



Child Labour in Kasungu Baseline Survey Report 2011



Support to the National Action Plan to Combat Child Labour in Malawi
MLW/09/50P/USA

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FOREWORD

The effect of child labour to the individual, community and nation at large is becoming more and more apparent. It is for this reason that the Government of Malawi places the elimination of child labour high on its national development agenda in line with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) and Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) of halving poverty by 2016. The country has ratified a number of major regional and international conventions, covenants and instruments which relate to the welfare and rights of children. The Government has also put in place a number of policy and legal frameworks geared towards elimination of child labour. Prominent among these is the National Action Plan on Elimination of Child Labour (NAP) of 2010 which demonstrates government commitment to work towards elimination of child labour in a systematic way. The NAP is expected to provide a coherent framework and a sense of direction for various actors in the field. The policy also aims at ensuring reinforcement of the institutional and legislative frameworks for eliminating the Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL) in addition to stimulating collective and concerted efforts to eliminate child labour at all levels.

Ministry of Labour together with ILO-IPEC has published one report on working children since 2002. The report was based on child labour analysis of the 2002 Malawi National Child Labour Survey (MNCLS). ILO-IPEC provided technical support during the analysis in the two studies.

The 2011 Baseline Survey on Child Labour in Kasungu, Mzimba and Mulanje districts was carried out by the Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI) of Lilongwe, Malawi. This is the first standalone study on child labour carried out in Malawi. The broad objective of the survey was to collect high quality data on children to understand the levels and nature of child labour in the focus districts. The data collection was carried out during the month of May 2011.

The study comprised of both the household based and the qualitative module. The purpose of the qualitative module was to help understand further the findings from the core module and to collect additional data that would not be ably collected at the household level. The

report presents the key findings on levels, impact and determinants of child labour and other related indicators. SDPI hopes that the information presented in this report will be useful for the purpose for which it was intended.

**Principal Secretary
Ministry of Labour, Lilongwe Malawi**

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It was a great honour to interact with community leaders, heads of departments and institutions in the district who spared their busy schedule to attend to the team during the data collection period. I am indebted to my colleagues Leonard Mbwanda from JIMAT who accepted to work with me in this study and Emmanuel Mwanaleza of the National Statistics Office (NSO) for accepting to take part in the study and their technical advice. I wish all of them success in their future endeavors. The completion of this study signals more success and hope for our institution, Sustainable Development Policy Institute (SDPI).

Finally, I would like to express my sincere gratitude to all enumerators and data entry personnel for the time, hard work and perseverance during the data collection and entry. Not forgetting the many heads of households and children who accepted to be interviewed and by US Department of Labour (USDOL) through ILO-IPEC Country Programme in Malawi for funding the study.

ABBREVIATIONS

AIDS	Acquired Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ANOVA	Analysis on variance
BLS	Baseline Survey
BRM	Baseline Research Methodology
C	Convention
CBCCC	Community based child care centre
CBOs	Community Based Organizations
CDSS	Community Day Secondary School
CIDA	Canadian International Development Agency
CHAM	Christian Health Association of Malawi
CL	Child Labour
CLMS	Child Labour Monitoring System
CLU	Child Labour Unit
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRECCOM	Creative Centre for Community Mobility
CSEC	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children
CSO	Civil Society Organization (s)
CTA	Chief Technical Adviser
DA	District Assembly
DDP	District Development Plan
DCLC	District Child Labour Committee
DEM	District Education Advisor
DHS	Demographic Health Survey
DIPs	District Implementation Plans
DLO	District Labour Officer
DPD	Director of Planning and Development
EA	Enumeration Area
EU	European Union
FAO	Food and Agricultural Organization

FBOs	Faith Based Organizations
FGDs	Focus Group Discussions
GoM	Government of Malawi
HH	Household
HIV	Human Immune-Deficiency Virus
HOH	Head of Household
IA	Implementing Agency
IABA	Integrated Area Based Approach
ILO-IPEC	International Labour Organization International Program on the Elimination of Child Labour
IMR	Infant Mortality Rate
KII	Key Informant Interviews
LA	Local Authority
LSMS	Living Standards Measurement Survey
MASAF	Malawi Social Action Fund
MDHS	Malawi Demographic and Health Survey
MDG	Millennium Development Goal (s)
M&E	Monitoring and Evaluation
MGDS	Malawi Growth and Development Strategy
MICS	Multiple Indicator Cluster Survey
MK	Malawi Kwacha (currency)
MLW	Malawi
MMR	Maternal Mortality Rate
MNCLS	Malawi National Child Labour Survey
MoEST	Ministry of Education Science and Technology
MoL	Ministry of Labour
NAC	National AIDS Commission
NASFAM	National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi
NAP	National Action Plan
NGO	Non-Governmental Organizations
NPA	National Plan of Action

NSO	National Statistics Office
OVC	Orphans and other Vulnerable Children
PEA	Primary Education Advisor
PSLCE	Primary School Leaving Certificate of Education
PPS	Probability Proportion to Size
SDPI	Sustainable Development Policy Institute
RA	Rapid Assessment
RFP	Request for Proposal
SIMPOC	Statistical Information and Monitoring Programme on Child Labour
SNAP	Support to National Action Plan
SPSS	Statistical Package for Social Scientists
STA	Sub Traditional Authority
T/A	Traditional Authority
TDC	Teacher Development Centre
TOR	Terms of Reference
UN	United Nations
UNDP	United Nations Development Programme
UNICEF	United Nations Children Fund
USA	United States of America
USDOL	United States Department of Labour
WFCL	Worst Forms of Child Labour
YEDEF	Youth Development Enterprise Fund

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EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The National Action Plan on Elimination of Child Labour in Malawi was launched in August 2010 as the main policy guideline for eliminating child labour in Malawi. According to UNICEF (2007) report, Malawi has 6.8 million children (51percent) of the total population, a situation which presents both opportunities and challenges. The country's child labour prevalence rates are relatively high despite numerous efforts by various stakeholders including the Government of Malawi, ILO and NGOs to eliminate it.

UNICEF (2007) estimates that 26 percent of children in Malawi are involved in child labour. This translates into 1.4 million children involved in child labour (52percent and 48percent for girls and boys respectively). Children below the age of 15 years accounted for about 22 percent of the total permanent labour force in tobacco estates. Most of children found to be working were in the agriculture sector (52 percent). Others (43.2percent) were involved in domestic child labour carried out under conditions of isolation, excessive long hours, physical and sexual abuse.

Several measures have been taken by the Government of Malawi and its cooperating partners to fight against child labour in Malawi. Some of these measures include the adoption of international conventions C182 and C138 which call for the elimination of all worst forms of child labour and the setting up of minimum age for admission into formal employment respectively. Currently, the Ministry of Labour has reviewed or adopted a number of policy instruments and guidelines to eliminate child labour. One of the biggest milestones of MoL has been the adoption of the NAP in August 2010. Furthermore, the new programme of support to the NAP funded by the US Government through the ILO-IPEC focuses at building from successes of previous programmes locally and internationally.

However, there have been gaps in operationalization of the policy instruments and data on child labour for programming purposes. Therefore the study was commissioned to identify children between 5 and 14 years and others below the age of 18 who are involved in child labour (CL) in accordance to ILO Conventions 182 and 138. The baseline study was

expected to provide key information on the provision and utilization of services and coverage. The results of this study will be presented to policy makers, trade unions and NGOs as necessary information to effectively develop programmes for eliminating child labour not only in Kasungu but the country as a whole..

This study was conducted in May 2011 and involved administering two types of questionnaires (household and child questionnaires) to 1000 households in 8 Traditional Authorities (TA) in Kasungu district using the 2008 Malawi Housing and Population Census sampling framework. A total 35 households in f 29 enumeration areas (EAs) from these TAs were selected. Quantitative data from the households was complemented by qualitative interviews (through focus group discussions and key informant interviews) administered to selected communities and stakeholders at national, district and community levels.

A number of key findings have emerged from the study on children involvement in work and school, characteristics of children's work and involvement in hazardous work.

The study found out that overall prevalence of child labour among children attending school was 23.8percent while the corresponding prevalence among children not attending school was 19.3percent. This could be attributed to the fact other children both attend school and involved in economic activity. Furthermore, the findings revealed that the higher prevalence of child labour is outside the household which was 20.6 percent and 17.9 percent for children attending school and children not attending school respectively. Among children attending school, only 3.2 percent were involved in child labour through household chores while 1.4 percent for children not attending school. Domestic work (work at family level) is the lead sector in which children work, engaging 7 in every 10 children across the district. The main occupation of these children (71.6 percent) is household worker and 20.4 percent work on the farm/plantations. The remaining 9 percent is shared among factory/barn (3.9percent), fixed/street or market stall (1.3percent) etc.

The results also show that that 35.7 percent of children in the eight TAs are not involved in economic activities while 6.8 percent are neither involved in economic activity nor school. The category of children not involved in school nor child labour are at a disadvantage as

they neither benefit from both. Girls' involvement in economic activities increases faster than boys. The overall proportion of girls involved in child labour was 24.1 percent while it was 19.2 percent for boys. Among children aged 5-17 years participating in child labour outside the household, 21.4 percent were female while 19.2 percent were boys. Kasungu Boma registered the lowest proportion of children (41.8 percent) involved in economic activity compared to other areas in the district since the area is more developed than the other TAs. The worst combination is of children performing economic activity and household chores while attending school. This stands at 49 percent for the age group, 5-17 years in the 8 Traditional Authorities with TA Kawamba having the highest proportion of 65.3 percent. More children who are not working attend all school days in a week compared to those who are working (90 percent vs. 84 percent). School attendance of working children is lower than of other children across all age levels. However, 46 percent of children who had sickness or injury due to their work, reported that the sickness did not have any effect on their education.

Overall over 401 children were involved in conditional hazardous activities representing 40 percent of the total sample.

In conclusion, the findings of the baseline survey on child labour in Kasungu have revealed some obvious policy areas that the new project has to consider. The study confirms existing assertions by many stakeholders consulted during the study that child labour is on the decline. Previous interventions in the district have started to be effective as evidenced by decline in the number of children who reported to have worked in the past seven days prior to the survey. While this is a positive development towards the elimination of child labour by 2016, it is also clear that child labour is taking new forms from overt to covert forms of child labour. The results also reveal that child labour is a crosscutting issue which requires multi-sectoral response in line with IABA.

The socioeconomic profile of the district shows that the district suffers from chronic problems such as food insecurity and poor agricultural commodity prices. The existence of so many tobacco estates in the district is both a blessing and a curse to many vulnerable households. There are some families that are attracted to work in these estates. At the

same time with the poor tobacco prices engulfing the sector have meant that most families in the district are not getting adequate income from their main crop. The situation is worse for migrant workers such as tenants who bring with them their children whom they cannot afford to feed or send to school. Agriculture is the backbone of the district and is very susceptible to external shocks of climate change and increased food prices among others that are affecting the country and the world at large. Therefore addressing some of underlying causes of child labour is very important. Some of the measures to be considered are improving accessibility of loans to vulnerable households so that they can purchase agricultural inputs or income generating activities.

There are also other crosscutting issues such as literacy rates, culture, gender and HIV/AIDS, capacity building that have an impact on the proposed interventions in the project.

Employment creation for the youths that are graduating from school has the potential to act as a good incentive for children to go to school. The Youth Development Enterprise Loan scheme is a step towards the right direction. However many more innovative avenues should be explored by the project.

Accessibility of secondary education for children to attend should be improved. Most communities bemoan the discriminatory nature of the current system which seems to favour a few and condemn most of the vulnerable children from accessing it. There is need to improve accessibility of the youth to vocational schools to equip those children with skills for their livelihood and independence.

There is also need for stakeholders to work together to improve infrastructure in the district. Many schools and health facilities are poor and inaccessible to some remote areas in the district. To improve quality of education in the district stakeholders need to work together to ensure school supply are available in most schools that can have a pull effect on the children. These include: learning materials, books for supplementary reading, balls and other resources for playing different games. School feeding programmes are also known to help increase enrolment and retention especially food insecure districts such as Kasungu.

Considering the low literacy levels in the district, there is needed to intensify sensitization to the public on child labour using various channels. Child labour should be mainstreamed in all development programmes involving children. Stakeholders should continue to lobby government to enact the Tenancy Bill which has fundamental potential to improve the welfare of tenants and their households. Existing laws should continue to be enforced.

1.0 INTRODUCTION

1.1 Background of the Study

Baseline Study on Child Labour in Kasungu district was designed as part of the new programme of support to the Government of Malawi (GoM) for the National Action Plan (NAP) on Child Labour (CL). This new programme known as *“Support to the National Action Plan on Child Labour (SNAP)”* is being funded by the United States Government Department of Labour (USDOL) through the International Labour Organization International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour (ILO-IPEC) Country Programme.

The new programme has funding to the tune of **US\$ 2,757, 621** to be implemented for a period of 39 months. It seeks to build from successes and experiences of the previous programmes locally and internationally. Among others, the new programme seeks to enhance the GoM by supporting the finalization and implementation of the National Action Plan (NAP) in line with the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy's (MGDS) overall priority on poverty reduction and draft Decent Work Country Programme priority of *“creating more and better employment and income generation opportunities particularly for vulnerable groups including the youth, women and people with disabilities as well as ensuring the elimination of WFCL.”* Meanwhile, the NAP was launched by the Government of Malawi in August 2010 as the main Policy Guideline for eliminating child labour by 2016 in Malawi.

The SNAP programme has three immediate objectives. The first seeks to contribute towards the creation of enabling legislative and policy environment on the elimination of child labour towards the global goal of elimination of WFCL by 2016. The second objective is expected to lay the foundations for *“CL free zones”* using an integrated area based approach (IABA) in the three districts where WFCL are found. Through this objective, a total of **4,350** children will be withdrawn and prevented from the WFCL in the targeted agricultural and rural sites and **632** children withdrawn and prevented from the WFCL in the targeted urban sites of Malawi. Furthermore, **4,882** children are expected to receive educational services and **100** children will be targeted through non educational services. Of this total, **2,192** will be removed from work and **2,790** will be prevented from entering child labour. In addition, the programme also seeks to target **900** parents/ adult caregivers to

improve their livelihoods and referral to existing social protection mechanisms so that they can keep their children in school. The third objective aims at building the capacity of tripartite partners (employers' and workers' organizations), key role players (parents and guardians of targeted children), and other stakeholders (district and community CL Committees) so that they can support the implementation of the IABA. The programme also intends to strengthen further development of a monitoring system for child labour in the country as well as in the targeted districts.

Therefore, the completion of the baseline study on child labour in Kasungu marks the beginning of the launch of the action programme for prevention, withdrawal and rehabilitation of the target groups of this project. This study was designed to identify children between 5 and 14 years and others below the age of 18 who are involved in child labour (CL) in accordance to ILO Conventions 182 and 138 which were endorsed by the Government of Malawi (GoM) in 1999. These two conventions form the basis for the global and local response to elimination of Worst Forms of Child Labour (WFCL, C182) and setting up of Minimum Age for entry into formal employment (C138). This report attempts to measure the initial conditions of working children in Kasungu in view of the above two conventions. The results will also help inform stakeholders in the design and formulation of effective interventions on eliminating child labour in the district. At the same time the success of the new programme depends on establishing indicators for monitoring the performance of the project activities. The baseline study was expected to provide key information on the following indicators: provision and utilization of services and coverage. The results of the study will be provided to policy makers, trade unions and NGOs as necessary information to effectively develop programmes for combating child labour not only in Mulanje but the country as a whole.

1.2 Situational Analysis of Child Labour

According to UNICEF (2007) Report, Malawi has 6.8 million children (51 percent) of the total population) presents a number of opportunities and challenges for its youngest citizens and their families. The prospects for a child survival have improved over the past few years due to improved maternal health care services. Prudent economic management, stable macroeconomic conditions and soaring agricultural production are helping to reduce poverty and hunger. However, effects of climate change like floods, drought has resulted into low agricultural production leading to food insecurity. The problem is exacerbated by fast growing population resulting into limited arable land for production. This has aggravated the poverty situation considering that Malawi is an agricultural country and threatening the country's development.

HIV prevalence rates seem to have stabilised at 14 percent and is currently at 12 percent. However, the impact of HIV/AIDS has left the country with 12 percent of its children orphaned. Furthermore, has high incidence of malaria is leading to more under-five deaths. Children and women are becoming more vulnerable as their ability to recover from these relenting risks and shocks weakens.

Malawi's child labour prevalence rates are relatively high despite numerous efforts by various stakeholders including Government, ILO and NGOs. More recently, the NAP on Child Labour in Malawi (2010) highlights estimated rates of child labour and existing initiatives taken to eliminate it in Malawi. UNICEF (2007) Report estimates that 26 percent of children in Malawi are involved in child labour.¹

The ILO most recent estimates (2012) shows that there are 215 million children trapped in child labour. In 2008, it was estimated that there were 306 million children aged 5-17 years old who were economically active and out these 215 million were child labourers. Of the child labourers, 115 million were engaged in hazardous work. In addition, there were 176

¹ Malawi Annual Report 2007, UNICEF, Lilongwe Malawi, p7

million children aged 5-14 years old who were engaged in economic activities and 153 million of these children were child labourers. These figures represent a 3.2 percent drop in child labour compared to the 2004 figures. The Global Report shows that the number of children in employment increased sharply in Sub-Saharan Africa, from 49.3 million in 2004 to 58.2 million in 2008 (with an increase in the activity rate from 26.4 to 28.4 per cent)².

The Survey published in the Malawi Child Labour 2002 Report ³ indicated that the country had 1.4 million children engaged in child labour representing....percentage of which 52percent and 48percent were girls and boys respectively. The report suggested that there were more girls than boys involved in household chores. Girls were believed to be at higher risk of becoming domestic workers than boys due to the following:

- o Cultural acceptance of gender roles;
- o Lack of better alternatives for girls
- o Lack of efficient educational infrastructures
- o Lack of sufficient enabling environment and general situation of poverty at household level.
- o HIV and AIDS pandemic which has increased the vulnerability, as more parents get sick and die leaving girls to become heads of households who must work in order to take care of their siblings and other members of their families.

The report also indicated that children below 15 years of age account for about 22percent of the total permanent labour force in tobacco estates. These results from the Malawi National Child Labour (IPEC/ SIMPOC, 2002) indicated that 25.4percent (.39 million) of males and 21.3percent (0.34 million) of females aged 5-14 years representing 23.3percent (0.73 million) of all children ages between 5-14 work. This is broken down as follows:

² *Child Labour National Action Plan on Child Labour 2010-2015, Ministry of Labour, Lilongwe, Malawi (August 2010), p1*

³ *Training Manual on Child Labour Law Enforcement in Malawi (2008), ILO-IPEC Country Programme, Malawi, p19*

- 5-9 years it was 38percent
- 10-14 years it was 41percent
- 15-17 it was 20percent

These children (52percent) were found in the agriculture sector performing heavy workloads and exposed to various hazards like fertilizers and pesticides. The children were also found in the domestic (43.2percent) service carrying out work under conditions of isolation, excessive long hours, physical and sexual abuse. The survey found that 64.5percent worked 11-25 hours, 8percent worked 26-36 hours while 3percent worked over 49 hours per week. Children were also found in the streets as vendors and child prostitutes.

To address the situation of child labour in Malawi, the Government has so far implemented a number of upstream measures to eliminate CL such as the ratification of the conventions mentioned above. Furthermore, Malawi domesticated these conventions into her Constitution, the Employment Act (2000) and the National Code of Conduct on Child Labour. All these instruments according to the NAP (2010:2) were designed to protect children from labour exploitation and work towards elimination of child labour by ensuring that children below the age of 14 are not being employed or engaged in any form of employment and those between the ages of 14 and 18 are not engaged in hazardous employment. The NAP is guided by the Global Action Plan on Child Labour which among others is aimed at mainstreaming child labour in the national economic and social development framework.

Table 1 Policy Instruments Reviewed by Government

- | |
|--|
| <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Child labour policy- List of hazardous work- NAP- Labour Inspection Policy Guidelines- Resource mobilization and allocation to CL activities especially at district level- Formation of CL network; |
|--|

- Mainstreaming of CL in DIPs under child protection strategy.
- Formation of CL committees and DAs and communities;
- Establishment of CL database and CLMS in local communities, and
- Development of the Decent Work Country Programme.

There are a number of critical challenges facing the Ministry and the country as whole in the fight against child labour. These include the outstanding bills/ legislation such as the Tenancy Bill; low awareness on evils of CL among communities; rampant poverty amongst vulnerable households; inadequate education and support infrastructure; cultural factors; lack of capacity among implementing partners; HIV/AIDS and lack of coordination amongst various stakeholders among others.

Table 2 Estimated children 5.14 years working by type of work and background characteristics

	Currently working	Working for non relatives		Currently working in family farm	Currently doing domestic work	
		Paid	Unpaid		< 4 hours/ day	4 or more hours/ day
Total	27.0	3.1	5.7	61.9	3.9	18.6
Age 5-9	13.8	1.3	4.2	49.2	1.7	8.1
Age 10-14	42.1	5.1	7.3	76.6	6.3	30.6
Male	27.6	3.2	4.4	53.8	2.6	21.1
Female	26.4	3.0	6.8	69.7	5.1	16.1
Urban	17.7	1.6	3.7	63.2	4.4	10.6
Rural	28.4	3.3	6.0	61.8	3.8	19.8
Northern region	31.8	2.2	12.9	70.8	4.0	20.2
Central region	25.4	3.7	5.3	61.6	3.8	16.8
Southern region	27.2	2.8	2.8	60.0	3.9	19.9

***Source: Training Manual on Child Labour Law Enforcement in Malawi (2008) p22
adopted from 2002 Child Labour Survey Report***

However, since the last survey in 2002, there has been no major survey that has been conducted but the trend that the communities are aware of the evils of child labour and how it can be eliminated. This has been due to the concerted efforts of the Malawi Government, donors, UN agencies (ILO, UNICEF) as well as NGOs and other duty bearers.

1.3 Description of Kasungu District

1.3.1. Background to the District

Kasungu district is 129Km from the Capital City, Lilongwe in the central part of Malawi. It is one of the largest districts in the country with an estimated population of 616,085. It has abundant resources for development and home to the tobacco industry (*green gold*) in Malawi. This district is endowed with favourable climatic conditions, good relief, wildlife, fertile soils, and abundant skilled labour and sufficient water resources. The total area of the district is 7878 square kilometers making up to 8.4percent of the total land area of Malawi, which is 94276 sq. kilometers. Kasungu district is in the Central part of Malawi and is one of the.⁴

According to the district socioeconomic report,⁵ despite the favourable environment for development, Kasungu like any other district in the country, faces a number of developmental challenges that hinder its progression in satisfying the needs of its communities. Some of the challenges are HIV/AIDS, food insecurity, inadequate service facilities, limited access to safe water, high rate of environmental degradation and inadequate communication infrastructures. The District Council has identified 11 priority issues from a thorough situational analysis conducted in the district. The issues raised provide the basis for the district development objectives leading to the formulation of the

⁴ 2008 Malawi National Housing and Population Census, NSO, Zomba

⁵ District Development Plan 2009-2012, Kasungu, 2009

District Development Plan (see annex for more details). Child Labour according to this district development plan is priority number ten (10) and requires an estimated investment of MK 443,064,000.00 or US\$2,934,198.68.

1.3.2. Major Economic Activities in the District

The economy of the district rests primarily on the agricultural sector. Over 80percent of the people are believed to work in agriculture. The major crops grown in the district are maize, tobacco, groundnuts, cassava and sweet potatoes. As of 2007, maize alone accounted for 41.1percent of the total farmland and burley tobacco covered 10.2percent. Tobacco is the main cash and export crop and contributes to percent of the national GDP. The district has the largest number of tobacco estates in the country (estimated at 13, 381 hectares in 2007). The average lad holding size is 1.9 hectares, A total of 51.4 percent of farm families owned less than 1 hectare while 2.1 percent had land over 3 hectares.

1.3.3 Social Services

Health

The district is served by 22 major health facilities including the district hospital of which two are rural hospitals, Nkhamenya and Kaluluma owned by Ministry of Health and Christian Health Association of Malawi (CHAM). There are in total 14 health centres and ten (10) dispensaries. In addition, there are also four nutrition rehabilitation centres which include: Nkhamenya Hospital, St. Andrews Health Centre, Kasalika Rehabilitation Centre and Santhe Health Centre. The district also operates 34 static and 156 outreach clinics where under-five immunization services are offered. The district has 354 beds in all facilities which translate to the population to bed ratio of 1:1,720 with highest proportion of beds in Kasungu town. Overall in these health facilities, curative, rehabilitation, family planning, hygiene and sanitation, capacity building and voluntary counseling and testing services are provided.

Education

The education system in Kasungu comprises primary, secondary and teacher training. The district has 15 educational zones with a total of 318 primary schools in 2007. Total enrolment for 2005 was at 183, 219 of which 91,037 were boys representing 49.7percent while 92,182 were girls representing 50.3 percent.

In addition the district had 2432 teachers representing a teacher/pupil ratio of 1:74. On the other hand, the qualified teacher/pupil ratio was 1:101. The total number of permanent teacher houses was 541 leaving a shortfall of 1891. The pupil/desk ratio was 21.1 while the total number of permanent classrooms was 909 against 183,219 pupils. This translates to 202 pupils per classroom against the recommended pupil classroom ratio of 60:1.

The district has four conventional secondary schools. Three of the secondary schools are government owned while one is a mission school. There are 37 Community Day Secondary Schools (CDSS) and 15 private secondary schools inclusive of the elite and prestigious Kamuzu Academy. Only about 27 percent of primary school leavers have access to secondary schools. The biggest challenge for the education sector in Kasungu and Malawi as a whole is to increase the number of secondary schools to absorb all the students who graduate from primate schools.

Community Development

The Department of Community Services and Social Welfare is mandated to provide safety nets to the vulnerable groups in the society such as orphans, elderly, destitute and people with physical disabilities to be socio economically empowered.

The department has been supporting community based support groups which provide social, psychological and short term maternal support to individuals, families on a number of family problems such as matrimonial, adoption, destitute and orphans. In addition, it provided a number of rehabilitation services such as registration, vocational counseling and referral services to people with disabilities. In 2007, the district had 25,000 registered orphans some of whom were receiving education support (fees) to access secondary education.

The department faces challenges in meeting the high demand for the services especially education support for orphans and other vulnerable children who are unable to access secondary education due to school fees. There are also very few lending institutions with prohibitive conditions to support the most vulnerable households. Resources are also not adequate compared to the need on the ground for most of community projects.

1.4 Survey Objectives

The specific objectives of the baseline survey were:

- 1) To collect data on the numbers and concentrations (mapping) of child labour in Kasungu, Mulanje and Mzimba districts.
- 2) To identify **4,982** potential children in and at risk of WFCL who could be potential project beneficiaries.
- 3) To collect information on the main characteristics of working children and their households.
- 4) To collect information to enable identification and analysis of the causes and consequences of children engaged in child labour (both demand and supply factors), including household earnings and debt, perceptions of parents/ guardians/children and the hazards and abuses faced by children at their work from gender perspective.
- 5) To collect information from the households on those children who are trafficked or at risk of being trafficked and the main reasons for the malpractice.
- 6) To obtain through FGDs and KIIs information the various forms of child labour prevailing in the districts, particularly on WFCL and the underlying forces leading to the persistence of child labour.

- 7) Assess level of social services available in the districts including those of government in order to determine alternative livelihoods and support to target children in the three districts.
- 8) To collect information on working conditions, legal instruments relating to Working Conditions, the on-ground efficacy of pertinent legal instruments, the state of regulatory oversight and the legal status of the said establishments.
- 9) To provide policy makers, researchers and other stakeholders with a comprehensive information and a set of indicators on child labour to guide the development of interventions.
- 10) To consolidate the basis for the creation of a long term database on child labour or feeding the information in the national database on child labour

1.5 Key audiences

The results of the baseline study will be provided to policy makers, trade unions and NGOs as necessary information to effectively develop programmes for combating child labour in Kasungu and Malawi as a whole. The findings in part or whole will be shared with stakeholders at the workshop and may be distributed widely with outside sources at the discretion of ILO management.

1.6 Structure of the report

This Baseline Survey Report for Kasungu, the third deliverable under the contract for the Baseline Survey of Child Labour in Kasungu, Mzimba and Mulanje Districts (Ref. number: ILO/RFP/34/2010). The purpose of this report is to set out the key findings of the Baseline Survey, to document lessons learnt and recommend policy actions to improve the design and implementation of the new programme not only in Kasungu but also the other two districts namely: Mulanje and Mzimba.

This report is divided into chapters, 1 – 8. Chapter one is the introduction and it covers aspects such as background of the study, country context, and situational analysis of child

labour in Malawi and Kasungu district. The chapter also presents an outline of the study objectives, key audiences, and scope of the baseline survey and the structure of the report. The second part of this report covers the survey design and methodology which covers sections on overview of the methodology (sample design, training, pretesting and data collection methodology). This chapter also discusses key evaluation questions, quantitative and qualitative methods used in the study. The last section on this chapter describes the study limitations.

The third chapter describes household and housing characteristics of the main correspondents for the study. The chapter presents among others, characteristics of households interviewed. This chapter presents key findings from the study. The chapter specifically examines data pertaining to the demographic characteristics of population surveyed; characteristics of dwelling units, access to energy, access to safe water and sanitation and sources of income. Chapter four is on education. The primary objective of this chapter is to present a detailed analysis on the education characteristics of the household population and in particular the children, with the broader picture on school attendance, school enrolment, absenteeism, reasons for absenteeism and never attending school.

Chapter five is the main chapter of the report. The chapter assesses the engagement of children in economic activities by describing the main characteristics of the vulnerable and working children in Kasungu, their nature, extent and causes of child labour and WFCL, the condition of work and how it generally affects development (health, education, physical, moral and mental) of working children. Health and safety issues are covered in chapter six of the report. The chapter assesses the impact the work of children has on their health and safety at work places. Chapters seven and eight draw conclusions and recommendations from key the findings of the study. It is in these chapters that existing social services and programmes tackling child labour including their successes and challenges which may present lessons learnt for the new programme are assessed. For instance chapter seven presents an assessment of the capacity of the regulatory and oversight institutions, effectiveness of policy and legal instruments for the elimination of WFCL in Malawi. It also gives an overview of the information needs of various stakeholders in child labour and

those of Kasungu in particular. The last chapter contains the annexes. This chapter provides detailed information on the research instruments, list of places where the study was conducted (EAs), names of research team members among others.

2.0 STUDY DESIGN AND METHODOLOGY

2.1. Overview of the Research Methodology

This baseline study commenced on April 21, 2011 as a household based sample survey which applied a structured questionnaire supplemented by focus group discussions (FGD) and key informant interviews (KII). A total of **1015** households interviewed and **1721** children in the district in 29 enumeration areas sampled from eight traditional authorities and Kasungu Boma. The TAs sampled includes TA Kaluluma, STA Nyanja, STA Kawamba, STA Chilowamatambe, TA Chulu, TA Wimbe, TA Kapelula and Kasungu Township.

The total number of households interviewed was estimated from the sampling frame developed by NSO from the 2008 Population Census. By assuming that 37percent of the households in Kasungu district had children participating in child labour a minimum sample size of 995 households adjusted to a minimum of 1015 was found to be adequate at 95percent confidence level and 3.0percent precision

A combination of multi-stage and stratified random sampling approach was used to select a minimum of 1015 households from the district. In the first stage, for each district Census Enumeration Areas or EAs (obtained from the National Statistical Office) were listed in Excel. Stratified random sampling with probability proportional to size was used to select 29 EAs in the district using SPSS.

Stage two involved the selection of a representative sample of households with children aged 5-17 years in each sampled enumeration area. A mapping exercise was carried out in all sampled EAs with assistance from NSO to update the household lists in the EAs as well simultaneously identify households with children aged 5-17 years. In stage two, 35 households were randomly selected from each sampled EA in each respective TA. Using

the households numbers allocated during the pre-survey listing exercise, random numbers were used to select the required number of households in each sampled EA

Overall, 29 enumeration areas were selected in the district and 35 households were interviewed in each EA. Overall the study utilized participatory methodologies by involving ILO staff locally and SIMPOC team in Geneva during planning, designing and implementation of the survey. The study has so far utilized three of the four phases planned for the survey namely: Inception, Field Survey, Synthesis and Report Writing.

The first phase, *inception* involved holding of inception meetings with ILO staff in Malawi, development of draft baseline research methodology modeled on SIMPOC Questionnaire and qualitative tools (rapid assessment). A video conference was held mid October 2010 with the SIMPOC team from Geneva. After drafting the instruments, the inception report was drafted and submitted to ILO for review. The four-way consultation process between consultants, ILO Malawi, NSO and SIMPOC Team, Geneva necessitated frequent revision of the instruments by the research team as the comments flowed. In the interim, after drafting the instruments, upon agreement with ILO staff in Malawi, the team was allowed to train the enumerators and data entry staff based on the draft instruments. This training took place in Zomba from November 15 to 18 2010 at Zomba School of Health Sciences. A total of twelve enumerators, four data entry staff and two supervisors were trained. On the third day of the training, the team went for pretesting of the draft instruments to among others test the application of the instruments and assess the reliability and validity of the questions. During the last day of the training the team reviewed the questionnaire based on the feedback from the field.

2.1.1 Scope and Coverage

The Child Labour Baseline Survey in Kasungu was carried out in 29 Enumeration Areas sampled from seven (7) traditional authorities and Kasungu Township. The Traditional Authorities (TAs) sampled were: In each sampled EA a household questionnaire and a child questionnaire were administered to respondents from sampled households. In addition, key

informant interviews were conducted with traditional leaders at EA level and representatives from key sector ministries at district level.

Two questionnaires were used in the quantitative study. The household questionnaire was administered to the head of a household or the most knowledgeable member of a household. The second questionnaire was designed to collect data from children aged 5-17 years. A key informant interview guide was used to collect qualitative data from selected key informants.

The household questionnaire captured data on usual members of the target households, economic activities for household members, household characteristics, sources of livelihood, household income. The child questionnaire captured data on demographic characteristics of children, education, involvement of children in economic activity, conditions under which children worked health and safety of children and involvement of children in household chores.

2.1.2 Sample design

Sampling frame for household survey

The sampling frame for the survey was the list of all households with children aged 5-17 years in the district.

Sample size for household survey

EA maps from NSO were used to locate the sampled EAs and household numbers from the listing exercise were used to locate the sampled households when research assistants visited the sampled EAs.

2. 2 Sampled TAs

The following were the enumeration areas that were selected for the Kasungu Baseline Survey.

Table 3 Enumeration areas by TA

TA/STA	No of EAs selected	No of households selected
Kalulumu	4	140
Nyanja	2	70
Kawamba	4	140
Chilowamatambe	3	105
Chulu	4	140
Wimbe	6	210
Kapelula	3	105
Kasungu Township	3	105
Total	29	1015

2.3 Data processing and analysis

Questionnaires from the field were edited for consistency, accuracy and completeness. Questionnaires that were inconsistent or incomplete were sent back to the field for correction. Edited questionnaires were coded before the commencement of data entry. Data entry was done in Excel. Data cleaning was done using SPSS and Excel to ensure that valid data and accurate had been captured. Indicators were generated in SPSS to address specific objectives of the study.

2.4. Study Limitations

Kasungu district as has been observed elsewhere in this report as a home to tobacco growing in Malawi. As such, most of child labour is expected to be predominant in this sector. However, considering the time when the survey was conducted, the prevalence of child labour may be skewed since was not peak season for tobacco growing. Most of the households had finished tobacco harvesting and were processing it ready for marketing. These activities are generally done by adults (males) although children may assist as will be shown by photo footage in the subsequent versions of the report. This posed as a challenge as the baseline survey aimed at capturing the real time child labour is undertaken in the district. However, implementation of the study faced no major limitations which could influence the results.

3.0 HOUSEHOLD AND HOUSING CHARACTERISTICS

3.1 Demographic Characteristics

This Chapter describes the study population. It specifically examines data pertaining to the demographic characteristics of population surveyed: characteristics of dwelling units, access to energy and access to safe water, sanitation and sources of income. It describes household characteristics and children interviewed (aged 5-17 years) in terms of their age, sex and relationship to the household head.

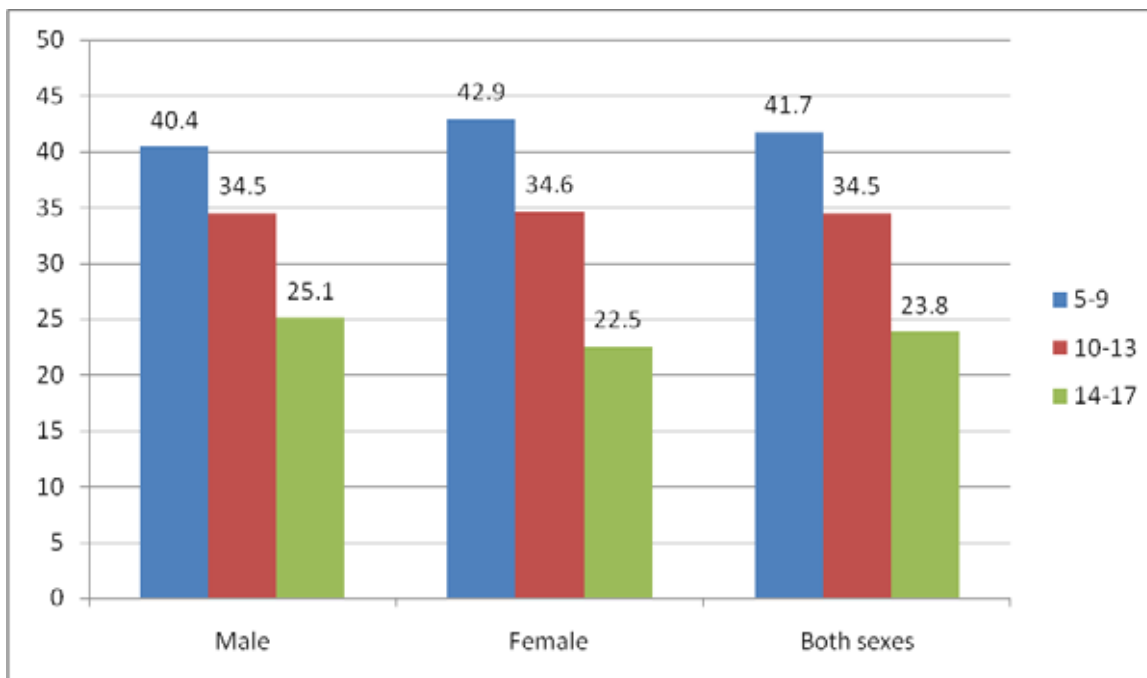
3.2 Distribution of surveyed population by age and sex

The results show that in the 1000 households successfully interviewed 4,765 household members were listed. Forty eight percent of these household members were males and 52 percent were females. Table 4 shows the age and sex distribution of the surveyed population. The table shows that in the age groups below 18 years, males were generally higher than females except in the age group 5-9. In the 18 years and above age group females were higher than males.

Table 4 Distribution of surveyed population by age group and sex

Age group	Male		Female		Total	
	Number	Percent	Number	Percent	Number	Percent
0-4	334	14.5	358	14.6	692	14.5
5-9	419	18.1	472	19.2	891	18.7
10-13	358	15.5	380	15.5	738	15.5
14-17	261	11.3	247	10.0	508	10.7
≥18 years	937	40.6	1,001	40.7	1938	40.7
Total	2,309	100.0	2,458	100.0	4767	100.0

Figure 1 Distribution of the children by age groups



3.2.1 Age-sex structure of the interviewed children

Table 5 below provides the sex distribution of the children interviewed by TA. The results show that 53 percent of the children were females while males constituted 47 percent. By TA, the results show that Kasungu Boma had the highest proportion (57.3 percent) of females interviewed while TA Wimbe had the lowest (48.8 percent). Figure 1 shows that out of the children who participated in the study, majority of the them were aged 5-9 (46.9 percent) followed by those in the age group 10-13 (32.3 percent) while those in the older age group of 14-17 comprised the lowest proportion (20.8 percent), and the results show a similar pattern for both males and females.

Table 5 Distribution of children by sex and TA (Percentage)

	Sex of child		Total
	Male	Female	
Wimbe	51.2	48.8	100.0
Chilowa Matambe	50.0	50.0	100.0
Boma	42.7	57.3	100.0
Kawamba	44.8	55.2	100.0
Mnyanja	49.1	50.9	100.0
Kaluluma	47.6	52.4	100.0
Kapelula	48.6	51.4	100.0
Chulu	43.4	56.6	100.0
Total	47.0	53.0	100.0

Table 5 shows the percent distribution of children by age group and TA. The results reveal that in general the majority of the children interviewed in all the TAs were aged 5-9, Mnyanja having the highest proportion (49.4 percent) and Kasungu Boma registering the lowest number (41.4 percent), while for the older age group of 14-17, the majority of the children interviewed were from Kasungu Boma (27.5 percent).

Table 6 Distribution of children by age group and TA

TA	5-9	10-13	14-17
Wimbe	49.2	29.2	21.7
Chilowa Matambe	47.8	33.1	19.1
Boma	41.4	31.1	27.5
Kawamba	42.6	33.5	23.9
Mnyanja	45.9	35.1	18.9
Kaluluma	49.4	27.0	23.6
Kapelula	44.5	31.9	23.6
Chulu	43.0	32.2	24.8
Total average	45.5	31.3	23.3

3.2.2 Distribution of households by selected characteristics

Table 7 provides household composition by selected characteristics. The table shows that 11.1 percent of the households surveyed were situated in urban areas and 88.9 percent in rural areas. The table also shows that the highest proportion (16.2 percent) was in TA Wimbe and the lowest (7.4 percent) were in TA Mnyanja. The same table also shows that 81.4 percent of the surveyed households were male headed and 18.6 percent were female headed. This pattern is also consistent with the previous NSO surveys which revealed that the proportion of male headed households is much higher than the proportion of female headed households.

Table 7 Distribution of households by selected characteristics

Background	Percentage	Number of households
<i>Total</i>	100.0	1000
Urban	11.1	111
Rural	88.9	889
TA		
Wimbe	16.2	162
Chilowa Matambe	10.2	102
Boma	11.1	111
Kawamba	14.7	147
Mnyanja	7.4	74
Kaluluma	14.8	148
Kapelula	11.1	111
Chulu	14.5	145
<i>Sex of HOH</i>		
Male	81.4	814
Female	18.6	186

3.3 Types of dwelling units and ownership status

The highest proportion (40 percent) of dwellings for surveyed households was traditional, 37 percent were permanent structures and 23 percent were semi-permanent structures. Most (88 percent) of dwellings for surveyed households were owned by members of households, 4.1 percent were co-owned, 3.1 percent were subsidized by employers, 3 percent were rented and 1.8 percent were provided free.

3.3.2 Main wall and roof material for main house

Most (40 percent) of the main houses for households had burnt bricks as the main material for the wall, 14 percent had walls made of unbaked bricks and 39.6 percent were built of mud.

The floor material for 72.4 percent of main houses for surveyed households was earth or sand, 20.7 percent had cement as the main material and 4.4 percent had wood planks as the main material.

The highest proportion (37.9 percent) of the surveyed households had thatch or palm leaves as the main roofing material for the main houses, 28.3 percent had palm/bamboo or grass as the main roofing material, 25.5 percent had iron sheets as the main roofing material and 7.9 percent had no roof.

Table 8 Housing characteristics

Type of dwelling for household	Percentage
Traditional	72.7
Permanent	20.2
Semi-permanent	7.1
Total	100.0
Ownership status of dwelling	
Owned by household member	83.3
Co-owner	1.2
Provided free	2.8
Subsidized by employer	6.3
Rented	6.2
Other	0.2
Total	100.0
Main wall material for main house	
No walls	1.1
Cane/Palm/Trunks	0.6
Dirt/Mud	39.6
Bamboo/Tree trunks	2.6

Stone with mud	0.9
Plywood	0.1
Cement	0.5
Stone with lime/cement	0.3
Burnt bricks	40.0
Unbaked bricks	14.0
Cement blocks	0.2
Total	100.0
Main floor material for main house	
Earth/Sand	72.4
Dung	0.2
Wood planks	4.4
Palm/Bamboo	0.5
Cement	20.7
Other	1.7
Total	100.0
Main roofing material for main house	
No roof	7.9
Thatch/Palm leaf	37.9
Rustic mat	0.1
Palm/Bamboo/Grass	28.3
Iron Sheets	25.5
Wood	0.1
Roofing shingles	0.1
Total	100.0

3.4 Main sources of energy for cooking and lighting

Most (91.9 percent) of surveyed households reported that their main source of energy for cooking was wood. Minor proportions stated charcoal, paraffin and electricity as main sources of energy for cooking. The results showed 64.6 percent of households used torch, 7.7 percent used electricity, 12.5 percent used paraffin and 6.8 percent as main source of lighting and energy.

3.5 Access to safe water and sanitation

Main source of drinking water

The highest proportion (53.6 percent) of households stated the bore hole , 19.5 percent had unprotected dug wells , , 10.8 percent stated a dam or river or stream, 10.5 percent stated public or private piped water and 2.9 percent stated that protected dug wells and 2.1 percent stated spring as the main source of drinking water (Refer to table 9).

Access to safe sanitation

The highest proportion (68.2 percent) of households reported that they had access to a pit latrine without a slab, 18.6 percent had access to a pit latrine with at least a slab, 0.7 percent had access to a ventilated improved pit latrine and 6.2 percent had access to a flash toilet (Refer to table 9 below).

Table 9 Main sources of energy and access to safe water and sanitation

	Percentage
Main source of energy for cooking	
Wood	91.9
Charcoal	5.5
Paraffin	0.2

Electricity	2.4
Total	100.0
Main source of energy for lighting	
Wood	6.8
Charcoal	0.1
Paraffin	12.5
Electricity	7.7
Solar	0.3
Candles	4.9
Torch	64.6
Maize/Tobacco stalks	2.5
Other	0.6
Total	100.0
Main source of drinking water	
Bore hole	53.6
Piped into yard	2.5
Protected dug well	2.9
Unprotected dug well	19.5
Spring	2.1
Dam/River/Stream	10.8
Tanker/Truck	0.4

Public tap/Standpipe	1.3
Piped into dwelling	6.7
Other	0.4
Total	100.0
Type of toilet facilities	
Flush toilet	6.2
Ventilated improved Pit Latrine	0.7
Pit latrine with slab	16.1
Pit latrine without slab/Open pit	68.2
Pit latrine with slab and cover	2.5
No latrine or bush or field	6.3

3.6 Sources of household income

The highest proportion (39.6 percent) of households reported that crop production was their main source of household income. The other sources of household income included 23.6 percent stated casual labour, 12.3 percent stated livestock production, 16 percent stated income generating activities, 12 percent stated formal employment, 3.4 percent stated semiskilled contract work, and 3.8 percent stated charcoal and firewood selling.

Table 10 Main source of household income

Source of income	Percentage
Formal employment	12.0
Social transfers	0.3

Private transfers (Gifts/remittances)	1.2
Crop production	39.6
Livestock production	12.3
Selling natural resources products such as charcoal, firewood and others	3.8
Casual labour/hiring out labour (ganyu)	23.6
Semi-skilled contract work	3.4
Income Generating activities	16.0
Asset sales	1.4
Land and property rentals	0.2
Other	3.1

Household income and expenditure

Mean household income per TA ranged from MK 4,118 in Chulu to MK 61,546 in Kasungu Boma.

Mean household expenditure per TA ranged from 2,963 in Wimbe to MK 31,113 in Kasungu Boma. In all TAs the mean household expenditure was lower than mean household income and this implies that households were generally living within their means since they were spending less than what they were earning per month.

An analysis of variance (ANOVA) p-value of 0.000 at 95 percent confidence level showed that the income differences between Traditional Authorities (TAs) were highly significant.

Table 11 Household income and expenditure

Traditional Authority	Mean household income (MK)	Mean household expenditure (MK)
Wimbe	5,531	2,963
Chilowa Matambe	18,152	8,896
Boma	61,546	31,113
Kawamba	6,974	3,361
Mnyanja	9,339	3,640
Kaluluma	6,272	4,274
Kapelula	5,323	2,986
Chulu	4,118	3,007
Overall average	13,476	7,059

Food security status of households

Households were asked to state whether they had grown any staple food crops in the 2009/2010 cropping season. The majority (95.8 percent) of the 1000 households surveyed reported that they had planted staple food crops in the cropping season in question. The highest proportion (90.3 percent) of the 958 households that planted staple food crops had planted maize, 6.9 percent had planted rice, 1.7 percent had planted sweet potatoes and the lowest proportion (0.1 percent) had planted sorghum as the main staple food crop. Out of the 958 households that had planted and harvested staple food crops, 27 percent reported that they still had the main staple food crop left at the time of the baseline survey.

Table 12 Food security status of surveyed households

	Proportion of households (%)
Did household grow any staple food crops in the 2009/2010	
Yes	95.8
No	4.2
Total	100.0
Staple food crops grown	
A. Maize	90.3
B. Rice	6.9
C. Sorghum	0.1
D. Millet	0.8
E. Cassava	0.9
F. Bananas	0.5
G. Sweet potatoes	1.7
H. Irish potatoes	0.1
I. Other	1.6
Does household still have this main staple food left	
Yes	25.9
No	74.1
Total	100.0

4.0 EDUCATION

This chapter presents a detailed analysis on the education characteristics of the household population and in particular the children, with the broader picture on school attendance, school enrolment, absenteeism, reasons for absenteeism and never attending school.

Education is one of the key sectors in any country whose aim is to maintain and sustain a high level of skilled manpower. Education and training leads to skills development which impacts on the level of productivity and income of the population. In addition, education enables the people to adapt and employ improved technologies, methods of organization and management which contribute to accelerating economic growth and enhances their incomes.

Kasungu district falls within Central East Education Division. The other three education districts are Ntchisi, Nkhotakota, Dowa and Salima. In Kasungu district, both primary education and secondary education are offered. For easy management of the education system and indeed due to the decentralization process, which has been going on in Malawi since 1998, Kasungu district is sub-divided into 24 education zones. The education zone comprises a number of primary schools which converge at Teachers' Development Center (TDC). The Primary Education Advisor (PEA) heads each education zone. This present structure seeks to improve the efficiency and effectiveness of the education system. Decentralization in education helps to improve the operations of the education system by increasing the efficiency in the allocation and utilization of the available limited resources. It also allows a faster identification of critical problems and a search for appropriate responses.

Statistics from the District Education Manager (DEM, 2011) show that the district has 330 public primary schools, 43 secondary schools and 37 Community Day Secondary Schools (CDSS) in the district (see Table 13).

4.1 School Enrolment

Raising primary school enrolment is a major development imperative although interventions to raise enrolment are not always straightforward. Table 13 below provides information on school enrolment in Kasungu district. The table shows that the district has one of the highest enrolment rates for children in primary school at 88 percent. The table clearly shows that the district is under heavy pressure to adequately provide quality education as demanded by education standards in the country. For instance, the teacher pupil ratio and classroom pupil ratio is 1:174 and 1:189 respectively above recommended rate of 1:60.

Table 13: School Enrolment Rate for Kasungu

Indicator/ Characteristic	Results
Number of primary schools in the district	330
Number of pupils	
Boys	103104
Girls	105075
Total	208183
Number of teachers	2587

Enrolment rate for the district (%)	88
Number of classrooms in the district	1,196
Teacher pupil ratio	1:89
Classroom pupil ratio	1: 174
Pass rate of primary School examinations (percent)	
Dropout rate (%)	15

Source: Ministry of Education, Science and Technology, DEM Kasungu 2011

4.2 Physical Facilities/ Infrastructure

Kasungu districts like many districts in Malawi have experienced increased enrolment rates since the introduction of free primary education in 1994. Acute shortage of physical facilities such as classrooms; teachers' offices and houses and desks just to mention a few are common. For example, the District Development Plan for Kasungu identifies the following challenges facing the education sector in the district.

Table 14 Infrastructure/ Education challenges facing the district

Infrastructure/ Challenge	Recommended standards	Current situation
Classroom pupil ratio	1:60	1:174
Textbook/ pupil ratio	1:11	
Teacher houses	1:1	1:3
Sanitary and hygiene facilities		
Desk/pupil ratio	1:2	1:21

Source: DDP for Kasungu, 2009

4.3 School Attendance

This section provides information on school attendance by all children who participated in the study. Data on school attendance was collected by asking the child if he/she was attending school in the current school year. Information on school attendance by TA is presented in Table 15 below. The table shows that Kasungu Boma reported the highest proportion of children attending school (93.4 percent) followed by Chulu (93 percent). TA Kapelula had the lowest proportion of children attending school (83 percent).

Children not in school were asked whether they had ever attended school. Out of the children who were not in school, the highest proportion (87.5 percent) of children who had never attended school was in Nyanja and the lowest proportion (69 percent) was in TA Kapelula.

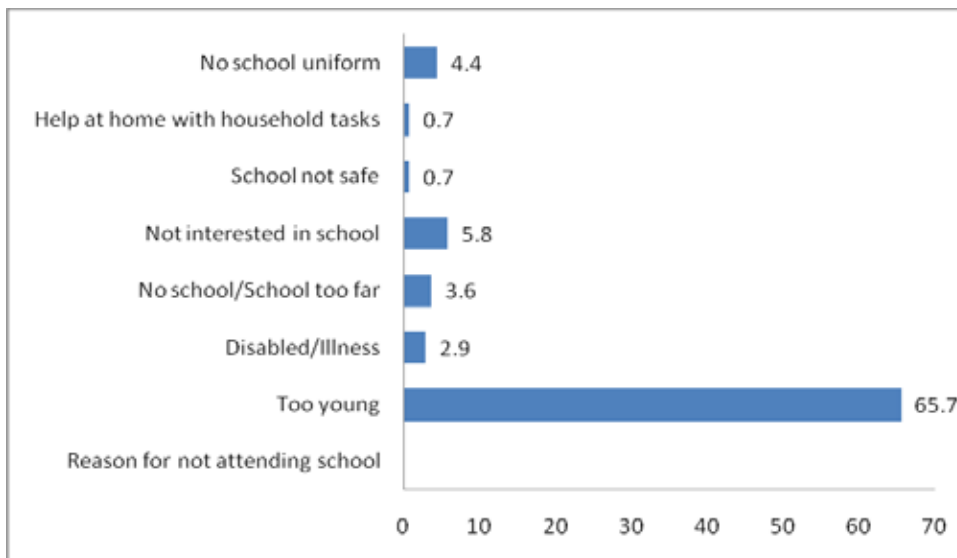
Table 15 School Attendance by TA

	Currently attending	Ever attended	Never attended
Kasungu	88.0	22.4	77.6
Wimbe	84.9	18.2	81.8
Chilowamatambe	83.1	26.9	73.1
Boma	93.4	27.3	72.7
Kawamba	86.3	16.7	83.3
Nyanja	86.5	12.5	87.5
Kaluluma	91.0	20.0	80.0
Kapelula	83.0	31.0	69.0
Chulu	93.0	22.2	77.8

There are various reasons why children never attended school. In most developing nations these reasons are related to socio-economic conditions of the household. In the study children who reported that they never attended school were asked to mention the reasons for never attending school. Figure 2 reveals that majority of the children were considered too young to start school (65.7 percent). The other reason for not attending school included

disability / illness (3 percent), not interested in school (5.8 percent) , lack of school or school being too far (3.6 percent) and no school uniform (4.4 percent).

Figure 2 Reason for never attending school



4.3.1 Age at first Primary School Attendance

The Ministry of Education, Science and Technology recommends that a child should first attain the age of 6 years before commencing primary school. Table 16 shows the distribution of the age at commencement of primary school attendance by TA. The information indicates that in all the TAs the majority of the children start school at the recommended age of 6 followed by age 7 except in TA Kaluluma and TA Chulu where most of the children started primary school at the age of 7 years.

Table 16 Distribution of age at commencement of primary school attendance

TA	Age at commencement of primary school				
	5	6	7	8	9
Wimbe	0.0	60.0	20.0	20.0	0.0

Chilowamatambe	25.0	50.0	12.5	12.5	0.0
Boma	0.0	50.0	50.0	0.0	0.0
Kawamba	0.0	0.0	66.7	0.0	33.3
Kaluluma	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	0.0
Kapelula	22.2	44.4	0.0	33.3	0.0
Chulu	0.0	33.3	66.7	0.0	0.0
Kasungu	11.4	42.9	28.6	14.3	2.9

4.3.2 Type of Primary School Attended

School attendance by type of school is shown in Table 17. The results indicate that the majority of primary school students attend government schools (93.1 percent) followed by private schools (5.4 percent). More male students than female students attend private schools. By TA majority of the children attend government schools. It is also noted that TA Chulu has the highest proportion of students attending private schools while Nyanja reported the highest number of children attending mission schools (6.7 percent).

Table 17 Distribution of pupils in primary school by type of school attending

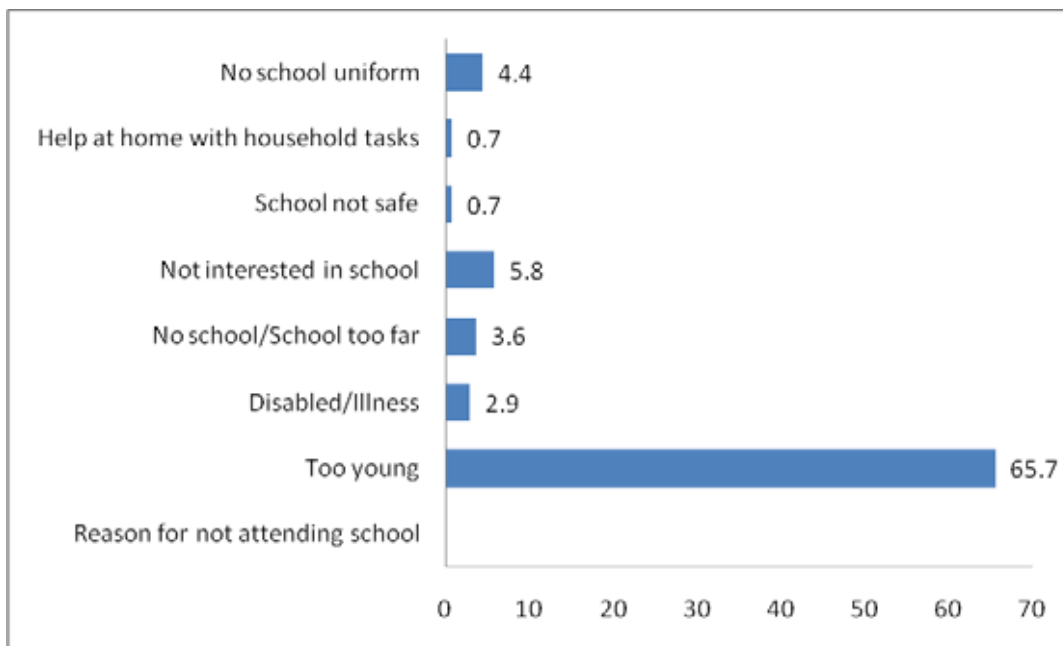
Sex and TA	Type of school				Total
	Government	Private School	Mission school	Other	
Kasungu	93.1	5.4	0.6	0.9	100.0
Sex					
Male	92.7	5.7	0.6	1.0	100.0
Female	93.4	5.1	0.6	0.9	100.0
Traditional Authority					

Wimbe	93.6	4.8	0.4	1.2	100.0
Chilowamatambe	98.0	1.4	0.0	0.7	100.0
Boma	88.5	10.1	0.9	0.4	100.0
Kawamba	96.5	3.5	0.0	0.0	100.0
Nyanja	94.6	0.0	4.3	1.1	100.0
Kaluluma	92.0	6.6	0.5	0.9	100.0
Kapelula	96.0	0.0	0.0	4.0	100.0
Chulu	89.3	10.3	0.4	0.0	100.0

4.3.3 Reasons for never attending school

The performance of school going children is significantly affected by the number of times any pupil misses school in any given term. Parents and teachers should endeavour to see that children attend school consistently if performance is to be improved. In the survey information pertaining to absenteeism was collected. All children who did not attend school days in the week preceding the survey were asked reasons for missing the school

Figure 3 Reasons for never attending school

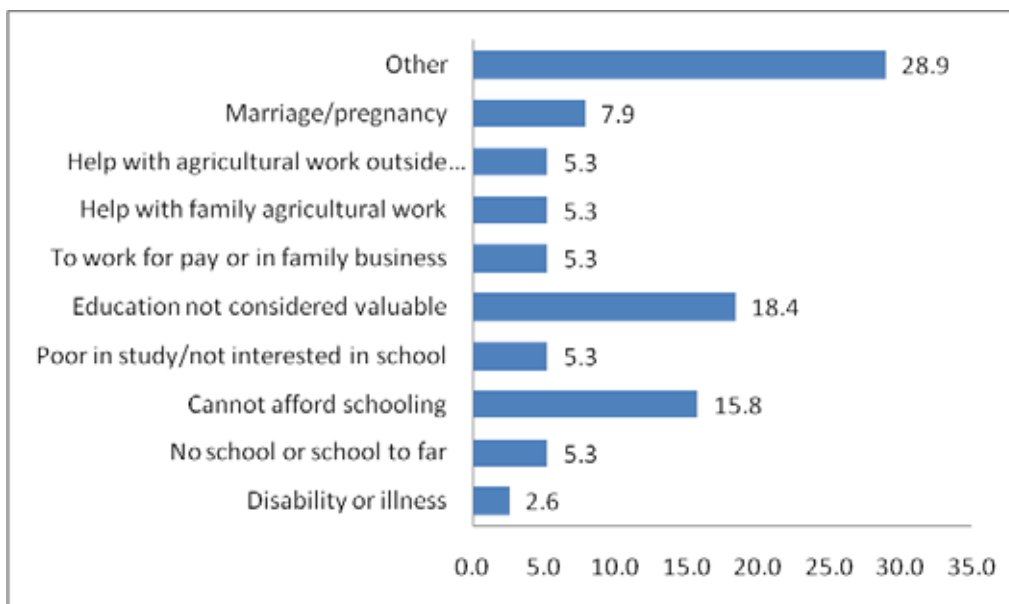


4.3.4 Reasons for dropping out of school

In spite of global and national efforts (Government free primary education) to ensure that by 2015, all children, boys and girls should be able to complete primary school, children are still dropping out of school. There are various reasons why children drop out of school.

Figure 3 revealed that lacking knowledge on value of education was the major reason for leaving school with 18.4 percent of the children reporting this as the major reason. Other important reasons the study revealed are that households could not afford to pay for children's education (15.8 percent), children had no interest in school as reported by 13.6 percent, marriage/pregnancy (7.9 percent), helping with agricultural work outside the household (5.3 percent) helping with family agricultural work (5.3 percent), working for pay or in family business (5.3 percent), lack of school or school too far (5.3 percent) and disability/ illness (2.6 percent). Figure 5 shows the reasons for dropping out of school.

Figure 4 Reasons for dropping out of school



4.2.5 Absenteeism from School

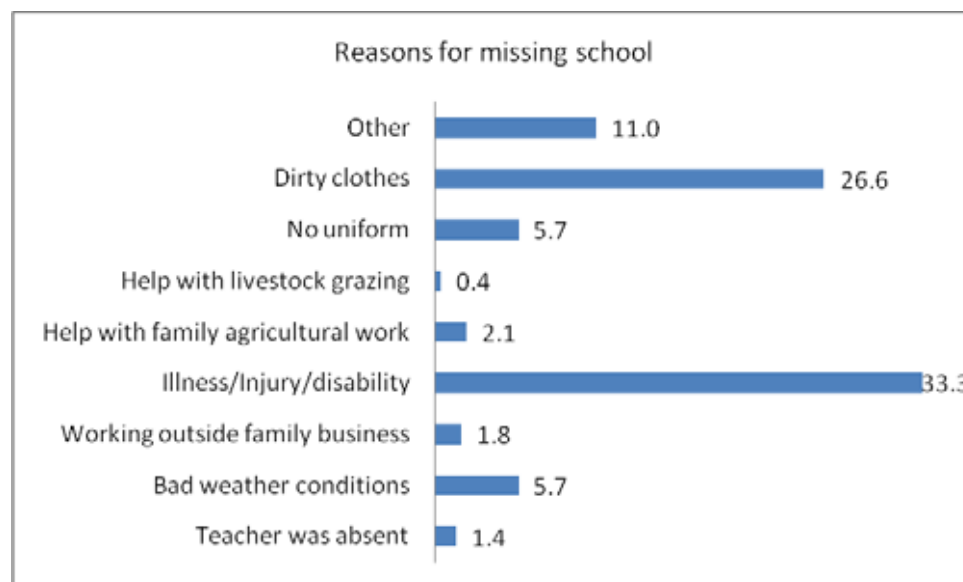
The performance of school going children is significantly affected by the number of times any pupil misses school in any given term. Parents and teachers should endeavour to see that children attend school consistently if performance is to be improved. In the survey information pertaining to absenteeism was collected. All children who did not attend school days in the week preceding the survey were asked reasons for missing the school.

Figure 6 shows the percent distribution of children absent from school seven days prior to the interviews. The figure indicates that 19.7 percent of the school going children were absent from school. The proportion of male children who missed school was 19.8 percent and the corresponding proportion for females was 19.6 percent.

Reasons for absencing from school are presented in Table 15. The results show that across all the TA's, disability/illness or injury, lack of school uniform and dirty clothes were the most

common reasons for being absent from school. Bad weather conditions and helping at home with household tasks were other common reasons why pupils missed school.

Figure 5 Reasons for being absent from school



5.0 CHILDREN'S INVOLVEMENT IN ECONOMIC ACTIVITY

.The chapter assesses the engagement of children in economic activities by describing the main characteristics of the vulnerable and working children in terms of their nature, extent and causes of child labour and WFCL in Kasungu district.

5.1 Objectives and scope of child labour assessment

According to the resolution guidelines, an attempt has been made to provide reliable, comprehensive and timely data to serve as a basis for determining priorities for the SNAP Project in Kasungu and the other districts aimed at eliminating child labour, in particular its worst forms. It is hoped that data provided in these two chapters will serve as a basis for increasing public awareness of the problem, and supporting the development of regulatory

frameworks, policies, and programmes on child labour not only for Kasungu but the country as a whole through advocacy work of the SNAP Project.

As such the statistics presented in these two chapters cover all productive activities in which children are engaged, distinguished by among those activities that are permissible and those that fall within the different categories of child labour. These statistics have been developed in consultation with district and national economic and social statistics such as the socioeconomic profile (SEP) of the district.

5.2 Concepts and definitions

5.2.1 Child Labour

This study has used international and local definitions of child labour. Statistical concepts and definitions related to child labour have been closely aligned to the prevailing national laws and regulations such as the Republican Constitution and The Employment Act of 2000. For instance a child is described as a person aged below 18 years according to Article 2 of ILO WFCL Convention, 1999 (No.182) and Article 1 of CRC, defines a child as every human being below the age of eighteen years unless under the law applicable to the child, majority is attained earlier.

Section 23 of the Malawi Constitution states that children must be protected from economic activity or any treatment, work or punishment that is harmful to their physical, mental, spiritual or social development or may interfere with their education. The constitution describes a child as a person under the age of 16 years of age. On the other hand, *The Employment Act-part 4 (section 21-24)* sets the minimum age for employment at 14 years but does not apply to work done in vocational schools, other training institutions or unpaid work in homes. The Employment Act also allows children between the ages of 14 and 17 to engage in non-hazardous work that is not prejudicial to their attendance at school or any other vocational or training programme. The Act prohibits forced and compulsory labour.

According to the Resolution II, child labour is understood to be work that harms children's wellbeing and hinders their education, development and future livelihoods. It is work done

by children under 18 years of age, which is mentally, physically, socially or morally dangerous and harmful to children. It is also very clear that all work that is done by children is not harmful. The local definition of a child therefore is found to be in line with ILO Convention No. 182 on WFCL (1999) and the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child where a child is defined as an individual under the age of 18 years. In this survey, the target population for measuring child labour comprised all persons in the age group from 5 to 17 years, where age is measured as the number of completed years at the child's last birthday.

Furthermore, the resolution II, statistical measurement framework for child labour is also structured around what is defined as the *productive activities* by the child including their nature and the conditions under which these are performed, and the duration of engagement by the child in such activities.

Therefore the term child labour in this study reflects the engagement of children in prohibited work and, more generally, in types of work to be eliminated as socially and morally undesirable as guided by national legislation, the ILO Minimum Age Convention, 1973 (No. 138), and the Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention, 1999 (No. 182), as well as their respective supplementing Recommendations (No's 146 and 190). Child labour may be measured in terms of the engagement of children in productive activities either on the basis of the general production boundary, or on the basis of the SNA production boundary. The underlying measurement framework in this study include children all persons aged 5 to 17 years who, during the past seven days prior to the survey engaged in one or more of the following categories of activities:

- (a) *Worst forms of child labour*, as described in paragraphs 17–30 of resolution II;
- (b) *Employment below the minimum age*, as described in paragraphs 32 and 33; and
- (c) *Hazardous unpaid household services*, as described in paragraphs 36 and 37, applicable where the general production boundary is used as the measurement framework.

In Malawi a child is considered to be in child labour when the total number of hours worked in employment and unpaid household services exceeds forty (40) hours and 28 hours per five days and seven days' work week respectively.

5.2.2 Worst forms of child labour

According to Article 3 of ILO Convention No. 182, the worst forms of child labour comprise:

- (a) all forms of slavery or practices similar to slavery, such as the sale and trafficking of children, debt bondage and serfdom, as well as forced or compulsory labour, including forced or compulsory recruitment of children for use in armed conflict;
- (b) The use, procuring or offering of a child for prostitution, for the production of pornography or for pornographic performances;
- (c) the use, procuring or offering of a child for illicit activities, in particular for the production and trafficking of drugs as defined in relevant international treaties; and
- (d) Work which, by its nature or the circumstances in which it is carried out, is likely to harm the health, safety or morals of children.

In this study data was also collected on activities by children who are outside the general production boundary, such as begging and stealing, considered in the context of the worst forms of child labour.

5.2.3 Hazardous work by children

The list of hazardous work has been developed by the Government of Malawi. This list is an adaptation of the ILO Recommendation No. 190. It describes:

- (a) Work which exposes children to physical, psychological or sexual abuse;
- (b) Work underground, under water, at dangerous heights or in confined spaces;

- (c) Work with dangerous machinery, equipment and tools, or which involves the manual handling or transport of heavy loads;
- (d) work in an unhealthy environment which may, for example, expose children to hazardous substances, agents or processes, or to temperatures, noise levels, or vibrations damaging to their health;
- (e) Work under particularly difficult conditions such as work for long hours or during the night or work where the child is unreasonably confined to the premises of the employer.

5.3 Child activity status

The overall proportion of children involved in economic activity ranged from 44.7 percent in Kasungu Boma to 72.1 percent in TA Kawamba. In each TA the highest proportion of children were involved in economic activity and were also attending school except in Kasungu Boma and TA Chulu where most of the children were attending school only.. The proportion of children involved in both economic activity and attending school ranged from 41.8 percent in Kasungu Boma to 67.8 percent in TA Kawamba. While the proportion of children not involved in economic activity but attending school ranged from 25.2 percent in TA Nyanja to 51.6 percent in Kasungu Boma. The proportion of children involved in economic activity and not in school ranged from 2.9 percent in Kasungu Boma and TA Chulu to 8.4 percent in TA Chilowamatambe. The percentage of children reporting that they were not involved in economic activity and were not in school ranged from 3.7 percent in Kasungu Boma to 10.8 percent in TA Nyanja.

Table 19 Children's total involvement in work

					TA				
	Wimbe	Chilowam atambe	Boma	Kawamba	Nyanja	Kaluluma	Kapelula	Chulu	Total
Economic activity (but no school and no HH chores)	0.7	0.6	0.0	0.4	0.9	0.4	0.5	0.0	0.4
Economic activity and school (but no HH chores)	4.0	1.7	1.2	4.3	1.8	1.7	2.2	1.7	2.4
Economic activity and school and HH chores)	45.3	53.4	40.6	65.3	59.5	49.8	52.7	42.6	49.0
Inactive (no economic activity, no HH chores and no school)	2.3	4.5	2.0	6.4	5.4	3.4	3.3	2.1	3.5
HH chores (but no economic activity and no school)	5.0	3.9	1.6	3.0	5.4	0.9	6.0	2.1	3.3
HH chores and school (but no economic activity)	26.5	20.8	41.4	11.6	15.3	30.0	20.3	39.3	26.9
HH chores and economic activity (but no school)	7.0	7.9	2.9	3.9	1.8	4.3	7.1	2.9	4.8
School (but no economic activity and no HH chores)	9.1	7.3	10.2	6.9	9.9	9.4	7.7	9.5	8.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	298	178	244	233	111	233	182	242	1721

5.4.2 Children's total involvement in work by age group

Out of the children attending school, doing household chores and involved in economic activity, 70.2 percent were aged 14-17 years. However, it was surprising to note that children aged 5-9 years were involved in both household chores while attending school. Out of 8.8 percent of children attending school only, 17.8 percent were aged between 5-9 years. As represented in the table 18below.

Table 20 Children's total involvement in work by age group

	<i>Age Group</i>			<i>Total</i>
	5-9	10-13	14-17	
Economic activity (but no school and no HH	0.8	0.0	0.0	0.3
Economic activity and school (but no HH chores)	2.7	2.1	2.3	2.4
Economic activity and school and HH chores	28.2	66.4	70.2	49.9
Inactive (no economic activity, no HH chores	7.4	0.4	0.0	3.5
HH chores (but no economic activity and no	5.8	1.9	0.3	3.3
HH chores and school (but no economic activity)	33.7	23.5	18.5	27.0
HH chores and economic activity (but no school)	3.6	3.7	8.5	4.8
School (but no economic activity and no HH	17.8	2.1	0.3	8.8
Total	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0
Number	780	536	399	1715

5.5 Place of work

With household chores excluded, children who had worked were asked to state the places where they had worked 7 days prior to the survey. Each child was allowed to state at most two places. Most (71.6 percent) of the responses were from children who had worked at the family dwelling. Twenty percent of the responses were from children who had worked in a plantation, farm or garden. The lowest proportion (0.1 percent) of the responses was from children who had worked at a quarry or mine.

Table 21 Place of work for children

<i>Place</i>	<i>%</i>
At the family dwelling	71.6
Client' place	0.3
Formal office	0.5
Factory/ Barn	3.9
Plantation/Farm/ Garden	20.4
Mine/Quarry	0.1
Different places	0.9
Fixed, street or market stall\	1.3
Pond/Lake/river	0.9

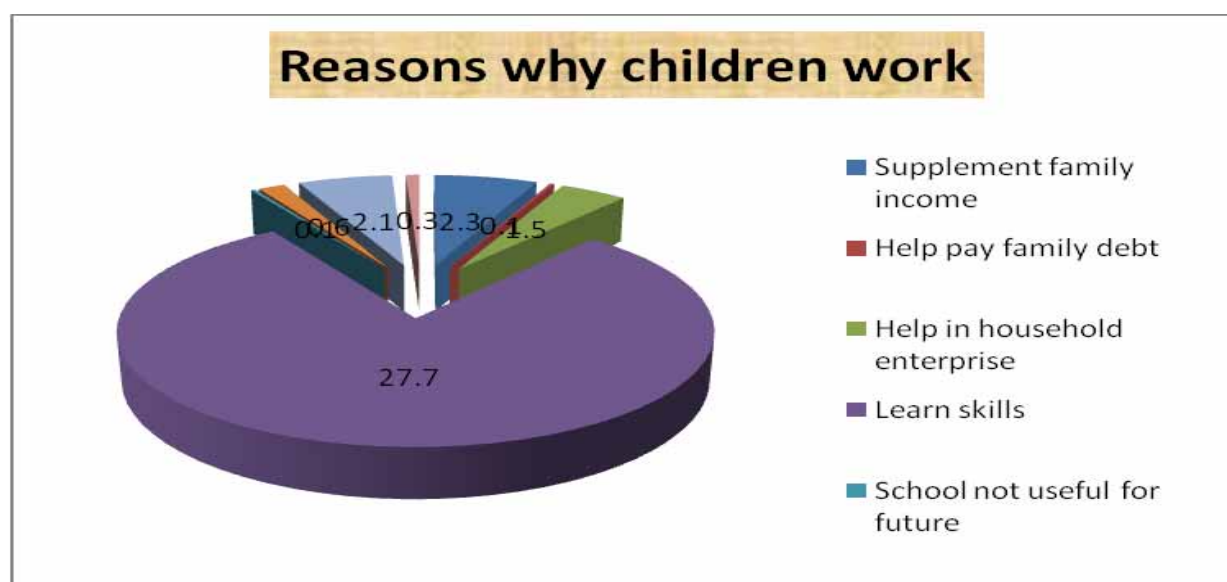
5.6 Reasons why children work

The major reasons why children work included learning new skills (28 percent), supplementing family income (2.3 percent), temporary replacement of someone (2.1 percent) and helping in family enterprise (1.5 percent) of the all children who participated in an economic activity.

Table 22 Reasons why children work

<i>Reason</i>	<i>Percentage</i> <i>N=808</i>
Supplement family income	2.3
Help pay family debt	0.1
Help in household enterprise	1.5
Learn skills	27.7
School not useful for future	0.1
Not interested in school	0.6
To temporarily replace someone	2.1
Supplement family food requirements	0.3
Other	11.0

Figure 6 Reasons why children in Kasungu work



5.7 Child Labour

For the purpose of this report children participating in child labour include the following:

- o All children aged 5-9 years who worked;
- o All children aged 10-13 years who worked for more than 28 hours in the past week;
- o All school-going children who worked during missed school hours;
- o All working children aged 10-17 years exposed to hazardous conditions.

5.7.1 Distribution of children involved in child labour by age

The survey revealed that the highest prevalence of child labour was in the 5-9 years age group. A proportion of 35.3 percent of children aged 5-9 years had been involved in child labour outside the household during the 7 day period preceding the survey and the corresponding proportion of children who participated in child labour through household chores was 2.9 percent. The overall proportion of children aged 5-9 years who had participated in child labour was 38.2 percent.

5.7.2 Distribution of children involved in child labour by sex

Table 23 shows that among children aged 5-17 years involved in child labour outside the household, 21.4 percent and 19.2 percent were girls and boys respectively. The overall proportion of girls involved in child labour was 24.1 percent while it was 22.7 percent for boys.

5.7.3 Distribution of children involved in child labour by school attendance

Children aged 5-17 years were asked whether they were attending school or preschool during the current school year. Table 5.7 below shows that among children attending school the prevalence of child labour outside the household was 20.6 percent and the corresponding proportion among children not attending school was 17.9 percent. Among children attending school, 3.2 percent were involved in child labour through household chores and 1.4 percent of children not attending school were involved in child labour through household chores. The overall prevalence of child labour among children attending school was 23.8 percent and the corresponding prevalence among children not attending school was 19.3 percent.

5.7.4 Prevalence of child labour by TA

Table 23 shows that TA Kawamba had the highest prevalence of child labour outside the household during the 7 day period preceding the survey. The proportion of children participating in child labour through economic activity ranged from 11.9 percent in Kasungu Boma to 25.3 percent in TA Kawamba. The proportion of children participating in child labour through household chores ranged from 0.5 percent in TA Kapelula to 5.7 percent in Wimbe. Overall the proportion of children participating in child labour ranged from 15.6 percent in Kasungu Boma to 29.2 percent in TA Kawamba.

Table 23 Prevalence of child labour by age group, sex, school attendance and TA

<i>Background characteristics</i>	<i>Percentage of children participating in child labour outside the household (percent)</i>	<i>Percentage of children participating in child labour through household</i>	<i>Overall percentage of children participating in labour</i>
Age group			
5-9	35.3	2.9	38.2
10-13	6.7	3.4	10.1
14-17	8.3	2.8	11.1
Sex of child			

Male	19.2	3.5	22.7
Female	21.4	2.7	24.1
<i>School attendance</i>			
Yes	20.6	3.2	23.8
No	17.9	1.4	19.3
TA			
Wimbe	21.8	5.7	27.5
Chilowamatambe	23.0	0.0	23.0
Boma	11.9	3.7	15.6
Kawamba	25.3	3.9	29.2
Nyanja	25.2	0.9	26.1
Kaluluma	19.7	2.1	21.8
Kapelula	20.3	0.5	20.8
Chulu	18.2	4.1	22.3
Total	20.3	3.0	23.3

6.0 IMPACT OF CHILDREN'S WORK ON HEALTH SAFETY AND EDUCATION

This chapter mainly examines the working conditions of children reported working for which ILO Convention No. 182 and 138 describe as sub-groups of child labourers whose rights are most compromised and whose well-being is most threatened. The condition of work and how it generally affects their development (health, education, physical, moral and mental) of working children will be analyzed.

6.1 Children's work and health

6.1.1 Injuries at work

Children were asked to indicate whether they had suffered any of the listed types of injuries or any other injury as a result of their work during the 12 month period preceding the household survey. All working children reported that they had not suffered any type of injury as a result of their work.

6.1.2 Work related illnesses

No major work related illnesses were reported by children in Kasungu.

6.1.3 Carrying of heavy loads

Working children were asked to state whether they carried heavy loads when working.

All working children reported that they did not carry heavy loads in their work.

6.1.4 Exposure to hazardous equipment and conditions

Working children were asked to state whether they worked with specific types of hazardous equipment that included tractor, plough, hoe, saw, sickle, panga knife, chisongole (big needle), ox-carts, sprayer, digging spear, bailing machine (jeke) and hammer. All working children reported that they did not use tractor, plough, hoe, saw, panga knife, chisongole (big needle), ox-carts, sprayer, digging spear, bailing machine (jeke) and hammer. A proportion of 0.4 percent of working children reported that they used sickle.

6.1.5 Exposure to hazardous conditions

Working children were asked to state whether they were exposed to specific hazardous conditions that included dust, fumes or fire, gas or flames, loud noise or vibration, extreme cold or heat, dangerous tools (knives etc.), work underground, work at heights, work in water/lake/pond/river, workplace too dark or confined, insufficient ventilation, chemicals (pesticides, glues, etc.), explosives, other things, processes or conditions bad for your health or safety.

A small proportion (0.4 percent) of working children reported that they were exposed to dust; fumes or fire, 0.4 percent children were exposed to extreme cold or heat and 0.4 percent were exposed to dangerous tools like knives. None of the working children were exposed to gas or flames, loud noise or vibration, working underground, working at heights, working in water/lake/pond/river, workplace too dark or confined, insufficient ventilation, chemicals (pesticides, glues, etc.), explosives or other things, processes or conditions bad for your health or safety.

Table 24 Hazardous equipment and conditions children are exposed to

	percent
Do you work with any of the following equipment at work	
Dust, fumes, Fire, gas or flames	0.4
Loud noise or vibration	0.0
Extreme cold or heat	0.4
Dangerous tools (knives etc.)	0.1
Work underground	0.0
Work at heights	0.0
Work in water/lake/pond/river	0.0
Workplace too dark or confined	0.0
Insufficient ventilation	0.0
Chemicals (pesticides, glues, etc.)	0.0
Explosives	0.0
Other things, processes or conditions bad for your health or safety	0.0

6.2 Physical, Psychosocial and Sexual Violence

Working children were asked to indicate whether they had been subjected to any of forms of abusive treatment at work place that included constantly being shouted at, repeatedly insulted, beaten /physically hurt, sexually abused (touched or done things that they did not want), debt bondage, locked-up, non-payment of wages, having sex

with employer or fellow employee or any other. Table 25 summaries the responses to the above questions.

Table 25 Exposure to Physical, Psychosocial and Sexual Violence at Work Place by Type of Violence

Background characteristic	Yes	No	Total
Constantly shouted at	40.9	48.4	45.3
Repeatedly insulted	18.2	19.4	18.9
Beaten/Physically hurt	18.2	25.8	22.6
Sexually abused	4.5	0.0	1.9
Non-payment of wages	4.5	0.0	1.9
Other	4.5	0.0	1.9

6.3 Contractual arrangements for working children and knowledge on legal aspects of employment Terms of employment

Working children were asked to state the employment terms under which they were working. Most (97.6 percent) of working children were unpaid family workers, 1.9 percent were own account workers and 0.5 percent were working as employees.

Children who were employed were asked to state the contractual arrangements under which they were working. All children working as employees reported that they did not have written contracts but all contractual arrangements were verbal.

6.3.1 Knowledge of legal issues

Children were asked to indicate whether they knew about labour inspections. A small proportion (0.6 percent) of working children reported that they knew about labour inspection while the majority t (99.4 percent) of working children did not know.

6.3.2 Weekly holidays

Working children were asked whether they observed weekly holidays. All children who responded to the question indicated that they did not observe weekly holidays. This provides evidence to suggest that working children are not given enough time to rest and this is unhealthy for children and also a violation of their rights.

Table 26 Knowledge of legal aspects of employment

Background characteristic	Response
<i>For your main job/work were you a/an....</i>	
Employee	0.5
Own account worker	1.9
Unpaid family worker	97.6
Total	100.0
<i>Type of contract</i>	
Written	0.0
Verbal	100.0
Total	100.0
<i>Do you know about labour inspections</i>	
Yes	0.6
No	99.4

Total	100.0
<i>Do you observe weekly holidays</i>	
Yes	0.0
No	100.0
Total	100.0

7.0 ANALYSIS AND CONCLUSIONS

This chapter gives preliminary policy implications emerging from the results of the baseline study on child labour in Kasungu district. These factors have some influence on the implementation of SNAP Project in Kasungu and other districts. The chapter broadly analyses the nine objectives of the study. This study acknowledges the various upstream and downstream measures that have been taken not only by the central government, but also at district level to reform the legal and policy environment governing the fight against child labour in Malawi. For instance the launch of the NAP complements efforts done at district and community level in Kasungu. The district has clearly demonstrated some level of capacity to address child labour issues among others mainstreaming child labour in the district development plans (DDPs). Child labour has been prioritized as development agenda number ten (10) for the district. What remains is to align these plans with national strategies developed in the NAP in the implementation of child labour activities.

District stakeholders believe that they need a productive workforce which can only come from segment of the population which is formally educated. With child labour, the country and the district are producing criminals and prostitutes. Child labour is believed to be a societal problem and needs multi-sectoral response. The impact of child labour does not only rest with affected households, but community as a whole.

Overall, this study has revealed some gaps in service delivery in Kasungu district that impact negatively on lives of children. Reading through the results and statistics of social and economic conditions in Kasungu, it is clear that the district faces a lot of challenges in the provision of social services. For instance, STA Kawamba, Nyanja and Kapelula are relatively not adequately covered by various social services. Kawamba area is very remote and close to Kasungu National Park and lacks many social amenities which may be available in other areas that have lower child labour prevalence. For instance, the district data included in the annex confirms the existence of gaps in availability and accessibility of socioeconomic services in the district. Therefore, while this revelation is not new, the fact that child labour flourishes in places that are poor in terms of services available to children and their families, highlights the important relationship that exists between poverty and existence of child labour especially in rural areas. Consistently, the results of this study have shown that more developed areas of the district such as the urban EAs are less prone to child labour as opposed to the more rural areas which are also underdeveloped and underserved.

Some of the key policy and programme implications emerging from the study are as follows:

7.1 Children involvement in work and school (numbers and concentrations - mapping of child labour)

Since the 2002 National Child Labour Survey which indicated that 34 percent of children in Malawi were involved in child labour, a lot has changed. The 2011 baseline study in Kasungu has shown that in general most children are still involved in some form of economic activities. The highest prevalence of child labour is for children aged 5-9 years (38.2 percent). This is followed by children aged 14-17 years with 11.1 percent and lastly those aged 10-13 with 10.1 percent. Traditional Authority Kawamba reported the highest prevalence rate of working children at 29.2 percent. It is followed by TA Wimbe, 27.5 percent and Nyanja with 26.1 percent. However, the trends show that child labour is on the decline across the board. Most of the working children are attending

school (23.8 percent). It is worrying to note that most rural communities in the district still perceive education as not important. For instance most children dropping out of school perceive education as not important (18.4 percent); or lack interest (13.6 percent). Still others (15.8 percent) do not go to school because they cannot afford it.

The study also shows that children not enrolled at school, absent or dropped out are at risk of being involved in child labour. Therefore un-enrolment for children has some effect on child labour. These preliminary findings show that children from poor families such as tenants, orphans, those living with the elderly should be primary beneficiaries of the programme. Other potential beneficiaries of the project would be those that have never attended school or have dropped out of school or have been withdrawn from child labour.

The results of the survey showed that the more remote the area, the more children will be involved in child labour, experience high dropout rates and low enrolment rates in school. While school uniform is not compulsory in primary school in Malawi, most children who never attended school mentioned lack of uniform for not attending school (4.4 percent).

7.2 Characteristics of children's work

This study shows that there are more girls than boys involved in child labour (24.1 percent and 19.2 percent respectively). TA Kawamba has the highest proportion of children involved in child labour (29.2 percent). It is followed by Wimbe 27.5 percent, Nyanja 26.1. Seventy one percent of the children work within the family dwelling while 20 percent work in plantations/farm/gardens. Child labourers are believed to be orphans or poor relatives. This demonstrates that child labour is a community issue and requires community response. The main responsibility for fighting child labour rests with the family and community where child labour exists.

7.3 Children's involvement in hazardous work and Causes and Consequences of child labour

According to the qualitative findings, some of the children work in hazardous conditions which pose some threats to their health. These children sometimes use sharp objects during ganyu (casual labour) like hoes, panga knives and sickles. Some children are sexually abused more especially girls and they usually suffer in silence for fear of losing their jobs. It has also been reported that some of these children are involved in pornographic and illicit activities which are not only hazardous to their health but also worst forms of child labour (WFCL).

Nevertheless, the results show that majority of the working children do so as part of socialization (learning skills) 27.7 percent, 2.3 percent work to supplement family income and 2.1 percent work temporarily to replace some workers. Only 1.5 percent reported to work to help in family enterprise.

Qualitative interviews revealed that children involved in child labour are driven by a number of factors that include poverty, food insecurity among others. This study showed that the most vulnerable children to child labour are those from poor families. These include children of tenants, orphans, children from female and elderly headed households as well as those with chronic food shortages. Food insecurity is chronic in Kasungu allegedly because most families prioritize growing of tobacco as opposed to food production. Other factors contributing to child labour include migration especially among tenants. Tenants migrate from supply districts such as Phalombe, Mulanje and Thyolo in the south to work in tobacco estates in Kasungu (centre). Most parents and guardians were accused of having bad perceptions and attitudes towards children in terms of what they could and could not do. In most cases, parents/ guardians of working children have negative attitudes towards education. This is coupled with lack of parental care for children. Parents and guardians are busy with their own work and have very little time to care for their children on what they or should not be doing.

7.4 Forms of child labour

Most children that are working are involved in domestic child labour (DCL). Other forms of child labour reported by this study include vending, casual labour (ganyu) in tobacco production, cattle herding, pornography, brick making, and illicit activities such as burglary, begging etc. In general while the study shows that formal recruitment of children to work in commercial tobacco estates and other formal sectors has declined due to intensive labour inspections and measures taken by other law enforcement agencies, child labour has taken new dimensions. Most employers are disguising themselves to be goodwill ambassadors for orphans and other vulnerable children. It has been observed that those recruiting children are close relations. This makes it difficult for law enforcement agencies to detect some forms of child labour.

7.5. Availability and level of social services in the district

A number of key players are involved in the fight against child labour in Kasungu. Key among these stakeholders is: Plan Malawi, UNICEF, FAO, World Vision, NASFAM and CRECCOM. These partners are supporting a number of interventions such as vocational skills development for the withdrawn children. Plan Malawi is supporting the formation of Child Protection Committees which are raising awareness on child labour. The private sector too is playing a vital role through the provision of loans to tobacco farmers. One condition for accessing these loans is that farmers should not involve children in tobacco production. On the other hand, National Smallholder Farmers' Association of Malawi, NASFAM which has a network of stallholder farmers promoting livelihood interventions is also using local structures and programmes across the district to disseminate child labour messages and promote education for children.

While this study acknowledges the existence of capacity and partnership to fight against child labour in the district, the magnitude of the problem is huge and requires huge

investment as shown in the district development plan. Existing resources are not adequate to tackle child labour in 30 Traditional Authorities coupled with the fact that most of the funding is project based. District wide funding is required. Currently mobility for the district officials who carry out inspections and community mobilization campaigns is limited. Without proper documentation, children involved in child labour tend to cheat on their ages in the face of labour inspectors. Some threats are also reported by the inspectors coming from the employers of children.

Kasungu district being a predominantly agricultural district with numerous tobacco estates is very vulnerable to child labour. Stakeholders bemoan the lack of proper legislation to regulate practices that perpetrate child labour especially tenants. The Tenancy Bill which has been outstanding once enacted is expected to address most of the underlying factors contributing to child labour not only in Kasungu, but country as a whole.

While Kasungu district is commended for coming up with comprehensive DDPs, funding for such plans is not available including for child labour. As a demand district, efforts to eliminate child labour are intensified. However, the desired results cannot be achieved if similar efforts are not applied in the supply districts. Finally while monitoring and evaluation systems to track child labour activities in the district exist, there is need to link with district M&E system (s). For instance, the district needs to be well informed of the number of children withdrawn, rehabilitated and repatriated etc. Mainstreaming of CL data into organizational reporting for most of the partners involved will also provide an opportunity to share best practices on child labour programming.

The setup of the DCLC is conducive to promoting partnership in the district. However, these structures must be linked with local leadership structures if the fight against child labour will be successful and sustainable. The underlying factors of child labour are ingrained in the social and cultural fabric of society. For example, unless viable alternative to child labour are found, vulnerable households will continue to rely on child labour to supplement household labour needs and household income as shown by the

results. For instance labour saving technologies are not common for most vulnerable households. Village savings and credit schemes are usually discriminatory and limited in capacity. Lack of role models and employment opportunities for the youths act as a disincentive for education coupled with poor education infrastructure as observed in this report. Rehabilitation services are also not available in the district if not ill equipped.

Overall, Kasungu district as one of the largest districts in Malawi suffers from inadequate social services. For instance schools and health facilities are very far apart. Furthermore, family planning services are not easily accessible to most people (women) eligible for such services. This has resulted in the district having large families resulting in people unable to neither support their families nor send their children to school. Consequently it results in most of these children - caught in the poverty vicious cycle where majority may end up working as child labourers

8.0 PRELIMINARY RECOMMENDATIONS

Based on the preliminary study findings and conclusions on factors contributing to child labour in Kasungu district, the following recommendations are put forward for consideration by the new programme:

8.1 Poverty reduction strategy

The SNAP Project should support interventions aimed at reducing poverty amongst vulnerable households. A mapping of sustainable interventions such as those being promoted by Care International which are promoting labour saving technology should be scaled up in the district. A mapping of child labour and child protection activities in the district coupled with the capacity assessment of the various players in the district should be undertaken. Household food and livelihood security programmes should be promoted for the vulnerable households to improve the availability and access to food and income for both the adults and their children. Above all, a district wide fund for child

labour activities should be established to oversee implementation of child labour activities in the medium to long term. This should be in line with decentralisation policy being implemented in the country. Sustainable IGAs by DCLCs or CCLCs should be established. Finally infrastructure support facilities such as transit centre, vocational school (s), schools for withdrawn children should be established or strengthened.

Agricultural diversification programmes should be promoted to mitigate low tobacco prices experienced by farmers in the district. Off farm income generating activities should be supported for the vulnerable households. Employment creation through such mechanisms as the Youth Enterprise Development Fund (YEDEF) should be made accessible to school leavers who may act as role models for children in school.

8.2 Mainstreaming of upstream measures taken to eliminate child labour in Malawi

While the team commend the adoption of the NAP as a major policy instrument in the fight against child labour in Malawi, mainstreaming of the NAP in the district plans remains a challenge for the district stakeholders. Deliberate action should be taken to ensure effective coordination and mainstreaming of the priorities in the NAP into district implementation plans (DIPs). This will promote ownership and sustainability of the interventions at grassroots level. In the case of Kasungu, the DDPs have already prioritised child labour as one of the social ills the district is going to tackle. However, the programme should encourage partners to use the district wide plans that have been developed to address child protection issues that include child labour. Buy-ins should be promoted by all stakeholders. This will be in line with Government priorities of transferring power to the councils to lead in the formulation, coordination and implementation of district plans in line with the Country's Poverty Reduction Strategy, the Malawi Growth and Development Strategy (MGDS) which has been aligned with the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) on poverty eradication. This approach is cost effective and sustainable in the long term. Networking and coordination should be promoted at all levels and these activities should be properly funded. Multi-sectoral

programming which is in the spirit of IABA requires heavy investment in partnership development and joint planning and implementation.

8.3. Support for children Education

If stakeholders are to retain children in schools, some serious reforms are required to address the gaps noted in this report. Education should be made accessible and affordable to most children especially those that pass through basic education (primary school). Children from vulnerable households should be encouraged to complete their primary education and graduate to secondary school. However, both the authorities and parents have a moral duty to ensure that children are encouraged to go and remain in school.

There are underlying factors leading to drop out rates, teacher pupil ratios being high in one area and low in others. Some structural reforms should be undertaken especially now that provision of education services has been decentralised. Proper coordination of the support to the sector is needed at district level. For instance, while the district council through the department of Social Welfare is coordinating the provision of bursaries for needy students such as orphans and other vulnerable children, some partners continue to implement such programmes in isolation.

8.4 Capacity development for Project Implementation

To support the implementation of the national and district plans that have been described in this report, the SNAP project should seriously address capacity challenges that exist in various offices responsible for the coordination of child labour activities if the IABA is going to work. A capacity assessment of district stakeholders should be undertaken before implementation of the programme begins. The district labour office should be well equipped to lead in this fight against child labour.

8.5 Mainstreaming of crosscutting issues in the fight against child labour

Crosscutting issues such as gender, HIV/AIDS, environment, culture and diversity and others that have been attributed for the existence of child labour in the district and must

be mainstreamed in the programme interventions. Advocacy to end some of existing practices standing in the way of child labour elimination should be considered.

8.6 Monitoring and Reporting of child labour issues

Monitoring and reporting of child labour activities must be strengthened by supporting relevant infrastructures. Institutionalisation of child labour reporting including linking it with district council reporting should be formalised. A strong database and information sharing mechanism of child labour and child protection issues should be developed in the district. This process can be mainstreamed in the existing district reporting mechanism adopted by the district council.

8.7 Making sustainable Impact on Child Labour

Child labour is a long term development issue that requires long term solutions. To deliver sustainable impact, the SNAP project should implement the IABA project interventions where it is likely to have lasting impact. For instance, the study has shown that there are some areas in Kasungu such as TA Kawamba, Wimbe, Kapelula and Nyanja that have high child labour prevalence rates and some with low poverty indicators such as attendance in school, household food security and many others, the programme should strategize where to implement the programme and the type of interventions to be promoted. In the same vein standardised menu projects should be avoided where possible. Interventions should be tailor made to suit existing conditions on the ground. The baseline data should guide the programme design and implementation.

While fighting child labour in the commercial tobacco estates through such measures as loan schemes, tobacco estates should make sure that children of tenants are going to school. Decent employment for adults should be promoted. Child labour programmes in the demand and supply districts should be linked.

9.0 ANNEXES

Scope of the baseline survey

A summary of the main processes followed in conducting this study is outlined in Table 27 below.

Table 27 Processes/ Steps followed in the study implementation

Item	Step	Tasks Performed	Expected outputs
1	Preparation and Approval of Baseline Research Methodology (BRM)	- Identification of target area and trades in consultation with IAs - Preparation of BRM - Development preliminary design questionnaires - Designation of team leader/ contact person for duration of the assignment (3 months) - Pretest the questionnaires - Presentation of draft BRM and data tool to the review committee - Modification and finalizing BRM and data tools	- Inception Report produced covering: (a) Scope of study defined (b) BRM, (c) draft data collection instruments (listing form, HH questionnaires, FGD, KII guides), (d) sampling strategy etc. - Data collection instruments designed and submitted to the Review Committee - Team Leader identified - Questionnaire pretested - Questionnaire translated in local languages

		- Translate the questionnaire in local languages - Produce inception report	
2	Hiring of Baseline Team	Identify and recruit monitors, data entry staff and enumerators	Monitors, data entry staff and enumerators recruited
3	Training and Project Orientation of the Baseline Team	- Develop field manual for research team, enumerators to be reviewed by review team - Train baseline team on interviewing techniques, research methodology, FGDs	- Field Manual developed & baseline team trained - Interim report produced
4	Application of the Baseline Research Methodology (BRM)	- Prepare logistics for field work - Identify and map EAs - Sampling strategy developed - Conduct individual interviews , FGDs and KII - Data entry platforms	- Logistics put in place - EAs mapped & HH identified - Individual, FGDs and KII conducted - Data processed and cleaned - Interim report produced

		developed - Process data and conduct data cleaning	
5	Data Entry and Report Writing	- Produce baseline data - Conduct data analysis - Compile draft baseline report - Submit draft report to the review committee for comments - Modify and finalize report based on committee comments - Present baseline study report to stakeholders	- 4,982 potential children in and at risk of WFCL identified - Draft reports one per district produced and submitted to the Review committee within 3 months of the commencement of the work - Final report submitted to CTA ILO-IPEC SNAP Project within four months - Workshop on survey results conducted.



WARNING
Children in hazardous work

End child labour

International Labour Organisation

International Programme on Elimination of Child Labour

Support to the National Action Plan to Combat Child Labour
in Malawi (SNAP Project)