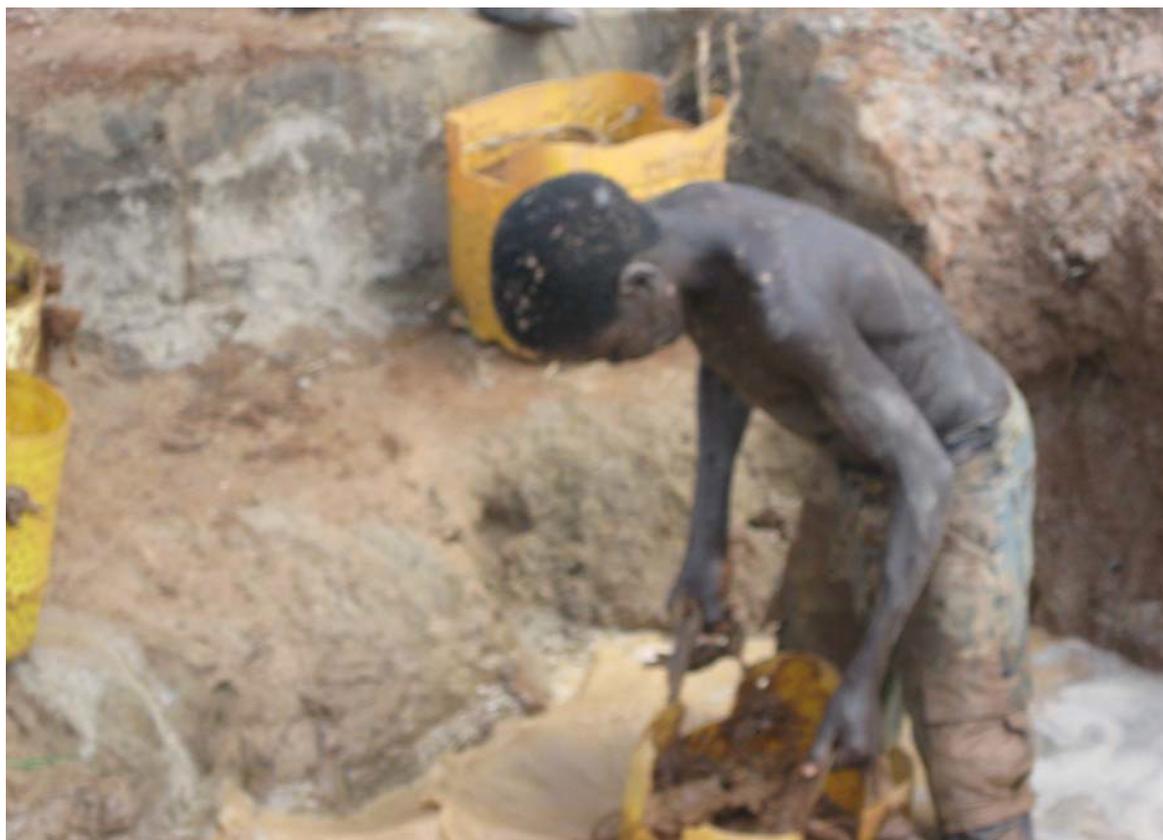




International
Labour
Organization

Rapid assessment of child labour in non-traditional mining sector in Zambia

Final report



International
Programme on
the Elimination
of Child Labour
(IPEC)

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First published 2008

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IPEC

Rapid assessment of child labour in non-traditional mining sector in Zambia: Final report / International Labour Office, International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour (IPEC) - Geneva: ILO, 2008.

ISBN: 978-92-2-127279-3 (Web PDF)

International Labour Office; ILO International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour

ILO Cataloguing in Publication Data

ACKNOWLEDGEMENTS

This publication was elaborated by Chrispin Radoka Matenga, consultant, for IPEC.

Funding for this ILO publication was provided by the United States Department of Labor (Project ZAM/06/50/USA).

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ABBREVIATIONS AND ACRONYMS

ASM	Artisanal Small-scale Mining
CBO	Community Based Organization
CSO	Central Statistical Office
DESAR	District Environmental Situation Analysis Report
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GRZ	Government of the Republic of Zambia
JCM	Jesus Cares Ministries
MSDP	Mining Sector Diversification Programme
MMMD	Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development
MSD	Mine Safety Department
MTENR	Ministry of Tourism, Environment and Natural Resources
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NTMS	Non-traditional Mining Sector
SIMPOC	Statistical Information Management Programme on Child Labour
TBP	Time Bound Programme
UNICEF	United Nations International Children Education Fund
WFCL	Worst Forms of Child Labour

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The broader aim of the study was to contribute to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour in non-traditional mining in Zambia. The objective of the study was to expand the knowledge base on the extent and types of illegal child mining in Zambia.

The specific objectives of the study were to: **assess?** and document the nature and extent of the problem of child labour in non-traditional mining sector in the selected study sites; document the demographic, socio-economic, educational and family backgrounds of children involved in mining related activities; identify the main causes leading children to engage in mining related activities; to identify and document the type of tasks and general working conditions of the children engaged in mining activities.

The study used qualitative methods to collect data. Data collection methods used included literature review through documentary analysis, semi-structured interview guides for children engaged in mining activities, key informant interviews, focus group discussions (FGDs) and observation.

The study did not cover all the areas in which small-scale non-traditional mining in Zambia was taking place. It covered specific sites within five provinces, namely, Lusaka, (the capital city); Lufwanyama (on the Copperbelt Province); Lundazi (in Eastern Province), Kalomo (in Southern Province) and Mkushi and Kabwe (in Central Province). The field research focused on children aged below 18 years who were involved in mining related activities.

The rapid assessment was carried out in accordance with the ILO/UNICEF (SIMPOC) methodology for acquiring and analysing data on child labour. The assessment was largely a participatory one, involving consultations with the

relevant communities in the design and execution of the project. This was done firstly by conducting field visits before the actual data collection. Researchers validated the data post-analysis with selected participants drawn from the study sites at a one day workshop. The close involvement of the mining communities was essential for the acquisition of reliable and valid data. Furthermore, such close collaboration would facilitate future interventions with the respective communities once policy reforms are enacted.

In all, the study involved 341 participants. These included eight-seven (87) children involved in the small-scale non-traditional mining sector and quarrying; forty-one (41) Key informant interviews; sixteen (16) Focus Group Discussions with a total of 213 persons participating.

Limitations of the study included the short time for the field work which made it difficult to verify all the information through triangulation. The study was also commissioned during the rainy season when small-scale mining activities were at the lowest. Further, the high level secrecy that surrounds the operations of the gemstone mines made it difficult to obtain all the necessary information.

Main study findings

Children below the age of 18 years were employed or engaged themselves of their own accord in the small-scale mining sector. The largest group of working children (75.8%) of all the children interviewed were aged 15-17 years.

The high involvement of working children aged 15-17 could be explained by the fact that this age group normally would have either dropped out of basic schools or have completed their high school. Having no further prospects of either furthering their education or attending skills training, this age group enters into the informal labour force. Another explanation could be that the nature of mining work requires to be undertaken by older children.

Nine out of eighty-seven children engaged in mining activities were girls. This suggests that there are more boys than girls involved in child labour in mining.

The highest number of working children interviewed (30) came from households with 5 to 6 family members followed by households with 7 to 8 members (22). It is generally believed that the larger the household size the more likely for children in such households to engage child labour in order to contribute to family income. Based on this finding, there appears to be an association between children engaging in mining activities and the household size. The current national average household size is 5.2

Less than 10% of the interviewed children working in mining had never attended school at all. However, close to 70% of the children who had attended school had dropped out at different levels of the education ladder. What the above finding signifies is that generally, children who drop out of school for one reason or another end up in child labour.

The causes of child labour in small-scale mining in Zambia were not any different from the causes of child labour in general. Poverty of their families was cited as the main reason that forced children to work. The study found out that apart from mining, children were also involved in different work activities including fetching water, herding cattle, farming and trading. All the working children who were interviewed indicated that their family income was not sufficient to meet their families' basic and other needs.

Small-scale non-traditional mining is divided into different categories, namely, the more formal well established mining companies using modern equipment and management skills; those who conduct mining operations at an artisanal family level with very basic tools such as picks and shovels; individual-owned and licensed mines with absentee landlords; and scavengers that sift through the dump sites of the more formal and established mines as well as other illegals

who mine on unmanned legal plots. Child labour was prevalent in all the different types of mines.

Children in the mining sector are involved in almost all tasks of the mining enterprise. The tasks included, digging, shoveling, crushing stones, sorting gemstones, sieving and washing gemstones and carrying the products. The youngest of the children (some as young as 7 years) do other tasks such as cooking and fetching water for elders and older group of children.

Children who were involved in mining activities worked under harsh and hazardous conditions. These included working long hours, working all the days of the week, exposure to excess heat both from the sun and fire and dangerous chemical substances. Most of the working children had serious wounds or scars on their limbs, head and other exposed parts of their bodies from accidents they were involved in on the mining sites.

Children who were employed were either paid in cash or kind. Some, who worked with their parents in mining were not paid anything as their work is regarded as part of their family responsibilities. Usually those paid in kind receive a proportion of gemstones and all food. The average income per month was K30, 000.00 in Eastern province, K70, 000.000 for Central province, K150, 000.00 for Copperbelt province and K50, 000.00 for Southern province.

Tools and equipment used by children in the various mining activities were very basic (hammers, chisels, picks etc.) and often exposed them to injury.

Recommendations

On the basis of the above findings, the study offers the following recommendations:

- There is need for sustained awareness-raising and mobilization of both legal small-scale mining and other illegal mining communities in order to prevent and eliminate child labour in the sector.
- Developmental programmes must include empowerment of households through job creation and other income generating activities. This is because household poverty is the root cause of child labour. Income generating activities need to be diversified. This should include the creation of cooperatives to enable more families to access necessary resources.
- Interventions must apply a multi-sectoral approach, involving all the government ministries, NGOs, the church and multilateral organizations. The starting point should be the sourcing and pooling of finance for child welfare. Within a broader context of cooperation, each organization can then focus on its own specialized activities.
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welfare. Within a broader context of cooperation, each organization can then focus on its own specialized activities.

- Given the urgent nature of the problem of child labour, there is a need to create community child labour committees in all the areas where there is child labour including areas where child labour in the non-traditional mining sector is prevalent. The committees should consist of all the stakeholders including government security wings, line ministries, relevant NGOs, leaders, the church etc.
- There should be deliberate programmes to withdraw, rehabilitate and integrate the working children into society. Children mining and processing Lead and Zinc in Kabwe are at greatest risk of acute lead poisoning. There is therefore urgent need for programmes to withdraw these children involved in illegal mining of the dangerous minerals. These programmes must be combined with alternative income-earning opportunities for the parents and/or children.
- There is need to broaden the scope of mine safety inspection to include the more informal and artisanal small-scale mines and issues of child labour.
- There is need to enforce the existing law governing child labour by providing the necessary logistics for enforcement personnel.
- There is need for in-depth regional studies to be undertaken to establish the magnitude of child labour in the major small-scale mining communities in Zambia. Further, given that copper, a traditional mineral in Zambia is now being mined at a small-scale level in several parts of the country, future studies on child labour in small-scale mining should include this sub-sector.

1. INTRODUCTION, BACKGROUND AND RATIONALE

Child Labour has risen to prominence as a cross-cutting issue in development theory and practice in recent years, and its immense significance in contributing to ongoing ill-health and poverty has been recognised. Child labour disallows children to avail of their right to education, and is thus specifically linked to Millennium Development Goal No. 2 that seeks to achieve universal primary education by 2015. The removal of this cohort of children from education creates long-term consequences for the economy and society: it causes an increase in economic stagnation and poverty due to their lack of participation in the formal economy; also stigmatization and separation from peers can cause social dislocation. The cyclical effects of child labour are evident as it is both caused by and contributes to poverty and inequality.

Internationally, child labour and appropriate responses to it are defined by the conventions adopted by the International Labour Organisation: ILO Convention No. 138 on Minimum Age for Admission to Employment, and ILO Convention 182 on the Elimination of the Worst Forms on Child Labour (WFCL). Convention 182 clearly spells out the prohibition of all forms of labour similar to slavery, including the trafficking of children for prostitution and other labour purposes. A statutory instrument for the prohibition of hazardous forms of child labour is currently pending approval by the GRZ. In this Convention, other relevant legal documents are referred to, for example the Convention on the Rights of the Child (1989) and the Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work (1998), which are similarly condemnatory of child labour. Both Convention 138 and 182 are ratified by Zambia; the state is therefore obliged to put in place urgent time-bound measures to eliminate the WFCL.

According to the ILO global estimates as of 2002, there are about 352¹ million economically active children between the ages of 5 and 17, of whom around 246 million are involved in activities labeled as child labour. Of the 246 million working children worldwide, approximately 179 million are estimated to engage in worst forms, while 171 million are thought to be engaged in what can be called hazardous child labour. They work under hazardous conditions in brick factories, mines, carpet-weaving centers, leather tanning shops, glass and match factories, and plantations growing products such as coffee, tea, tobacco, etc. Mining is a particularly hazardous form of child labour, and is often associated with peripheral areas that are already economically and socially marginalised. Child labour most often occurs in what is termed 'artisanal small-scale mining' (ASM), whose informal nature and geographical isolation makes it particularly difficult for agencies to address. The methods employed are low-technology and labour-intensive, with little or no safety mechanisms in place. The physical and social infrastructure of these communities is highly under-developed; to compound the obvious physical dangers of this type of labour, there is a multitude of psycho-social perils such as crime, prostitution and substance abuse, which serve to bind the children into a sub-culture from which it is very difficult to escape. Its smaller numbers often render it less significant on government agendas, leaving it under-reported and requiring more resources for its elimination. Worldwide, it is estimated that approximately one million children are involved in mining – in Zambia the figures are unclear, hence the need for a rapid assessment. The rising prices for mined commodities on global markets give cause for concern, as it is suspected that would result in increased child labour in small-scale mining in the country.

2. AIM AND OBJECTIVES OF THE STUDY

2.1 Aim of the study

¹ ILO (2002) SIMPOC: Every Child Counts – New global estimates on Child Labour, Geneva.

The broader aim of the study was to contribute to the progressive and effective elimination of child labour in non-traditional mining in Zambia, achievable in the longer-term through the formulation and implementation of a time bound programme (TBP) for Zambia. The objective of the study was to expand the knowledge base on the extent and types of illegal child mining in Zambia.

2.3 Specific objectives of the study

The specific objectives of the study were to:

1. Investigate and document the nature and extent of the problem of child labour in non-traditional mining sector in the selected study sites.
2. Document the demographic, socio-economic, educational and family backgrounds of children involved in mining related activities.
3. Identify the main causes leading children to engage in mining related activities.
4. Identify and document the type of tasks and general working conditions of the children engaged mining activities

3. RESEARCH METHODS

3.1 Data Sources

The study collected two types of data, namely primary and secondary.

3.2 Secondary data

A comprehensive and systematic review of relevant literature was conducted. The secondary data was primarily used to sharpen the researchers' understanding of the problem of child labour in general and child labour in small-

scale non-traditional mining in particular. Literature review was also important in providing insights and identifying gaps in the current information on child labour in small-scale mining.

3.3 Primary data

Primary data was collected through fieldwork in Lusaka, (the capital city); Lufwanyama (on the Copperbelt Province); Lundazi (in Eastern Province), Kalomo (in Southern Province) and Mkushi and Kabwe (in Central Province). The field research focused on children aged below 18 years who were involved in mining related activities.

Similar information was solicited from key government departments, Community Based Organisations (CBOs), Non-Governmental Organisations (NGOs), community workers, local leaders and other community members.

3.4 Research tools

The study used the following rapid assessment instruments: observation list; topic interview guidelines for key informants; topic guidelines for focus group discussions (FGDs); semi-structured interview guides for children engaged in mining activities.

3.4.1 Observations

An observation checklist of indicators would be used to ensure that observations from the field are recorded. This method was critical in the field as it enabled the research team to take a first hand look at the living and working conditions of children participating in mining activities in the study sites.

3.4.2 Key informant interviews

The objective of key informant interviews was to get information from experts who in their professional work interacted with children engaging in child labour in general and those working in mining activities in particular and/or have knowledge of child labour in mining both outside and in the study sites. These included; officials from the Ministry of Mines and Minerals Development; Department of Immigration; district authorities; NGOs and CBOs; Traditional leaders; teachers; health officers; small-scale mine proprietors; and gemstone traders.

3.4.3 Semi-structured interview guidelines with children involved in mining activities

A semi-structured interview guideline was developed for interviews with children (aged below 18) involved in mining related activities.

3.4.4 Focus group discussions

These were particularly useful in assessing community perceptions of child labour in mining. The discussions were held with local community members as well as children involved in mining related activities in the study sites.

3.5 Sampling procedure

Due to the fact that the population relevant to the study is generally “invisible” and hard to access given that small-scale mining largely take place in remote and geographically isolated places, the choice of study sites and the primary target group for the study (children working in small-scale non-traditional mining sector) was purposive in that the research team had to select those sites where small-scale mining was known to exist. Fieldwork was conducted in the five provinces (Lusaka, Southern, Copperbelt, Eastern and Central). These provinces

were selected because preliminary investigations showed that small-scale mining activities and /or quarrying and stone crushing were prevalent in those areas.

Respondents from whom data was solicited were purposively selected from the mining sites, communities and organisations within mining communities because of their knowledge/experience in issues relating to child labour in general and child labour in mining in particular.

Although generalizations of the findings of this study cannot be made largely on the basis of the case studies, it is worth noting that the responses from the respondents had formed a pattern. The findings of this study should be viewed against this backdrop.

3.6 Approach

The rapid assessment was carried out in accordance with the ILO/UNICEF (SIMPOC) methodology for acquiring and analyzing data on child labour. The assessment was largely a participatory one, involving consultations with the relevant communities in the design and execution of the project. This was done firstly by conducting field visits before the actual data collection.

Researchers validated the data post analysis with selected participants drawn from the study sites during a one day workshop. The close involvement of the mining communities was essential for the acquisition of reliable and valid data. Furthermore, such close collaboration would facilitate future interventions with the respective communities once policy reforms are enacted.

3.7 Profile of respondents

The study used different instruments in capturing the required information; among the instruments used were the semi-structured questionnaire for children

involved in mining related activities, interview guides for key informants and focus group discussions (FGDs).

In all, the study involved 341 participants. Table 1 below shows the breakdown of the respondents by category:

- Eight-seven (87) children involved in the small-scale non-traditional mining sector and quarrying.
- Forty-one (41) Key informant interviews were conducted. The key informants were from different sectors that were either working on issues of small-scale mining, child labour or child welfare in the mining sites or were most likely to have come across the same in the general course of their work. The respondents interviewed were from governmental bodies, civil society (NGOs, INGOs, CBOs), small-scale mines proprietors, district authorities, and traditional leaders.
- Sixteen (16) Focus Group Discussions were conducted with local community members. These were conducted in Lusaka (6), Lufwanyama on the Copperbelt Province (3), Mkushi and Kabwe in Central Province (2) respectively, Lundazi in Eastern Province (2), and Kalomo in Southern Province (3). A total of 213 persons participated in the FGDs. Focus group discussions of children working in mining related activities were held separate from those of adults who included male and female.

Table 1: Profile of respondents

REGION	LUSAKA	EASTERN	CENTRAL	SOUTHERN	COPPERBELT	TOTAL
CHILDREN INTERVIEWS	19	18	12	18	20	87
KEY INFORMANTS	9	10	10	7	5	41
FOCUS GROUP DISCUSSIONS	60(six FGDs 10 of each)	20(Two FGDs of 10 each)	30(two FGDs of 15 each)	42(Three FGDs two of 15 and 1 of 12)	61(Three FGDs of 25,16 and 20)	213
SUB TOTAL	88	48	52	67	86	341

3.8 Limitations of the study

The findings presented in this report are subject to a number of limitations. Some of the major limitations are:

1. **Timing:** The study was commissioned during a rainy season. Certain areas within the study sites were rendered inaccessible due to impassable roads and the rains sometimes made it impossible to hold interviews at appointed times. Further, most mining activities are closed during the rain season due to the flooding of the mines.
2. **Time Limitation:** The field data collection was undertaken in a very short time. This could not allow the research team to talk to all the relevant respondents as some respondents requested for appointments that fell outside the time set for the respective study sites.
3. **The high level secrecy that surrounds the operations of the gemstone mines** made it difficult to obtain all the necessary data.
4. **Due to the fact that the rapid assessment methodology has inherent limitations, most of the information which was collected was qualitative and therefore descriptive. Consequently, most of the data collected is specific to the study areas and cannot be generalized or considered statistically reliable.**

4. LEGISLATIVE AND POLICY FRAMEWORKS ON CHILD LABOUR

4.1 International legislative and policy frameworks

Child labour does not include all economic activity carried out by children under 18 years of age, but is work that is carried out that does not meet the guidelines set out in the Minimum Age Convention (No 138) and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No 182). These two conventions, along with other international conventions protecting children, are serving as guides to countries that are willing to prevent child labour.

Minimum Age Convention (No 138)

Article 1: This states that ratified countries are obliged to “pursue a national policy designed to ensure the effective abolition of child labour and to raise progressively the minimum age for admission to employment or work to a level consistent with the fullest physical and mental development of young persons”.

Article 2: The minimum age specified by the Member country should not be less than the age of completion of compulsory schooling and not less than 15 years of age. However, under certain circumstances, a minimum age of 14 years may be applied.

Article 3: “The minimum age for admission to any type of employment or work which by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out is likely to jeopardize the health, safety or morals of young persons shall not be less than 18 years”.

Article 7: While the minimum age of work is set at 14 years, but more commonly 15 years of age, a child is allowed to carry out ‘light work’ if they are over the age of 13 years. Light work constitutes work that is not harmful to the child’s health or

development and does not stop them attending school or a relevant vocational training programme.

The Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL)

In 1999 a new convention, the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention (No 182) was adopted. The Convention has been ratified by 163 countries, including Zambia. Those who have ratified the Convention make a commitment to act to eliminate the worst forms of child labour as a matter of urgency. This report adopts the definition of worst forms of child labour given in Article 3 of the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention 1999 (No. 182) that reads as follows:

- 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;
- b) the use, procurement or offering of a child for prostitution, production of pornography or pornographic performances;
- c) the use, procurement or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in the relevant international treaties; and
- d) work which by its nature or by the circumstances under which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.”

The first three categories are *unconditional worst forms of child labour*. This means that under no circumstances should children be employed in these activities. The fourth category is defined as ‘hazardous work’. While no child under 18 should be involved in hazardous work, the determination of what types of work are qualified as hazardous needs to be made at the national level.

As shown by the WFCL Convention, mining since it is hazardous, can be viewed as a worst form of child labour.

Another piece of international legislation that aims to provide guidance to governments to protect children everywhere is The Convention on the Rights of the Child adopted in 1989. This has been ratified by all but two countries in the world, and includes articles relating to child labour.

Article 32 of the Convention on the Rights of the Child stipulates that:

(1) States Parties recognise the right of the child to be protected from economic exploitation and from performing any work that is likely to be hazardous or to interfere with the child's education, or to be harmful to the child's health or physical, mental, spiritual, moral or social development.

(2) States Parties shall take legislative, administrative, social and educational measures to ensure the implementation of the present article. To this end, and having regard to the relevant provisions of other international instruments, States Parties shall in particular:

- (a) Provide for a minimum age or minimum ages for admission to employment;
- (b) Provide for appropriate regulation of the hours and conditions of employment;
- (c) Provide for appropriate penalties or other sanctions to ensure the effective enforcement of the present article.

4.2 Zambian legal and policy frameworks on child labour

In 2004, the Government of Zambia introduced the Employment of Young Persons and Children (Amendment) Act to bring it into line with the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention. This states that:

- a child under the age of 13 years cannot work

- a child between the ages of 13 and 15 can engage in light work
- a child/labour person under the age of 15 years cannot do hazardous labour
- a child is anyone under the age of 15 years
- a young person is anyone under the age of 18 years

The legislation includes the four areas detailed above that constitute the worst forms of child labour, and also follows the same definition of 'light work', as detailed in the Minimum Age Convention. The penalty for employing children in any of the worst forms is a fine not less than two hundred thousand penalty units, but not exceeding one million penalty units, or imprisonment for a term not less five years but not more than twenty-five years, or to both.

The Zambian Government's Ministry of Sport, Youth and Child Development, through the *National Child Policy 2006*, proposes a number of objectives and measures that should be carried out to stop 'child economic exploitation and child labour' in Zambia.

The specific objectives of the National Child Policy 2006 include the following:

- (i) "promote a strong and proactive watchdog on child economic exploitation;
- (ii) establish mechanisms that prevent economic exploitation and child labour;
- (iii) strengthen the institutional and organizational capacities for child labour prevention programmes, project formulation and implementation;
- (iv) reduce the high levels of poverty in communities;
- (v) promote the labour saving technologies as a way to discourage manual labour that affects the child most;
- (vi) promote awareness of children's rights in the communities, particularly the commercial farms; and
- (vii)** improve the information base on the situation of child economic exploitation".

5. DEFINITIONS

5.1 Child labour

A child has been defined as a person under the age of 18 years based on 1989 United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child and the ILO Convention on the WFCL, 1999 (No. 182). For the purpose of this study, children between the ages of 5-17 were considered.

According to ILO (1999), child labour consists of all children below 15 years of age who are economically active. The definition also includes all children between the ages of 15 and 17 years who are involved in WFCL. This age group is allowed to work if they are not involved in WFCL because they have surpassed the general minimum age. However, if they are engaged in hazardous work, their work becomes a WFCL that needs elimination.

The definition excludes the following:

1. Those who are under 5 years old;
2. Those between 12 – 14 years old who spend less than 14 hours a week on their jobs unless their activities are hazardous by nature;

Child labour is different from child work. Child work is work done by a child and regarded as beneficial to his/her development. That kind of work does not hamper a child's health, education and physical development.

Hazardous work by children includes any activity or occupation which by its nature or type has adverse effects on the child's safety, health (physical or mental) and moral development. Hazards could derive from excessive workload, physical conditions of work, and/or work intensity in terms of the duration of

hours of work. Therefore, mining work when applied to children qualifies to be child labour because it is hazardous

5.2 Small-scale mining/non-traditional mining sector

Generally the world over, small-scale mining is divided into the following basic types: “artisanal mining”; “traditional small-scale mining”; and “advanced small-scale mining”². The “artisanal mining” sub-sector is the smallest and perhaps simplest of all mining operations. It involves the use of simple tools such as shovel and pick and is characterized by the absence of a formal enterprise. Most times artisanal mining is conducted as informal operations on registered claims. Those involved in artisanal mining often combine the activity with subsistence agriculture.³

The “traditional small-scale mining” includes licensed and registered non-mechanised or semi-mechanised mining operations. These are either operated on an individual basis or organised cooperative societies. They employ labour and apply basic management principles in their operations. The last group involves the legally constituted formal small-scale mining companies that are highly organised and utilise advanced equipment and mining methods.⁴

“Non-traditional mining sector”⁵ (NTMS) in this study is taken to mean the non-copper/non cobalt mining. This sector is currently enshrined in the Mines and Minerals Act of 1995 as the “small-scale mining sector”. However, it is worthy

² Kambani M. S. (1997) quoted in Lungu, J., and Shikwe, A., (2006) Corporate Social Responsibility Practices in Small-Scale Mining on the Copperbelt, Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa

³ Ibid

⁴ Ibid

⁵ Caution is called for when looking at this definition not to imply the opposite of the “traditional small-scale mining” described above. In the Zambian context, traditional mining means mining other minerals other than copper and cobalt. A concern raised at the stakeholder data validation meeting was that this study excluded the small-scale copper mining that is thriving in Zambia today and is believed to be employing children due to the huge demand.

noting that the definition of “small-scale mining” is not clearly articulated within Zambian mining legislation. The different mining classes are described according to the different categories of license. Zambian legislation classifies mining into two broad categories: 1) Large Scale mining operations, and 2) Small-scale mining operations. Each of the above categories has different number of licenses. Under the “small-scale mining” operations category, the following licenses apply: 1) prospecting permit, (2) small-scale mining license, 3) gemstone license, and 4) artisanal mining rights.

The *prospecting permits* are issued in relation to areas of 10km² with a non-renewable duration of two years. *Small-scale mining license* relates to areas not exceeding 400 hectares and have a duration of 10 yes renewable. The *gemstone license* allows holders to carry mining operations over an area not exceeding 400 hectares for a period of not more than 10 years. Artisanal mining rights are intended to be for communal mining activities on a community basis in accordance with customary practices. These rights are valid for two years and non-renewable.⁶ Thus the term small-scale mining in the Zambian legal context includes both “artisanal” permit holders and “small-scale” mining license holders. This rapid assessment study concentrated investigating child labour on small-scale mines be it artisanal or otherwise except for the small-scale but more formal, adequately and properly mechanised ones⁷.

6. THE STRUCTURE OF SMALL-SCALE MINING IN ZAMBIA

The small-scale mining sector in Zambia is largely dominated by the mining of gemstones namely emeralds, amethysts, aquamarines, begis and garnets. Gemstones are mainly produced in rural areas from three provinces: emeralds from Ndola Rural Emerald Protected Area (or Kafubu area) in Lufwanyama,

⁶ Mining in Zambia: trends and opportunities – <http://www.austrade.gov.au/Mining-to-Zambia/default.aspx> 07/04/2008

⁷ During field visits of some of the more formal small-scale mines such as Kagem, the research team was informed and also observed that such operators followed employment and other legislation that prohibits employing young persons in mines.

aquamarine from the Lundazi and Nyimba areas and amethyst from Mapatizya in Kalomo area.

Zambia prides itself in the fact that it produces approximately 20 percent of the global production of emeralds, and is the most important contributor to the gemstones industry while aquamarines and amethysts play less significant roles. The Emerald protected area in Ndola rural demarcated into 500 parcels of land on the based on what type of mining licenses are issued.

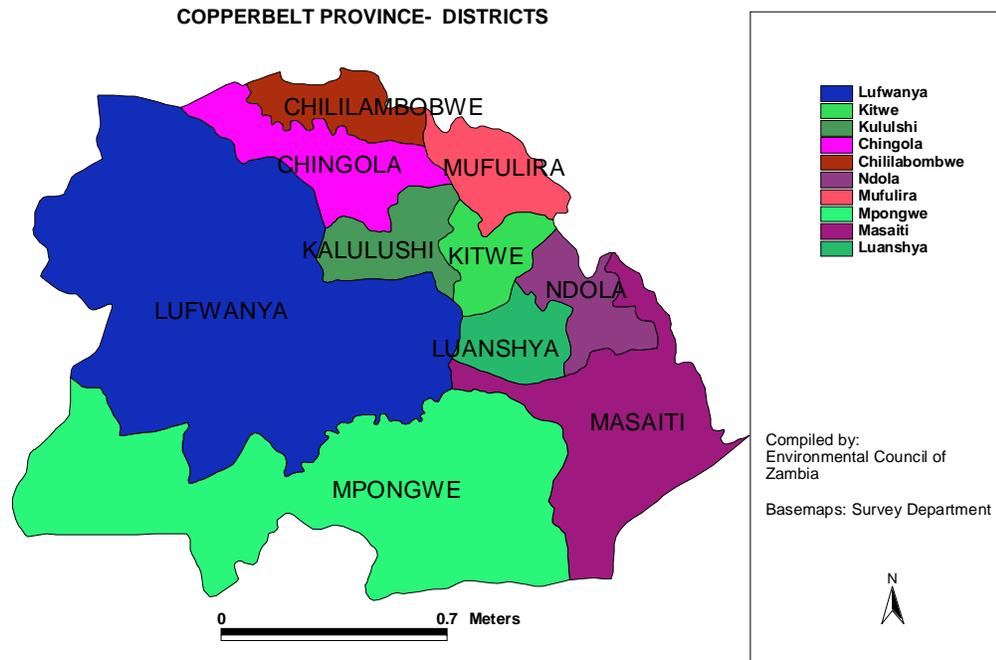
Small-scale mining in Zambia as elsewhere have the potential to make a substantial contribution to the economy in terms of employment creation, income and generation of foreign exchange revenue if it is well managed. The Ministry of Mines and Mineral Development (MMMD) estimates that there are 4,000 persons employed in the gemstone mining. However, it is believed there are several illegal miners. If the several informal and illegal miners are included, the number of persons in employment would substantially exceed that given by the MMMD⁸.

7. DESCRIPTION OF THE STUDY AREAS

7.1 Lufwanyama district

Lufwanyama district in Ndola rural is one of the ten districts of the Copperbelt Province. The other districts are Chililabomwe, Kitwe, Ndola, Mpongwe, Masaiti, Kalulushi, Mufulira, Luanshya and Chingola. The district has a population of 65,804 people with a population density of 7.1 people per square kilometre. The predominant ethnic group in the district is Lamba. The district has total land surface of 1,207,500 hectares or 7,880 square kilometres (CSO 2000; cf. Lufwanyama District Environmental Situation Analysis (DESA), 2004).

⁸ Lungu, J and Shikwe, A., (2006) Corporate Social Responsibility Practices in Small-Scale Mining on the Copperbelt, Netherlands Institute for Southern Africa

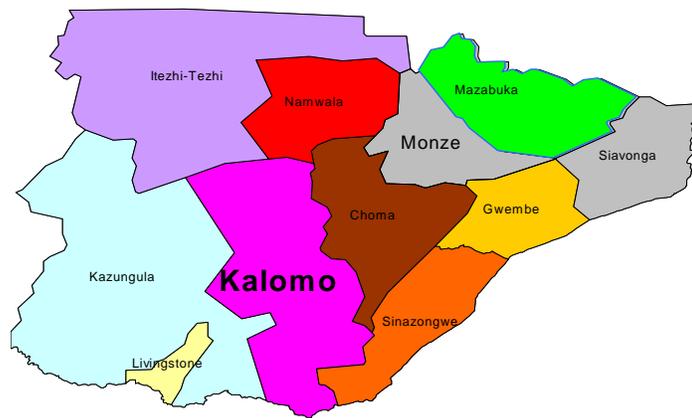


The district has got a total land surface area of 7,880 square kilometers. The predominant ethnic group in this study area is Lamba. Few people are in formal employment and that the mining companies in the area which are well established such as Kagem, Grizzly and Mitondo employ people on both permanent and temporal basis. The government is also a source of employment in this area especially within the structures of the local council at the district level. Subsistence agriculture is common with some few farming blocks and camps in the area other economic activities include charcoal burning and self employment through trading. In general it was evident that the district has got low levels of income.

Energy is basically in different forms such as charcoal, kerosene, and electricity which only reach the boma and chiefs Shimukunami and Nkana. Most of the roads are gravel and track roads with Kalenwa road being the main road connecting the district to other districts.

7.2 Kalomo district

Kalomo district is located in Southern Province. It is one of the eleven districts in the province as shown on the map below.



The district has a total population of 169,503. Out of this 83,175 or 49.1% are males and 86,328 or 50.9% are females. The land area of Kalomo district is 14,500km²; making it the largest district in Southern Province (CSO 2000; cf. DESAR, Lusaka, 2004).

Kalomo district is endowed with semi-precious gemstones. The most significant of which are amethyst and quartz. Amethyst is mined in Mapatizya by Lonrho, Kariba Minerals and PGM-Midrum. There is also a large number of individuals participating in mining the gemstones. Mapatizya area also has a small deposit of tin.

In spite of these mineral resources, it is claimed that Kalomo district has so far not benefited much from the mining activities. The miners do not pay any levies to the local authority or the local communities in the area. The production figures

are kept secret by the miners, consequently, the value of the mining operations is not known.

Apart from mining gemstones, there are quarrying activities ongoing in the district mainly for building sand and stones. The quarries are illegal. They service the building industry in the district.

7.3 Lusaka district

Lusaka district is located in Lusaka Province and host the capital city of Zambia. The province consist of four (4) districts namely Lusaka, Chongwe, Kafue and Luangwa. According to the CSO (2000), Lusaka had population of 1, 300, 000 (cf. DESAR, Lusaka, 2004).

The mining activities in Lusaka province involve the extraction of limestone and granite at two major quarries operated by Chilanga cement and the Reubex Contractors. Chilanga cement has annually broken 450,000 tonnes of limestone and plans to increase production. Reubex contractors break granite for road construction. Private individuals earn a living through breaking stones around chilanga area. Illegal quarrying and stone crushing is one of the popular informal economic activities of the city and is undertaken almost everywhere. Sand mining is done in chongwe on a large scale. Other small scale entrepreneurs mine river sand from Kasanje River and Chanyanya lagoon in Kafue district. The sand is sold to developers for construction works. The quarrying and sand mining activity takes place without consent from the local authorities or licenses from the mines department.

7.4 Kabwe district

Kabwe was until recently an important mining area. Kabwe derives its name and existence from the rock of ore of Zinc and Lead. The name Kabwe is short for

“Kabwe Ka Mukuba” meaning the stone of ore or the place of smelting. Kabwe was known as Broken Hill until 1967 when the name Kabwe was restored.

Following the demise of lead and zinc mining activities, the manufacturing and transport sectors are now the largest employers in the formal sector, followed by, the energy, agriculture and the commercial sectors. In addition to the closure of the mines, the closure or privatization other key industries has pushed quite a large segment of individuals from formal employment into the informal sector. The erosion of incomes resulting from this transition has seriously affected the viability of many businesses including agriculture. The population’s buying power, especially the urban population declined seriously prompting divestment from the district. Only six manufacturing industries have remained operation. In 2002 Government declared Kabwe a tax free zone, to attract investment back to the district. The modalities of the setting up a tax free zone are still being worked and benefits yet to be realized.

The socio-economic character of Kabwe has been very closely linked to mining activity. Employment in the mine and the development of associated industries attracted migrants to the district, but also provided a market for agricultural products from the hinterland. The mine and associated operations was the largest employer in the district after Government and also provided social services that extended benefits to beyond the mine areas. These included education, health and social welfare services and recreational services.

Mining in Kabwe goes as far back as the 1900’s. Over the years of operation, mining for Lead and Zinc expanded to include open cast and under ground operations. Other operations included mineral processing, smelting and refining. In the mid 1970’s the Kabwe Mine produced an average 7600 metric tonnes of Lead and Zinc. Even though environmental effects of mining were evident, these were never seriously addressed. The poor performance of the mine during 1980’s and 1990’s made environmental problems more acute and shortage of

funds resulted in inadequate attention to the effects of the mine on the environment. Kabwe Mine was finally closed in 1994 because it became uneconomical to operate.

In 1994, the mine was officially closed because it became uneconomical to maintain operations. Subsequent privatization of several other industries in the district has further stressed the socio-economic conditions of the district and especially for people living in the urban area. The formal employment sector has shrunk, incomes have fallen and generally the standards of living have fallen. An informal sector dependent on trade and harvest of natural resources (fish, charcoal, timber) has grown. Street vending has also expanded.

According to estimates made in May 2001, Kabwe's population was 179,335 comprising 28, 397 households (DSA 2004; cf. DESAR, Kabwe). The growth rate for Kabwe district is 0.5%. Males make up 47.54% of the population while females comprise 52.45%. The larger part of the population is situated in the northern sections of the district. Although it seems as if the population growth rate is small, the population is still expanding and will need additional space to expand to.

In 1994, the mine was officially closed because it became uneconomical to maintain operations. Subsequent privatization of several other industries in the district has further stressed the socio-economic conditions of the district and especially for people living in the urban area. The formal employment sector has shrunk, incomes have fallen and generally the standards of living have fallen. An informal sector dependent on trade and harvest of natural resources (fish, charcoal, timber) has grown. Street vending has also expanded. The District Situational Analysisⁱ reports an internal migration of residents from high cost and medium

The district has a good road network linked to all places of social and economic importance and accommodates all types of vehicles. However current road development and maintenance does not address environmental effects resulting from road works which would include deforestation, soil erosion, water pollution, air pollution, noise pollution, displacement of people on the proposed road alignment.

7.5 **Lundazi district**

Lundazi is one of the districts in Eastern province and is about 8 kilometers from the border with Malawi.



It has a total population of 263,361 (CSO, 2000; cf. Lundazi DESAR, 2004) with an annual growth rate of 4.1 percent. Of these 77,742 (45.3%) accounted for children while 36,126 (21%) the youth and the rest being adults. The male population is 130,413 while that of females is 267,960, the latter constituting 51.8 percent of the total district population. The majority of the people live in the rural district and only about 13,000 (6.1%) reside in the administrative centre of Lundazi township.

Lundazi specifically experienced low urban growth rate primarily because of lack of industrialization due to lack of adequate and reliable water and electricity power supply.

The main ethnic groups found in the district are the Tumbuka and Chewa speaking people. The Ngoni are the minority although their influence is quite considerable. Tumbuka is the most widely spoken Language in the district. But as for traditions and cultural practices the Chewa and Ngoni customs are more predominant.

8. STUDY FINDINGS AND DISCUSSION

8.1 Demographic and socio-economic characteristics of children in non-traditional mining sector

It is important to understand the socio-demographic characteristics of the children involved in the different labour sectors if the problem of child labour is to be addressed appropriately. Although this study was not necessarily a quantitative one, quantifying such characteristics using qualitative data would give an indication of the state of affairs at least in the individual study sites. The data from child interviews is complemented by other sources such as key informants and focus group discussions (FGDs).

This chapter therefore analyses the socio-demographic characteristic information of children found working in the mining small-scale mining sector in the study sites by looking at the age, sex, family size, family socio-economic status, education levels of working children and causes of children to engage in mining work.

8.1.1 Age distribution

Table 2: Age distribution of children working in mining in five provinces

Age	Region					
	LSK	EP	CP	SP	CBP	TOTAL
0-12	5	0	0	4	0	9
13-14	5	3	1	3	4	16
15-17	9	15	11	11	16	62
Total	19	18	12	18	20	87

Source: interview data from the study sites, March/April 2008

Key:

LSK=Lusaka

EP= Eastern province

CP= Central province

SP= Southern province

CBP= Copperbelt Province

Table 2 above shows that the age of working children ranged between 6 and 17 years. The largest group of working children were those aged 15-17 years. Most of the children that fell within this age bracket came from Central and Eastern provinces where 11 out of 12 children and eastern province where 15 out of 19 children were in this category. Lusaka was found to have the highest number of working children below the age of thirteen (i.e 5 out of 19 children who were

interviewed), followed by Southern Province (i.e. 4 out of 20 children who were interviewed).

The high involvement of working children aged 15-17 could be explained by the fact that this age group normally would have either dropped out of basic schools or have completed their high school. Having no further prospects of either furthering their education or attending skills training, this age group enters into the informal labour force. Another explanation could be that the nature of mining work requires to be undertaken by older children.

8.1.2 Sex distribution

Table 3: Sex distribution of children working in the study sites

Sex	Number of respondents
Male	78
Female	9
Total	87

Table 3 above shows that 78 out of 87 children who were interviewed at the study sites were male, compared to only 9 out of 87 children who were female. There are a number of factors attributed to this phenomenon. Firstly, in all mining sites located in rural areas that were visited, mining was considered an activity for men. Some informants including some mine owners, mining is an activity that demands physical stamina and strength, therefore it was not surprising that a number of working children were male as compared to their female counterparts. Further, it was revealed that girls could not cope with the harsh living environment especially in the more remote mines. The study found out that there were more boys than girls involved in mining related activities than girls. Of all the study sites, girls were only working in Lusaka and southern provinces while in the rest of the sites there were more males involved than females.

8.1.3 Household size

Table 4: Family size

Region/Family Size	LSK	EP	CP	SP	CBP	TOTAL
1-2	0	1	3	3	3	10
3-4	1	0	2	5	6	14
5-6	7	4	2	8	9	30
7-8	7	9	2	2	2	22
Above 8	4	4	3	0	0	11
Total	19	18	12	18	20	87

Table 4 above reveals that the highest number of working children (i.e. 30 out of 87 children interviewed) in the mining sector in the study sites came from households with 5 to 6 members followed by households with 7 to 8 members (22). The study found out that the larger the household size, the more likely the children in such households will engage in child labour in order to contribute to household income. Based on the above findings, there appears to be an association of children engaging in mining activities and the household size. The current national average household size is 5.2⁹.

8.1.4 Educational levels of working children

Table 5: Educational levels of working children

Region/Educational Status	LSK	EP	CP	SP	CB	Total
Attending school	5	4	2	13	2	26
Never went to school	1	3	0	0	4	8
Dropped out of School	13	11	10	5	14	53
Total	19	18	12	18	20	87

⁹ GRZ/CSO (2003) Zambia 2001 – 2002 Zambia Demographic and Health Survey (ZDHS), CSO

According to Table 5 above, 26 out of the 87 working children who were interviewed were interviewed were still attending school while 8 had never attended school. A significant number of children (i.e. 53 children) had dropped out of school. What the above finding signifies is that, children who drop out of school for one reason or another end up in child labour.

When asked why they had dropped out of school, children advanced a number of reasons. Typical responses included the following:

“I stopped going to school because life became too difficulty when my father died and I started staying with my grandmother.”

“I started working after dropping out of school to contribute towards the family income so that we can afford to buy food.”

“I stopped school because there was no one to support me. I needed someone to assist me with uniforms, shoes and books. I am working to raise money so that I can go back to school.”

“I could not continue going to school because there was no food at home. We were hungry all the time and there is no way one can go to school when hungry.”

The study findings especially from Lusaka, central and eastern provinces indicate that there are more children working during school holidays than during the school term.

8.1.5 Recreation

Most children interviewed in the study sites indicated that they did not engage in any form of recreational activities. They pointed out that they could either not find time to play because they were too busy and/or they were too tired to play. In Lundazi, for instance, the children indicated that when they were not working, they were busy looking for food (which included stealing from surrounding gardens) or they would be sleeping (resting).

There were no recreational facilities in areas were the mines were located in Lundazi due to the fact that they were located in remote areas in the game management areas. Limited facilities were available in southern and copperbelt

provinces and these included football play grounds and video shows. In the case of Lusaka and central provinces, recreational facilities were available though most of the working children had no access to these facilities due to the above mentioned reasons.

8.1.6 Causes of child labour in the small-scale mining sector

The causes of child labour in small-scale mining in Zambia are not any different from the causes of child labour in general. Low economic status of the family was cited as the main reason that forced children to work. The study found out that apart from mining, children were also involved in different work activities including fetching water, herding cattle, farming and trading. In all the interviews with working children and other respondents at all the study sites in the five provinces, poverty of the families was frequently mentioned as the push factor.

All the children interviewed in this study came from poor and underprivileged families. All the working children who were interviewed indicated that their family income was not sufficient to meet their families' basic and other needs. This could be explained by the fact that most of their parents had no education at all, while a few had humble educational background of no further than primary school. None of the parents for the working children who were interviewed had tertiary education. This could perhaps explain why most of them were unable to get jobs in the formal sector. Parents/guardians of the working children were unemployed and the children had to engage in mining activities in order to supplement their family incomes and/or to earn money to buy food and clothes. Most of the parents were engaged in informal activities including small scale mining, vending, subsistence farming, cattle rearing etc in order to make ends meet.

This situation was compounded by the fact that most of the working children were not living with their parents. Typical responses were:

"I live with my friends/workmates who are also living on the mining site. In addition to working together, we also share the food we eat". (This children lived on the mining site and were fending for themselves)

"I live with my brothers, cousins, sisters and my uncle. We are 9 altogether. There are 4 adults and 5 children in my household."

"I live with my grandmother because both my parents passed away. After the death of my parents, life became too hard and I decided to start work so that I can contribute towards buying food for my household. I also buy my own clothes."

The study observed that most of the children engaged in mining activities because they lacked family support. As one of the mine owners in Lundazi observed:

"I employ these children because they are normally hungry. This year especially, the situation is worse with the floods that we have experienced. When these children come begging for work I can't resist employing them. I give them the job so that they can at least be able to buy food and other necessities. I am actually helping a lot of these people who would otherwise go hungry. The work does not affect the children's schooling because they work after or before school hours and find time to go to school."

The economic difficulties in which the children found themselves presented a considerable obstacle to their education. Working children mentioned that mining activities greatly interfered with their education. They lamented that they were normally too tired to go or to concentrate at school. However, most of them indicated that they would return if they were assisted in terms of uniforms, shoes, school books and additional money to supplement their family incomes.

The problem of children stopping school because of working in the mines was once serious in Mapatizya in Kalomo district the heart of Zambian Amythest gemstones. One senior teacher interviewed at one of the Basic Schools in the mining community in Mapatizya told the research team that:

"We went round the community in the company of the PTA Chairman and an armed uniform police officer, telling the community the law would take its course if they did not allow their children to come to school. It was due to the fear of being arrested that parents sent back their children to school."

Most children observed on the mining sites appeared unhappy with what they were doing and explained that they did not like any aspect of their work because it was too hard and they earned very little. They were poorly dressed and looked undernourished, tired and hungry.

Reasons for engaging in the small-scale mining sector by children in all study sites are summarized in box 1 below.

Box 1: Reasons for engaging in mining by children

- To supplement family income
- To raise money so that they could pay school fees and afford other school requirements
- Lost parents
- To support oneself

8.2 Nature and practices of small-scale mining activities

8.2.1 Introduction

The practice of small-scale mining as an economic activity varies in the different study sites depending on the type of mineral mined, the organization as well as the ownership structure of the mines.

8.2.2 Types of mining and minerals mined and ownership structure of mines

As observed earlier in this report, small-scale mining sector in Zambia is largely dominated by the mining of gemstones namely emeralds, amethysts, aquamarines, beryls and garnets in rural areas. There is also quarrying and stone crushing in both urban and rural areas for the construction industry. The other type of mining conducted on a small-scale is the illegal mining and processing of

Lead and Zinc. Although not the subject of this study, small-scale copper mining has become common in many parts of the country.

Emeralds are mined from Ndola Rural Emerald Protected Area (or Kafubu area) in Lufwanyama, on the Copperbelt. The Emerald protected area is demarcated into 500 parcels of land on the basis of the type of mining licenses issued. This place produces approximately 20 percent of the global emerald production.

In this area, emerald mining is dominated by a few well established companies such as Kagem mines and Grizzle mines. These mines are licensed and operate in conformity with Zambian Labour Laws. These are highly organised and utilise advanced equipment and mining methods. From the interviews held with management of Kagem mines, it was established that these do not employ any person under 18 years. Observation by research team during the tour of the mine revealed that there were no children in the mine area.

The other group is that of miners who conduct mining operations at an artisanal level with very basic tools such as picks and shovels. The mining operations are largely on an individual family basis. This group is largely constituted by illegal miners who invade the large number of mining plots whose owners are away. These are settled within the protected mining area.

There is also a group of scavengers that sift through the dump sites of the established mines within the protected area. The scavengers come both from the within the settlements in the protected area as well as the neighbouring communities surrounding the area. It is in the last two groups of mining that children take part in mining work in Lufwanyama.

Emerald mining is basically open pit. Emeralds can be found in the depth of three meters in the ground. The pits can go as deep as six metres. Children participate in digging as well as gathering the soil from the pits. The soil is placed in empty

grain bags and ferried to washing sites. The soil is separated from the rocks which are later sorted out as ordinary rocks and gemstones. The youngest of the children (some as young as 7 years) do other tasks such as cooking and fetching water for elders and older group of children.

The study established that the older children generally work as apprentices (i.e. learning by doing and observing). These children were also involved in performing hazardous activities including working long hours, working from high heights and using crude equipments such as hammers, picks and shovels. They were involved in all the mining activities. That included digging the earth, ferrying it to sieving site, washing the sieved rocks, separating ordinary rocks from the gemstones and later grading the gemstones.

In both cases of the illegal miners it was found that they were dependant on sponsors from urban areas who supply them with basic necessities for life. It was these same sponsors who are also the buyers of the gemstones that they produce. The mine owners in some cases have legal licenses and they hire a contractor who in turn employ the workers (on contract) to do the actual mining.

Mapatizya area prides itself of being the centre of Zambia's amethyst mining industry. Mining of amethyst has been going on for the last 30 years and the community largely depends on the mining of amethyst for their living. There was an estimated 6,000 people within the area depending largely on the amethyst industry. There were currently 60 registered mining plots although only about 10 are currently active.¹⁰ There were several similarities in the way Amethyst mining was organized in Mapatizya with Emerald mining in Lufwanyama.

Amethyst in Mapatizya is mined by established companies such as Kariba Minerals and KGM-Midrum and Lonrho. These mines are licensed and operate in

¹⁰ Swedish Geological AB (2007) Mining Sector Diversification Programme Phase One Report with Statement 2002/20006

conformity with Zambian Labour Laws. These mines were highly organised and utilise advanced equipment and mining methods. These mines were not employing children.

As was the case with Lufwanyama, the other group was that of miners who conduct mining operations at an artisanal level with very basic tools such as picks and shovels. The mining operations are largely on an individual family basis.

There was also a group largely constituted by small scale miners who operate mines of absentee landlords. These miners fall in the group of Kalomo Small Scale Miners Association, whose office bearers are based in Lusaka and rarely visit their mines.

There was also a group of scavengers that sift through the dump sites of the established mines. The scavengers come both from the within the settlement as well as outside it. In Mapatizya, scavenging at the dump sites is the most popular form of mining. It was in these last two groups of mining that children take part in mining work in Mapatizya.

The miners in Mapatizya operate both open pit mines and underground mines. Younger children participate in the actual mining by are used as fanners to supply air to the older children who dig in the pits. The older children ferry the earth mixture to the surface where it is sorted and then washed by the women and children. The children also ferry the sorted gemstones home for storage. Even at the dumpsites where scavenging was taking place, the children were the ones who actually transport the composite of earth, help in the washing and transporting the selected gemstones home in small quantities.

Small-scale mines in Lundazi district largely produce semi-precious gemstones namely, garnets, blue aquamarine and black tourmaline.

In Lundazi the small-scale mines were both legal and illegal. The legal one were usually owned by absentee landlords but were mined by others through some contractual arrangements. The two mines (Sangu and Mukwazo) where this study was conducted, the legal owners lease out the mines to other miners known as contractors in exchange for gemstones. These mines were located in a game management area with distances of between 80 to 120 kilometers from Lundazi Boma. Children were found working at both mines.

Mining of the gemstones is mostly by open pit using picks, shovels, hammers and chisels. Children were in almost all mining tasks involving digging, shoveling, chiseling, sieving, sorting the gemstones from the other stones as well as cooking for other miners.

In Kabwe, in the Kasanda mining area, children were involved in illegal mining and processing of Zinc and Lead ore. The Lead and Zinc ore is fetched from the site of the former Zambia Consolidated Copper Mines (ZCCM) mine and processed within the same premise. The whole activity is illegal and authorities have turned a blind eye to the dangerous activity.

Lead and Zinc mining and melting (processing) is done on the site of the abandoned mine (i.e. the former ZCCM). At this site researchers' observed bare footed, half naked children covered in black, charcoal-like substances were busy digging, scooping and sieving a mixture of black debris and water. The children were working without any protective clothing such as boots, protective clothes and gloves which are necessary when handling toxic substances such as Lead.

The children were also involved in melting/processing the collected raw materials. The children were involved in collecting fire wood, making the fire and loading the raw materials on a huge make-shift pan made from old drums. They

then continue loading the fire wood in the rudimentary furnaces and also keep the fire burning by fanning it using pieces of cardboards and other flat objects.

After melting the metals, they pour the hot liquid substance in dug out shape on the ground which acts as a mould. When it is cooled it takes the shape of the mould and they dig the Lead out to be weighed before it can be sold to an agent on the same premises.

In the case of quarrying, children were involved in both mining and crashing of stones. The stones were smuggled from the stones mine site after bribing the security officers of the new ZCCM Holding which is private company.

In Lusaka, quarrying is widespread. The construction industry is the major consumer of crushed stones from the quarries. There are a number of large-scale more formal quarries operated by some companies. However, there are several illegal quarries along major roads in Lusaka where stones are mined and crushed and sold to anyone in construction.

The activities in the illegal quarries involve digging out the huge stones, ferrying them to crushing sites within the quarry. Picks and hammers are used to dig out the stones and sometimes used tyres are burned on the rocks to loosen them up.

In the study sites selected in Lusaka, children were involved in ferrying, crushing and loading the crushed stones into motor vehicles when a customer buys. Some children work on their own while others work with their parents or guardians.

8.3 Working conditions and remuneration

8.3.1 Introduction

Children who were involved in mining activities worked under harsh and hazardous conditions. These included working long hours, working all the days of

the week, exposure to excess heat both from the sun and fire (in the case of Lead and Zinc mining), exposure to mosquitoes, danger of being attacked by wild animals etc. Children were involved in different types of activities including the following: digging, chiseling, shoveling, sieving and selecting of the semi precious stones. They were also involved in collecting firewood and fetching water. All the children workers who were interviewed appeared to be malnourished, mentally stressed and poorly dressed. Those observed on their working premises had no protective clothing such as clothes, protective goggles and safety boots. Most of the working children had serious wounds or scars on their limbs, head and other exposed parts of their bodies from accidents they were involved in on the mining sites.

8.3.2 Working Hours

It is important to note that since labour laws were not being observed in non traditional mining sector, there is a danger of children working long hours and consequently endangering their mental and physical well being. For instance, at Sangu mine, in Eastern province, there were two shifts one starting at 04:00 hours and ending at 16:00 hours and the other shift starting at 16:00 hours and ending at 04:00 hours. The number of hours spent performing work related activities ranged from 3 – 8 in Lusaka province, 9–12 in Lundazi in Eastern province (Lundazi), 6-9 hours in Kabwe in Central province, 6–10 hour in southern province and 5–7 hours in Lufwanyama in the Copperbelt province. It is easy to see that most children involved in mining activities worked long hours. These children therefore had no time for recreation and other activities.

8.3.3 Working Days

The number of working days spent by children performing working activities was important to determine whether working children had sufficient time for schooling as well as for recreational activities. The number of working days spent by

working children performing mining/quarry activities varied from place to place. Children who were involved in mining activities in Eastern province worked 7 days in a week. This was due to the fact that they were staying on the mining site (camp) and the contractor could not give them a chance to rest because he was buying them food. In the case of Lusaka, children worked an average of 3-4 days in a week, in the case of Central and Southern provinces, children worked 3-5 days and 4-7 days per week respectively.

8.3.4 Living Conditions

All the children sampled in this study came from poor and underprivileged families. Most of the children were poorly dressed and looked undernourished. All the children indicated that their family income was not sufficient to meet their families' basic and other needs.

In the case of Lundazi in Eastern province, due to the remoteness of the mines location, children were obliged to live on the mining sites in make-shift huts made from poles and grass. They slept on make-shift beds made from poles and grass. From the interviews, they indicated that they survive by stealing crops from far away villages and collecting mushrooms and other wild fruits and roots. One child had the following to say concerning their living conditions:

We do not live like human beings here. Food is too scarce and the last time we ate meat was when the game rangers killed a lion. We ate the lion and we were very happy.

8.3.5 Working Hazards

As indicated in the introduction, children involved in mining activities worked under hazardous and harsh conditions. When asked whether or not there were hazards on the mining sites, typical responses included the following:

“Just look at my legs and my hands. This is very dangerous work. I cannot even remember the last time my body had no injury.”

“You are more likely to miss the chisel when using the hammer and this may result in serious injuries to your hand. We often just put soil on the wound to stop the blood from coming out. There is no clinic near this place.”

“Apart from the wounds, my body does not feel the same like when I first came here. I am always tired and my muscles ache all the time. I wish I can go back to school and my family.”

All the children involved in mining activities indicated that the job was too hard, psychologically challenging and hazardous to their health and mental development.

“This work is too hard for us. We are involved in doing it because we have no alternatives. Actually there is no future in this kind of work. If you continue working with Lead, it is likely that you are going to die early.”

“I hope that I can go back to school because this job is too hard. I am always tired and I have chest pains.”

From the interviews with the children and other key informants (the chief, district commissioner, council secretary, parents, immigration officer, medical personnel at the nearby clinic etc.), it was established that most people, including children, were aware of the hazardous conditions of working in mine related activities. The hazards identified are summarized in box 2 below.

Box 2: Hazards experienced by children working in mines

- Exposure to intense heat from the sun. Most of the children were exposed to direct sun light as they work in the open pit mines.
- There was also the danger of children getting attacked by wild animals for the mines that were located in a game management area in Lundazi.
- Injuring themselves with the hammer, falling stones/soil and shovels. Most of the children treated their wounds by applying soil on the injured parts of their bodies.

- Muscle pains due to lifting heavy loads and working long hours.
- Psychological stress due to working long hours, including working at night. In addition, children who were involved in mining activities abused drugs, especially marijuana in trying to cope with the magnitude of work that they are assigned to do. After taking the drugs, they tend to feel strong and energized and are able to work for longer hours.
- Danger of working from extreme heights of over 1000 meters from the ground.
- Malaria due to sleeping in open make-shift huts and working at night. Consequently, working children were exposed to mosquitoes from abandoned and flooded mines.
- Other medical complications included chest pains, coughing, tiredness, nausea and dizziness, injuries (from the use of the hammer, falling stones, burns from fire and death from collapsing mines. For instance the mine at Mukwazo in Lundazi collapsed two years ago and three people were killed).

The hazards faced by children involved in mining are the same as for adult miners. However, it is important to note that the impact of these hazards is more severe to children since their bodies are still immature. As pointed out above, children are aware of the hazards of working in mines. For instance, children working in mining and processing of Lead and Zinc in Kabwe were of the need for personal protection but the measures they took were inadequate, putting themselves in a very highly risky situation. Notwithstanding their awareness of the risks, children accept the hazards as part and parcel of mining and they have continued mining and processing Lead and Zinc with impunity. Children interviewed on the mining site had this to say:

“This work is too hard for us. We are involved in doing it because we have no alternatives. Actually there is no future in this kind of work. If you continue working with Lead, it is likely that you are going to die early.”

The problem of hazards is compounded by the fact that the more informal artisanal small-scale mining is carried out with no inspection or supervision from the responsible state authorities. This omission was underscored during one field visit when undertaking this research in Lufwanyama on the Copperbelt Province, when an officer from the Mine Safety Department accompanying the research team was taken to task by small-scale artisanal miners for allegedly ignoring their needs and concentrating on the more established mines like Kagem and Grizzly.

8.3.6 Remuneration

The levels of remuneration were difficult to estimate due to the fact that children received remuneration in different forms. They were either paid in cash or in kind. Furthermore, some children who worked with their parents in mining were not paid anything as their work was regarded as part of their family responsibilities. Usually those paid in kind receive a proportion of gemstones and/or food. In some study sites some children worked for themselves especially those who scavenged on mining dumpsites for the more established mining companies, and those who worked on the quarry sites crushing stones in Lusaka and Central provinces. These could not estimate how much income they were making per given period. The incomes were also irregular depending on when the sales were made.

For instance, all the children interviewed in Eastern province indicated that they received irregular levels of income and in most cases it was dependant on the amount and quality of gemstones they find at any particular time. In addition, working children on the mines were given food which was bought by the contractor as part payment. The cost of this food would be deducted from their dues once they have found the gemstones. The children would sell the gemstones they receive to the contractor at a lower price. Working children are

more vulnerable to selling their gemstones at lower prices because they are unable to find other buyers other than their employer (contractor) because they are either too tired to travel long distances (as far as 120 kilometres), they are sick and hungry and in the case of those who migrate from Malawi, do not know where to go.

In some mines, children workers received no salaries at all. Their survival was dependant on the amount and quality of gemstones they found. This posed a serious challenge because most of the children had no ability to negotiate for a market price for gemstones. In most cases, the contractor would get 60 per cent of the gemstones mined which he would in turn sell to the owner of the mine. The contractor would then negotiate with the workers (including child workers) to buy their share off at a lower price. The worker-contractor relationship is a clever way of avoiding paying regular salaries and other obligations by both the mine owners and the so called contractors.

Levels of remuneration varied across regions. For instance in Eastern province, a group of six to eight workers could make a maximum of K800, 000.00 per month, which they have to share among themselves. Children were once again disadvantaged because they lacked the ability to negotiate for a better share with the adult workers. In Central province, a group of six to eight children could process up to 50 kilograms of Lead/Zinc per day and they work 3 days in a week. The metals could be sold at a price of K1,500.00 to K3,500.00 per kilogram. Children who were involved in mining and processing of Zinc and Lead had levels of remuneration which were higher than those involved in quarrying. The levels of income for those in quarrying were lower and irregular and most could not specifically state the exact amount they earn per month. The average income per month was K30, 000.00 in Eastern province, K70, 000.000 for Central province, K150, 000.00 for Copperbelt province, K50, 000.00 for Southern province and K200,000.00 for Lusaka Province.

As noted elsewhere, these children came from poor and underprivileged families and in some cases the little money they got was the only source of livelihood for their families. Most of the working children indicated that the expectations they had when they went to the mines have not been met. They appeared to be stressed and in most cases expressed hopelessness and anger. Some of the responses included the following:

“This contractor has totally destroyed my life. If I have my way, I can kill him.”
“I was told that once I start working on this mine, I will be rich. Now I have been here for two years and nothing is changing.”

Some practices employment and remuneration in some small-scale mines resemble some kind of bonded labour from which it is difficult to escape from the whole enterprise as narrated by one child in Mapatizya as quoted below.

Case of bonded labour

“My father was told to come and work for uncle here at the mine and was promised a good salary. When we got here my uncle gave my father a loan to help him settle. In exchange for the loan, we were to work for him. We have failed to pay back the debt because each time we need food we had borrow from him some money to buy the food. So we are likely to continue working for this man forever”

8.4 Estimation of the magnitude of child labour in the non-traditional mining sector

Estimating the magnitude of child labour in non-traditional mining sector in the study sites covered by the study was difficult. This could be attributed to two reasons. Firstly, the rapid assessment methodology mainly relied on a qualitative approach which was only suitable for collecting descriptive and non quantitative data. Secondly, it was discovered that small scale mining in the study areas was surrounded by an atmosphere of secrecy and mistrust amongst the main actors. For instance, in Lundazi, one small-scale mining contractor after initially denying that there were children working at his mining site later admitted after fully comprehending that the visiting “strangers” were just researchers and not state

authorities. In some of the mines where children were found working, they were constrained to “tell-it-all” in the presence of their employers.

From the two mines which were visited in Lundazi i.e. Sangu and Mukwazo mine sites, at least 6 to 9 children were found working per day. It was not possible to establish the number of children who were working in the night shift because the mines were not accessible in the night. In addition, due to the fact that children worked shifts, it was not easy to establish the actual number of working children at both sites. Furthermore, children who were not in the day shift were also involved in searching for food (stealing from surrounding gardens), cutting firewood and fetching water and this made it impossible to find all the working children at the working site so as to ascertain the total number of working children.

From the interviews conducted with both the target children and other key informants, it was noted that some children who were attending school worked in mining during school holidays. Due to the fact that the study was conducted during school time, the estimation made here maybe an underestimation. The difficulties of estimation was compounded by the fact that the study was conducted during the rain season when mining activities are at their lowest level.

From the observations made both during the study visits and data collection, the following average numbers of children were found working on the study sites:

Place	Number of Childern
Sangu and Mukwazo (Lundazi in Eastern Province)	6-9 children
Kasanda mine area (Kabwe in Central Province)	7-15 children
Pilala area (Lufwanyama in Copperbelt Province)	10 – 12 children
Shantumbu area (Lusaka Province)	6 – 8 Children
George Compound area (Lusaka Province)	5- 8 Children

Bauleni Area (Lusaka Province)	6 – 10 Children
Mapatizya Mining area (Kalomo in Southern Province)	7 – 9 children

These numbers were observed on the number of visits made to the study sites (i.e. 4 to 6 days). This means that child labour in the non-traditional mining sector is a problem in Zambia despite the fact that the actual magnitude has not been established. There is immediate action to address urgent needs of children involved in most hazardous activities such as lead and zinc mining and processing.

9. CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

9.1 Conclusion

Although the extent of child labour in small- scale mines is not been established, the research findings have shown that child labour in small-scale mining in Zambia is a problem.

Since small-scale mining has become the prime source of livelihood in some parts of Zambia, if left unchecked, the problem is likely to grow given the current global demand and attractive international prices for the various minerals mined by small-scale miners.

The remote areas where the more informal or traditional mining work is performed are seldom visited by labour inspectors or mine safety inspectors. These are areas believed to be employing or engaging child labour.

Children working in mining activities are engaged in almost all different tasks in the mining production chain. The various tasks they undertake and the tools they use expose them to immediate risks as well as imperil their long-term socio-economic and physical development. The conditions under which most of the children work in the mines are, to say the least intolerable. The majority of the working children have dropped out of school making their future bleak.

Meanwhile the study has established that most of the children do not get paid or are paid very little to barely survive. Yet poverty appears to be the major explanation why most children engage in various work activities including the small-scale the non-traditional mining sector. In this case poverty has become both the cause and effect of child labour in small-scale mining.

9.2 Recommendations

On the basis of the above findings, the study offers the following recommendations:

- There is need for sustained awareness-raising and mobilization of the small-scale mining and other illegal mining communities in order to prevent and eliminate child labour in the sector
- Developmental programmes must include empowerment of households through job creation and other income generating activities. This is because household poverty is the root cause of child labour. Income generating activities need to be diversified. This should include the creation of cooperatives to enable more families to access necessary resources
- Interventions must apply a multi-sectoral approach, involving all the government ministries, NGOs, the church and multilateral organizations. The starting point should be the sourcing and pooling of finance for child welfare. Within a broader context of cooperation, each organization can then focus on its own specialized activities
- Local government should introduce welfare and recreation systems where children may acquire a variety of skills and enjoy other activities especially in areas where working is the only option available for them
- Schemes such as the School supplementary feeding programmes need to be introduced and where they exist, they should be expanded. This is due to the fact that most of the working children indicated that they took up work due to hunger at home
- Basic education should be provided free to all children who cannot afford to meet the cost of education. The study found out that there are hidden costs involved in the provision of basic education such as money to buy paper, cobra, chalk etc. Therefore, the concept of free education needs to be

revisited to ensure that children from underprivileged families are not denied.

- Given the urgent nature of the problem of child labour, there is a need to create child labour committees in all the areas where there is child labour including areas where child labour in the non-traditional mining sector is prevalent. The committees should consist of all the stakeholders including government security wings, line ministries, relevant NGOs, leaders, the church etc.
- There should be deliberate programmes to withdraw, rehabilitate and integrate the working children into society. Children mining and processing Lead and Zinc in Kabwe are at greatest risk of acute lead poisoning. There is therefore urgent need for programmes to withdraw these children involved in illegal mining of the dangerous minerals. These programmes must be combined with alternative income-earning opportunities for the parents and/or children
- There is need to broaden the scope of mine safety inspection to include the more informal and artisanal small-scale mines and issues of child labour
- There is need to enforce the existing law governing child labour by providing the necessary logistics for enforcement personnel
- There is need for in-depth regional studies to be undertaken to establish the magnitude of child labour in the major small-scale mining communities in Zambia. Further, given that copper, a traditional mineral in Zambia is now being mined at a small-scale level in several parts of the country, future studies on child labour in small-scale mining should include this sub-sector

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Appendix 1a

CHILDREN IN MINING SEMI-STRUCTURED QUESTIONNAIRE

SECTION A: BASIC IDENTIFICATION INFORMATION

A 1: Township/community/village Name:

A 2: District Name:

A3: Name of Province:.....

A4: Date of Interview:

A5: Interviewer's Name:

A6: Supervisor's Name:

A7: Time of interview: From To:

A8: Questionnaire I.D Number Of

SECTION B: DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS OF CHILD

B1. Age of interviewed children: below 12 years..... 13 and 14
15 to 17 inclusive.....

B2. Sex: Male..... Female.....

SECTION C: FAMILY DEMOGRAPHIC CHARACTERISTICS

- C1. Are your parents still alive?.....
- C2. If they are dead, when did they die?.....
- C3. Do you live with them?.....
- C4. If not living with parents, who do you live with? (Guardian/friends etc). Are you related to the person you live with?.....
- C5. How many are you in your household?.....
- C6. For how long have you live with these people?.....

SECTION D: FAMILY HOUSING AND MIGRATION

- D1. Where does your family currently live?.....
- D2. Since when have they lived there?.....
- D3. Where does your family come from originally?.....
- D4. Describe the migration pattern (if any).....
- D5. Why did they move to their current place of residence?.....

SECTION E: FAMILY SOCIO-ECONOMIC CHARACTERISTICS

- E1. Have your parents attended school?.....

If they have attended school, what was the educational level they reached?.....
- E2. Income:
 - What income-generating activities are parents and other family members involved in?
.....
 - Is the family income sufficient to meet basic needs?

.....
- Is this sufficient to meet other family needs?
.....

E3. Does your family have any debts? *If so, as a result of what*
(e.g. illness, death, borrowing, recruitment process)?
.....

E4. Is your family involved in any community work and/or groups (specify)?
.....

F: EDUCATION AND RECREATION

F1. Have you ever attended school? Yes..... No.....

F2. (If no) Why have you never attended?.....

F3. (If yes above) Do you still attend school? Yes..... No.....

If Yes, hours per day..... per week..... and per month.....

How old were you when you started school?.....

Type of school:.....

If not, at which grade did you drop out of school?.....

How old were you when you dropped out of school?.....

Why did you stop school?.....

F4. What do you think of school?.....

Possible topics:

Relevance of education (in general) for your future?.....

Quality of available education?.....

Difficulties in school?.....
Distances to school?.....
Costs involved (e.g. uniforms, teacher fees, travel costs, opportunity costs of work)?

F5. What recreational activities do you engage in?.....
How frequent?.....
What other interests/hobbies do you have?.....

F6. What are your aspirations in life and in work?.....

SECTION G: EMPLOYMENT PROCESS, WORK AND WORK CONDITIONS

G1. Employment Process:

Since when have you been working in mining/crushing stones?.....

How old were you when you started to work in mining activities?.....

What are the reasons why you have decided to undertake this work?

- 1. Supplement family income
- 2. Pay outstanding family debts
- 3. To pay for my school fees
- 4. Schooling is irrelevant
- 5. To raise money, so I can go back to school
-

6. I lost one of my parents

7. Lost both my parents

8. Other (specify)

Who are you working for?.....

Are you related to the person you are working for?.....

Do you have any form of contract? Written or verbal contract?.....

G2. Explain the recruitment process, and whether you freely decided to work here or not (was there peer or family pressure)?

.....

G3. What are your perceptions of the work you do (good, bad, acceptable) for the future, and what are the alternatives?

G4. How many hours do you work per day, week and month; and when do you work (day/night)

.....

G5. What products do you mine?.....

G6. Mention specific tasks that you are involved at the mining site

.....

G7. What don't you like about each task?

.....

G8. What do you like about your work?

.....

G.9 Have you been involved in any work-related accidents or illnesses?
Do you know of fellow workers so involved? How often do these accidents and illnesses occur?

.....
G.10 Work hazards?

Work that exposes children to physical, psychological, or sexual abuse
(describe)

.....
Work underground, underwater, at dangerous heights, or in confined spaces

.....
Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which
involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads

.....
Work in an unhealthy environment that may, for example, expose
children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to
temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health

.....
Work under particular difficult conditions, such as long work hours,
night work or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the
premises of the employer.....

G8. Do you have any protection against work hazards?.....

Do you have access to medical services?.....

G9. Is the mine enterprise legal

.....
G10. Earnings:

Are you paid for the activities you undertake? How are you paid? In cash
or kind?

If you are paid in cash how often do you get paid? (daily/weekly/monthly)

How much do you earn per month (specify base salary, piece rate,

bonuses, tips)?

.....

How much is deducted by the employer for costs incurred
(e.g. housing, recruitment, transportation, provision of loans, work
equipment)?

.....

How does this compare to adult wages for the same type of work?

.....

Who collects the salary (you, or your parents/guardians)?

.....

If you receive payment in kind, what is it that you
receive?.....

How regular do you receive the payment?

.....
What do you do with the money or other things earned?

.....

If you give money to your family, how much is it?.....
Does it represent significant help for your family?

.....

G11. Do you think your work prevents you from going to school?.....

G12. What remedies do you suggest to overcome work-related problems?

.....

G13. If you could choose another job, what would it be?

.....

G14. Do you have the qualifications and ability to do that job?

.....

G15. Does your family know what you are doing now?.....

Appendix 1b

OBSERVATION CHECKLIST

Name of researcher/s:

Date of session:

Time of session: From..... to.....

Tool used:

Place of data collection:

What factors may have influenced the collection of data during this session for:

1. Researchers:

2. Children/adults:

Weather:

Interruptions/distractions:

Activity performance (describe):

Other observations:

Appendix 1c

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE FOR KEY INFORMANTS

1. Are their children involved in work activities in this area? If yes, what work occupations are these? Is mining one of the sectors children work in this areas?
2. What is being mined this area? Who owns the mines? Are the mining enterprises registered? How long have the mines been in existed in this area? How does the company operate?
3. If children are involved in mining, what tasks do they do?
4. What does the company do with the mined products?
5. If the products are sold, who are the buyers of these mining products? Are they companies or individuals?
6. Why do you think children start to work in the mining activities? (Probe in relation to family background)
7. What benefits do you think children get from work activities?
8. Do you think mining activities by children are interfering with their schooling?
9. How is the working environment of the children working in the mines?
10. Do you think mining activities affect the health of children working in the mines? If so, how?

11. What are the greatest needs of these children? What would you like to be done to address their needs?
12. Are there any organizations assisting children working in the non-traditional mining sector? If so, what assistance is offered?
13. Are there policies and programmes/activities that have been developed pertaining to prevention of child labour in the non-traditional mining sector in your area?
14. If yes, what policies/programmes/activities are there?
15. In your view, what programmes/activities need to be undertaken to prevent child labour in the non-traditional mining sector?
16. Any other suggestion on how children working in the mining activities can be assisted?

Appendix 1d

INTERVIEW SCHEDULE FOR FOCUSED GROUP DISCUSSIONS

1. What economic activities take place in this area? Is mining one of these activities?
2. If mining is taking place in this area, are children involved in the mining activities?
3. If children are involved in mining, what tasks do they do?
4. Are there families that own mines in this area? Who else owns mines in this area? Are the mining enterprises registered? How long have the mines been in existed in this area?
5. Are the children paid for the mining activities they do? If they are paid, is it in cash or kind? How regular are these payments? Who controls children's earnings from mining activities?
6. Who are the buyers of the mining products? Are they companies or individuals?
7. Why do you think children start to work in the mining activities? (Probe in relation to family background)
8. What benefits do you think children get from work activities?
9. Do you think mining activities by children are interfering with their schooling?
10. How is the working environment of the children working in the mines?
11. Do you think mining activities affect the health of children working in the mines? If so, how?
12. What are the greatest needs of these children? What would you like to be done to address their needs?
13. Are there any organizations assisting children working in mining activities in this area? If so, what assistance is offered?

14. Are there policies and programmes/activities that have been developed pertaining to prevention of child labour in mining activities in this area?
15. If yes, what policies/programmes/activities are there?
16. In your view, what programmes/activities need to be undertaken to prevent child labour in mining activities in this area?
17. Any other suggestion on how children working in the mining activities can be assisted?

Appendix 2

**PROCEEDINGS OF THE DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP FOR THE STUDY:
“RAPID ASSESSMENT ON CHILD LABOUR IN NON-TRADITIONAL MINING
SECTOR IN ZAMBIA”**

28 April 2008

Bluecrest Executive Guesthouse, Kabulonga, Lusaka

INTRODUCTION

In January 2008 EU/MSDP commissioned a study entitled: Rapid Assessment on Child Labour in Non-traditional Sector in Zambia. The study was undertaken by a private consultant Mr. Chrispin Radoka Matenga. The study is a result of concerns that the rising prices for mined commodities on global markets might result in increased child labour in Non-traditional mining sector in the Zambia.

ATTENDANCE

Government officials, small-scale miners, NGOs and the researchers attended the workshop. The full list of the participants is attached in appendix 1.

OFFICIAL OPENING

The workshop was opened with welcoming remarks from the Chairperson, Dr. Fred Mutesa, a lecturer and researcher at the University of Zambia. This was followed by opening remarks by Mr. Chris Sealy, Programme Manager for the EU/MSDP and Ms. Maimuna Ginwalla from ILO/IPEC.

REMARKS BY DISCUSSANT

The history of child labour goes back a long way; records of child labour during the industrial revolution in Europe abound.

Although there are conventions and on child labour, there is need for localizing legislation on child labour.

Often, especially in areas where initiation rites are practised, some children do not perceive themselves children, they perceive their roles and responsibilities as adults who have to earn a living. Often, they are married by age 14.

There is need to discuss the longer-term implication of child labour in mining on the health of children.

He suggested that while many causes of child labour were discussed in the study, could some children in mining perhaps have done so as an adventure.

He also indicated the need of the study to elaborate on the risks of sexual exploitation for children in mining.

The lack of jobs in Lusaka and the frequent droughts in Southern province could have contributed to the many children in mining in Lusaka and Southern provinces.

COMMENTS ON FINDINGS DURING PLENARY

- There is need to take into consideration the cultural context of child labour and to contend with attitudes towards working children.

- Options for children in mining are limited, they lack role models and perform dehumanizing tasks. Children are often aware of danger, but are usually grounded by abject poverty, which makes it difficult for them to come out of child labour and progress to school.
- Poverty is the main trigger for child labour, unless poverty is addressed (through economic empowerment, provision of social services, etc) child labour in mining will continue.
- The study should be translated into concrete action. Child labour is a complex issue and consistent and sustainable action should be taken to address it.
- Greater emphasis on prevention of child labour.
- Children are four times more susceptible to health hazards than adults so it is a matter of urgency that children are removed from mining.
- The best interest of the child should be taken into consideration at all times.
- Withdrawing children from mining in remote un-developed rural areas, where they have little or no access to facilities can sometimes do more harm than good for children.
- Parental neglect and greed is sometimes to blame for children in mining.
- The study comes at an opportune time, findings will help guide MLSS to formulate the National Plan of Action on Worst Forms of Child Labour. It is the duty of govt to tackle the problem of child labour.
- Needs assessment of social services in the study areas to be done.
- Need to investigate further how school-going children involved in mining balance their time between school and work.
- Small –scale mining associations should have been involved in the study to help with introductions to the right people, this would have helped reduce the initial frustrations and suspicions.
- Where did children get the dagga from, was it locally available, or trafficked etc.

WORKSHOP RECOMMENDATIONS

- Reduction of poverty through job creation, income generating activities and family empowerment.
- Create greater awareness on the dangers of child labour in the mining sector in the communities and of the CRC.
- Enforcement of laws on CL in mining and strengthen legal and policy frameworks on child labour in mining.
- Implement the recommendations put forth by the study and allocate responsibilities for implementation.
- Recommendations should have a time frame; short-term, medium-term, longer term
- Strengthen coordination and networking among key actors working to eliminate WFCL and the small-scale the mining sector
- Create more education, recreation and training opportunities for children.
- Include small-scale copper mining in future research as it is suspected that the rising copper prices has triggered a boom in small-scale copper mining in some communities.
- Further examine the correlation between child labour in non-traditional mining and HIV/AIDS
- Recommendations in the study should be clustered.

Appendix 1

PARTICIPANTS AT THE DISSEMINATION WORKSHOP HELD ON THE 28TH APRIL 2008.

NO	NAME	ORGANISATION	POSITION	CONTACTS
1	MWIMBA NKOSHA	UNZA	RESEARCH ASSISTANT	0977466698 nkoshamwimba@yahoo.com
2	JOHN KUKU	UNZA	RESEARCH ASSISTANT	0977776814
3	C.R MATENGA	UNZA	CONSULTANT	0977368414 mmatenga@yahoo.com
4	EDNA SICHIYASA	UNZA	RESEARCH ASSISTANT	0977542205 Esichiyasa@yahoo.com
5	F. MUTESA	UNZA	MODERATOR	fmutesa@yahoo.com
6	WINFRED NDHLOVU	AFWEGIMM	CHAIRPERSON	0977774911 CMARI@COPPERNET.ZM
7	MULWANDA MICHEAL	MINISTRY OF LABOUR	CHILD LABOUR PROGRAMME OFFICER	Mulwanda72001@yahoo.com
8	BENNET SIAMWIZA	UNZA	DISCUSSANT	0977829069
9	KAPEPO CHIBANDA		RESEARCH ASSISTANT	0955776822
10	MULENGA NKULA	UNZA	RESEARCH ASSISTANT	0977488879
11	CRIS SEALY	MSDP	MANAGER	0977790993
12	DAVID NYIRONGO	MSDP	CONTRACTS MANAGER	0977749004
13	YOHANE CHIZALIKA	CSO	PSO LABOUR	0977421034
14	ROSEMARY MUNDIA DEBOER	AFWEGIMM	BOARD MEMBER	0977821657
15	ROBERT TEMBO	SDS UNZA	LECTURER	0977548601
16	MAIMUNA GINWALLA	ILO/IPEC	PA	257355
17	SIMPANDE .B.HAACHIZOVU	CYC	PO	235307
18	PATRICIAL .H.MWALE	CYC		235307
19	MONICA BWALYA	HRID	ASSISTANT PROGRAMMER	0977805538

20	REBERT KAPOPO		COUNSULTANT	0979838929
21	FIDELIS MBOMA	MSYDCD	SENIOR CHILD DEVELOPMENT OFFICER	095591054
22	GODFRIDA SUMALI	JESUS CARES	PROGRAMME DIRECTOR	0977879920
23	CHILUFYA .C. SIWALE	JESUS CARES	PROJECTS MANAGER	0977773842
24	CATHERINE SAMISELO	RAPIDS/MCDSS	PROJECT OFFICER	0966766285

Appendix 2

PROGRAMME FOR THE DISSEMINATION OF THE FINDINGS ON THE STUDY: “RAPID ASSESSMENT OF CHILD LABOUR IN NON-TRADITIONAL MINING SECTOR IN ZAMBIA

**Blue Crest Executive Guest House, No. 15, Sable Road, Kabulonga, Lusaka
28th April 2008**

9.00 – 9.30	Registration of participants
9.30 – 10.00	Welcome remarks by Chairperson Introductory remarks by EU/MSDP Introductory remarks by ILO/IPEC
10.00 – 10.40	Presentation of Research findings, Lead Consultant
10.40 – 11.00	Remarks by discussant
11.00 – 11.20	Tea Break
11.20 – 12.00	Plenary
12.00 – 12.30	Recommendations
12.30 – 12.45	Closing Remarks
12.45	Lunch
