best of their knowledge and beliefs.

Outcome 4. Improved WFCL related policies and programs at the local, district and national level

- Work with partner LGUs in pushing for the passage of a localised/adopted version of the national law (RA 9231) on elimination of the worst forms of child labour. The project should have a clear policy agenda that would determine the modalities of policy influencing interventions that need to be carried out in order to achieve the project's advocacy goals.
- Organise a Child Labor Technical Working Group (TWG) or a Child Labor Education Taskforce (CLETF) at the city/municipal level as a platform for multi-stakeholder collaborative engagement among the relevant government agencies, private partners, schools, and communities, where plans and programs for child protection and child labour reduction can be actively tackled. The TWG/CLETF may serve as an ad-hoc LCPC to support the policy advocacy efforts of the project.

General Recommendations

- In lieu of limited government data on a number of indicators, a detailed profiling of selected beneficiaries of the project should be conducted before the start of project implementation and delivery of services in the coverage areas which can be treated as baseline values as it describes the state of the beneficiaries before receiving an intervention.
- Given the challenges in availability of government data, the project may also revisit the approved logical framework, specifically the identified data sources for measurement of indicators, and see if prior assumptions still hold up. Additional data sources not initially identified during the project design stage may be added in lieu of limited data from the government side.
- Support collaboration in expanding knowledge on WFCL through research

A. INTRODUCTION

A.1 PROJECT BACKGROUND

Around 80 million children worldwide were victims of the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) by the end of 2020, with 9 million additional children at risk due to COVID-19 impacts (ILO, 2021). Despite a ban on the employment of children under the age of 15 (R.A. 7658), WFCL, including the Sexual Exploitation of Children (SEC), is one of the Philippines' most pressing problems, with over 800,000 children are engaged in hazardous labour (Philippines Statistics Authority, 2021). WFCL in the Philippines is caused by a multitude of socioeconomic factors, including limited employment opportunities, poverty, limited access to education (particularly as a result of COVID, only 10% of schools have resumed in-person lessons), social norms (in some families, children are obliged to work to support their families), and weak regulations, monitoring and enforcement on child labour (e.g., R.A. 7610).

Western Visayas and Central Visayas are two of the regions in the Philippines with the highest prevalence of child labour. In Iloilo, the overall number of profiled child labourers and cases increased by 23% from 2019 (4,204) to 2021 (5,404), even though 643 children had been rescued from child labour by various efforts and initiatives in 2020. The bulk of the 5404 child labourers (CLs) in 2021 were in farming (1804), Other (1197), fishery (752), construction (615), domestic work (556), and quarrying and mining (136), while others were in manufacturing, forestry, transport, and waste management. In 2021, a total of 6,681 child labour cases were found throughout the province of Negros Oriental. Within the Central Visayas, Negros Oriental has the largest number of profiled child labourers, with reports citing 20 cities and municipalities in the province as having child labour cases. Although agriculture and fishing account for the majority of jobs, domestic work ranks third, followed by construction and manufacturing.

Given this context, Terre des Hommes and its Partners are implementing a project aimed at Strengthening Community-based Protection Systems to Eliminate the WFCL in the Visayas Region through a multi-stakeholder approach.

Table 1. Project Profile

Project	Strengthening Community-based Protection Systems to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour in Visayas Region
Project Goal	Elimination of WFCL through a Multi-stakeholder Approach in Visayas Region
Project Outcomes	<ul style="list-style-type: none">• Outcome 1: Community members, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Private Sector, and Government agencies have increased knowledge on WFCL issues and protection within the COVID context• Outcome 2: Improved access of services for the WFCL victims and their families• Outcome 3: Increased capacity of children, families and duty bearers in addressing WFCL issues• Outcome 4: Improved WFCL related policies and programs at the local, district and national level

Areas	Iloilo City Negros Oriental- Dumaguete City, Dauis, Sibulan and Zamboanguita
Project Period	January 2023 – December 2025
Final Beneficiaries	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Children and youth (including children with disabilities and LGBTI+) that are vulnerable to WFCL or victims of WFCL (100 Children and youth for capacity building and 2,000 children and youth for awareness-raising) • 150 Families with children and youth that are vulnerable to WFCL or victims of WFCL
Target Groups	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 1,000 Community members of Iloilo and Negros Oriental • 10 Local CSOs from Iloilo and Negros Oriental. • 2 Local Council for the Protection of Children (LCPCs) based in Iloilo and Negros Oriental • 9 LGUs with ~18 Barangays in Iloilo and Negros Oriental. • 2 Government agencies: Regional Council Against Child Labour (RCACL) and Department of Labour and Employment (DOLE) • 90 Private companies • Private and public schools in the targeted LGUs
Implementing Partners	Bidlisiw Foundation, Inc. Children's Legal Bureau

A.2 ABOUT THE BASELINE STUDY

OBJECTIVES

The baseline study seeks to establish the baseline values for the project's key relevant indicators outlined in the project results framework. The baseline study report will be used as a measurement to monitor the project's progress against the set indicators throughout the project implementation.

Specifically, the baseline study aims:

1. To collect baseline data for the project goal, outcome/ output indicators indicated in the Project Logical Framework.
2. To gather and analyse the incidence and magnitude of WFCL cases (including SEC) in the selected project areas (from 2021-2023).
3. To collect data on the organised groups and sectors present in the communities and their projects or programmes related to WFCL (e.g., CSOs/ NGOs, schools, child protection committees, private sectors) and coordinating mechanisms established
4. To gather information and assess the current capacity of the 9 local government units on the programs to respond to WFCL cases including relevant local policies and ordinances being enacted at the city/municipality and barangay levels to address the issue of worst forms of child labour.

SCOPE OF THE STUDY

The baseline study focused on collecting relevant information on the project's four main components, namely:

1. building knowledge on WFCL issues and protection within the post-COVID context;
2. improving access to services for the WFCL victims and their families;
3. building capacity of children, families, and duty bearers in addressing WFCL issues; and
4. improving WFCL-related policies and programs at the local, district and national level.

B. METHODOLOGY

The Evaluation Team used a mixed methods approach to address the specific objectives of the baseline study. It employed quantitative and qualitative methods to gather data that will provide a better understanding of the target communities' current condition in relation to the project's objectives and results framework.

Following a participatory approach, the study involved key project stakeholders including target beneficiaries and local communities to determine the incidence and magnitude of WFCL cases (including SEC) in the selected project areas (from 2021-2023), identify organised groups and sectors present in the communities and their projects or programmes related to WFCL and assess the current capacity of local government units on programs to respond to WFCL cases, including relevant local policies and ordinances being enacted and implemented at the city/municipality and barangay levels to address the issue of WFCL.

Using an intersectional approach, gender equality and social inclusion were considered in the selection of respondents and the analysis of the findings. The study incorporated gender-sensitive and inclusive approaches that acknowledge the inequalities of women and men and the diverse needs and experiences of vulnerable and marginalised groups. It aimed to have gender-balanced and children with disabilities respondents, whenever possible. The consultant team adhered to ethical and behavioural protocols in conducting research and data protection especially since the study deals with a sensitive topic and highly vulnerable individuals. It carried out the assessment rigorously to ensure that information is valid and reliable and based on quality data and analysis.

The baseline study was conducted in Iloilo City, Dumaguete City, and the municipalities of Dauin, Sibulan, and Zamboanguita in Negros Oriental from December 2023 to February 2024.

DEVELOPMENT AND TESTING OF DATA COLLECTION TOOLS

The evaluation team designed the data collection tools based on the data requirements of the study, taking into account the project outcomes and outputs to measure. The various sections of the instruments were outlined in relation to the research objectives and key research questions. To aid in drafting the questions, the evaluation team examined project design documents, as well as existing and well-tested questionnaires used in other OSEC-related TdH NL projects and those used by other organisations implementing similar projects. The evaluation team developed the survey questionnaire for the study, which was then reviewed by the TdH NL team. Pre-testing of approved tools and a mock survey were facilitated to check the data collection tools. Questionnaires were modified based on the context and result of the pre-tests. Once the questionnaire content and design were completed, testing of tools took place during in-classroom enumerators' training and in a scenario closer to the reality during fieldwork. As a result of the tests, questionnaire revisions were made to make them clearer and easier to understand. Once the survey tool's content was finalised, the questionnaire was back-translated into the local language and validated.

TRAINING TO DATA COLLECTION TEAM

To ensure high-quality data collection, a two-day Enumerators' Training was conducted prior to the field data collection. The agenda included an introduction and overview of the baseline study, a review of survey protocols, review of the questionnaire (paper version) where each question was read aloud and discussed. The training also covered the review of research standards and ethics, including child safeguarding protocols, KoboCollect mobile data collection, in-classroom mock interviews, and assessments, as well as field testing. The training was highly interactive. It consisted of both classroom and field training. Practical exercises were carried out with enumerators to test their understanding of the questionnaire. Participants' suggestions and comments were taken into account to improve the survey instrument. Questions that were likely to be difficult for respondents to understand were modified accordingly.

COVID-19 CONSIDERATIONS

Due to the COVID-19 pandemic, the team maximised both online and offline tools that are most accessible to study participants during the data collection. Workshops were conducted using online meeting tools to ensure the safety of all participants. Some interviews were conducted remotely via phone calls, emails, and other online platforms to adhere to physical distancing and other health protocols. Local research assistants and enumerators were hired for easy mobility and coordination.

Utmost care was exercised to ensure against catching the virus and/or spreading it to both the evaluation team and study participants. Face-to-face activities were carefully planned and executed.

DATA MANAGEMENT AND ANALYSIS

Both raw and encoded data were stored in a cloud-based storage system since the study was conducted in different areas of the Philippines. A cloud-based storage system allowed the evaluation team to work remotely. Only the core evaluation team has access to the storage system. All raw and cleaned datasets will be shared with TdH NL at the end of the assignment.

Quantitative data were processed through SPSS to generate descriptive statistics. Qualitative data from the desk review, KIIs, and FGDs were transcribed, consolidated, and processed using content and thematic analysis. These were used to validate and/or provide a substantial explanation of the result of the study. Evidence maps were prepared to ensure that all findings collected were linked to the research questions/ objectives. This helped establish the validity of results through triangulation from the different data sources.

DATA QUALITY ASSURANCE

The evaluation team set up mechanisms to ensure that data integrity, quality, and reliability are maintained throughout the study. This includes strategies for collecting only necessary data based on the project's data requirements, preventing errors from being entered into datasets, taking precautions before and during the data collection, and establishing procedures for using data in a study. Steps were taken during the design of data collection instruments to ensure that questions were aligned with the key research questions and that only necessary data were collected. Before the data collection tool was finalised, the evaluation team performed several iterations and pilot

testing. Prior to beginning the data collection process, the evaluation team planned and established clear protocols for data collection, ensuring that all data associated with the project adhere to the same standards and consistent format. Using a mobile data collection tool like KoboCollect, which provides ease and promotes consistency, with features that allow one to control how data is entered, makes maintaining data integrity easier. Ultimately, proper staff training in all data collection and analysis procedures ensures that everyone is on the same page and understands how their data handling tasks contribute to the overall data quality goals of the assignment. During the actual data collection, the evaluation team performed regular real-time data quality checks. The survey supervisor checked the completed forms before finalising and sending the forms to the database. At the database level, random quality checks are conducted as well. Furthermore, the team had a database management system, as well as a plan and method for analysing results.

B.1. Data Collection Methods and Sample

Desk Review. The evaluation team carried out a Document Review to review and analyze available literature including legal and policy documents, statistics, and other relevant literature or data to understand what has been studied, analyzed, and recommended thus far in relation to the incidence of WFCL in Iloilo and Negros Oriental, particularly in project areas. The team referred to project documents (i.e., concept notes, frameworks) to understand the different phases of the project, including prevailing contexts, implementation, strategies, and challenges as well as to ensure that all data requirements are met. The result of the document review informed the development of the inception report which provided details on the overall research framework including methods, tools, and analysis for the study.

Children and Parents' Survey. A Knowledge, Attitude, and Practices (KAP) survey was administered to children and parents/caregivers/guardians in the target areas to assess their knowledge, attitudes, and practices in preventing and addressing WFCL. The drawing of samples was carried out in coordination with the TdH NL team.

Mobile Data Gathering using KoboCollect was used for more efficient data collection. Local enumerators were hired and trained to use the survey instrument and conduct the survey, following the prescribed research protocols. The evaluation team trained and supervised the enumerators to ensure reliable and efficient data gathering. Before conducting the survey with children, both parents/caregivers/guardians and children were asked for their informed consent. The face-to-face method was primarily used to collect data.

SAMPLING

The sample size for the survey is **361 households**, including the 10% buffer. Interval sampling was carried out to randomly select the respondent households in the sample barangays. The sample was proportionately distributed across the 5 target LGUs that will be covered by the project. The sample size was calculated at a 95% confidence level and 5% margin of error based on the target of 2,100 children and youth beneficiaries, spread evenly between the two provinces.

A two-step sampling method was used to select the survey respondents. First, sample respondents were allocated proportionately to the covered cities/municipalities. Next, interval sampling was carried out to randomly select the respondent households in the

sample barangays. Households with 12-17-year-old children from the sample barangays comprised the sample population of the study. Each household had two respondents: 1) the head of the household (or another adult in the absence of the household head) and 2) a 12-17-year-old child. Table 2 presents the actual distribution of the survey respondents according to gender and location.

Table 2. Distribution of Survey Respondents

Area	Children	Parent/ Caregiver	Total
Iloilo City, Iloilo Province	198	198	396
Dauin, Negros Oriental	42	42	84
Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental	40	40	80
Sibulan, Negros Oriental	40	40	80
Zamboanguita, Negros Oriental	41	41	82
Total	361	361	722

Key Informant Interviews. Seventeen (17) interviews were conducted with key project stakeholders in Iloilo and Negros Oriental including government officials, CSOs, and other duty bearers to generate relevant information and get a better understanding and insight into their awareness and capacity to prevent and respond to WFCL. The following table shows the actual distribution of KII participants for this study.

Table 3. Distribution of KII Participants

Respondents		Total
LCPC representative	Iloilo City	1
DOLE	Iloilo Field Office, Negros Oriental Field Office	2
MSWDO	Dumaguete City, Dauin, Zamboanguita, Sibulan, Molo District	5
PSWDO	Negros Oriental	1
DSWD Region VI	Children and Youth Program Focal	1
DepEd	Child Protection Officer Iloilo City	1
BLGU representatives	Dumaguete City, Zamboanguita, Iloilo City	3
CSOs	Voice of the Free, International Care Ministries	2
Business owner	JustPrint and FoodBox, Iloilo City	1
Total		17

Focus Group Discussions. Eight (8) group discussions were carried out with four (4) target groups to capture perspectives, capacities, and current practices of children

and their families, barangays, and LGUs on prevention and response to WFCL. A total of 40 children, youth, and parents (53% males and 47% females) from Iloilo City and Negros Oriental participated in the FGDs. Participatory tools were developed to guide the groups in portraying their experiences, feedback, and other insights on the issue as well as their recommendations moving forward to address WFCL. Discussion guides and questions were translated into the local language. The result of the FGDs was used to explain, validate, or substantiate the result of other data collection tools. The table below displays the distribution of participants in the FGDs.

Table 4. Distribution of FGD Participants

FGD Group	Male	Female	Total No. of Pax	Total No. of FGDs
FGD with children (12-14 yrs)	3	5	8	2
FGD with children (15-17 yrs)	10	3	13	2
FGD with youth	3	0	3	1
FGD with parents	5	11	16	3
Total	21	19	40	8

Validation Workshop. Participatory sessions with selected parents and children respondents from the barangays that were part of the study were organised to present the findings of the baseline study, taking gender and disability into account, for further sense-making.

Scoring and Interpretation

The survey tool contained questions developed to measure and assess the respondents' awareness, attitude, and practices regarding child labour and WFCL.

To measure respondents' attitude towards child labour and WFCL, participants indicated their attitude by marking if they agree or disagree with statements about child labour. The responses were assigned values and were scored as follows: strongly disagree - 1, disagree - 2, neutral - 3, agree - 4, strongly agree - 5, and negatively stated items received a reversed score. The responses were then summed up to a maximum score of 5. A positive attitude implies acceptance of beliefs that promote child labour prevention and child protection, and a positive response when it occurs. A negative attitude implies acceptance of beliefs that would facilitate and/or lead to the occurrence of child labour and WFCL practices as well as a negative reaction when it occurs. The total mean score was computed for each respondent group to identify their attitude using the following scoring and interpretation:

Table 5. Attitude Towards Child Labour Scoring

Children/Parents' Mean Score	Interpretation
1.00 - 1.80	Very Negative
1.81 - 2.60	Negative
2.61 - 3.40	Moderate

3.41 - 4.20	Positive
4.21 - 5.00	Very positive

B.2. Challenges and Limitations

The evaluation team encountered the following constraint during the study:

- Data collection activities were slowed because many respondents were unavailable during the scheduled data collection due to the Christmas holidays. Interviews and group discussions were rescheduled for January-February 2024.
- Child labour incidence in the coverage areas of the project, especially at the barangay and city/municipal levels, is limited, if available. The 2022 Working Children Situation Report of the Philippine Statistics Authority - which is considered as the country's official child labour data source - has data up to the regional level only. Similarly, DOLE's regular child labour monitoring data are not extensively disseminated, even among key government agencies and local governments. For example, in Negros Oriental, the Provincial Social Welfare and Development Office does not have a copy of DOLE's Negros Oriental Field Office child labor data in the province. Another reason for this is that DOLE's local presence is only at the regional level (with the exception of the Public Employment Service Office (PESO) which operates at the city/municipal level). According to LCPC representatives, "among the challenges they faced in responding to WFCL were a lack of budget allocation, no reporting of WFCL victims from the communities, a lack of manpower and facilities for WFCL victims, a lack of awareness among victims and parents about WFCL..." and "the DOLE Negros Oriental Field Office official explained that the child labor issue is not a priority for the majority of the province's LCPCs due to a lack of knowledge and understanding of the magnitude of the problem, with some even denying that it exists in their communities". This helps explain why availability of WFCL data in coverage areas is limited.

C. FINDINGS

This section presents the findings that address the objectives of the baseline study.

C.1. RESPONDENTS' PROFILE

CHILD RESPONDENTS

361 children from the five project sites served as respondents for the baseline study. A little over half (55%) were from Iloilo City and 45% were from Negros Oriental province with 12% from Dauin while Dumaguete City, Sibulan, and Zamboanguita each accounting for 11% of the respondents.

Table 6. Location of Child Respondents

Area	Frequency	Percent
Iloilo City, Iloilo Province	198	55%
Dauin, Negros Oriental	42	12%
Dumaguete City, Negros Oriental	40	11%
Sibulan, Negros Oriental	40	11%
Zamboanguita, Negros Oriental	41	11%
Total	361	100%

Of the 361 child respondents, 56% were males, 43% were females and 1% opted not to disclose their gender. In terms of age, the majority (69%) of children were 12-15 years old while the remaining 31% were ages 16-17.

Table 7. Gender of Child Respondents

Response	Frequency	Percent
Cis ¹ -Male	201	56%
Cis-Female	156	43%
Neither male nor female	1	0.28%
Other	1	0.28%
Prefer not to say	2	0.55%
Total	361	100%

Table 8. Age of Child Respondents

Response	Frequency	Percent
12 years old	76	21%
13 years old	61	17%
14 years old	60	17%
15 years old	49	14%
16 years old	60	17%
17 years old	55	15%
Total	361	100%

The majority (73%) of child respondents reported not having a disability. Of the 27% who had disabilities, the types of disabilities reported included difficulty seeing (9%),

¹ Cis-gender - relating to a person whose gender identity corresponds with the sex registered for them at birth

difficulty remembering or concentrating (7%), difficulty communicating (3%), difficulty with self-care (3%), difficulty hearing (2%) and difficulty walking or climbing steps (2%).

Table 9. Type of Disability

Difficulty	Frequency	Percent
No difficulty	264	73%
Difficulty seeing, even if wearing glasses?	33	9%
Difficulty remembering or concentrating?	26	7%
Difficulty communicating, for example understanding or being understood?	12	3%
Difficulty with self-care, such as washing all over or dressing?	12	3%
Difficulty walking or climbing steps?	8	2%
Difficulty hearing, even if using hearing aid/s?	6	2%
Total	361	100%

Almost all (96%) child respondents were enrolled in school. Around 19% started grade school late, between the ages of 7 and 12, considering that Kinder begins at the age of five. The majority (62%) of respondents were in junior high school (Grades 7 to 10) while 21% were in senior high school (Grades 11 and 12). 16% were in Grade 6 and the remaining 2% were in Grade 5.

For the 4% who were not enrolled, the primary reasons given were a lack of funds (36%), others such as no birth certificate, pregnancy, loss of parents/orphaned, computer gaming (36%), disability (21%) and a lack of motivation to attend school (7%).

Nearly all children planned to attend school next year.

Table 10. School Attendance

Enrolled in School	Frequency	Percent
Yes	347	96%
No	14	4%
Total	361	100%
Age started attending school (n=347)		
3 years old	38	11%
4 years old	87	25%
5 years old	81	23%
6 years old	75	22%
7 years old	60	17%
8 years old	2	1%
9 years old	2	1%
10 years old	1	0%
12 years old	1	0%
Total	347	100%
Grade Level		
Grade 5	6	2%
Grade 6	55	16%

Grade 7	61	18%
Grade 8	56	16%
Grade 9	42	12%
Grade 10	56	16%
Grade 11	40	12%
Grade 12	31	9%
Total	347	100%
Reasons for not being in school		
No money to go to school	5	36%
Others (Pregnancy - 1, Orphan - 1, No birth certificate - 2, Computer gaming - 1)	5	36%
Has disability (learning, physical, psychological)	3	21%
Not interested to go to school	1	7%
Total	14	100%
Plan to attend school next year		
Yes	356	99%
No	5	1%
Total	361	100%

Almost all child respondents (93%) were living with their parents. 7% were living with other relatives such as with their grandparents (41%), with their aunts/uncles (41%), and with their siblings (22%). One child lived with another community member (4%).

Table 11. Living Arrangement

Living with Parents	Frequency	Percent
Yes	334	93%
No	27	7%
Total	361	100%
Living with others		
Grandparents	11	41%
Aunt/Uncle	11	41%
Siblings	4	15%
Other community members	1	4%
Total	27	100%

The average household size of respondents was 6, greater than the national average of 4. Around 20% lived in a household with 5 members, followed by 19% with 6 members, and 16% with 4 members. 29% belonged to a household with 7 to 10 individuals. Meanwhile, 6% lived in a household with 11 or more members.

Table 12. Household Size

Number of persons living at home	Frequency	Percent
2	4	1%
3	29	8%
4	59	16%
5	74	20%
6	69	19%

7	40	11%
8	30	8%
9	21	6%
10	13	4%
11 - 25	22	6%
Total	361	100%

The majority of respondents' parents/guardians (77%) were working, while 23% were unemployed.

Table 13. Parents'/Guardians' Work

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	278	77%
No	83	23%
Total	361	100%

PARENT/GUARDIAN RESPONDENTS' PROFILE

Of the 361 parent/guardian respondents, a large percentage (86%) were females, with only 14% males. Many (35%) were between the ages of 31 and 40, with 29% in the 41 to 50 age range and 19% in the 51 to 60 age group. In terms of marital status, the majority (64%) were married or living together with a partner (10%), while 14% were single/never married, and the remaining were either widowed (10%) or separated (2%).

Table 14. Gender of Parent/Guardian

Response	Frequency	Percent
Cis-Female	311	86%
Cis-Male	50	14%
Total	361	100%

Table 15. Age of Parent/Guardian

Age Group	Frequency	Percent
18 - 30 years old	25	7%
31 - 40 years old	126	35%
41 - 50 years old	105	29%
51 - 60 years old	67	19%
61 and above	38	11%
Total	361	100%

Table 16. Marital Status

Response	Frequency	Percent
Married	232	64%
Single	51	14%
Common law relationship	35	10%
Widowed	35	10%
Separated	8	2%

Total	361	100%
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Almost all adult respondents had completed some form of schooling up to the tertiary (college) level. About a quarter (28%) were high school graduates, with 20% finishing junior high school. 17% attended college and about 8% earned a college diploma. 11% attended primary school and 10% were able to graduate from elementary school. Only 1% had no formal education.

Table 17. Highest Educational Level

Response	Frequency	Percent
Elementary level	40	11%
Elementary graduate	35	10%
Junior high school level	74	20%
High school graduate (4th year)	102	28%
Senior High school graduate	1	0%
Technical/vocational school	15	4%
College level	63	17%
College graduate	28	8%
Postgraduate	1	0%
No schooling	2	1%
Total	361	100%

A little more than three fourths (77%) of adult respondents were economically active at the time of the survey and were engaged in various forms of livelihoods/sources of income. While 18% were engaged in selling, including selling online, some were employed as staff in private companies (13%), construction workers and labourers (10%). Others were house helpers and caregivers (7%), drivers and automotive workers (5%), farmers and fishermen (5%), government employees and LGU personnel (5%), and garbage collectors (3%). A few were teachers (1%) and overseas foreign workers (OFW - 1%). In contrast, 23% were out of work or had no occupation at the time of the survey. Almost half (49%) of those employed were full-time, 20% were part-time, and 9% were seasonal workers.

Table 18. Main Occupation

Response	Frequency	Percent
None	83	23%
Sales (vending, sari-sari store, etc.), Businessman, online selling	68	18%
Private employee/staff	46	13%
Construction worker, Labourer	37	10%
Domestic work, Caretaker/caregiver	24	7%
Government employee, LGU personnel/staff, Barangay staff/volunteer (Secretary, Treasurer, BHW, BNS, Teachers, etc.)	24	6%
Farmer, Fisherman	19	5%
Driver, Automotive work	17	5%
Garbage collector	13	3%
Job hire	6	2%

OFW	4	1%
Others	20	6%
Total	361	100%

Table 19. Status of Employment

Response	Frequency	Percent
Full-time work	176	49%
Unemployed	79	22%
Part-time work	74	20%
Seasonal/occasional work	32	9%
Total	361	100%

Regarding their main source of income, 54% of respondents said they earn money from their employment, while 16% from selling products and 14% from farming. 13% received support from their family and relatives and 2% received remittances from family members.

Nearly half (46%) had one working household member while 34% had two working household members. 16% had three or more working household members. Meanwhile, 4% of those surveyed had unemployed household members.

Table 20. Main Source of Income

Response	Frequency	Percent
Employment Salary	194	54%
Sales (Sari-sari store, vending, networking)	57	16%
Support from family or relatives	46	13%
Vegetable farming	24	7%
Fish Farming	14	4%
Cash Crop Production	9	2%
Food Processing	8	2%
Remittances	6	2%
Livestock/Animal Farming	3	1%
Total	361	100%

Table 21. Working Household Members

Response	Frequency	Percent
0	16	4%
1	165	46%
2	122	34%
3	39	11%
4	13	4%
5	5	1%
9	1	0%
Total	361	100%

Almost half (45%) of respondents earned a monthly household income of below Php 6,000 while 18% earned between Php 6,000 and 8,999. 14% earned between Php 9,000 and 17,999. With a poverty threshold of Php 13,797 per month (as of December 2023), or the minimum income/expenditure required for a family to meet the basic food and non-food requirements, **a large proportion of respondents (more than 63%) were living below the poverty line, confirming respondents' low-income status.** A small percentage (more than 10%) was above the poverty line. 14% did not know their monthly household income.

Table 22. Estimated Total Monthly Household Income

Response (in PhP)	Frequency	Percent
below 6,000	162	45%
6,000 – 8,999	64	18%
9,000 – 17,999	50	14%
18,000 – 34,999	24	7%
35,000 – 89,999	7	2%
90,000 – 134,999	2	1%
Don't know	52	14%
Total	361	100%

Only 33% have other sources of income, while the majority (67%) did not. Nearly half (46%) of those with additional streams of income (46%) own a business. Others were employed (40%) while a small number received pensions, remittances, and support from family and relatives (10%).

Table 23. Household's Additional Source of Income

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	243	67%
Yes	118	33%
Total	361	100%
Response (n=118)		
Business	53	46%
Employment	23	20%
Odd Jobs (Laundry, Pedicab driver, construction, parking attendant, STL)	24	20%
Support from family or relative, remittances, pension	12	10%
Fishing	5	4%
Tailor	1	1%
Total	118	100%

Most households do not save but are able to borrow money from individuals they know. As shown in the table below, the great majority (78%) of households did not have savings. Those who saved (22%) placed their savings mainly in local cooperatives or banks (59%) and in microfinance institutions (11%). About a third (32%) kept their savings at home. Households usually save on a monthly (38%) or weekly (35%) basis. Some 20% save but not regularly. A few (6%) tried to save daily.

More than half (58%) of household respondents have access to credit, primarily from relatives (37%) and private individuals or groups including loan sharks (35%) and a few from their neighbours (8%). Some are able to borrow money from microfinance institutions (19%) and local cooperatives or banks (10%).

Table 24. Household's Savings

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	280	78%
Yes	81	22%
Total	361	100%
Where do you usually put your savings? (n=81, multiple responses)		
Local Cooperatives or Banks	48	59%
House/Physical saving	26	32%
Microfinance institutions	9	11%
How often do you save (n=81)		
Monthly	31	38%
Weekly	28	35%
Not regular	16	20%
Daily	5	6%
Quarterly	1	1%
Total	81	100%

Table 25. Household's Access to Credit

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	211	58%
No	150	42%
Total	361	100%
Where can you obtain credits from? (n=211, multiple responses)		
Relatives	78	37%
Private Individuals or Group (including loan sharks)	74	35%
Microfinance institutions	41	19%
Local Cooperatives or Banks	22	10%
Neighbours (cash and in-kind)	16	8%
Government Units	3	1%

Most households (78%) do not have some form of insurance. The remaining 22% have family member/s who have life and accident insurance (75%), health insurance (25%), death insurance (10%) and asset insurance (2%). It is unclear, however, whether those who said they were employed (54%) were paying government/social insurance programs such as Social Security System (SSS) /Government Service Insurance System (GSIS) and PhilHealth but did not consider them as insurance.

Table 26. Does any member of your family have insurance?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	280	78%

Yes	81	22%
Total	361	100%
What type of insurance (n=81, multiple responses)		
Life and Accident Insurance	61	75%
Health Insurance	20	25%
Death Insurance	8	10%
Asset Insurance	2	2%

A little over half of the respondents belonged to a nuclear household (56%), while 29% were part of an extended family. 11% lived in a blended family and only 4% were part of a single-headed household.

Table 27. Family Type

Response	Frequency	Percent
Nuclear	203	56%
Extended	106	29%
Blended family	38	11%
Single parent	14	4%
Total	361	100%

Almost all (93%) households have children who are five years old and below. 6% of households have school-aged children 6-10 years old and 1% have 12-17 years old children in their households. The majority (89%) of respondents noted that school-aged children under their care were enrolled in school. Of the 11% with school-aged children who were not in school, reasons included lack of money to send them to school (34%), children who were already working (32%), and children who were not interested in going to school (26%). A few (8%) said children's disability prevented them from schooling.

Table 28. Children in the Households

Response	Frequency	Percent
1 year old	70	19%
2 years old	97	27%
3 years old	89	25%
4 years old	59	16%
5 years old	22	6%
6 years old	10	3%
7 years old	5	1%
8 years old	1	0%
9 years old	1	0%
10 years old	3	1%
12 years old	1	0%
14 years old	1	0%
17 years old	2	1%
Total	361	100%
Are school age children in the household enrolled in school		

Yes	323	89%
No	38	11%
Total	361	100%
Reason not enrolled in school (n = 38)		
Child not interested to go to school	10	26%
Child has a disability (learning, physical, psychological)	3	8%
No money to send children to school	13	34%
Child is working	12	32%
Total	38	100%

4 in 10 households were recipients of the government's 4Ps or Pantawid Pamilyang Pilipino Program, which provides conditional cash grants to extremely poor households. 60% were not 4Ps beneficiaries.

Table 29. 4Ps Beneficiary

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	217	60%
Yes	144	40%
Total	361	100%

Very few (13%) of the adult respondents have participated in skills trainings or income generating programs, with most of them having attended technical-vocational courses from Technical Education and Skills Development Authority (TESDA-50%) while the rest have benefited from government livelihoods programs such as the Department of Social Welfare and Development (DSWD's Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons - 33%), and the Department of Labor and Employment's Kabuhayan para Magulang ng mga Batang Manggagawa (DOLE KASAMA- 17%).

Table 30. Participation in skills trainings or income-generating programs

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	315	87%
Yes	46	13%
Total	361	100%
What kind of training or income-generating program (n=46)		
TESDA Courses	23	50%
DSWD Program (Recovery and Reintegration Program of Trafficked Persons)	15	33%
DOLE KASAMA	8	17%
Total	46	100%

C.2 IMPACT

Elimination of Worst forms of Child Labor (WFCL) through a multi-stakeholder approach in Visayas Region

Impact Indicators	1. Decrease in the incidence of WFCL in the targeted areas
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	2. % of under-age children removed from worst forms of child labour and enrolled in education, and are mainstreamed into formal education, or have completed compulsory education
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According to the DOLE VI - Iloilo Field Office 2022 Monitoring Report released in December 2023, **there were 329 profiled child labourers in Iloilo City**, with the largest prevalence of child labour in barangays Hinactacan, La Paz (59), Calumpang (36), and San Pedro, Molo (28). Around 79%, or **260 out of 329 children were removed from child labour**, while 69 remained, primarily in barangays San Isidro, Calumpang, and San Pedro. DOLE did not specify the form of child labour that the children were involved in. However, a study commissioned by LifeBank Foundation in Iloilo City in 2020 revealed that 9 in 10 children on the streets aged 10 to 14 were also child labourers, while 7 in 10 street children aged four to nine work mostly in eateries or shops (LifeBank Foundation and Social Weather Station, 2020).²

Central Visayas or Region VII, which includes the Province of Negros Oriental, has one of the highest rates of child labor in the country in 2022, accounting for 10.5% or 93,500. Based on the DOLE Negros Oriental Field Office 2023 report, **there were a total of 5,664 profiled child laborers in the province in 2022**, with 5,009 child laborers working on different farms throughout Negros Oriental, followed by 341 child laborers quarrying, and 314 doing domestic household work. In an interview with a DOLE Negros Oriental Field Office representative, she noted that agriculture is the leading sector where minors work in the province, followed by services and industry sectors. This is aligned with the 2022 PSA Working Children Situation figures, which indicate that the agriculture sector continues to account for the biggest number of child labourers (68.8%), followed by the services sector (25.9%) and the industry sector (5.3%). According to the same PSA report, the total number of working children engaged in child labour in the Philippines was pegged at **828,000** in 2022.³ DOLE provided direct interventions to profiled child labourers or directed them to other agencies and organisations through the Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program (CLPEP). DOLE VII - Negros Oriental Field Office failed to furnish the study with the number of child laborers removed and the number of remaining child laborers. However, **based on DOLE Region VII 2022 monitoring data, 3,850 children were removed from child labour**, while 11,928 remained.

Table 31. DOLE's 2022 Child Labor Data in Regions VI and VII

Area	No. of Profiled Child Laborers (2022)			No. of Removed Child Labourers	No. of Remaining Child Laborers
	Male	Female	Total		
Region VI	12,880			5,433	7,447
Iloilo City					
Hinactacan, Lapaz	33	26	59	59	0
Cochoero, Molo	9	8	17	9	8
Rizal Ibarra	5	5	10	10	0
Baybay Tanza	4	1	5	2	3
South Baluarte	5	2	7	7	0
Buntatala	9	9	18	18	0
Dungon B	12	6	18	17	1

² https://www.streetchildrenlb.org/_files/ugd/c03a46_4f4c2fbb413a49abb5aaa66b5a2de84c.pdf

³ <https://psa.gov.ph/statistics/labor-force-survey/child-labor-statistics/node/1684060080#:~:text=Of%20the%201.48%20million%20working,groups%20than%20the%20younger%20ones.>

Calaparan	10	10	20	14	6
Tap-oc, Molo	0	1	1	1	0
Ticud	3	0	3	0	3
Hibao-an Sur	2	0	2	2	0
Bolilao	5	6	11	7	4
South San Jose	7	0	7	7	0
Nabitasan	18	9	27	27	0
Bakhaw	2	0	2	0	2
Banuyao	18	4	22	22	0
Calumpang	23	13	36	23	13
North Baluarte	6	0	6	5	1
San Isidro	23	7	30	12	18
San Pedro, Molo	14	14	28	18	10
TOTAL	208	121	329	260	69
Region 7	15,778			3,850	11,928
Negros Oriental	5,664				

Source: DOLE VI - Iloilo Field Office Monitoring as of December 15, 2023 and Bureau of Workers with Special Concern (BWSC) Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program Data as of December 2022

WORK STATUS OF CHILDREN

1 in 10 child respondents, predominantly males (63%) aged 15-17 (72%), worked out of their own will in the past year. This is consistent with the 2022 PSA Working Children Situation data, which show that child labourers were more likely to be boys than girls, and that older children (15 to 17 years old) were more likely to work than younger ones.⁴ While 87% of children claimed not to have worked in the past 12 months, 13% reported having been engaged in an economic activity. Almost all of those working (96%) indicated it was their personal decision to work, but 4% said other people decided for them. They worked for a variety of reasons, including paying school expenses (39%), helping parents on the farm (33%), supplementing family income (4%), and seeing work as their obligation (4%). More than half of the working children (52%) worked on the streets peddling, scavenging, and begging. Some were engaged in domestic work (24%), construction (15%), farming (2%), fishing (2%), photography (2%), and in the services sector as small attendants (2%).

Several children who participated in the FGDs also admitted to working as parking attendants, construction workers, scavengers, fishermen, street vendors of peanuts and balut (steamed duck eggs), and pig roasters. Many of them are faced with hazards while working. For instance, children engaged in fishing shared that they do not sleep while fishing, so they only go when there are no classes or on weekends. The child who roasts pigs mentioned extreme heat, exhaustion and difficulty sleeping after work, particularly around town fiesta when he receives a large number of lechon (roast pig) orders. Those street vendors who sell at night from early evening to midnight complained of not going to school the next day because of bodily pains, fever, and colds caused by lack of sleep, tiredness, and cooler temperatures at night. One dropped out of school and later continued to work at a salon.

⁴ Ibid.

Table 32. Work Status of Children in the Past 12 months

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	315	87%
Yes	46	13%
Total	361	100%
Age of children who worked in the past 12 months (n=46)		
12 years old	5	11%
13 years old	3	7%
14 years old	5	11%
15 years old	11	24%
16 years old	10	22%
17 years old	12	26%
Total	46	100%
Gender of children who worked in the past 12 months (n=46)		
Cis-Male	29	63%
Cis-Female	16	35%
Other	1	2%
Total	46	100%
Decision to work (n=46)		
Yes	44	96%
No	2	4%
Total	46	100%
Made the child decide to work (n=46)		
For my school allowance and/or fees, school supplies	18	39%
To help my parents in the field	15	33%
No answer	8	17%
To augment family income	2	4%
It's my responsibility to work	2	4%
Big family size	1	2%
Total	46	100%
Type of work (n=46)		
Street work such as selling, scavenging, begging	24	52%
Domestic work	11	24%
Construction activities	7	15%
Farm work	1	2%
Fishing	1	2%
Photographer	1	2%
Mall attendant	1	2%
Total	46	100%

Nearly half (41%) of working children said they worked for one month in the previous year. 17% claimed to have worked for two months, whereas 13% reported working the full year. The remaining 26% worked for 3 to 11 months in the past year.

More than half (57%) of the working children worked the full month, 20% worked for two weeks, and 15% worked for only one week per month. A little more than a quarter (26%) spent two days each week working, while 22% worked three days and 13% worked five days per week. A fifth worked more than five days a week, with 11% working for six days a week and 9% working the full seven days.

24% of working children worked 8 hours per day, whereas 20% worked 4 hours and 15% worked for five hours. 13% worked 9-13 hours per day. More than a third of the children (39%) worked in the morning between 6 a.m. and 12 p.m., while 24% worked early before 6 a.m. and another 24% worked at night after 8 p.m.

Table 33. Duration of Work

How many months did you work in the last 12 months (n=46)	Frequency	Percent
less than 1 month	1	2%
1 month	19	41%
2 months	8	17%
3 months	4	9%
4 months	1	2%
5 months	4	9%
7 months	2	4%
11 months	1	2%
12 months	6	13%
Total	46	100%
How many weeks in a month (n=46)		
less than 1 week	1	2%
1 week	7	15%
2 weeks	9	20%
3 weeks	3	7%
4 weeks	26	57%
Total	46	100%
How many days in a week (n=46)		
less than a day	1	2%
1 day	4	9%
2 days	12	26%

3 days	10	22%
4 days	4	9%
5 days	6	13%
6 days	5	11%
7 days	4	9%
Total	46	100%
How many hours in a day (n=46)		
1 hour	2	4%
2 hours	2	4%
3 hours	5	11%
4 hours	9	20%
5 hours	7	15%
6 hours	3	7%
7 hours	1	2%
8 hours	11	24%
9 hours	1	2%
10 hours	1	2%
12 hours	3	7%
13 hours	1	2%
Total	46	100%
Time of the day working (n=46)		
early morning before 6 am	11	24%
morning 6 am - 12 noon	18	39%
afternoon, 1 pm - 5 pm	4	9%
evening, 6 - 8pm	2	4%
night, 8 pm onwards	11	24%
Total	46	100%

The majority (72%) of working children received monetary payments, while 26% were compensated in kind. A child respondent was not paid directly, but his family received the payment. Those who received monetary compensation for their work earned

between Php 250 and below (52%), Php 251-500 (42%), and Php 501-1000 (6%) per day. Hence, 30% received Php 1,000 or less per month, another 30% earned between Php 1,001 and 3,000, and 21% earned more than Php 5,000 per month. A few (18%) made between Php 3,001 and 5,000 every month. Considering the current minimum daily wage rates in Region VI (Western Visayas) which is at P480 for non-agricultural/ industrial/ commercial and P440 for agriculture workers⁵ and in Negros Oriental, where most cities and municipalities are designated as Class B and C, with minimum daily earnings of P430 and P420 for non-agriculture and P425 and P415 for agriculture workers, respectively (Cordero, 2023), the great majority of working children earn below the minimum daily wage.

Table 34. Payment for Work Performed

Response (n=46)	Frequency	Percent
paid monetarily	33	72%
paid in kind	12	26%
not paid (given to family directly)	1	2%
Total	46	100%

Table 35. Children's Daily and Monthly Earnings from Work

Earnings from Paid Work (in Php)		Monthly (in Php)				Total	%
		1000 and below	1001 - 3000	3001 - 5000	5001 and above		
Daily	250 and below	8	7	1	1	17	52%
	251 - 500	1	3	4	6	14	42%
	501 - 1000	1		1		2	6%
	Total	10	10	6	7	33	
	%	30%	30%	18%	21%	100%	100 %

When asked if children were aware of child labour incidents in their areas, only 1 in 10 said yes. Similarly, albeit slightly higher, 16% of parents were aware of child labour cases in their communities.

Table 36. Children and Parents' Awareness of Child Labour Cases in their Communities

Response	Children		Parents	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
No	326	90%	305	84%
Yes	35	10%	56	16%
Total	361	100%	361	100%

⁵

<https://www.panaynews.net/living-wage-leap-wv-workers-cheer-proposed-p100-hike-in-minimum-wage/>

According to the children, the child labour incidents they encountered in their communities included children engaged in construction work (46%), street work such as peddling (29%), domestic work (11%), food selling (11%), commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC-9%), fireworks production (3%), and online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC-3%).

Likewise, parents reported seeing children engaged in street work (38%), construction work (32%), domestic work (13%), farming (13%), CSEC (11%), sugarcane production (5%), hauling/porter service (5%), OSEC (5%), pyrotechnics production (4%), deep-sea fishing (4%), food selling (2%), scavenging (2%), and drug trafficking (2%).

Table 37. Forms of Child Labor in their Communities

Response	Children (n=35, multiple responses)		Parents (n=56, multiple responses)	
	Frequency	%	Frequency	%
Child domestic work	4	11%	7	13%
Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC)	3	9%	6	11%
Construction work	16	46%	18	32%
Deep-sea fishing	-	-	2	4%
Drug Trafficking	-	-	1	2%
Farming	-	-	7	13%
Food vending	4	11%	1	2%
Hauling / porter	-	-	3	5%
Mining and quarrying	-	-	0	0%
Online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC)	1	3%	3	5%
Pyrotechnics (production of fireworks)	3	9%	2	4%
Scavenging	1	3%	1	2%
Street work (peddling, work as barker in motorcycles/jeepneys, etc.)	10	29%	21	38%
Sugarcane production/ harvesting	-	-	3	5%

Notably, both children and parents were aware of CSEC and OSEC incidents in their communities, although in limited numbers. According to the Philippine Information Agency news report, Assistant Provincial Prosecutor and Vice-Chair of the Negros Oriental Provincial Council Against Trafficking-Violence Against Women and their Children (PCAT-VAWC) Emmylou Bendanillo reported that nine (9) OSAEC-related crimes and trafficking in people (TIP) cases were filed and are pending in court in 2022 (Tilos, 2023). The victims were from Dumaguete City and the municipalities of Sibulan and San Jose. PCAT-VAWC data showed that many victims are girls and boys under the age of 12. The youngest case handled was one of a 9-year-old child (Tilos, 2023).⁶ In addition, the City Social Welfare and Development Officer of Dumaguete City and the Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer of Sibulan both reported that there were 9 and 8 OSAEC victims in their respective areas in 2023.

In Region VI, the Regional Inter-Agency Council Against Trafficking, Child Pornography, and Violence Against Women and Children (Regional CAT-CP-VAWC) representative reported that 16 children (9 girls, 7 boys) were rescued from human

⁶ <https://mirror.pia.gov.ph/news/2023/08/22/negor-asks-public-to-be-vigilant-vs-online-sexual-abuse>

trafficking in 2022 (Yap, 2023). They were victims of illegal recruitment, labour exploitation, and sexual exploitation. They were mostly from the city and province of Iloilo (Yap, 2022).⁷

C.3 OUTCOME 1

Community members, CSOs, Private Sectors, and Government agencies have increased knowledge on Worst forms of Child labour (WFCL) issues and protection within the COVID context.

Outcome 1 Indicators	1. Increased % of community members, children, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Private sectors and government agencies with knowledge on WFCL issues
	2. Number of private companies/ CSOs with Child safeguarding policy/ standard in place to prevent WFCL

Output	Increased awareness on WFCL issues among children, families, communities, CSOs, private sectors, and local government agencies	
Indicators	1.1 Number of boys/girls participated in awareness raising sessions relevant to WFCL	0
	1.2 Number of male/female community members that participated in awareness raising activities	0
	1.3 Number of CSO representatives/private sector staff/local government officials participated in the sensitisation sessions.	0
	1.4 Number of WFCL reported cases received from different stakeholders at the local level	0

C.3.1. Awareness on the WFCL

CHILDREN

There is currently a low level of awareness among children of the worst forms of child labour, with only 15% of children surveyed being aware of it. The vast majority were not knowledgeable (68%) and unsure (18%) what WFCL was. When asked what they knew about WFCL, many of the respondents who were familiar mentioned construction work (28%), exploitation and abuse (13%), forced labour (13%), and prostitution (11%). Others thought WFCL was related to drug trafficking (6%), hard labour (6%), cyber-sex (4%), sugarcane farming (4%), and peddling (4%). A few identified WFCL as alms begging (2%), mining (2%), scavenging (2%), supporting parents (2%), and working at an early age (2%). Some respondents claimed that engaging in WFCL might lead to the prosecution of child labourers' parents (2%).

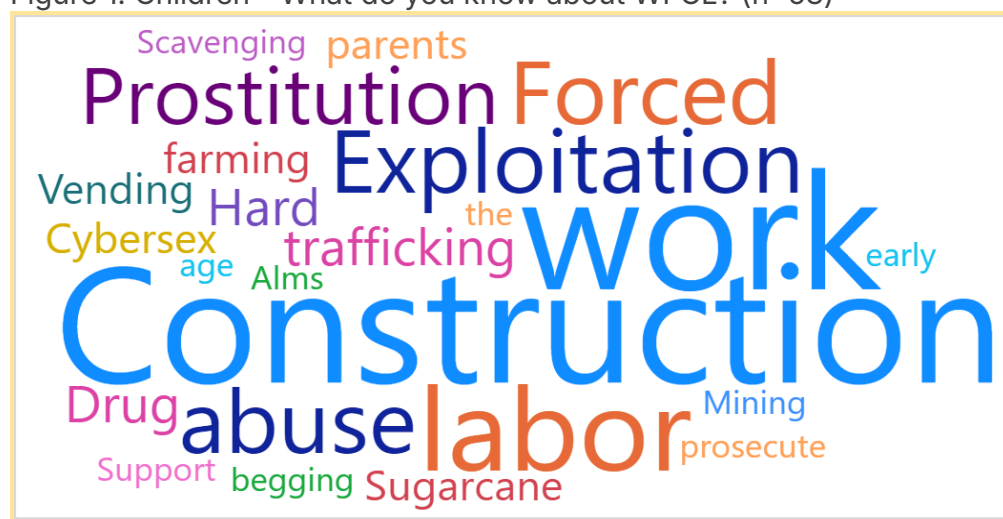
Children participants in the FGDs, on the other hand, were more familiar with child labour due to their participation in Bidlisiw and CLB awareness-raising initiatives as well as their own personal experiences. They discussed how child labour deprives children of their future, their freedom, and the right to an education and to play. Child labour, according to them, refers to children working in dangerous environments and being abused by their employers, such as failing to pay them a fair wage.

⁷ <https://mb.com.ph/2023/8/2/71-rescued-from-human-trafficking-in-western-visayas-in-2022>

Table 38. Do you know about the worst forms of child labour (WFCL)?

Responses	Frequency	Percent
No	244	68%
Not sure	64	18%
Yes	53	15%
Total	361	100%

Figure 1. Children - What do you know about WFCL? (n=53)



Those who heard of WFCL learned about it through their school (49%), barangay (25%), the internet (25%), and television (15%). Some also learned about it from the radio (6%), at home (6%), or from personal experience (6%). 4% reported hearing about it from an NGO.

Table 39. If yes, where did you know or learn about WFCL?

Responses (n=53, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
School	26	49%
Internet	13	25%
Barangay	13	25%
TV	8	15%
Radio	3	6%
Home	3	6%
Own experience	3	6%
NGO	2	4%

The survey results show that a substantial number (81%) of children who knew about WFCL were aware of the potential hazards of WFCL. Hazards identified included injuries and illnesses (56%), exposure to excessive noise, hot or low temperatures, pressure (7%), death (7%), exposure to bacterial, fungal, and parasite hazards (5%), and exposure to hazardous chemicals (5%).

Table 40. Are you aware of the hazards of WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	43	81%

No	8	15%
Not sure	2	4%
Total	53	100%
What are these hazards		
Injuries and illnesses	24	56%
Other (over fatigue, slips and falls)	9	21%
Exposure to too much noise, high or low temperature, pressure	3	7%
Death	3	7%
Exposure to bacterial, fungal, parasitic hazards	2	5%
Exposure to hazardous chemicals	2	5%
Total	43	100%

Children cited WFCL examples such as forced labour (34%), commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC-15%), online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC-15%), farming (11%), forced begging (6%), mining and quarrying (4%), and child domestic work (4%). According to them, their most prevalent sources of information regarding the WFCL issue were school (47%), the internet (25%), the barangay (25%), and television (15%). Others learned about it from the radio (6%), their household members (6%), personal experience (6%), or an NGO (4%).

Children in the FGDs shared that the different forms of child labour they observed in their communities include children working in construction work; street work such as parking attendant, peddling, scavenging, and tricycle driving; pig roasting; fishing; domestic work; OSEC; and drug trafficking. They contended that children should be in school and that parents should be working to meet their children's needs, but poverty forces children to work. Moreover, children sought to help their families by providing for their household's basic needs. Some also worked because they wanted to pay for their personal needs.

Table 41. Children - Examples of WFCL that the respondents are aware of

Response (n=53, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Forced labour	18	34%
CSEC	8	15%
OSEC	8	15%
Farming	6	11%
Forced begging	3	6%
Mining and quarrying	2	4%
Child domestic work	2	4%

Table 42. Children - Source of Information about WFCL issue

Response (n=53, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
School	25	47%
Internet	13	25%
Barangay	13	25%
TV	8	15%
Radio	3	6%
Home	3	6%
Own experience	3	6%

NGO	2	4%
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While findings indicate a low WFCL knowledge among surveyed children, it is worth mentioning that schools, the barangays, the internet, and television were the top sources of WFCL information among the children. This underscores the importance of awareness-raising activities in both schools and BLGUs and buy-in from teachers and local officials in helping combat WFCL. Additionally, this result demonstrates how children's significant internet and media use should be taken into account when developing WFCL awareness programs.

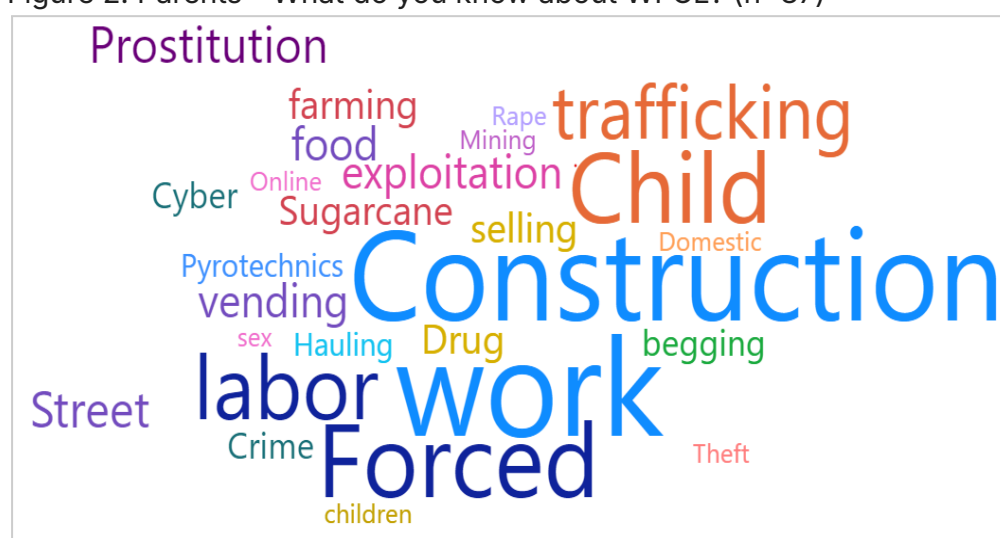
PARENTS

Similarly, albeit slightly higher than the children's, only 24% of parents were aware of the WFCL. More than half (55%) were unaware and 20% were unsure about it. Those who were familiar with WFCL mentioned incidents they were aware of such as forced labour (32%), CSEC (21%), OSEC (20%), forced begging (11%), farming (11%), child domestic work (6%), mining and quarrying (2%), and child soldiers (1%). Their main sources of information about WFCL were the barangay (43%), television (38%) and the internet (25%). Other sources of information were from the radio (15%), school (7%), personal experience (6%), and NGO (2%).

Table 43. Do you know about the worst forms of child labour?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	200	55%
Yes	87	24%
Not Sure	74	20%
Total	361	100%

Figure 2. Parents - What do you know about WFCL? (n=87)



Among the 87 parent respondents who reported that they know about WFCL, 25% of them cited children doing construction work as a primary example. This is followed by 14% of them saying that WFCL is also any work where someone is forced to do it against their will. Child trafficking comes in third with 11% of the respondents citing it as an example. Other respondents mentioned street food vending, drug selling,

sugarcane farming, cybercrime, child exploitation, forced begging and pyrotechnics as forms of WFCL.

Table 44. Parents - Examples of WFCL that you are aware of?

Response (n=87, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Forced labour	28	32%
Commercial sexual exploitation of children (CSEC)	18	21%
Online sexual exploitation of children (OSEC)	17	20%
Forced begging	10	11%
Farming	10	11%
Child domestic work	5	6%
Mining and quarrying	2	2%
Child soldiers	1	1%

Table 45. Parents - Source of information about WFCL

Response (n=87, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Barangay	37	43%
TV	33	38%
Internet	22	25%
Radio	13	15%
School	6	7%
Own Experience	5	6%
NGO	2	2%

When asked if they are aware of potential dangers that their children may be exposed to when engaged in WFCL, nearly half of parents (44%) were unaware of these risks, while 21% were unsure. Only over one-third (35%) were aware of the WFCL hazards. They listed certain WFCL dangers, including injuries and diseases (68%), exposure to excessive noise, high or low temperature, pressure (29%), exposure to bacterial, fungal, and parasitic hazards (15%), psycho-social effects such as trauma, depression (10%), death (9%), and exposure to hazardous chemicals (7%). The most common sources of information regarding these WFCL hazards were the barangay (46%), television (26%), the internet (24%), and radio (21%). A small percentage (14%) encountered it through first-hand experience.

Table 46. Are you aware of the potential dangers that your children may be exposed to when engaged in WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	158	44%
Yes	126	35%
Not Sure	77	21%
Total	361	100%
What are these dangers (n=126, multiple responses)		
Injuries and illnesses	86	68%
Exposure to too much noise, high or low temperature, pressure	37	29%
Exposure to bacterial, fungal, parasitic hazards	19	15%

Psycho-social effects (trauma, depression)	13	10%
Death	11	9%
Exposure to hazardous chemicals	9	7%
Stopped schooling	3	2%
Injury	2	2%
Over fatigue	2	2%

Table 47. Source of Information about these dangers

Response (n=126, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Barangay	58	46%
TV	33	26%
Internet	30	24%
Radio	26	21%
Own Experience	18	14%
School	7	6%
Home	4	3%
NGO	3	2%

Parent respondents indicated that people engaged in WFCL for a number of reasons, including supplementing family needs (68%), paying for one's own needs such as clothes, cell phones, and so on (13%), poverty (12%), supporting the education of other family members (8%), and paying for their schooling (6%). Other reasons given were appreciating the value of work (4%), repaying family debts (3%), gaining job experience or training (3%), and helping in the family business (2%). 1% felt that some children were coerced by their parents.

Table 48. Reasons people engage in WFCL

Response (n=361)	Frequency	Percent
To supplement family needs	245	68%
To pay for personal needs (i.e. clothes, cellphone, etc.)	48	13%
Poverty status	44	12%
To support education of other family members	29	8%
To pay for own schooling	22	6%
To appreciate the value of work	13	4%
To help pay family debts	12	3%
To gain work experience or acquire training	12	3%
To help in own family business	7	2%
Forced by parents	4	1%

The findings above demonstrate that the barangay is the major source of information for both parents and children, indicating that efforts are being made at the barangay level to raise awareness concerning child labour. Also, traditional media continues to be a primary source of knowledge for parents, while the internet is mostly used by children. This should be taken into account while developing and implementing WFCL awareness efforts targeting parents or adult community members.

CSOs

CSOs have an extensive understanding of the country's child labour problem, having carried out related initiatives and projects for many years. Voice of the Free (VF), for example, is a pioneer in the fight against child labour and human trafficking, providing support to abused and exploited women and children with education, shelter, livelihood, and legal assistance since the early 1990s. While VF works throughout Negros Oriental in several projects to prevent and respond to human trafficking and domestic slavery, it is currently implementing Community Watch Group (Bantay Komunidad) to address child labor issues in the municipality of Zamboanguita. According to a VF representative, their team has been effective in rescuing children from child labour because they were able to rally and organise the community to take action and protect their children. Interventions aimed at both children and parents of child labourers included awareness campaigns, educational support, and livelihood assistance. In addition, they leveraged resources and capabilities of partners. VF closely worked with DOLE by referring child labourers for necessary assistance through the Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program (CLPEP).

Government agencies and LGUs

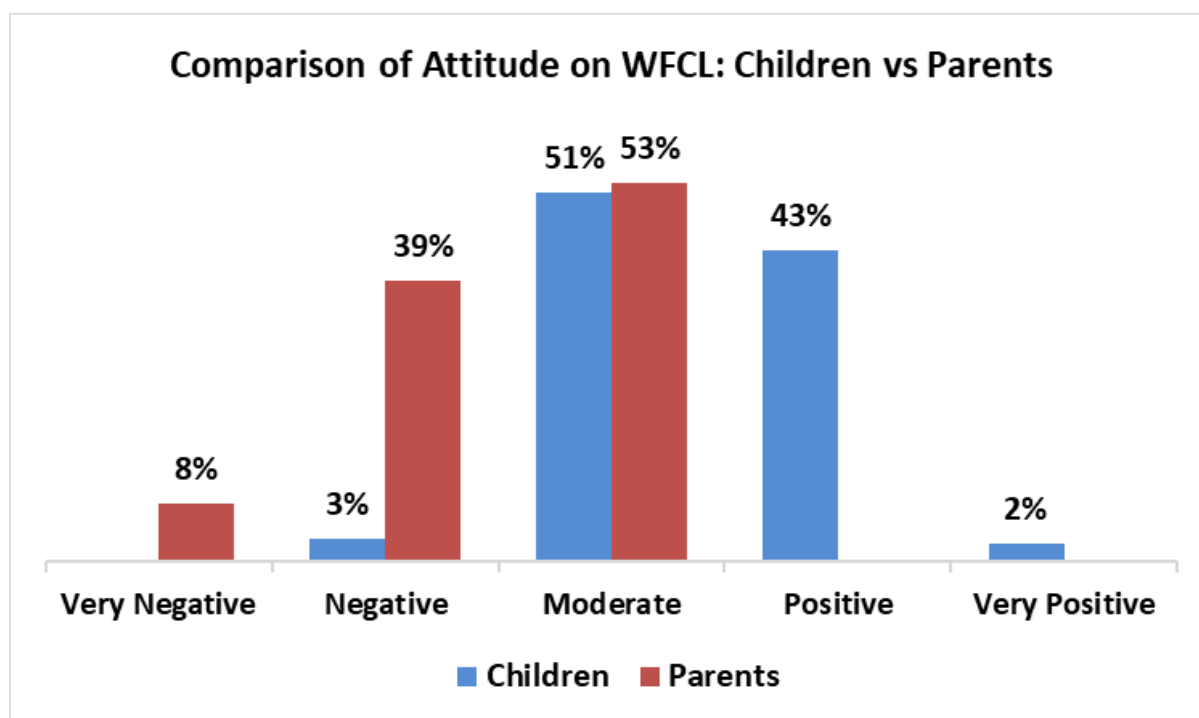
Representatives from various government agencies and local governments have differing levels of knowledge and understanding of WFCL and the child labour issue in general. DOLE officers interviewed in the study clearly had substantial knowledge and expertise of WFCL, having implemented anti-child labour programs and initiatives for the agency for decades. Local government officials, particularly City and Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officers (C/MSWDO), barangay VAWC desk officers, and clerks have limited knowledge of WFCL. Many of them became aware of the child labour problem through television news programs and social media. An MSWDO noted that she only understood about child labour after attending a seminar and meeting with the Children's Legal Bureau.

Hence, LGUs limited understanding of child labour hinders them from advocating for and prioritising anti-child labour measures in their localities. An MSWDO even denied that there are child labour incidents in her municipality, which is consistent with what a DOLE official remarked, that some LGUs refute that there are child labor cases in their areas.

C.3.2. Attitude and perceptions on WFCL

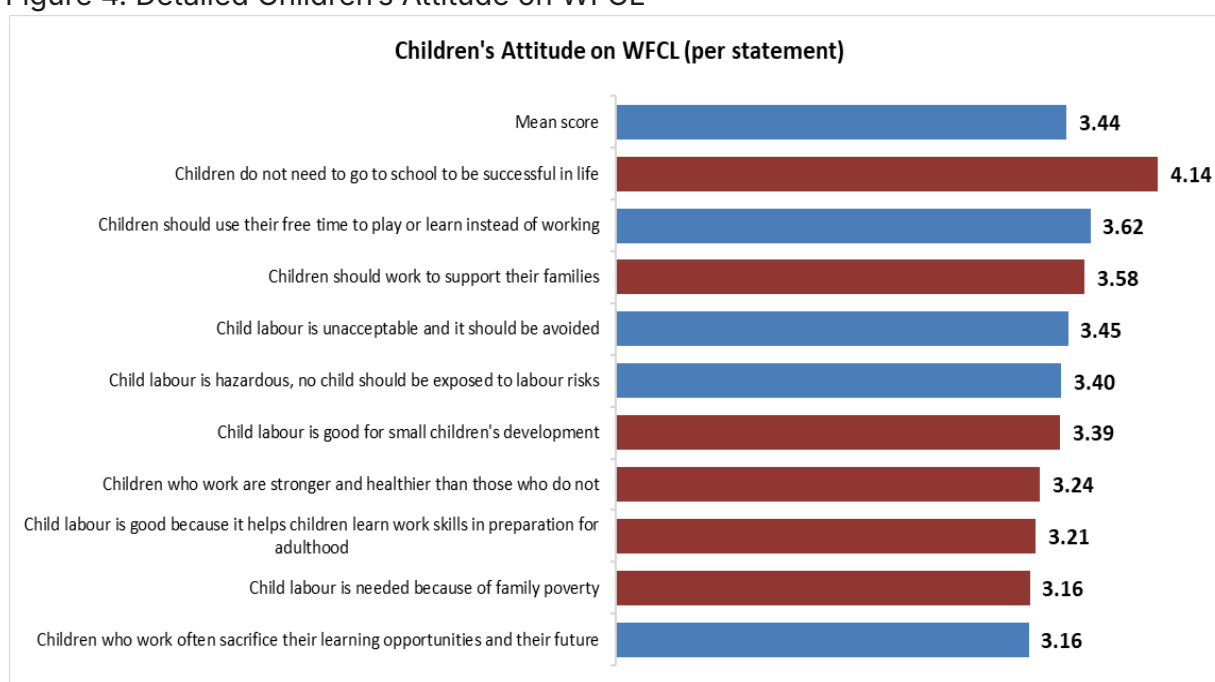
Figure 3 below displays a comparison of the attitudes of children and parents on WFCL. **Children's attitude on the WFCL is generally positive, with a total mean score of 3.44 (out of 5).** Nearly half (45%) had a positive attitude about WFCL, whereas 51% had a moderate stance. Three percent, on the other hand, had a negative attitude toward WFCL. Overall, the score remains positive as children agreed with statements aimed at deterring and protecting them from WFCL. On the other hand, **parent's attitude on the WFCL is slightly negative, with a total mean score of 2.55 (out of 5).** Nearly half (47%) had a slightly negative attitude about WFCL, whereas 53% had a moderate stance. A slightly negative attitude implies tendencies towards acceptance of beliefs that would facilitate and/or lead to the occurrence of child labour and WFCL practices as well as a negative reaction when it occurs.

Figure 3. Comparison of Attitude on WFCL: Children vs Parents



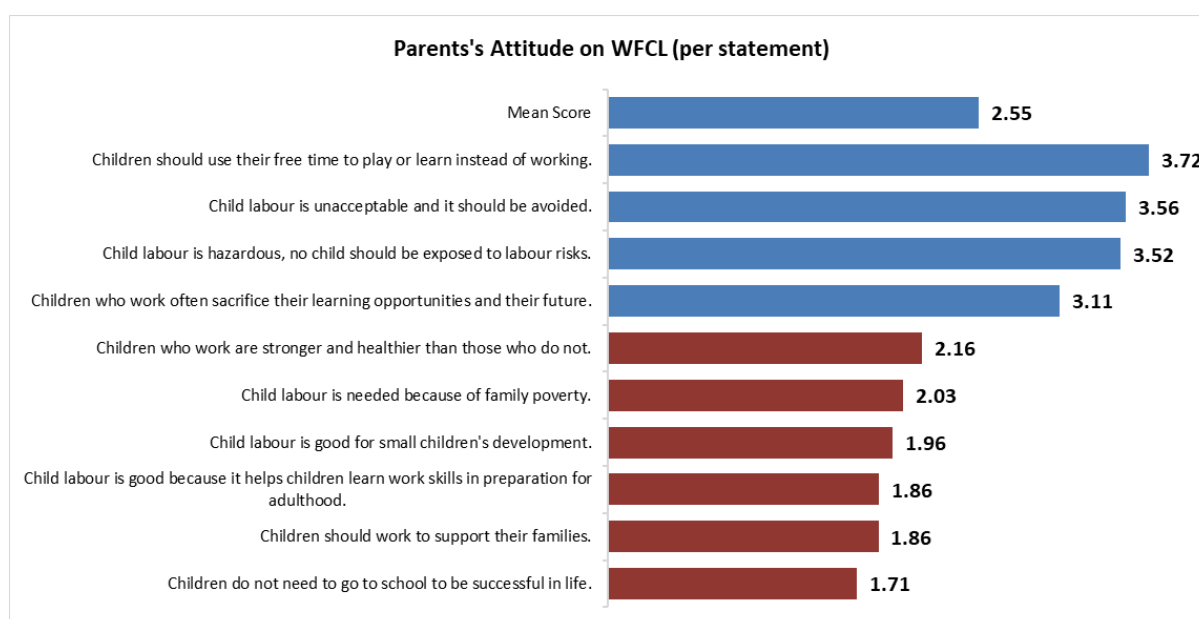
As reflected in Figure 4, negative statements (shown in red bars) were also presented to the children to which they generally disagreed as reflected in the mean scores.

Figure 4. Detailed Children's Attitude on WFCL



As shown in Figure 5, parents generally agreed with the negative statements (in red bars) when it was presented to them.

Figure 5. Detailed Parents' Attitude on WFCL



CHILDREN

A quarter of surveyed child respondents believed that children should work.

According to them, the main reasons children should work are to help their families (76%), to earn money for household and personal needs (33%), to lighten the family's load (31%), to earn money for school (13%), to meet daily needs, such as rice and food (12%), to learn (11%), and to escape poverty (10%).

The majority of children who disagreed that children should work stated reasons such as children should attend school (53%), children are not yet capable of working (26%), and parents should not allow their children to work (19%). They also noted the damaging effects of working, such as children's lack of time to play (12%) and their exposure to hazards, illnesses, accidents, and injuries (6%).

Likewise, all FGD respondents agreed that children shouldn't be compelled to work so that they can focus on their education and have fun as children. They can work from home to help with domestic tasks. However, when working children were asked if they would still want to work if given the opportunity, some said they would not if they were not poor, while others said they would since it feels good to earn their own money and spend it anyway they want.

Table 49. Do you think a child should be working?

Responses	Frequency	Percent
No	272	75%
Yes	89	25%
Total	361	100%
If yes, why? (n=89, multiple responses)		
Help family	68	76%
To earn money for household and personal needs	29	33%
Lighten load in the family	28	31%
To earn money for school	12	13%

Meet daily needs, including rice and food items	11	12%
To learn	10	11%
Poverty	9	10%
If no, why not? (n=272, multiple responses)		
Child should be in school	145	53%
Not yet capable of working	72	26%
Parents do not allow children to work	53	19%
Child has no time to play	33	12%
Exposure to hazards, illnesses, accidents, injuries	16	6%

The majority of child respondents (68%) believed children were involved in WFCL to help cover their household needs. Others claimed that children worked to pay for their personal needs such as clothes, cell phones, and other things (15%), to pay for their own education (8%), to support the education costs of other family members (6%), to assist in their family businesses (4%) and to learn the value of work (3%).

FGD participants noted that children engage in child labour for a variety of reasons. For instance, children work because they have been abandoned or neglected by their parents and are living with relatives. Some children want to work so they can pay for their own needs without relying on their parents. One FGD member claimed that he had been working since the age of 11 selling peanuts at night on Dumaguete Boulevard. He mentioned that his family was impoverished, and his parents were unable to meet his needs. As such, he stopped going to school, started working, and worked hard for himself. He shared, "I was able to buy what I wanted. I like to eat at McDonalds. I used to envy children with their parents eating at McDonalds; now, I can eat at McDonalds and I'm so happy. I realised that working is difficult, but I learned from my experience. It has helped me in my life; and I'm currently back in school to build a better future."

Table 50. Why do you think children are engaged in the worst forms of child labour?

Responses (n=361, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
To supplement family needs	246	68%
To pay for personal needs (i.e. clothes, cell phone, etc.)	54	15%
To pay for own schooling	29	8%
To support education of other family members	21	6%
To help in own family business	13	4%
To appreciate the value of work	10	3%
To help pay family debts	8	2%
To gain work experience or acquire training	6	2%

A little more than half (52%) of children stated that the adverse effects of child labour included not attending school, absenteeism, and low academic performance. Some reported poor health, illness, fatigue, exhaustion, malnutrition/stunted growth (32%), and exposure to different hazards at work (accidents, injuries, harsh weather conditions, strenuous labour, etc.) (14%), while a few mentioned physical and mental health issues (3%).

Table 51. What do you think are the effects of child labour on children?

Responses (n=361, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Not attending school, absenteeism, poor performance in school	189	52%
Poor health, illness, fatigue, exhaustion, malnutrition/stunted growth	115	32%
Exposure to various work hazards (accidents, injuries, extreme weather conditions, heavy work, etc.)	52	14%
Physical and mental health issues	10	3%
Training for adulthood / independent from family	5	1%
Teenage pregnancy	1	0%
Abuse	1	0%

PARENTS

A significant number of parents (63%) agreed that children should be recruited to work. However, they identified detrimental effects of child labour on children such as not attending school, absenteeism, poor academic performance (60%), poor health, illness, fatigue, exhaustion, and malnutrition/stunted growth (37%), exposure to various work hazards (accidents, injuries, extreme weather conditions, heavy work, etc. - 21%), and psychological trauma, and depression (2%). Very few (1%) believed that child labour has no negative consequences.

This finding is consistent with what the DOLE informant experienced throughout her more than 20 years working for the agency's child labour program. Many parents thought it was acceptable to let their children work. According to her, cultural norms influence the prevalence of child labour in the country. Parents often consider their children as assets, allowing them to work to supplement household income, especially among low-income households. Hence, parents believed that the more children working, the higher the family income. For example, that is why even on school days and during harvesting season, school attendance will drop as children are asked to help on the farms.

Table 52. Do you think children should be hired to work?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	228	63%
No	133	37%
Total	361	100%

Table 53. What do you think are the effects of child labour on children?

Response (n=361, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Not attending school, absenteeism, poor performance in school	218	60%
Poor health, illness, fatigue, exhaustion, malnutrition/stunted growth	132	37%
Exposure to various work hazards (accidents, injuries, extreme weather conditions, heavy work, etc.)	75	21%
Psychological trauma and depression	9	2%
No future	4	1%

Practice for adulthood	4	1%
Drug addiction	3	1%
Early marriage	2	1%
No bad effects	2	1%
Negative behaviour	2	1%
Human rights violation	1	0%

On the other hand, parent participants in the FGDs believed that child labour is harmful to children. Hence, parents did not want their children to work because they did not want to witness their children's struggles at such a young age. They want their children to learn, play, and generally enjoy their childhood. According to them, child labour is driven by multiple factors, but poverty is the primary driver. Children are forced to work as house helpers, farm labourers, construction workers, scavengers, fish port workers, among others because their families are poor. Some are abandoned or neglected by their parents. Furthermore, other children work because they want to earn money so they can buy anything they want. In Negros Oriental, some parents mentioned that their children work as parking attendants on weekends so they can afford to do online shopping. Their children spent their earnings on cell phones, shoes, bags, and food. Still others work to pay for their vices, such as drinking, smoking, and gambling.

C.3.3. Awareness of laws and local regulations on WFCL

CHILDREN

Children in the covered areas have a very low awareness of laws on child labour/child protection, with only 6% knowing about anti-child labour regulations. The great majority of children (76%) were unaware and unsure (18%) of any existing laws or local ordinances governing child labour in their communities.

Of the 6% who were aware of anti-child labour laws, the majority mentioned that they did not remember the specifics of the law that they heard from television (39%). A few cited curfew regulations (18%), child labour/child exploitation/child protection law (14%), child trafficking law (4%), and prohibiting street vending (4%) as examples of child labour-related laws or ordinances in their communities. They learned about these relevant laws mainly from the barangay (68%) but also from school (27%), television (5%) and their parents (5%).

Table 54. Awareness of existing laws or local ordinances on child labour

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	273	76%
Not sure	66	18%
Yes	22	6%
Total	361	100%
Existing laws they are aware of (n=22)		
Do not remember the specifics (heard from TV)	11	39%
Curfew	5	18%
Child labour/child exploitation/child protection	4	14%
Child trafficking	1	4%

No street vending	1	4%
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Table 55. Source of information about relevant laws and local ordinances on WFCL

Response (n=22, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Barangay	15	68%
School	6	27%
TV	1	5%
Home/parents	1	5%

Likewise, FGD children respondents believed that there are laws prohibiting child labour but these are not effectively implemented.

PARENTS

More than a quarter (27%) were aware of relevant WFCL laws or local ordinances in their communities. The vast majority were either unaware (49%) or unsure (24%) of such laws. However, while according to them they were aware of these laws, the majority were unable to pinpoint the specific policies. Some identified existing laws or local ordinances, namely curfew regulation for minors (22%), minors are not allowed to work (7%), child trafficking (5%), violence against women and their children (VAWC-5%), anti-child abuse (4%), and drug trafficking (1%). They learned about these laws and ordinances from the barangay (66%), DSWD (18%), television (14%), the internet (14%) and radio (11%), respectively.

Table 56. Awareness of existing laws or local ordinances on WFCL in your city/ municipality or barangay

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	178	49%
Yes	96	27%
Not Sure	87	24%
Total	361	100%
What are these laws (n=96)		
Aware but does not know the specifics	40	42%
Curfew	21	22%
Only heard from DSWD	12	13%
Minors are not allowed to work	7	7%
Child trafficking	5	5%
VAWC	5	5%
Anti-child abuse / RA 7610	4	4%
DOLE	1	1%
Drug trafficking awareness	1	1%

Table 57. Source of information about these laws and local ordinances

Response (n=96, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Barangay	63	66%
DSWD	17	18%
TV	13	14%

Internet	13	14%
Radio	11	11%
Home/Parents	5	5%
School	3	3%
NGO	1	1%
Church groups	1	1%
Women's congress	1	1%
Neighbours	1	1%

C.3.4. Awareness of and willingness to participate in community activities on child rights and against WFCL

CHILDREN

The vast majority (85%) of children were unaware of any community or school initiatives advocating child rights and preventing WFCL, while the remaining 15% were aware of such activities. A few (31%) participated in these activities.

Table 58. Community or school activities promoting awareness on child rights and WFCL

Responses	Frequency	Percent
No	306	85%
Yes	55	15%
Total	361	100%
If yes, are you involved in any activities? (n=55)		
No	38	69%
Yes	17	31%
Total	55	100%

56% of children expressed willingness to participate in activities that will promote child rights and prevent WFCL. However, this means that a considerable percentage (44%) of children were unwilling to participate in such project activities.

Table 59. Children's willingness to engage in activities that will promote child's rights and prevent WFCL

Response (n=347)	Frequency	Percent
Yes	193	56%
No	154	44%
Total	347	100%

PARENTS

Similarly, among parents, 63% were willing to participate in activities aimed at preventing and protecting their children from WFCL. The remaining 37% were not willing to participate in such activities. Despite a generally positive attitude about WFCL as shown in Figure 5, these findings indicate a reluctance among many children and parents in getting involved in efforts to combat WFCL.

Table 60. Parent/Guardian's willingness to participate in activities that will help prevent and protect their children from WFCL

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	228	63%
No	133	37%
Total	361	100%

C.3.5. Suggestions to address WFCL

CHILDREN

The great majority (85%) of children did not have any suggestions on how they as children should prevent WFCL. Most (65%) of those who had suggestions (14%) said they will advise fellow children to focus on their studies. The rest had suggestions for parents including provision of livelihoods/financial aid (10%), finding work to support children's needs (6%), getting counselling (4%), and seeking help from the government (4%).

Table 61. Do you have any suggestion/s on how children should prevent WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	309	86%
Yes	52	14%
Total	361	100%
If yes, what are these (n=52, multiple responses)		
Advice them to focus on studies	34	65%
Livelihood assistance / financial aid for parents	5	10%
Advice to avoid child labour	3	6%
Parents should work to support their needs	3	6%
Counselling for parents	2	4%
Seek help from the government	2	4%
Fight for their rights	1	2%
Leave their family	1	2%
Participate in community activities	1	2%
Total	52	100%

PARENTS

Many parents (35%) were unsure how the community should respond to WFCL. Some (23%) mentioned that the community should report WFCL incidents to authorities. Others cited organising activities for children such as sports (12%), giving guidance to parents and children (11%), and providing financial/ livelihood assistance (5%).

Table 62. How do you think your community should respond to minimise or stop these WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No idea	127	35%
Report to the authorities (LGUs, DSWD, Police)	83	23%
Activities for children (i.e., sports)	44	12%

Advice the parents and children	41	11%
Financial / livelihood assistance	18	5%
Educate parents about WFCL	14	4%
Help my fellow parents	14	4%
Monitoring	11	3%
I won't do anything	4	1%
Education	3	1%
Community service	1	0%
Skills training	1	0%
Total	361	100%

Likewise, when asked how parents should respond and safeguard their children against WFCL, the majority (66%) provided no answers. Those who offered suggestions (34%) mentioned speaking with other parents or seeking parental counselling (66%), educating parents about WFCL (10%), contacting authorities such as the LGU and DSWD (8%), and informing the children (6%).

Table 63. Do you have any suggestion/s on how parents should respond, educate, and protect their children from WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	237	66%
Yes	124	34%
Total	361	100%
If yes, what are these? (n=124)		
Talk to fellow parents / parental counselling	82	66%
Educate parents about WFCL	12	10%
Inform LGU/DSWD	10	8%
Talk to the children	8	6%
Livelihood programs	5	4%
School assistance	4	3%
Education assistance	1	1%
It's okay as long as they don't break the curfew	1	1%
Legal counselling	1	1%
Total	124	100%

C.4 OUTCOME 2

Improved access to services for the WFCL victims and their families.

Outcome 2	1. Number of WFCL male and female victims' and their family members accessing specialised services	0
	2. Number of agencies providing services for WFCL victims and their families	19

Output 2.1	Boys and girls know where to find and how to access specialised services	
	2.1 Number of boy/girl WFCL victims or at risk accessing specialised services (e.g. shelter, health services, counselling, educational services, legal aid, foster care)	0

C.4.1. Awareness of support services for victims of WFCL

CHILDREN

The percentage of children who are aware of the services for WFCL victims in their communities is extremely low at 6%, with almost all (94%) children not knowing or unsure if such services existed. In contrast, only 6% were aware of these services to help children in the WFCL which they learned mainly from the barangay (90%), the internet (10%), school (10%), home (10%), and television (5%).

Table 64. Awareness of service/s in the community that can help those who experience WFCL

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	272	75%
Not sure	68	19%
Yes	21	6%
Total	361	100%

When asked what services were available for WFCL victims, they indicated education assistance (48%), livelihood support (33%), legal advice (29%), foster care (29%), counselling (14%), financial aid (14%), relief goods (14%) and shelter (5%). More than half (52%) of them believed that these services were easily accessible to local children and families in need while 48% thought otherwise. The barangay (76%) and the Department of Social Welfare, and Development (DSWD-19%) were identified as primary service providers. Others mentioned the Philippine National Police (PNP-5%), schools (5%), NGOs (5%), local governments (5%), and private companies (5%) as service providers.

Table 65. Available services in the community to help WFCL victims

Response (n=21, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Education Assistance	10	48%
Livelihood assistance	7	33%
Legal advice	6	29%
Foster Care	6	29%
Counselling	3	14%
Financial aid	3	14%
Relief goods	3	14%
Shelter	1	5%

Table 66. Are these services easily accessible to children and families in your community?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	11	52%
No	10	48%

Total	21	100%
Who provides these services (n=21, multiple responses)		
Barangay	16	76%
DSWD	4	19%
PNP	1	5%
School	1	5%
NGOs	1	5%
LGUs	1	5%
Private Company	1	5%

Table 67. Source of Information about services to help WFCL children

Response (n=21, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Barangay	19	90%
Internet	2	10%
School	2	10%
Home/Parents	2	10%
TV	1	5%

PARENTS

Awareness of support services for victims of WFCL among parents is very low, with only 14% being familiar with such services. The great majority were unsure (26%) and unaware (60%). According to those who were aware of such services for WFCL victims, support included livelihood support (43%), education assistance (35%), foster care (27%), counselling (27%), legal services (14%), and health services (12%). They also believed that these services were easily accessible to children and their families in the community. They identified the barangay (65%), DSWD (59%), PNP (12%), LGUs (12%), NGOs (2%), and church (2%) as service providers. Their main sources of information about these services were the barangay (65%), radio (14%), television (8%), and the internet (8%).

Table 68. Do you know any service/s in your community that can help those who experience WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	218	60%
Not Sure	94	26%
Yes	49	14%
Total	361	100%

Table 69. If yes, what services are available in your community to help children engaged in WFCL?

Response (n=49, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Livelihood assistance	21	43%
Education assistance	17	35%
Foster care	13	27%
Counselling	13	27%
Legal advice	7	14%
Health service	6	12%

Shelter	1	2%
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Table 70. Are these services easily accessible to children and families in your community?

Response (n=49)	Frequency	Percent
Yes	28	57%
No	21	43%
Total	49	100%

Table 71. Who provided these services?

Response (n=49, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Barangay	32	65%
DWSD	29	59%
PNP	6	12%
LGUs	6	12%
Church	1	2%
NGOs	1	2%

Table 72. Source of Information about these services

Response (n=49, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
Barangay	43	88%
Radio	7	14%
TV	4	8%
Internet	4	8%
NGO	3	6%
Home/Parents	2	4%
DSWD	2	4%

When asked what additional assistance or services children need for protection and prevention of WFCL, the majority of parents/adult respondents answered educational assistance (44%), followed by livelihood support (39%). Some mentioned counselling (17%), legal assistance (16%), and foster care (10%). Only a few respondents cited health care (7%), shelter (2%), and financial aid (2%).

Table 73. What other support/services related to protection and prevention against WFCL do children need?

Response (n=361)	Frequency	Percent
Education assistance	159	44%
Livelihood assistance	139	39%
Counselling	63	17%
Legal advice	57	16%
Foster care	36	10%
Health service	25	7%
Shelter	7	2%
Financial assistance	7	2%
Feeding program	3	1%

Training for kids	2	1%
Ordinance for children	1	0%
Sports activities	1	0%

C.4.2. Awareness of groups responding to WFCL

CHILDREN

The great majority of children were not aware of organisations or groups responding to child labour issues. In particular, most child respondents were unaware (71%) and unsure (19%) of organisations or groups such as NGOs, CBOs, churches, and businesses that address child labour issues. The 10% who were familiar with these organisations or groups mentioned that they conduct activities in education and literacy (27%), feeding (22%), food aid/relief items (16%), and Bible study/Sunday school (14%). Some additionally said that these organisations gave monetary assistance (8%), educational supplies (8%), and support for abused children (3%). A few said they also organised cleanup drives (3%).

Table 74. Do you know of other organizations or groups (such as NGO, CBO, church, companies) that respond to child labour issue?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	256	71%
Not Sure	68	19%
Yes	37	10%
Total	361	100%

Table 75. If yes, what are the activities conducted by these groups?

Response (n=37)	Frequency	Percent
Education and Literacy	10	27%
Feeding	8	22%
Food aid/relief goods	6	16%
Bible study/Sunday school	5	14%
Cash assistance	3	8%
School supplies	3	8%
Support to abused children	1	3%
Cleanliness drive	1	3%
Total	37	100%

When asked if they were members of any children's associations or organisations, only 4 % answered yes, while almost all (96%) did not. As 50% of respondents stated, most of these groups' activities were sports-related, with activities of church organisations such as Youth for Christ coming in second at 21%. Other activities conducted by these groups include education assistance, livelihood for youth, Red Cross, and youth advocacy, according to 7% of respondents.

Table 76. Are you a member of any children's associations/ organisations?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	347	96%
Yes	14	4%

Total	361	100%
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Table 77. What are the activities conducted by these groups?

Response (n=14)	Frequency	Percent
Sports activities	7	50%
Church organisations	3	21%
Youth advocacy	1	7%
Education assistance	1	7%
Livelihood for youth	1	7%
Red Cross	1	7%
Total	14	14%

PARENTS

Awareness among parents of organisations or groups that respond to WFCL is low, with only 18% being aware of organisations or groups that respond to WFCL, including churches, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations (CBOs), and youth groups. A sizable proportion were unaware (61%) or unsure (21%) of these organisations. When asked about the names of the organisations, many (22%) were not able to specify the names of organisations or groups that provide interventions to WFCL victims. Some identified local parishes (22%), church groups (16%), government agencies such as DSWD and DOLE (14%), and Baptist churches (6%) as organisations that respond to WFCL. NGOs with programs and projects that prevent child labour were also cited, including Bidlisiw (3%), Little Children of the Philippines (2%), and World Vision (2%).

While a quarter of the parents were not aware of these groups' programs and activities, others reported that these organisations provide various services such as feeding programs (20%), educational support (19%), literacy campaigns (6%), aid provision (5%), and gift giving (5%). A few respondents indicated that these organisations offer sports activities (3%), financial support (3%), shelter (3%), and relief goods (3%).

Table 78. Do you know of other organisations or groups (such as churches, NGOs, CBOs, youth groups) that respond to WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	219	61%
Not Sure	78	22%
Yes	64	18%
Total	361	100%
If yes, what is the name of the organization or group which has programs and services to prevent child labour?		
Does not know	14	22%
Local parish/Catholic church	14	22%
Local church groups	10	16%
DWSD / DOLE	9	14%
Baptist Church Group	4	6%
Bidlisiw	2	3%

Private individual	2	3%
Couples for Christ	1	2%
Foreigners	1	2%
Fraternities	1	2%
LGBTQ	1	2%
Little Children of the Philippines	1	2%
Livelihood organisation	1	2%
Sacred Heart Nuns	1	2%
Women's Against Violence	1	2%
World Vision	1	2%
Total	64	100%
What are the activities conducted by these groups?		
No idea	16	25%
Feeding program	13	20%
Educational assistance	12	19%
Literacy drive	4	6%
Aid giving	3	5%
Gift giving	3	5%
Sports activities	2	3%
Financial assistance	2	3%
Shelter	2	3%
Relief goods	2	3%
Foster care	1	2%
Livelihood training	1	2%
report the case to DSWD	1	2%
Youth programs	1	2%
Rehabilitation	1	2%
Total	64	100%

A large proportion of parents/adult respondents did not know (47%) and were unsure (34%) whether their local government is doing anything to address WFCL in their community. Only 19% said the local government is taking action to prevent WFCL in their areas. Many of them (27%) were unaware of specific government programs and activities, while others pointed out sports events (15%), awareness raising activities (12%), curfew for minors (10%), barangay child monitoring (9%), and counselling (7%) as LGU initiatives that address WFCL.

Table 79. Is your LGU doing anything to address WFCL in your community?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	171	47%
Not sure	123	34%
Yes	67	19%
Total	361	100%
If yes, what are its programs, projects, or activities to prevent WFCL? (n=67)		
Not familiar / no idea	18	27%

Sports activities	10	15%
Awareness raising	8	12%
Curfew	7	10%
Child monitoring by the barangay	6	9%
Counselling	5	7%
Government assistance	3	4%
Educational assistance	2	3%
Scholarships	2	3%
Activities from City Health Office	1	1%
ALS	1	1%
DOLE Tupad	1	1%
DSWD	1	1%
seminar	1	1%
TESDA	1	1%

Output 2.2	Community based child and family protection mechanisms (CBCPMs) and committees strengthened to effectively prevent and support the response to WFCL	
	1. Number of child protection committees (CPC) supported	0
	2. Number of local Child Protection Committees (CPC) with approved action plan and a corresponding budget proposal	0
	3. Number of trained CPC members on how to respond to WFCL cases	0

C.4.2. Awareness of L/BCPCs

CHILDREN

Children's awareness of Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children (BCPC), including its presence in their barangays, is also very low, with only 9% being familiar with it. The great majority of children have never heard (70%) and were unsure if they have already heard (21%) of BCPCs. Similarly, most of them are unaware (70%) or unsure (21%) if their barangay has a BCPC. Only 9% are aware of the BCPC's presence in their barangay.

Table 80. Have you heard about the barangay or local council for the protection of children or BCPC?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	253	70%
Not sure	75	21%
Yes	33	9%
Total	361	100%

Table 81. Do you know if your barangay has a Barangay Council for the Protection of Children?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	252	70%

Not Sure	78	21%
Yes	33	9%
Total	361	100%

PARENTS

Parents' awareness of BCPCs, including its presence in their barangays, is moderate. In particular, about a third (33%) of parents said they have heard of BCPCs. Similarly, only 26% of respondents were aware that their barangay has a BCPC, with the remainder either unaware (41%) or unsure (32%).

Table 82. Have you heard about the barangay or local council for the protection of children or BCPC?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	157	43%
Yes	119	33%
Not Sure	85	24%
Total	361	100%
Do you know if your barangay has a Barangay Council for the Protection of Children?		
No	149	41%
Not Sure	117	32%
Yes	95	26%
Total	361	100%

C.5 OUTCOME 3

Increased capacity of children, families and duty bearers in addressing WFCL issues.

Outcome 3 Indicators	1. Number of children and parents who report WFCL cases	0
	2. Number of under-age working children who have left child labour and who are enrolled in formal or informal education or training	0

Output 3.1	Rights holders (children, youth, families) and Duty bearers and service providers are capacitated on addressing and responding to WFCL issues	
	1. Number of boys/ girls trained on WFCL and how to report cases	0
	2. Number of service providers trained on how to handle WFCL cases	0

C.5.1. Reporting of WFCL

CHILDREN

Only about a quarter (23%) of children responded that they knew what to do if they or another child they knew became a victim of WFCL. The great majority were not aware (52%) and unsure (25%) of what actions to take when faced with this situation.

Of those who knew what to do, some will report it to authorities (37%) and discuss it with their friends (27%) while a few will inform their parents (11%), report to their teachers (4%), and call an anti-child labour hotline (2%). 1% of children said they would not do anything about it.

When asked where they learned about these actions, nearly half (42%) said from school while a third (33%) learned about them from the barangay. A few mentioned learning about what to do from their parents (14%) and from watching TV (8%) and the internet (8%).

Table 83. Do you know what to do if your friend or a child you know is engaged in the WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	188	52%
Not Sure	90	25%
Yes	83	23%
Total	361	100%
If yes, what would you do		
I will report to the authorities	31	37%
I will talk about it with my friends	22	27%
Inform my parents	9	11%
Talk to them/give advice	8	10%
Help in anyway	7	8%
Report to my teacher	3	4%
Call anti-child labour hotline	2	2%
I will do nothing	1	1%
Total	83	100%

Table 84. Where did you know or learn about these?

Response (n=83, multiple responses)	Frequency	Percent
School	35	42%
Barangay	27	33%
Home/Parents	12	14%
TV	7	8%
Internet	7	8%
Own understanding	6	7%
Friends	1	1%

A third (33%) of the child respondents will report cases of WFCL in their communities to the authorities. The remainder (28%) will not report, and 39% are undecided whether or not to report such incidents. Of those who will report, the majority (60%) will go to the barangay captain. Some will reach out to the DSWD

(22%) while a few will report cases to their teacher/principal (8%), the police (5%), and their parents (4%).

However, most FGD participants in Iloilo City and Negros Oriental expressed a readiness to report child labor incidents to authorities, such as the VAWC desk in the barangay, and, in the worst-case scenario, to the police and the DSWD. They were more knowledgeable about reporting child labour since many of them attended awareness-raising seminars concerning child labour from this project.

Table 85. Will you report cases of WFCL in your community to authorities?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Not Sure	142	39%
Yes	118	33%
No	101	28%
Total	361	100%
Where will you report it? (n=118)	Frequency	Percent
Barangay Captain	71	60%
DSWD	26	22%
Teacher/Principal	9	8%
Police	6	5%
Parents	5	4%
Orphanage	1	1%
Total	118	100%

PARENTS

Similarly, only about a third (32%) of parents would report to authorities if they learned that their child or another child they knew got involved in any form of WFCL while 18% said they will talk to the persons involved. However, 25% of parents did not know what to do and 19% will not do anything when faced with this situation. 5% also noted that they were okay with it as long as the child was not harmed.

Table 86. What would you do if you learned that your child or another child/ren in your neighbourhood was involved in any form of WFCL?

Response	Frequency	Percent
I will report it to authorities	117	32%
I don't know what to do	90	25%
I won't do anything	70	19%
I will talk to the persons involved	65	18%
It's okay as long as there is no physical harm done to the child	19	5%
Total	361	100%

The vast majority (97%) of parents have not been able to report any cases of WFCL to authorities in the past year. **Only about half (45%) remarked that they are willing to report WFCL cases to authorities** while the rest were either unsure (34%) or will not report (22%) such cases.

Table 87. Parents - Have you reported cases of any form of WFCL to authorities in the past year?

Response	Frequency	Percent
No	351	97%
Yes	10	3%
Total	361	100%

Of those who were willing to report, more than half (57%) said they would go to the barangay. Some parents will also report to the DSWD (32%) and a few to the police (10%).

When asked why they were not willing to report cases of WFCL, parents either did not want to interfere with others (47%) or were afraid to interfere (29%). A few argued that children needed to help their parents (8%) and they decided to work (4%) as it was a normal occurrence in their community (1%). 6% reasoned that they did not know where to report.

Table 88. Parents - Will you report cases of WFCL to authorities?

Response	Frequency	Percent
Yes	161	45%
Not Sure	122	34%
No	78	22%
Total	361	100%
If yes, who or where will you report it to?		
Barangay	92	57%
DWSD	51	32%
Police	16	10%
Councilor	1	1%
Call the attention of children	1	1%
Reasons for not reporting (n=78)		
Do not want to interfere with others	37	47%
Afraid to interfere	23	29%
They need to help their parents	6	8%
No idea where to report	5	6%
It is their decision	3	4%
Depends on the work	2	3%
Inaction from LGU	1	1%
Normal in the community	1	1%
Total	78	100%

Output 3.2	Private sector actors work towards eliminating WFCL from their value chain	
	1. Number of private sector staff trained on WFCL prevention	0
	2. Number of dialogues with private sector representatives on WFCL prevention	0
	3. Number of private companies compliant with child	0

	labour free community and workplace (Republic Act 9231)	
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According to an Iloilo City business owner who has been in business for over 20 years, he is unfamiliar with child labour. Bidlisiw's recent seminar on children's welfare and child labour was the first time he realised how serious the issue of child labour was. He learned from the discussion about the worst forms of child labour and how poverty led children to work in unsafe conditions. While he recognized that child labour is widespread in his community, he said he is unfamiliar with the process of monitoring and reporting child labour incidents. For example, he often observed children scavenging and peddling on the streets. He stated that he is still working on measures to make his company child labour-free. To help address the issue of child labour, he emphasised the need to provide companies with adequate education and understanding regarding child labour, especially what is happening on the ground, as well as child labour-related regulations. He remarked that government agencies like DOLE, DSWD, and NGOs can help in providing the necessary seminars and training to business owners to promote responsible businesses.

C.6 OUTCOME 4

Improved WFCL related policies and programs at the local, district and national level.

Outcome Indicators	4	1. Number of Local Government Units (LGUs) / Government Agencies developed programs and budget appropriation for WFCL issues
		2. Number of policies/ guidelines created/ amended to prevent WFCL

Output 4.1	Increased coordination and collaboration between CPS actors		
	1. Number of partnerships established with Barangay Council for the protection of children (BCPC) and/or government agencies		0
	2. Number of and frequency of multi-stakeholder meetings on WFCL/ Child protection (CP)		0
	3. Number of WFCL cases referred to local authorities for appropriate intervention		0

C.6.1. Organised groups and sectors present in the communities and their projects or programmes related to WFCL and coordinating mechanisms established

Listed in the table below are some of the organisations present in the target areas that have programs/ projects related to WFCL.

Table 89. List of NGOs/CSOs in Iloilo City and Negros Oriental and their Programs to address WFCL and Child Protection

Organisation	Program	Partners	Location
ILOILO CITY			
World Vision	Prevention - Advocacy against CL, OSEC, child protection, sponsorship program	LGUs, CSOs, government agencies	2F, 402 E Lopez St, Jaro, Iloilo City
World Hope International	OSAEC prevention and response - Training on TIP,	Government agencies, CSOs/FBOs	PDI Condominium, Gov M. Cuenco Ave, Banilad, Cebu City

	child protection and human rights, Trauma-informed care		
CHILD Initiative	Prevention - Child rights and protection	LGUs, CSOs, government agencies	Rm. 203 AJL Building, corner Gen. Luna and Ibarra Sts., Aurora Subd., Villa Anita, Iloilo City
CAMELEON Association Inc. Philippines	Prevention - sexual violence and child abuse, Protection and healing of young girl survivors of sexual abuse in Western Visayas, educational and livelihood support to disadvantaged youth and their families, Shelters	CSOs, government agencies	Brgy. Sablogon 5037 Passi, Iloilo Silay City Negros Oriental
ERDA Foundation Inc.	Prevention - advocacy and capacity building of community structures, educational and livelihood support,	LGUs, CSOs, government agencies	66 Linaw St., Sta. Mesa Heights, Quezon City
Bidlisiw Foundation	Child and Family Healing, Recovery and Integration, Behavior Change Communication, Educational support, Enhancing Self/Wage employment opportunities, Social mobilisation and advocacy	CSOs, government agencies, LGUs	A. Mabini Street, Barangay Looc, Mandaue City
Signpost Philippines Inc.	Child sponsorship, Health and safety, Infrastructure, Advocacy, Livelihood training, Shelter,	Churches, schools, CSOs, LGUs, government agencies	2/F Immanuel Christian Fellowship 203 Ancep Street La Paz, Iloilo City
SOS Children's Village	Child care, Shelter, Education, Legal assistance, Advocacy	Government agencies, Private sector	Rizal Street, Poblacion Ilaya, Iloilo City, 5004 Iloilo
Iloilo Children Welfare Foundation	Prevention - Advocacy for children's rights, child protection, Lobbying	NGOs/CSOs, government agencies	Fuentes Street, Ledesma St, Iloilo City, 5000 Iloilo
Lifebank Foundation	Funding support - Street Children NGO Support Project, Advocacy, research	NGOs, government agencies	2F Fernandez Building, McArthur Highway, Tagbac, Iloilo City
Child Abuse Prevention Intervention Network (CAPIN) West Visayas State University Medical Center - Women and Children Protection Unit	Promote child-sensitive systems and structures in the management of child abuse cases, Provide support at any level of LGUs structures, policies, and programs for child abuse, prevention and intervention	Consuelo Foundation, LGUs, government agencies	West Visayas State University Medical Center, Iloilo City
CAPIN Western Visayas Medical Center		Consuelo Foundation, LGUs, government agencies	Western Visayas Medical Center, Mandurriao, Iloilo City
NEGROS ORIENTAL			

Little Children of the Philippines	Child sponsorship program, Health and housing, Education, Livelihood, Peace and Faith,	Communities, Little Children of the World	Claytown, Daro, Dumaguete City
Voice of the Free	Prevention- advocacy against human trafficking, Shelter, Social Enterprise/Livelihood	Government agencies, LGUs, CSOs, Private sector	Dumaguete City Grand Heights Road, Brgy. San Roque, 1870 Antipolo
Gender Watch Against Violence and Exploitation (GWAVE)	Protection of women and children, prevention, intervention, mediation, prosecution, moral and legal support	Consuelo Foundation, government agencies, CSOs	Dumaguete City
International Care Ministries Foundation Inc.	Transform program - Values, Health, Livelihood, Education	FBOs, volunteers	Hibbard Ave., Dumaguete City
Children's Legal Bureau	Advocacy against WFCL, OSEC, Capacity building - Child sensitive investigative interviews, legal aid	CSOs, LGUs, government agencies	Dumaguete City
Oriental Negros Children's Advocacy Network (ONCAN)	Advocacy against child abuse and exploitation, child labor	CSOs, government agencies	Dumaguete City
CAPIN Dumaguete	Promote child-sensitive systems and structures in the management of child abuse cases, Provide support at any level of LGUs structures, policies, and programs for child abuse, prevention and intervention	Consuelo Foundation, LGUs, government agencies	City Health Office, Dumaguete City

Output 4.2	Relevant government agencies improved policies, guidelines and programs to effectively combat WFCL	
	Number of policies relevant on addressing WFCL issues passed by government agencies and LGU	8

Department of Labor and Employment

In line with the Philippine Program Against Child Labor's vision of a child labour-free Philippines, the Department of Labor and Employment as the chair of the National Council Against Child Labor (NCACL) implements the Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program. The DOLE CLPEP consists of the following components:

- Profiling of Child Laborers and Provision of Services to Remove them from Child Labor**
 The DOLE undertakes a nationwide profiling of child labourers to identify children who will be directed to appropriate agencies and organisations for the provision of necessary assistance and interventions aimed at preventing them from child labour.
- Sagip Batang Manggagawa (Rescue Child Laborers)**
 Sagip Batang Manggagawa is an inter-agency quick action mechanism designed to respond to incidents of child labour under particularly harsh

conditions. It deploys an inter-agency quick action team with core members from DOLE, DSWD, and law enforcement agencies to detect, monitor, and rescue child labourers working in hazardous and exploitative conditions.

- Livelihood Assistance to Parents of Child Laborers
To prevent and eliminate child labour, the DOLE offers livelihood support to parents of child laborers through the DOLE Integrated Livelihood and Emergency Employment Program (DILEEP). The livelihood assistance can be in the form of *Negokart* (business card), startup kits, or goods needed to launch a livelihood venture. Under DILEEP, livelihood recipients should not allow their children to be engaged in child labour.
- Project Angel Tree
Project Angel Tree provides a range of social services to child labourers and their families, including food, clothing, school materials, and hygiene kits given to them by sponsors, donors, or "angels". DOLE partners with the private sector on this program.
- Issuance of Working Child Permit
The DOLE grants the Working Child Permit, which must be secured by the employer, parent, or guardian before hiring any child under the age of 15 in any employment authorised under Republic Act No. 9231, such as public entertainment or information.
- Advocacy Activities
The DOLE regularly organises advocacy initiatives to increase awareness and rally support for the campaign against child labour, such as the annual World Day Against Child Labor in June and National Children's Month in November. To disseminate information on child labour, the DOLE uses various media platforms, including printed publications, radio and television broadcasts, outdoor displays and exhibits, and social media. DOLE manages the #BatangMalaya Campaign's social media sites (Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and YouTube), which serves as the official campaign brand for all projects and activities of the National Council Against Child Labor and its partners.

Department of Social Welfare and Development

- Strategic HelpDesks for Information, Education, Livelihood and other Developmental Interventions (SHIELD) Against Child Labor Project
DSWD's SHIELD Against Child Labor Project aims to withdraw children from the worst forms of child labour by providing holistic and immediate community-based interventions, including the provision of educational assistance from the DSWD and case referrals to other government agencies. SHIELD utilises multi-layered strategies to help eliminate child labour, particularly its worst forms and those subject to a blanket ban (children under the age of 15). The components of this program include the establishment of help desks at the barangay level and a local registry system on child labour for referral and convergence of support services, ensuring that immediate and suitable interventions are accessible.
- DSWD's Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons

Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons is a comprehensive package of programs and services designed to meet the psychosocial, social, and economic needs of the beneficiaries. This is carried out in collaboration with other relevant agencies, such as the Department of Justice. These programs include case management and services for trafficked persons. Direct service assistance provided to trafficking victims includes financial assistance for employment, financial assistance while undergoing skills training, capital assistance, and referral to employers and/or business partners. Other services provided to victims or witnesses include board and lodging, documentation, and other incidental costs. Following the rescue, victims are also given educational and medical assistance, as well as hygiene kits. The DSWD provides temporary shelter to victims to cope with traumatic experiences as well as those with ongoing court cases.

- Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS)
DSWD's AICS is a social safety net or stop-gap measure to support the recovery of individuals and families suffering from an unexpected life event or crisis. DSWD's Crisis Intervention Unit is a special unit operating as an action centre to immediately respond to cases of individuals and families in crisis situations. It provides integrated services such as immediate rescue and protection, provision of direct financial and material assistance, augmentation during disaster and referrals for immediate medical, legal, psycho-social services. The Action Center accepts walk-in, rescued, and referred clients, such as individuals and families with insufficient funds to cover medical, transportation, funeral, and other immediate needs, as well as abandoned, abused, and exploited adults and children.

Department of Interior and Local Government (DILG)

- Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit (CFLGA)
The Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit is a mechanism for evaluating local governments' performance in implementing child-friendly policies, programs, and services. One of the audit's indicators is the handling of reported cases of children in need of special protection, including those involved in child labour.
- Local Council for the Protection of Children
The DILG is constantly strengthening and monitoring the functionality of local councils for the protection of children. These councils are formed at the province, city, municipal, and barangay levels to serve as a coordinating body for all children's issues. Based on DILG guidelines, functional LCPCs are those that meet regularly and have minutes of meetings, have an action plan and approved budget for children, and submit annual reports on children.

C.6.2. LGU Capacity in responding to WFCL

Based on data collected from the study, LGUs vary in their capacity to respond to WFCL.

ILOILO CITY

In Iloilo City, the LCPC has been actively carrying out its role as the coordinating council that promotes and advocates the general welfare of all categories of children

in the city. Iloilo City LCPC has collaborated closely with 44 partners, representing various agencies and organisations to implement the council's programs and projects. However, due to other competing child protection issues and limited resources, the LCPC focal person noted that the WFCL issue was recently prioritised because CSOs like Bidlisiw advocated for it. In 2023, the LCPC had only P500,000 to fund initiatives against child trafficking, child pornography, and violence against women and children. These activities include training the existing Community Watch Group to provide effective service delivery to human trafficking victims, an 18th-day campaign against VAWC, a Local Committee on Anti-Trafficking-VAWC meeting, and Trafficking in Persons awareness raising activities for seaport staff, bus drivers, and bus conductors.

In terms of policies, Iloilo City passed Regulation Ordinance 2012-195: An ordinance providing for a Comprehensive Children's Welfare Code of the City of Iloilo, which was amended in 2019. Other proposed ordinances under the Iloilo City Executive Legislative Agenda 2023-2025 (under Protective Services)⁸ include SP Ordinance on Children's Rights and Anti-Child Trafficking and SP Ordinance on establishment of Barangay VAWC Desks.

Iloilo City CSWDO and LCPC representatives interviewed rated the functionality and effectiveness of their LCPC as well as their capacity to respond to WFCL very highly at 5/5.

It should be noted that Iloilo City has been conferred the Seal of Child Friendly Local Governance (SCFLG) award in 2022 and in previous years by the DILG and Council for the Welfare of Children. The award demonstrates that the LGU prioritises children in its plans, budgets, legislation, and service delivery, while also guaranteeing that children exercise their rights to survival, development, protection, and participation.

PROVINCE OF NEGROS ORIENTAL

All the LGUs in Negros Oriental covered in the study agreed that their LCPCs need to be strengthened to be effective and efficient in implementing policies, programs, and projects for children's well-being, particularly in responding to WFCL. According to LCPC representatives, among the challenges they faced in responding to WFCL were a lack of budget allocation, no reporting of WFCL victims from the communities, threats in responding to reports of WFCL, a lack of manpower and facilities for WFCL victims, a lack of awareness among victims and parents about WFCL and the corresponding abuse and exploitation they experienced, victim's reluctance to file a complaint formally, and the involvement of influential people in child labour incidents. Apart from a shortage of manpower to handle WFCL cases, existing LCPC personnel lack the capacity to undertake child labour programs, projects, and activities. An MSWDO/LCPC focal person learned about WFCL from the news and social media, but she only fully understood the scale of the WFCL issue after meetings with CLB and participating in a CLB seminar on WFCL. Furthermore, the DOLE Negros Oriental Field Office official explained that the child labor issue is not a priority for the majority of the province's LCPCs due to a lack of knowledge and understanding of the magnitude of the problem, with some even denying that it exists in their communities. LCPCs focus more on dealing with children in conflict with the law (CICL).

⁸ Source: <https://iloilocity.gov.ph/main/wp-content/uploads/2023/06/ELA-2023-2025.pdf>

MUNICIPALITY OF DAUIN

The municipality budgeted Php 203,208.12 for programs, projects, and activities for children in 2023. According to the MSWDO, they carried out regular programs and services as mandated. Their activities include provision of services to children with special needs, End VAWC campaigns, and Children's Month celebration.

Regarding child-related legislation, the MSWDO did not mention the municipality adopting a Children's Code. Based on records, Dauin had not passed a Local Children's Code before 2017.

The LCPC has a 3.5/5 rating for moderate functionality and effectiveness.

DUMAGUETE CITY

Dumaguete City allotted Php 547,573.74 budget in 2023 for its initiatives on children. The city has its own Child Protection Unit, a one-stop shop multi-disciplinary team interview and assessment of abused/raped children. The city also supports three temporary shelters for children in need of special protection as follows:

- La Casa Esperanza Crisis Center Services: temporary shelter for abused child
- Dumaguete Youth Home: temporary shelter for Children in Conflict with the Law
- Children-at-Risk temporary shelter for children rescued in the streets, caught during curfew and referred by barangays found to be at risk

Policy-wise, Dumaguete City amended its Local Code on Children or Ordinance No. 26 in 2000. Executive Order 20-0 was passed in 2022 to create the Local Council for the Protection of Children in the city.

Representatives interviewed from the city LGU rated the functionality and effectiveness of their LCPC highly at 4/5 and their capacity to respond to WFCL moderately at 3/5.

Dumaguete City was awarded the Seal of Child Friendly Local Governance in 2018 for its child-friendly programs. It also obtained the Seal of Good Local Governance in 2016, with social protection as one of the core assessment categories.

MUNICIPALITY OF ZAMBOANGUITA

In 2023, Zamboanguita allocated Php 136,651.56 for programs, projects, and activities aimed at promoting children's well-being. Their efforts were centred on providing beneficiaries with equal access to basic services and livelihood programs, as well as continuous advocacy campaigns on different child-related laws.

In terms of child-friendly policies, the LGU enacted the Local Children Welfare Code (Ordinance # 2023-004), and more recently, an Executive Order #3 Series of 2023 Constituting the Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force (IMTF) was issued.

Zamboanguita MSWDO/LCPC personnel interviewed gave their LCPC a 3/5 rating for functionality and effectiveness and a 5/5 rating for its capacity to respond to WFCL. They are grateful and confident in addressing WFCL because of the help of a CSO partner, Voice of the Free, which has been carrying out an anti-child labour initiative in

their community. Bantay Komunidad Associations have been organised by VF to combat child labour in Zamboanguita.

MUNICIPALITY OF SIBULAN

LGU Sibulan provided Php 237,328.55 to enhance the welfare of children in 2023. These initiatives were focused on improving the capacity of parents to care and protect their children, such as the Information Education Campaign, Parent Effectiveness Sessions, Responsible Parenthood, Sustainable Livelihood Program, and Financial Assistance to Abused Women and Children.

The municipality passed several ordinances to advance the best interests of children. These include the Ordinance creating the Anti Human Trafficking Help Desk and Referral Pathway in the Municipality of Sibulan, Ordinance providing for a revised Child and Youth Welfare Code of the Municipality of Sibulan, Ordinance Establishing a Crisis and Rehabilitation Center, Providing for Guidelines for its operation and allocating funds accordingly and for other purposes, and a Barangay Resolution creating the Family/Children Protection Task Force (F/CPTF) of Barangay Poblacion, Sibulan.

The MSWDO/LCPC representative rated their LCPC a moderate 3/3 for its functionality and effectiveness, and a comparable 3/3 for its capacity to respond to WFCL. She emphasised the importance of strengthening their LCPC to make it fully effective. According to her, the LCPC's work is hampered by a lack of coordination across agencies, as well as a shortage of personnel worsened by multiple tasks and competing priorities. She added that their allocated budget was not fully utilised and there is no Quick Response Team and inadequate capacity to respond to child labour incidents in their community.

Table 90. LGU Capacity in responding to WFCL

LGU	LCPC (Self-rating: 1- lowest, 5-highest)	Capacity to Respond to WFCL (Self-rating: 1- lowest, 5-highest)	Ordinances on children	Budget for children in Annual Investment Plan (2023)	PPAs for children
Iloilo City	Functionality - 5 Effectiveness - 5	5	Children's Code	500,000 (LCPC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening BCPCs • Training Community Watch Group on effective service delivery to human trafficking victims • VAWC campaigns • LCAT-VAWC meeting • Trafficking in Persons awareness raising activities for seaport staff, bus drivers, and bus conductors.
Negros Oriental	Provincial Council for the Protection of Children Functionality - 5 Effectiveness - 3	3	Negros Oriental Children's Code (Ordinance #4, S 2002, 1-17-2022)	13,124,095.29 (PSWDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Strengthening BCPCs • Campaign for the CFLGA
Dauin	Functionality- 3 Effectiveness - 5	4	Curfew for Minors Ordinance	203,208.12 (MSWDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provide assistance to children in need of special protection • Children's Month celebration • VAWC campaigns
Dumaguete	Functionality -4 Effectiveness -4	3	Dumaguete City Local Code on Children (Ordinance #26, S	547,573.74	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • La Casa Esperanza Crisis Center Services - temporary shelter for abused child

			2000) Creating the LCPC (EO 20-0, S 2022)		<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Dumaguete Youth Home - temporary shelter for Children in Conflict with the Law • Children-at-Risk- temporary shelter for children rescued in the streets, caught during curfew and referred by barangays found to be at risk • Child Protection Unit- a one-stop shop multi-disciplinary team interview and assessment of abused/raped children
Zamboangita	Functionality - 3 Effectiveness - 3	5	Local Children Welfare Code (Ordinance # 2023-004) Executive Order #3 Series of 2023 Constituting the Child-Friendly Local Governance Audit Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force (IMTF)	136,651.56 (MSWDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Equal access to basic services and livelihood programs to qualified beneficiaries • Continuous Advocacy campaign on various children 's laws
Sibulan	Functionality -3 Effectiveness -3	3	Ordinance creating the Anti Human Trafficking Help Desk and Referral Pathway in the Municipality of Sibulan Negros Oriental Ordinance providing for a revised Child and Youth Welfare Code of	237,328.55 (MSWDO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Information Education Campaign • Parent Effectiveness Sessions • Responsible Parenthood • Sustainable Livelihood Program • Financial Assistance to Abused Women and Children

			<p>the Municipality of Sibulan Negros Oriental</p> <p>Ordinance Establishing a Crisis and Rehabilitation Center, Providing for Guidelines for its operation allocating funds therefore and for other purposes.</p> <p>A barangay Resolution creating the F/CPTF (Family/Children Protection Task Force) of Barangay Poblacion, Sibulan Negros Oriental</p>		
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D. BASELINE FIGURES

The following table shows the baseline figures based on data collected from this study for the project outcome and output indicators.

Table 91. Project Outcome/Output Indicators and Baseline Values

Project Outcomes/Outputs	Project Indicators	Baseline Information
Impact: Elimination of Worst forms of Child Labor (WFCL) through a multi-stakeholder approach in Visayas Region	Decrease in incidence of WFCL in the targeted areas.	Based on DOLE Regions VI and VII monitoring reports as of December 2023, there were 329 profiled child labourers in Iloilo City , with the largest prevalence of child labour in barangays Hinactacan, La Paz (59), Calumpang (36), and San Pedro, Molo (28). Around 79%, or 260 out of 329 children, were rescued from child labour, while 69 remained. In Negros Oriental, there were a total of 5,664 profiled child laborers in the province. DOLE failed to provide the study with information on the number of child laborers removed and the number of remaining child laborers in Negros Oriental. However, according to DOLE Region VII 2022 monitoring data, 3,850 children were removed from child labour while 11,928 remained. Profiled child labourers and their families were provided direct interventions such as livelihood assistance, among others or DOLE directed them to other agencies and organisations through the Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program (CLPEP).
	% of under-age children removed from worst forms of child labour and enrolled in education, and are mainstreamed into formal education, or have completed compulsory education	<p>According to DOLE 2022 monitoring data, 260 children were rescued from child labor in Iloilo City, while 3,850 were removed from child labor across Region VII, including Negros Oriental.</p> <p>Based on Department of Education's enrollment data, Regions VI and VII each have 2.2 million or a total of 4.4 million students enrolled for the school year 2022-2023. These include learners from kindergarten to Grade 12.</p> <p>Further, the Philippine Statistics Authority's 2022 Annual Poverty Indicators Survey shows that 80.9% of Region VII's population aged 5 to 24 years old was enrolled or attending school in 2022, while 19.1% were not. Similarly, 80% of Region VI's students</p>

		aged 5 to 24 were enrolled in 2022, while 20% did not attend school.
Outcome 1: Community members, CSOs, Private Sectors, and Government agencies have increased knowledge on Worst forms of Child labour (WFCL) issues and protection within the COVID context	Increased % of community members, children, Civil Society Organisations (CSOs), Private sectors and government agencies with knowledge on WFCL issues	<p>According to the survey data, there is a low level of awareness among children of the worst forms of child labour, with only 15% being aware of it (55% Cis-Male, 43% Cis-Female, 2% Prefer not to say). When asked what they knew about WFCL, many of the respondents who were familiar mentioned construction work (28%), exploitation and abuse (13%), forced labour (13%), and prostitution (11%). Children learned about WFCL through their school (49%), barangay (25%), the internet (25%), and television (15%).</p> <p>Similarly, only 24% of parents knew about the WFCL (15% Cis-Male, 85% Cis-Female), which was slightly higher than the children's level. Those knowledgeable with WFCL described incidents they were aware of, including forced labour (32%), CSEC (21%), OSEC (20%), forced begging (11%), farming (11%), child domestic work (6%), mining and quarrying (2%), and child soldiers (1%). Their primary sources of information on WFCL were the barangay (43%), television (38%), and the internet (25%).</p> <p>Voice for the Free works throughout Negros Oriental in several projects to prevent and respond to human trafficking and domestic slavery, it is currently implementing Community Watch Group (Bantay Komunidad) to address child labor issues in the municipality of Zamboanguita.</p> <p>Key informant interviews also show that LGUs of Iloilo City, Dumaguete City, Zamboanguita and Sibulan - to a varying extent - have awareness of WFCL issues.</p>
	Number of private companies/ CSOs with Child safeguarding policy/ standard in place to prevent WFCL	<p>2 CSOs that were interviewed said that they have child safeguarding policy</p> <p>0 private companies</p>
	Number of boys/girls participated in awareness raising sessions relevant to WFCL	0
Outputs Output 1.1. Increased awareness on WFCL issues among children, families, communities,		

CSOs, private sectors and local government agencies	Number of male/female community members that participated in awareness raising activities	0
	Number of CSO representatives/private sector staff/local government officials participated in the sensitisation sessions.	0
	Number of WFCL reported cases received from different stakeholders at the local level	0
Outcome 2: Improved access of services for the WFCL victims and their families	Number of WFCL male and female victims' and their family members accessing specialised services	<p>Survey data show that the percentage of children who are aware of the services for WFCL victims in their communities is extremely low at 6%, with almost all (94%) children not knowing or unsure if such services existed. The great majority of children were not aware of organisations or groups responding to child labour issues. In particular, most child respondents were unaware (71%) and unsure (19%) of organisations or groups such as NGOs, CBOs, churches, and businesses that address child labour issues.</p> <p>Awareness of support services for victims of WFCL among parents is very low, with only 14% being familiar with such services. Awareness among parents of organisations or groups that respond to WFCL is low, with only 18% being aware of organisations or groups that respond to WFCL, including churches, NGOs, CBOs, and youth groups</p> <p>In addition, a large proportion of parents/adult respondents did not know (47%) and were unsure (34%) whether their local government is doing anything to address WFCL in their community.</p>
	Number of agencies providing services for WFCL victims and their families	<p>19 organisations with projects or programmes related to WFCL and child protection in general are present in the communities. 12 of them are operating in Iloilo Province while 7 are in Negros Oriental.</p> <p>Some of the organisations operating in the target areas are: World Vision, World Hope International, CHILD Initiative, CAMELEON, ERDA Foundation, Little Children of the Philippines, Voice of the</p>

		Free, GWAVE and others. A complete list is reflected in Table 89.
Output 2.1. Boys and girls know where to find and how to access specialised services	Number of boy/girl WFCL victims or at risk accessing specialised services (e.g. shelter, health services, counselling, educational services, legal aid, foster care)	0
Output 2.2. Community based child and family protection mechanisms (CBCPMs) and committees strengthened to effectively prevent and support the response to WFCL	Number of child protection committees (CPC) supported	0
	Number of local Child Protection Committees (CPC) with approved action plan and a corresponding budget proposal	0
	Number of trained CPC members on how to respond to WFCL cases	0
Outcome 3: Increased capacity of children, families and duty bearers in addressing WFCL issues	Number of children and parents who report WFCL cases	0
	Number of under-age working children who have left child labour and who are enrolled in formal or informal education or training	0
Output 3.1. Rights holders (children, youth, families) and Duty bearers and service providers are capacitated on addressing and responding to WFCL issues	Number of boys/ girls trained on WFCL and how to report cases	0
	Number of service providers trained on how to handle WFCL cases	0
Output 3.2. Private sector actors work towards eliminating WFCL from their value chain	Number of private sector staff trained on WFCL prevention	0
	Number of dialogues with private sector representatives on WFCL prevention	0
	Number of private companies compliant with child labour free community and workplace (Republic Act 9231)	0
Outcome 4. Improved WFCL related policies and programs at the local, district and national level	Number of Local Government Units (LGUs) / Government Agencies developed programs and budget appropriation for WFCL issues	1 - Iloilo (programs specific to WFCL issues) 4 - Dauin, Dumaguete, Zamboanguita, Sibulan (programs for children in general)
	Number of policies/ guidelines created/ amended to prevent WFCL	8
		Iloilo City (Children's Welfare Code) Dumaguete City (Local Code on Children, Executive Order on Creation of LCPC) Zamboanguita (Local Children Welfare

		Code, Executive Order Child Friendly Local Governance Audit Inter-Agency Monitoring Task Force) Sibulan (Child and Youth Welfare Code and ordinances on Creating Anti-Human Trafficking Help Desk, Establishing a Crisis and Rehabilitation Center)
Output 4.1. Increased coordination and collaboration between CPS actors	Number of partnerships established with Barangay Council for the protection of children (BCPC) and/or government agencies	0
	Number of and frequency of multi-stakeholder meetings on WFCL/ Child protection (CP)	0
	Number of WFCL cases referred to local authorities for appropriate intervention	0
Output 4.2. Relevant government agencies improved policies, guidelines and programs to effectively combat WFCL	Number of policies relevant on addressing WFCL issues passed by government agencies and LGU	8

E. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

This section presents the main findings, conclusions and recommendations of the research organised according to the project outcomes.

Outcome 1:

Community members, CSOs, Private Sectors, and Government agencies have increased knowledge on Worst forms of Child labour (WFCL) issues and protection within the COVID context.

Key findings and conclusion:

- Findings from this study reveal a low level of awareness among children and parents about child labour and the WFCL, including on laws that protect children from child labour. Many parents were not aware of the potential risks children can face when working in hazardous conditions. These call for a wider awareness raising on child labour and the WFCL and its risks on children.
- Attitudes toward WFCL reflect negative tendencies, particularly among parents and some children, which involve acceptance of views that would promote and/or contribute to the occurrence of child labour and WFCL activities, as well as a negative reaction when it occurs. This attitude could be due to socio-cultural beliefs that child labour is accepted as a way to help make ends meet for their families and as part of children's training for adulthood. Hence, awareness raising initiatives need to consider these socio-cultural aspects of child labour as it could have an impact on how communities change attitudes/mindsets and practices on child labour.
- Notably, the primary sources of information of children and parents who were familiar with child labour and WFCL were the schools and barangays. This emphasises the importance of collaborating with these institutions to strengthen advocacy initiatives against WFCL.

Recommendations:

- Develop a long-term social and behaviour change communications (SBCC) strategy that focuses on raising WFCL awareness, including the nature of WFCL and its effects on the child, family, and community, and its identification and prevention. Develop materials that are age- and context-appropriate, focusing on practical tips to increase awareness among the covered communities and encourage reporting of cases. Engage the target audience (children, parents and duty bearers) in developing key messages and identifying creative and innovative ways to communicate these messages.
- Maximise the use of technology, including social media platforms to raise WFCL awareness and prevention, as well as to reach out to more children. Engage youth advocates and children in the design, creation, and dissemination of social media content that will attract and engage their peers. Social media posts should be appealing to the target audience and contain only key messages
- Design a robust capacity building curriculum for different groups in the community that is not only focused on WFCL and the project's thematic areas but also on project implementation support to include safeguarding, communication, and monitoring. Information sharing is a key area to ensure project relevance and effectiveness as it helps the project to share and obtain information from the communities on what areas to focus on and how to better communicate using different platforms and materials. Other key topics can

include ways on how to change mindset or attitude as this is seen as a key influencing factor not just in ensuring participation but also in securing resources to support WFCL prevention and elimination.

- Build the capacity of people's organisations/sectoral associations and local champions in the communities. Aside from heavily engaging them in the implementation, they should also be continuously engaged in establishing sustainability and social accountability mechanisms until the exit phase of the project.
- Support responsible and positive parenting initiatives to combat harmful social norms that perpetuate child labour. Some sociocultural views endorse child labour, such that some parents believe that allowing their children to work has positive effects on character development and skill improvement in children. Through strengthened parental responsibility, parents will be guided to act in their child's best interests to the best of their knowledge and beliefs.

Outcome 2:

Improved access to services for the WFCL victims and their families.

Key findings and conclusion:

- Desk review indicates that at least 19 organisations with projects or programmes related to WFCL and child protection in general are present in the communities. 12 of them are operating in Iloilo Province while 7 are in Negros Oriental.
- Survey findings, however, show that very few children and parents were aware of specialised services and of organisations/groups that provide support for children victims of WFCL. Services known were mainly from government agencies such as the BLGU and DSWD and were mostly in the form of educational, livelihoods and legal assistance and foster care. Moreover, almost half of the children and parents remarked that these services were not accessible to those who needed them. These indicate a need to strengthen services for children victims of child labour.
- Furthermore, the great majority of children and parents have not heard of BCPCs, including its presence in their barangays. This could be an indication that BCPCs in the covered areas are not functional thus signifying a need to support LGUs in reactivating and strengthening this structure.
- The BLGU remains to be a major source of information on services for child labourers among children and parents.

Recommendations:

- Develop and carry out holistic programs to tackle WFCL that should always include livelihood assistance or linking to organisations that can support livelihood or income opportunities for community members. Prioritise initiatives that strengthen the family to prevent WFCL. Apart from promoting the well-being of families and children, creating economic stability in the home is crucial - especially since a major driving factor of child labour is poverty and financial challenges within households. Project interventions should aim to assist low-income families in finding gainful employment or establishing small businesses and increasing their financial literacy to promote economic security at home and to prevent and respond to WFCL. Family strengthening sessions and livelihood support to families should be among the interventions.
- Provide technical assistance and capacity building support to local governments and local child protection structures, particularly at the barangay

and municipal level, in developing programs, projects, and activities, including the development of local policies to address WFCL, and strengthening WFCL referral and case management systems.

Outcome 3:

Increased capacity of children, families and duty bearers in addressing WFCL issues.

Key findings and conclusions:

- Survey results showed that only about a third of children and parents knew what to do if they fell victim to WFCL. Those who do would report it to authorities, mainly the Punong Barangay and DSWD – something they learned from schools and BLGUs. This uncertainty about what action to take when calls for a stronger campaign on the importance of reporting and avenues for reporting of cases of WFCL, working in collaboration with schools and local governments.
- More than half of parents were unsure or were not willing to report cases of WFCL primarily because they did not want or were afraid to meddle with other families' affairs. One major contributing factor to the reluctance to report cases is the "culture of silence" among Filipino families believing that speaking up will not make a difference and that abuse and violence is something to be resolved within the family. This could be due to a lack of awareness of children's rights and protection against abuse such as WFCL.

Recommendations:

- Develop the capacities of local government units and local child protection structures, particularly at the barangay level, to develop programs, projects, and activities, including the development of local policies to address WFCL, and strengthen reporting, referral and case management systems on WFCL.
- Influence local government law enforcement authorities to create an organised, centralised, digitised and LGU-managed database of WFCL cases that includes age and gender disaggregation data to serve as the primary reference for regular monitoring and identification of appropriate support services for families affected by WFCL.
- Promote community action against WFCL. The project should acknowledge the important role of the local community members in preventing and combating WFCL. Thus, it is critical that the project should heavily invest in strengthening their capacity through well-taught training themes. In several child-labour elimination projects implemented by other organisations in the past, the organising of Community Watch Groups (CWGs) proved to be an effective strategy in enabling communities to proactively address the child labour issue. CWGs contributed significantly to monitoring the education performance and work status of children and in promoting awareness on WFCL prevention. CWGs in most communities were incorporated into the barangay structure to ensure its sustainability. This is something that the project can also employ as one of its community development approaches.
- Adopting participatory community-based approaches (e.g. community catch-up program - a form of weekend remedial sessions in the community facilitated by volunteer child leaders with close supervision from teachers) to directly engage community members is an effective platform to ensure that needs, priorities, and vulnerabilities of the people are addressed properly. This should help facilitate an effective implementation and delivery of projects and at the same time boost community members' ownership of the interventions, as

they see themselves as active participants to the process and not merely passive recipients. Interventions should be continually anchored on the principle of community-based empowerment wherein establishing and strengthening the capacity of community people to fight for their rights, and to seek more opportunities for sustainability is at the forefront.

Outcome 4:

Improved WFCL related policies and programs at the local, district and national level.

Key findings and conclusions:

- Policies, guidelines and programs to effectively combat WFCL are already present at the national level. A range of programs and projects that respond to child labour is available from government agencies such as DOLE and DSWD.
- At the local level, findings suggest that LGUs vary in their capacity to respond to child protection issues in general – some more advanced than others in terms of the presence of structures, policies, programs and activities with budget allocations. Nonetheless, local ordinances/ regulations and PPAs specific to child labour are still lacking. This points to a need to support LGUs, including at the barangay level, in developing and/or strengthening initiatives to combat WFCL.
- Additionally, at least 19 organisations are currently operating in the covered areas and have projects or programmes related to WFCL and child protection in general. 12 of them are operating in Iloilo Province while 7 are in Negros Oriental.

Recommendations:

- Work with partner LGUs in pushing for the passage of a localised/adopted version of the national law (RA 9231) on elimination of the worst forms of child labour. The project should have a clear policy agenda that would determine the modalities of policy influencing interventions that need to be carried out in order to achieve the project's advocacy goals. At the core of the project's policy agenda should be the strengthening of capacities of local councils for the protection of children, which is the government-mandated agency tasked to lead initiatives on child protection, including in pursuing Programs, Projects and Activities that respond to WFCL.
- Organise a Child Labor Technical Working Group (TWG) or a Child Labor Education Taskforce (CLETF) at the city/municipal level as a platform for multi-stakeholder collaborative engagement among the relevant government agencies, private partners, schools and communities, where plans and programs for child protection and child labour reduction can be actively tackled. In the absence of a functional LCPC during the initial stages of the project implementation, the TWG/CLETF may serve as an ad-hoc LCPC to support the policy advocacy efforts of the project.

General Recommendations

To address the limitations identified in this study, the following recommendations are also put forward:

- Whilst it is understandable that the project committed to the donor specific data sources (mostly government data) for baseline values of indicators, realities on the ground indicate that government data is limited. In lieu of this, a detailed

profiling of selected beneficiaries of the project should be conducted before the start of project implementation and delivery of services in the coverage areas. Data collected from the profiling can be treated as baseline value as it describes the state of the beneficiaries before receiving an intervention. This is an acceptable practice across the industry. Other child labour projects such as the ones funded by USDOL-ILAB also used this practice in lieu of lacking data from government agencies.

- Given the challenges in availability of government data, the project may also revisit the approved logical framework, specifically the identified data sources for measurement of indicators, and see if prior assumptions still hold up. Additional data sources not initially identified during the project design stage may be added in lieu of limited data from the government side.
- Support collaboration in expanding knowledge on WFCL through research.

ANNEX 1. REFERENCES

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ANNEX 2: LIST OF KEY STAKEHOLDERS MET

Name	Gender	Position	Agency
Iloilo			
Glenn Mar Padios, RSW	Female	Labor Employment Officer III	DOLE - Region VI Field Office
PMAJ Ma Liza B. Nofuente	Female	Chief, Provincial Women's and Children Protection Desk	PNP/ Iloilo Police Provincial Office
Fe P. Cofreros	Female	Child Protection Officer	Department of Education
Mariecar Labinghisa	Female	Children and Youth Program Focal (Protective Services)	DSWD Region VI Field Office
Elizabeth P. Hechanova, RSW	Female	Focal LCPC and Division Chief, Children and Youth Division	City Social Welfare and Development Office (CSWDO)
Elizabeth T. Alcoran	Female	Social Welfare Officer I/Unit Head	CSWDO - Molo District
Mary Jean Monserate	Female	BCPC Focal	LGU - Molo
Carlo Collado	Male	Business Owner	JustPrint and FoodBox
Negros Oriental			
Vivencio E. Lagahid	Male	Officer-in-Charge	DOLE - NOFO & SFO
Marianita G. Brole	Female	Social Welfare Assistant - Child Welfare Program	PWSDO - Negros Oriental
Lilibeth A. Filipinas	Female	City Social Welfare and Development Officer	CSWDO - Dumaguete City
Monette T. Guivelondo- Larino	Female	Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer	Municipal Social Welfare and Development Office (MSWDO) - Dauin
Grace C. Grefaldia	Female	Social Welfare Officer III	MSWDO - Sibulan
Jesusa R. Navarro	Female	Municipal Social Welfare and Development Officer	MSWDO - Zamboanguita
Saulo Paul B. Baybay	Male	VAWC Desk Officer	LGU - Poblacion 1 (Tinago)
Nenita D. Campuesto	Female	Brgy-Clerk	LGU, Maluay, Zamboanguita

Marlene Pepino	Female	Regional Coordinator	Voice of the Free Foundation, Inc.
Jade S. Justol	Male	Human Resource and Admin Officer	International Care Ministries, Inc.

ANNEX 3: DETAILED DATASETS ON KEY QUESTIONS PER STUDY AREA

B.1. Children

Are you currently enrolled in school

Area	Yes	No	Total
Iloilo Province	190	8	198
%	96%	4%	100%
Cis-Male	110	7	117
Cis-Female	77	1	78
Neither male nor female	1		1
Other	1		1
Prefer not to say	1		1
Negros Oriental	157	6	163
%	96%	4%	100%
Cis-Male	79	5	84
Cis-Female	77	1	78
Prefer not to say	1		1
Grand Total	347	14	361

Do you know about WFCL?

Area	Yes	No	Not Sure	Total
Iloilo Province	24	115	59	198
%	12%	58%	30%	100%
Cis-Male	14	72	31	117
Cis-Female	9	41	28	78
Neither male nor female		1		1
Other		1		1
Prefer not to say	1			1
Negros Oriental	29	129	5	163
%	18%	79%	3%	100%
Cis-Male	15	68	1	84
Cis-Female	14	60	4	78
Prefer not to say		1		1
Grand Total	53	244	64	361

Are you aware of potential dangers/hazards of child labour?

Area	Yes	No	Not Sure	Total
Iloilo Province	21	2	1	24
%	88%	8%	4%	100%
Cis-Male	12	1	1	14
Cis-Female	8	1		9
Prefer not to say	1			1
Negros Oriental	22	7	1	30
%	73%	23%	3%	100%
Cis-Male	13	2		15
Cis-Female	9	5	1	15
Grand Total	43	9	2	54

Are you aware of any cases of child labour in your barangay or municipality/city?

Area	Yes	No	Total
Iloilo Province	33	165	198
%	17%	83%	100%
Cis-Male	18	99	117
Cis-Female	14	64	78
Neither male nor female		1	1
Other		1	1
Prefer not to say	1		1
Negros Oriental	2	161	163
%	1%	99%	100%
Cis-Male	1	83	84
Cis-Female	1	77	78
Prefer not to say		1	1
Grand Total	35	326	361

Are you aware of existing laws or local ordinances on WFCL in your city/ municipality or barangay?

Area	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Iloilo Province	14	123	61	198
%	7%	62%	31%	100%
Cis-Male	4	81	32	117
Cis-Female	10	41	27	78
Neither male nor female		1		1
Other			1	1
Prefer not to say			1	1

Negros Oriental	8	150	5	163
%	5%	92%	3%	100%
Cis-Male	5	76	3	84
Cis-Female	3	73	2	78
Prefer not to say		1		1
Grand Total	22	273	66	361

Do you know any service/s in your community that can help those who experience WFCL?

Area	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Iloilo Province	18	119	61	198
%	9%	60%	31%	100%
Cis-Male	6	79	32	117
Cis-Female	10	40	28	78
Neither male nor female	1			1
Other			1	1
Prefer not to say	1			1
Negros Oriental	3	153	7	163
%	2%	94%	4%	100%
Cis-Male	2	80	2	84
Cis-Female	1	72	5	78
Prefer not to say		1		1
Grand Total	21	272	68	361

Do you know if your barangay has a Barangay Council for the Protection of Children?

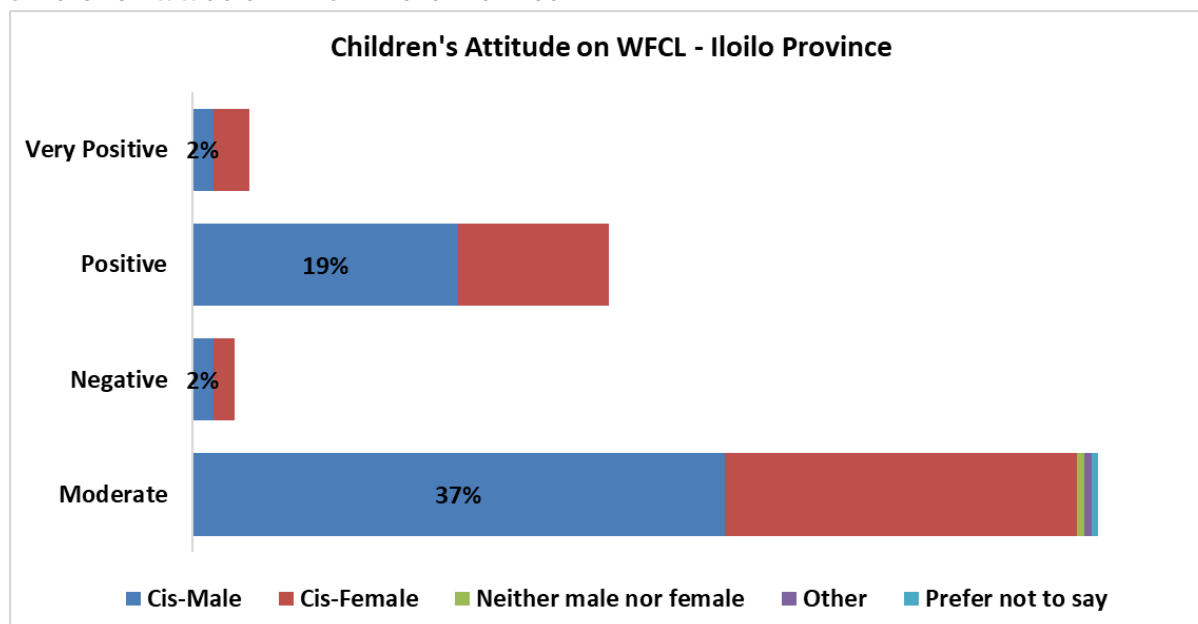
Area	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Iloilo Province	17	114	67	198
%	9%	58%	34%	100%
Cis-Male	5	79	33	117
Cis-Female	11	33	34	78
Neither male nor female	1			1
Other		1		1
Prefer not to say		1		1
Negros Oriental	14	138	11	163
%	9%	85%	7%	100%
Cis-Male	6	73	5	84
Cis-Female	8	64	6	78

Prefer not to say		1		1
Grand Total	31	252	78	361

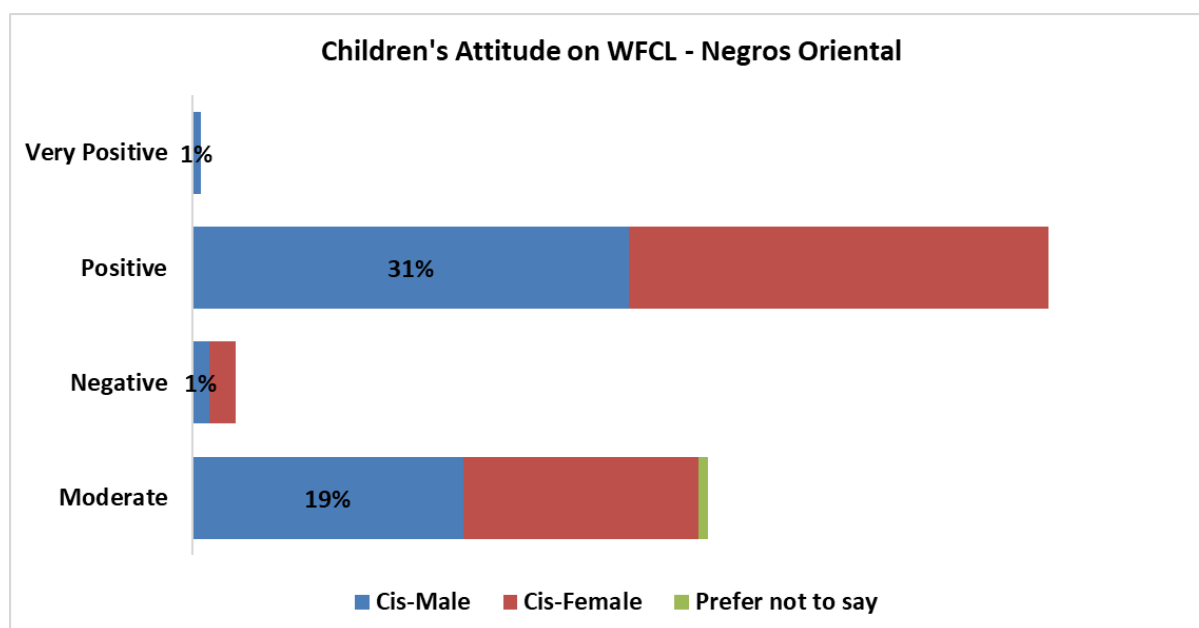
Have you reported any child labour cases to authorities in the past year?

Area	Yes	No	Total
Iloilo Province	0	198	198
%	0%	100%	100%
Cis-Male		117	117
Cis-Female		78	78
Neither male nor female		1	1
Other		1	1
Prefer not to say		1	1
Negros Oriental	1	162	163
%	1%	99%	100%
Cis-Male	1	83	84
Cis-Female		78	78
Prefer not to say		1	1
Grand Total	1	360	361

Children's Attitude on WFCL - Iloilo Province



Children's Attitude on WFCL - Negros Oriental



B.2. Parents

Do you know about the worst forms of child labour (WFCL)?

Area	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Iloilo Province	39	96	63	198
%	20%	48%	32%	100%
Cis-Male	5	14	3	22
Cis-Female	34	82	60	176
Negros Oriental	48	104	11	163
%	29%	64%	7%	100%
Cis-Male	8	18	2	28
Cis-Female	40	86	9	135
Grand Total	87	200	74	361

Are you aware of potential dangers/hazards of child labour?

Area	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Iloilo Province	66	68	64	198
%	33%	34%	32%	100%
Cis-Male	6	10	6	22
Cis-Female	60	58	58	176
Negros Oriental	60	90	13	163
%	37%	55%	8%	100%
Cis-Male	11	14	3	28

Cis-Female	49	76	10	135
Grand Total	126	158	77	361

Are you aware of any cases of child labour in your barangay or municipality/city?

Area	Yes	No	Total
Iloilo Province	40	158	198
%	20%	80%	100%
Cis-Male	3	19	22
Cis-Female	37	139	176
Negros Oriental	16	147	163
%	10%	90%	100%
Cis-Male	3	25	28
Cis-Female	13	122	135
Grand Total	56	305	361

Are you aware of existing laws or local ordinances on WFCL in your city/ municipality or barangay?

Area	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Iloilo Province	47	81	70	198
%	24%	41%	35%	100%
Cis-Male	7	11	4	22
Cis-Female	40	70	66	176
Negros Oriental	49	97	17	163
%	30%	60%	10%	100%
Cis-Male	8	15	5	28
Cis-Female	41	82	12	135
Grand Total	96	178	87	361

Do you know any service/s in your community that can help those who experience WFCL?

Area	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Iloilo Province	31	96	71	198
%	16%	48%	36%	100%
Cis-Male	3	14	5	22
Cis-Female	28	82	66	176
Negros Oriental	18	122	23	163
%	11%	75%	14%	100%

Cis-Male	5	17	6	28
Cis-Female	13	105	17	135
Grand Total	49	218	94	361

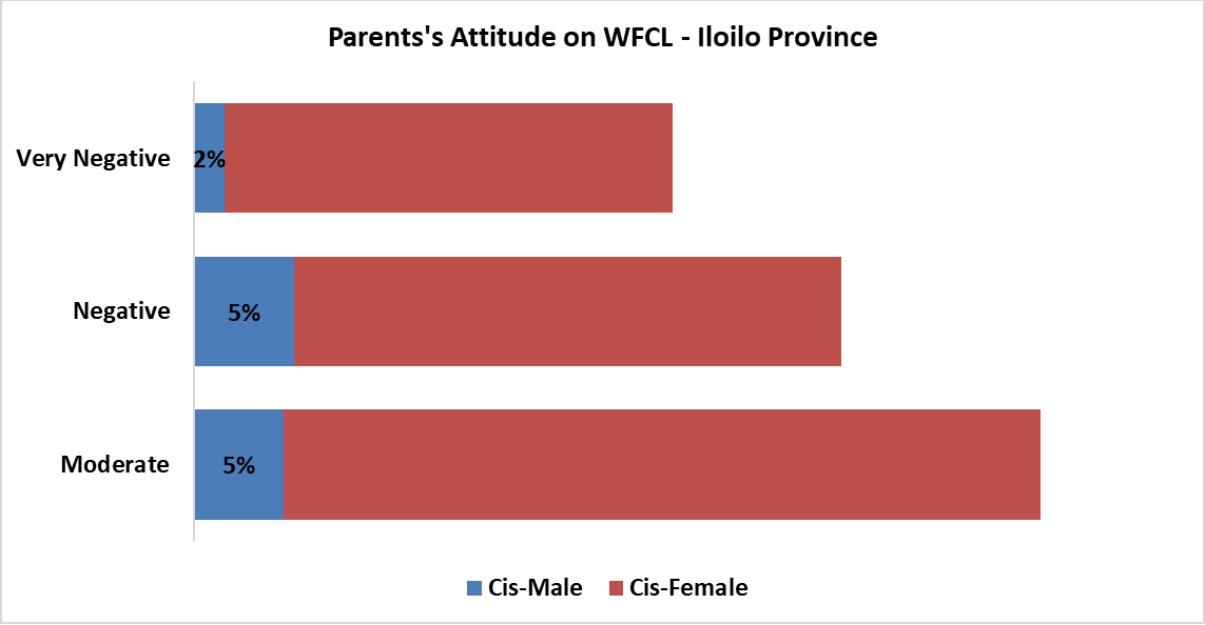
Do you know if your barangay has a Barangay Council for the Protection of Children?

Area	Yes	No	Not sure	Total
Iloilo Province	38	76	84	198
%	19%	38%	42%	100%
Cis-Male	8	7	7	22
Cis-Female	30	69	77	176
Negros Oriental	57	73	33	163
%	35%	45%	20%	100%
Cis-Male	13	9	6	28
Cis-Female	44	64	27	135
Grand Total	95	149	117	361

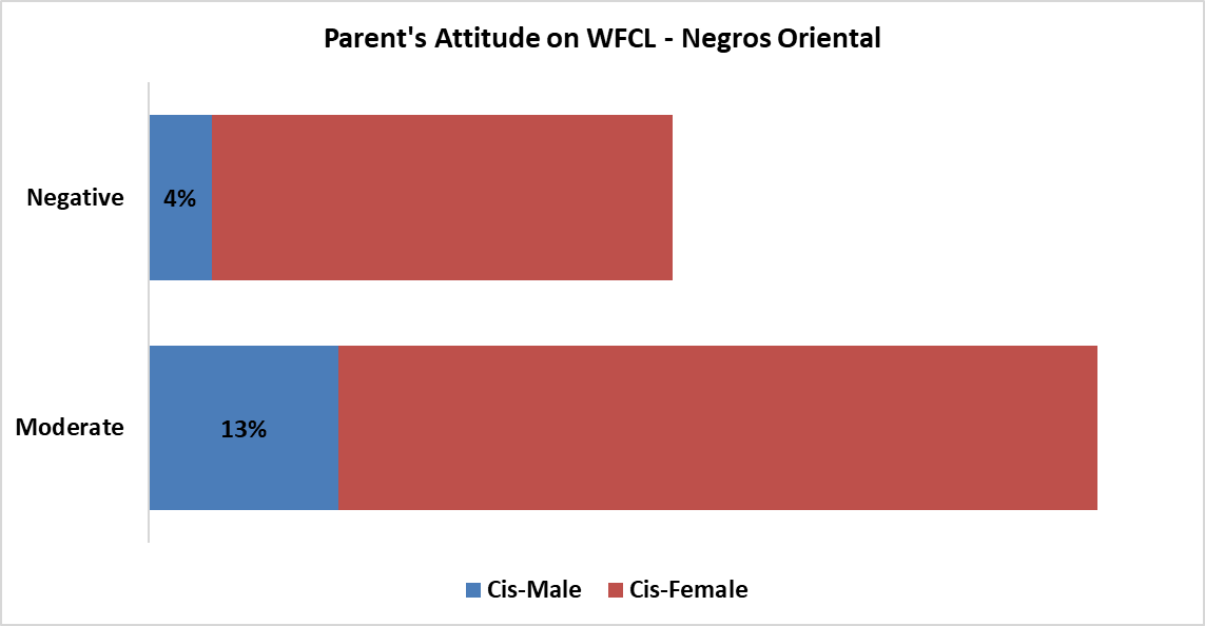
Have you reported any WFCL cases in your community to authorities in the past year?

Area	Yes	No	Total
Iloilo Province	3	195	198
%	2%	98%	100%
Cis-Male	1	21	22
Cis-Female	2	174	176
Negros Oriental	7	156	163
%	4%	96%	100%
Cis-Male	1	27	28
Cis-Female	6	129	135
Grand Total	10	351	361

Parent's Attitude on WFCL - Iloilo Province



Parent's Attitude on WFCL - Negros Oriental



ANNEX 4: VALIDATION HIGHLIGHTS

Data Validation

The evaluation team conducted data validation activities with parents/caregivers (10) and children (6) in Dumaguete and Iloilo cities on May 4 and 11, 2024, respectively with the help of project implementing partners, Children's Legal Bureau and Bidlisiw Foundation.

Before presenting the baseline study results, the team outlined the objectives of the baseline study, study sites, and the data gathering activities done, such as surveys, key informant interviews, and focus group discussions, in which they participated as well as the profile of the study participants. The team then presented the key findings of the baseline study for Strengthening the Community-based Protection Systems to Eliminate Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in the Visayas Region Project.

- This study was commissioned by the project to establish baseline data for the set of indicators outlined in the project's results framework. The baseline results will be used as a measurement to monitor the project's progress against the set indicators throughout the project implementation. The baseline study was carried out in Iloilo City and four areas in Negros Oriental, namely Dumaguete City, Dauin, Sibulan, and Zamboanguita. Document review, survey, focus group discussions, and key informant interviews were employed to gather data.
- Only a few child laborers were profiled or reported in Iloilo City and Negros Oriental in 2023. There were 329 profiled child labourers in Iloilo City, with the largest prevalence of child labor in barangays Hinactacan, La Paz (59), Calumpang (36), and San Pedro, Molo (28). Around 79%, or 260 out of 329 children, were rescued from child labour, while 69 remained. In Negros Oriental, there were a total of 5,664 profiled child laborers in the province.
- Survey results show that 1 in 10 or 13% children respondents, predominantly males (63%) aged 15-17 (72%), worked out of their own will in the past year. They worked for a variety of reasons, including paying school expenses (39%), helping parents on the farm (33%), supplementing family income (4%), and seeing work as their obligation (4%). More than half of the working children (52%) worked on the streets peddling, scavenging, and begging. Some were engaged in domestic work (24%), construction (15%), farming (2%), fishing (2%), photography (2%), and in the services sector as mall attendants (2%).
- There is a low level of awareness among children of the WFCL, with only 15% being aware of it. When asked what they knew about WFCL, many of the respondents who were familiar mentioned construction work (28%), exploitation and abuse (13%), forced labour (13%), and prostitution (11%). Children learned about WFCL through their school (49%), barangay (25%), the internet (25%), and television (15%). Similarly, only 24% of parents knew about the WFCL, which was slightly higher than the children's level. Those knowledgeable with WFCL described incidents they were aware of, including forced labour (32%), CSEC (21%), OSEC (20%), forced begging (11%), farming (11%), child domestic work (6%), mining and quarrying (2%), and child soldiers (1%). Their primary sources of information on WFCL were the barangay (43%),

television (38%), and the internet (25%).

- The vast majority (85%) of children were unaware of any community or school initiatives advocating child rights and preventing WFCL, while the remaining 15% were aware of such activities. A few (31%) participated in these activities. 56% of children expressed willingness to participate in activities that will promote child rights and prevent WFCL. Likewise, among parents, 63% were willing to participate in activities aimed at preventing and protecting their children from WFCL. Despite a generally positive attitude about WFCL, these findings indicate a reluctance among many children and parents in getting involved in efforts to combat WFCL.
- Findings show that the percentage of children who are aware of the services for WFCL victims in their communities is extremely low at 6%, with almost all (94%) children not knowing or unsure if such services existed. The great majority of children were not aware of organisations or groups responding to child labour issues. In particular, most child respondents were unaware (71%) and unsure (19%) of organisations or groups such as NGOs, CBOs, churches, and businesses that address child labour issues. Awareness of support services for victims of WFCL among parents is very low, with only 14% being familiar with such services. Awareness among parents of organisations or groups that respond to WFCL is low, with only 18% being aware of organisations or groups that respond to WFCL, including churches, non-governmental organisations (NGOs), community-based organisations (CBOs), and youth groups.
- A large proportion of parents/adult respondents did not know (47%) and were unsure (34%) whether their local government is doing anything to address WFCL in their community.
- The percentage of children who are aware of the services for WFCL victims in their communities is extremely low at 6%. The few children who were aware of these services to help children in the WFCL, learned about this mostly from the barangay (90%), the internet (10%), school (10%), home (10%), and television (5%). When asked what services were available for WFCL victims, they indicated education assistance (48%), livelihood support (33%), legal advice (29%), foster care (29%), counselling (14%), financial aid (14%), relief goods (14%) and shelter (5%). More than half (52%) of them believed that these services were easily accessible to local children and families in need. The barangay (76%) and the Department of Social Welfare, and Development (DSWD-19%) were identified as primary service providers.
- Results of the survey indicate that children's awareness of Barangay Councils for the Protection of Children (BCPC), including its presence in their barangays, is also quite low, with only 9% being familiar with it. The great majority of children have never heard (70%) and were unsure if they have already heard (21%) of BCPCs. Parents' awareness of BCPCs, including its presence in their barangays, is moderate. In particular, about a third (33%) of parents said they have heard of BCPCs.
- Survey results showed that a small number of children knew what to do if they fell victim to WFCL. Only 23% of children responded that they knew what to do

if they or another child they knew became a victim of WFCL. The great majority were not aware (52%) and unsure (25%) of what actions to take when faced with this situation. A third (33%) of the child respondents will report cases of WFCL in their communities to the authorities. Similarly, only about a third (32%) of parents will report to authorities if they learned that their child or another child they knew got involved in any form of WFCL while 18% said they will talk to the persons involved.

- Awareness of support services for victims of WFCL among parents is very low, with only 14% being familiar with such services. The great majority were unsure (26%) and unaware (60%). According to those who were aware of such services for WFCL victims, support included livelihood support (43%), education assistance (35%), foster care (27%), counselling (27%), legal services (14%), and health services (12%). The great majority of children were not aware of organisations or groups responding to child labour issues. In particular, most child respondents were unaware (71%) and unsure (19%) of organisations or groups such as NGOs, CBOs, churches, and businesses that address child labour issues.
- There are 19 organisations with projects or programmes related to WFCL and child protection in general which are present in the covered communities. 12 of them are operating in Iloilo Province while 7 are in Negros Oriental. Some of the organisations operating the target areas are: World Vision, World Hope International, CHILD Initiative, CAMELEON, ERDA Foundation, Little Children of the Philippines, Voice of the Free, GWAVE and others.
- There is a good amount of existing policies, guidelines and programs to effectively combat WFCL. In support of the Philippine Program Against Child Labor which aims for a child labour-free Philippines, the Department of Labor and Employment as the chair of the National Council Against Child Labor (NCACL) implements the Child Labor Prevention and Elimination Program (CLPEP). The DOLE CLPEP consists of the following components: Sagip Batang Manggagawa, DOLE Integrated Livelihood and Emergency Employment Program (DILEEP), Project Angel Tree, DSWD for its part has the following, Strategic Help Desks for Information, Education, Livelihood and other Developmental Interventions (SHIELD) Against Child Labor Project, Recovery and Reintegration Program for Trafficked Persons and Assistance to Individuals in Crisis Situations (AICS).

Discussion

- Data validation participants agreed that the majority of the respondents in the survey were females since women are generally the ones who stay in the house to handle household duties and care for the needs of their children, while males are outside working.
- They agreed that the typical household size is six, while larger households are prevalent.
- They stated that they had not received any skills training from the government or non-governmental organisations (NGOs).
- Iloilo City participants confirmed that Brgy Calumpang, San Pedro, and Hinactan, Lapaz have many child laborers.

- They agreed that the majority of minors who work are males aged 15 to 17 and it is voluntary. They indicated that they tend to be males because the jobs they often pursue involve manual work. They also believed that these young people choose to work to provide for their families and earn additional money for school and personal expenses.
- Participants also agreed that children and adults have a limited awareness of the WFCL. They explained that if Bidlisiw and Children's Legal Bureau (CLB) had not trained them, they would not have learned about child labour. According to them, children working to help with household expenses and other reasons is common in their communities.
- Children participants said that they were unaware of initiatives in their school and community that advocated for child rights and the prevention of WFCL. They noted that if there are activities/projects available, they will consider participating, but it will depend on the type of activity. Adult participants, however, expressed that they'd be more than eager to join in such activities, as long as it wouldn't interfere with their household and livelihood activities.
- Participants stated that they are unaware of the services offered to identified victims of WFCL. Except for Bidlisiw and CLB, they have no knowledge of any other groups that can assist the WFCL victims.
- Children participants confirmed that they were unfamiliar with BCPC and its activities/projects. The parents/adult participants, on the other hand, are familiar with BCPC but are unaware of its functions/activities/projects.
- Children who participated in the study indicated that they do not know what to do if they become victims of WFCL or if they know someone who has been victimised by WFCL. The adult participants, on the other hand, stated that they will most likely speak with the persons involved before reporting the child labour incident to authorities.
- Participants reported that they are unaware of any other NGOs with child protection initiatives except Bidlisiw and CLB. They also added that they are unaware of the government's efforts to prevent child labour.
- They pointed out that it is hard to fully eliminate all forms of child labour since it is sometimes important for children to work to help their parents. Participants, on the other hand, realised that they needed to take an active role in preventing child labour and protecting their children from WFCL by organising awareness-raising campaigns in their communities to make more parents and children aware of the WFCL issue and the negative impacts of child labour.