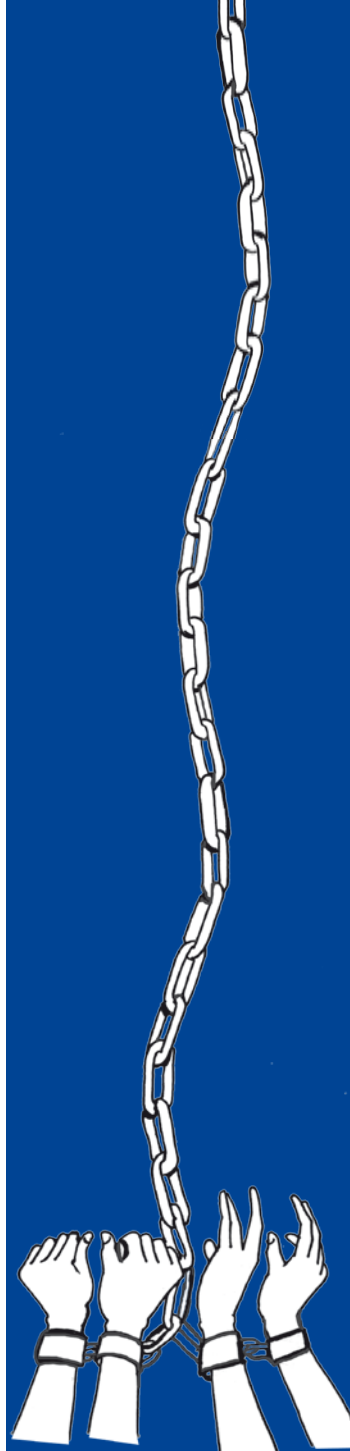


Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children in Uganda

A critical review of efforts to
address CSEC 2005 - 2011



Modern Day Slavery

Commissioned by:
Acting for Life



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ACRONYMS

ACSW	Adolescent Commercial Sex Worker
AMREF	African Medical Research Foundation
ANPPCAN	The African Network for Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect.
ARC	American Refugee Council
BTVET	Business Technical Vocational Education and Training.
CBO	Community Based Organisation
CSEC	Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children.
CSW	Commercial Sex Work
CSO	Civil Society Organisation
CRC	Convention on the Rights of the Child
CRCOPAC	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict
CRCOPSC	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography
EAPCCO	Eastern Africa Police Chiefs Cooperation Organization
ECPAT	End Child Prostitution Pornography and Trafficking
IRC	International Rescue Committee
IDPs	Internally Displaced People
FGD	Focus Group Discussion
HIV/AIDS	Human Immune-deficiency Virus/Acquire Immune Deficiency Syndrome
ILO/IPEC	International Labour Organization/International Programme on the Elimination of Child Labour
IOM	International Organization on Migration
KCC	Kampala City Council
MoGLSD	Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development
MoH	Ministry of Health
NAP	National Action Plan
NPA	National Plan of Action
NGO	Non-Governmental Organization
NCC	National Council for Children
PLA	Platform for Labour Action
STI	Sexually Transmitted Infection
SNAP	Support for the National Action Plan
UCRNN	Uganda Child Rights NGO Network
UNICEF	United Nations Children's Fund
USAID	United States Agency for International Development.
UNFPA	United Nations Population Fund
UYDEL	Uganda Youth Development Link
WAYS	Women and Youth Services
TIP	Trafficking In Persons

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FOREWORD

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) is one of the most hidden, complex and corrosive Worst Forms of Child Labour, identified to be persistent in Uganda. Since 2004, when the International Labour Organisation (ILO) and the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD) conducted a thematic study on CSEC in Uganda, little more has been learned about the trends, magnitude and levels of interventions. Commercially sexually exploited children go through very dehumanising experiences as many become enslaved in this problem. Uganda is bound, to international and domestic agreements and conventions to ensure the protection of children from CSEC. Even where such efforts have taken place, there has been limited concerted effort to document such practices as a way to monitor effective implementation. There is now a need to track progress by following up on the issues of CSEC at grassroots and policy levels and to provide accountability in the public sector as well as private initiatives to the numerous causes, factors and intervention since the earlier studies.

Although some studies have been conducted by MoGLSD, civil society and the International Labour Organisation (2004) there are still knowledge gaps in terms of current and accurate literature of the nature, magnitude, characteristics and factors that favour CSEC. This is a follow-up study, after 6 years since the MoGLSD/ILO/IPEC study (2004). It is intended to provide new information to facilitate reflection on the past interventions and re-focus all efforts towards effectively and sustainably addressing CSEC. It provides useful information on the nature causes, and factors that exacerbate CSEC and the role played by different actors to address CSEC in Uganda. The findings of this study are instrumental in guiding Government and Civil Society Organizations to design appropriate interventions based on current information on CSEC in Uganda.



Nathan Twino,
Chairman Board of Governors - UYDEL.

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Finally it is hoped that this study and the results arising from it will eventually contribute significantly towards the improvement of child welfare in general and child protection mechanisms in particular and be a reference point for policy formation.

The Management - Uganda Youth Development Link.

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The report represents findings of a study on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children completed in February 2011. It is a follow up study on the first national study on Children Sexual Exploitation of Children done in 2004 which documented the extent of the problem. The 2004 study revealed that over 12,000 children were affected by trafficking and prostitution in Uganda. The 2011 study was commissioned to document factors that contribute to the rise of CSEC; interventions at various levels and changes therein since 2004. The study also sought to identify policy and advocacy interventions and issues that need to be addressed to ensure that systems are established and/strengthened to address the problem of CSEC in Uganda.

This was a cross-sectional study that utilized both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection. In total, 529 children and 60 key informants were interviewed during the data collection exercise in ten districts. Although a review of existing literature showed that some small scale studies have been done following the 2004 CSEC study to some extent had tried to expose CSEC, many of these studies were found to be limited in terms of scope and methodology due to limited funding. This research was an attempt to investigate the CSEC in Uganda in a more detailed manner.

The study established that commercial sexual exploitation of children exists, is hidden, more prevalent in urban settings, and appears to be infiltrating schools. The study has estimated that the number of children affected by CSEC had increased from 12,000 now estimated to be 18,000 with more girls more affected than boys. The age at which children get involved in CSEC is getting younger though majority interviewed were between 14 -17 years. Lack of responsible parental care is one of the factors that render children susceptible to CSEC since approximately 80 percent children were staying alone. In addition, lack of sustainable opportunities for education were identified as key drivers to CSEC since most victims (88 percent) were out of school and most of them had not gone beyond primary level. It was noted that there was a lot of entry, nomadism, relapse and exit from CSEC sometimes influenced by school holidays, production processes, festive seasons and entertainment calendar.

Trafficking is one of the conduits of CSEC. Trafficking is a complex and hidden phenomenon mainly prevalent in the agriculture, fishing and business sectors. The study revealed that recruitment and movement of children is well coordinated by different players at local and regional level with more girls affected than boys. Most female victims of trafficking end up in prostitution prone environments while boys enter hazardous work like fishing on lakes, agriculture, markets, metal scrap or stone quarries. No single factor can explain the cause of movement, but poverty intersects with many other factors including orphanhood, to push children into CSEC. Trafficking is more internal, though transnational trafficking has started emerging where children are mainly targeted for adoption, fostering, religious extremist activities, labour and prostitution.

The study further revealed that patterns of trafficking have changed significantly since 2004 with more children from poor families trafficked from rural to urban centers and -urban to urban areas. Similarly a big number of children are moved from rural to rural especially in fishing and agricultural areas especially in central Uganda; others are moved across countries and beyond. Although recruitment of children for trafficking is mainly done by adults, some children, especially those working in bars and lodges are increasingly participating in recruitment of fellow children.

The study revealed that there is a variation in manifestation of CSEC. Some districts served as source while others were transit and destination points. Child prostitution is steadily increasing especially in fishing communities and urban centers. Poverty, peer pressure, desire for a good life style drive children in commercial sex. Students were also cited as victims of commercial sex work. Most child sexual customers are employed in the transport industry, informal business activities and few in formal trade. Many children are connected by pimps, friends and self through telephone contacts, visiting entertainment places, bars and markets. Commercial sexual exploitation is a disguised practice that is characterized by spontaneous and continuous or sexual, physical and psychological abuse of children and threats of denunciation and intimidation in order to retain children in the sexual exploitation. Children in CSEC are deprived of their wages, their movements and contacts with outside world limited. Unless children escaped or received help from NGOs, churches and local council officials, quitting by themselves was extremely difficult.

Pornography is a new dimension of CSEC that is growing at a very fast rate compared to prostitution. Pornography, trafficking and child prostitution are closely interlinked. Pornography in Kampala city has been taken to another level from mainly engaging in pornography for their own entertainment to commercial gain, involving well-coordinated network embracing music celebrities, bar and karaoke group owners with approximately 1,800 children exploited per week. It is disguised in shooting of films, photos, videos and participating in strip dancing. Interventions in area of pornography have concentrated more in petitions to line ministries, Media Council, Parliament and a few court cases, this is yet to be addressed.

Children failure to mention government services shows either absence or failure of government programmes to trickle down to address this rather dehumanizing servitude practice. In spite a purported increase in NGO services for CSEC more have tended to target adult CSWs and CSEC largely remains unattended to with a few NGO efforts. The few NGOs addressing the problem of CSEC cover smaller geographical areas reaching few beneficiaries and many of these CSOs need capacity building. Networking and coordination among CSOs working with CSEC is still weak, underfunded, limited staffing, uncoordinated and limited capacity in many districts. Other

challenges facing interventions include; poor law enforcement both by police and courts of law, stigmatization which pushes the children into hiding, low advocacy for issues related to CSEC at national level to influence policy and funding, limited capacity of staff to provide psychosocial support to clients.

Children largely were un-informed about their rights and how to participate in CSEC issues and how to free themselves from exploitation; many agencies are ignorant of the players in the field, knowledge and skills and due to limited funding. Interestingly the issues of CSEC are completely absent in most the NGO strategic plans. The study found it difficult to track resources due to poor documentation at national and district levels.

It has become clear in this study that CSEC as a problem is increasing in Uganda and many children are being exploited with this trend trafficking, prostitution and pornography are likely to continue. There is virtually no commitment on the part of government to address the problem of CSEC compounded poor mobilization of actors and lack of resources.

In addressing CSEC, various activities and recommendations have been identified in the proposed actions including awareness, victim and psychosocial support, law enforcement, research, and training, education, strengthening networking and coordination among key actors. Drafting a good legal regime and other policies is not enough unless accompanied by enforcement structures and motivated personnel. A few NGOs have tried to address the problem but the problem represents different needs from children and actors and requires a multi-stakeholder approach at community, district and national levels in a coordinated manner involving children and parents.

KEY DEFINITIONS OF CONCEPTS USED IN THE STUDY

Below is an explanation of the key concepts used in this study.

The definition of a child:

In Uganda, constitutionally a child refers to a person below the age of 18 years.

Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC):

According to ILO, child prostitution, child pornography and trafficking of children constitute CSEC and are crimes of violence against children. They are in fact considered to be economic exploitation akin to forced labour or slavery and are cited in ILO Worst Forms of Child Labour Convention 1999 (No.182) as worst forms of child labour that must be eliminated by states without delay¹. The economic exchanges involved may be either monetary or non-monetary (i.e., for food, shelter, drugs) but, in every case, involves maximum benefits to the exploiter and an abrogation of the basic rights, dignity, autonomy, physical and mental well-being of the children involved².

Exploitation:

Includes at a minimum, sexual exploitation, forced marriage, child marriage, forced labor, harmful child labor, and use of a child in armed conflict, use of a person in illegal activities, debt bondage, slavery or servitude, human sacrifice, the removal of organs or body parts for sale or for purposes of witchcraft, harmful rituals or practices. (TIP Act, 2009).

Sexual Exploitation:

This refers to the use of a person in prostitution, sex tourism, pornography, the production of pornographic materials, or the use of a person for sexual intercourse or other lascivious conduct. (TIP Act, 2009).

Sex Tourism:

Refers to the movement and travel of people to tourist destinations for the purposes of engaging in sex acts. Often there are programs organized by travel and tourism-related establishments or individuals, which consist of tourism packages or activities, utilizing and offering escort and sexual services and practices offered for any persons as part of work recreation.

Prostitution:

Refers to a person who, in public or elsewhere, regularly or habitually holds himself or herself out as available for sexual intercourse or other sexual gratification for monetary or other materials gain. (TIP Act, 2009).

Pornography:

Means any representation, through publication, exhibition, cinematography, indecent show, information technology, or by whatever means, of a person engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities, or any representation of the sexual parts of a person for primarily sexual excitement. (TIP Act, 2009).

Child Trafficking:

Child trafficking refers to the recruitment, transportation, transfer, harboring or receipt of persons, by means of threat or use of force or other forms of coercion, of abduction, of fraud, of deception, of the abuse of power or of a position of vulnerability or of the giving or receiving of payments or benefits to achieve the consent of a person having control over another person, for the purpose of exploitation.

CHAPTER 1

INTRODUCTION AND BACKGROUND TO THE STUDY

1.0 Background to the Study

1.1 Information at global level

Since the first national study on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in Uganda in 2004 by ILO/IPEC and Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development, several actions have been taken at national and community levels to address CSEC. The study in 2004 estimated that between 7,000- 12,000 children were commercially sexually exploited and that girls, particularly in urban areas were the majority of victims. Many of the girls were involved in CSEC for economic and survival reasons to meet their basic needs and those of their families. According to the Uganda AIDS Commission (2006), children who are in the sex trade are one of the high risk groups of young people at greater risk of acquiring HIV/AIDS, as they engage in risky sexual behaviours such as having multiple sex partners, drug and substance abuse and having unprotected sexual encounters. These consequently increase risks of contracting Sexually Transmitted Infections (STIs) including HIV or resulting in unwanted high-risk pregnancies.

Other studies conducted by ILO/IPEC, UCRNN and Save the Children in 2007 on child trafficking for purposes of sexual exploitation shows that the numbers of children affected by CSEC continue to rise and the factors pushing children into this vice are still prevalent. The study established that only a few interventions have been put in place to address the problem of CSEC at different levels but these remain largely inadequate in addressing the problem. Consequently, the problem of CSEC continues unabated thus necessitating urgent, sustained and well coordinated efforts from government and other non-state players to address this growing problem.

There is a consensus at all global and national level that CSEC is unacceptable and must be prevented. Therefore any interventions to address causal factors and prevention of situations that put children at risk of sexual exploitation are more important in securing a protective environment for children to grow well. Special attention needs to be directed towards identification, documentation and dissemination of best practices for replication and to increase momentum towards combating CSEC.

1.2 Study Goal

The study was commissioned to document factors that have contributed to the increase of CSEC in Uganda and to document interventions employed at various levels and changes therein since 2004. The study also sought to identify policy and advocacy interventions and issues that need to be addressed to ensure that systems are established and strengthened to address the problem of CSEC in Uganda.

1.3 Specific Objectives

This study aimed at addressing four specific objectives, which include:

1. To assess the extent of the problem of CSEC in Uganda, specifically to map out the main areas that feature high levels of CSEC in selected urban, semi-urban and rural areas and to develop a profile of children being exploited in the sex trade.
2. To identify National, District and Community level responses to CSEC; particularly examining legal, policy and resource flow commitments, and the roles played by various stakeholders in addressing CSEC.
3. To identify current interventions and document case studies of especially innovative approaches of good practices among selected NGOs in order to determine if such responses could be better supported and replicated elsewhere in the country.
4. To propose strategies and recommendations to mobilize and enhance efforts of government and Civil Society Organizations to address CSEC in Uganda.

CHAPTER TWO

METHODOLOGY

2.1 Overview

This section describes the survey methodology of data collection and analysis. Also included are the scope and coverage of the study. This was a cross-sectional study that utilized both qualitative and quantitative methods of data collection to study children involved in CSEC in Uganda. The information sought was meant to give a clearer picture of the extent, nature, characteristics, impact and support given children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation.

The study was conducted in two phases over a period of six months. Phase one involved conducting a mapping exercise to establish the hot-spots where children being exploited in sex trade would be identified during field interviews. Thereafter, contacts were established with the key informants and CSOS/NGOs that would be interviewed and visited during the field study in preparation for data collection.

The second phase of the study involved data collection and analysis. Data from different sources were triangulated to ensure accuracy, validity and reliability of the data gathered from the field. The study findings were shared with the technical reference working group who made comments and later the report was finalized and disseminated to local government and national stakeholders.

2.2 Survey Design

The study sample was designed to allow reliable estimation of key indicators of CSEC for Uganda. The study employed purposive and snowball sampling techniques, due to the hidden and illegal nature of the subject (CSEC). Snowball sampling uses interpersonal relations and connections between people. The survey used pimps, bar and restaurant owners, entertainment industry workers and brothel owners to identify children involved in CSEC. These were asked to suggest children they might know who were involved in CSEC. In addition, identified children affected by CSEC were used as link to identify other children involved in CSEC. The key informant interviews and FGD were conducted with the bar owners and brothel owners, Community Development Assistants, local leaders, police officers, adult sex workers, pimps, hospitality and entertainment industry workers who were purposively selected. These categories of study participants were selected because of their experience and knowledge in working with children affected by CSEC.

2.3 Sample Size

A total of 600 children were targeted by the study distributed equally in the 4 regions as shown in table 1 below. On average, 120 children per region participated in the study.

A total of 529 children age 5-17 years were identified as being involved in CSEC related activities representing 88 percent of the targeted population.

2.4 Scope of the study

2.4.1 Study Areas

The study adopted a purposive sampling approach in identifying the districts with likely presence of CSEC in the five statistical regions, Kampala, Central, Eastern, Northern and Western. Towns that were along major highways, border towns, landing sites and area affected by conflicts were selected because these towns were reported to have a high prevalence of CSEC. The selected districts and reasons for inclusion are shown in table 1. The study team identified hotspots within each named district such as hotels, bars, lodges, brothels, markets and slum settlements where CSEC likely takes place. These hotspots were identified during the social mapping exercise prior to the actual field study and were also corroborated with findings from previous studies. The key issues of CSEC covered by the study include child trafficking, child prostitution, child pornography.

Table 1: Characteristics of study districts by region and characteristics

Region	District	Characteristics
Kampala	Kampala	The study focused on Kampala as the largest urban area and also a major industrial and commercial centre where the need to survive and unemployment rate is high. Children in Kampala have been reported to be victims of sexual exploitation to earn a living.
Central	Masaka, Lyantonde Kalangala.	Masaka and Lyantonde are upcountry agricultural town with booming commercial activities. They lie along the great Western highway to Rwanda and Congo. They are stop over points for truck drivers in towns such as Lukaya and Kyazanga that attract CSEC activities. These areas are known as both transit and destination locations. Kalangala is an island on Lake Victoria where fishing is the major economic activity and many children are trafficked for labour and sexual exploitation. Two landing sites, Lambu and Lutoboka were studied. They were also studied by the MoGLSD/ILO study in 2004.
North	Gulu, Lira	Located in Northern Uganda, the two upcountry districts are recovering from the 20-year conflict that bore the problem of internal displacement camps, where CSEC was reportedly thriving due to poverty and vulnerability.
Eastern	Busia, Mbale, Bugiri	Located on the major Eastern highway to Kenya, these areas are characterized by rural-urban migration as people search for livelihoods in border trade. They are also stopover towns for commercial truck drivers who are reportedly customers for commercial sex work. Covered by previous CSEC studies, these districts were good study sites to document changes in nature of CSEC and responses to address it.
Western	Kasese, Mbarara	These two districts have been reported by other studies as a source, transit and destination points from Rwanda and DRC. No research on CSEC had been conducted in these districts prior to this study. Thus making them important study sites to document the dynamics, nature and factors fuelling CSEC.

2.4.2 Study population

The study primarily focused on gathering information about children aged 5-17 years who were commercially sexually exploited in terms of prostitution, pornography and victims of trafficking. For key informants and FGDs, the study targeted children and adults involved in CSEC. Other individuals targeted by the study included employers, pimps, brothel owners, former CSEC victims, NGOs and civil society organizations implementing interventions to address CSEC, government and community leaders; academic institutions, schools and religious institutions.

2.5 Data Collection Methods

The study utilized both primary and secondary sources of data.

Primary sources included:-

- ◆ In-depth interviews with individuals engaged in CSEC were conducted using an in-depth questionnaire to identify characteristics, magnitude of CSE, factors facilitating the activity, consequences of CSEC, case studies of existing interventions and recommendations.
- ◆ Key informants interviews were conducted using a key informant interview guide administered to police officers, Government officials, NGO/CBO staff, bar/brothel owners, bar/hotel and lodge owners, local leaders and other key people deemed knowledgeable on CSEC. Through the above named people and using the snowball method, the study team was able to identify Children affected by CSEC who operate in their areas/communities.
- ◆ Focus group discussions were conducted with different study populations, including Children affected by CSEC, community leaders and NGO/CBO staff. Using a focus group discussion guide, groups of 6-9 people were guided in discussions on CSEC issues in their communities.
- ◆ Observation was done using an observation guide to gather information on the nature of CSEC and work environments. This information was vital in complementing information gathered from other study methods.

Secondary sources of data included a desk review of literature from secondary sources including research reports,

newspapers articles, and organizational/institutional reports on CSEC was done to identify existing literature and bridge knowledge gaps about the situation of CSEC in Uganda, particularly in the selected districts of study.

2.6 Survey organization

A centralized approach to data collection was employed. Four mobile field teams of researchers at the headquarters were dispatched to different districts. Each team consisted of one supervisor and 3 research assistants. The teams were recruited based on the languages mostly used in each of the four statistical regions. In total, there were 4 Supervisors and 16 interviewers. The research assistants were inducted on the background and purpose of the research, data collection methods, skills of identifying research participants, ethical considerations and the use of research tools. Research Assistants oriented local guides that acted as entry points in the communities identifying important people and mapping sites for data collection on the goal and objectives of the study and these were supervised by four senior researchers.

2.6.1 Technical working group

The study team constituted a technical working group³ composed of government bodies, civil society organizations and networks involved in child protection work that provided guidance on study processes.

2.6.2 Pretest

Pre-test: In order to ascertain validity of the research tools, pre-test was conducted in Nasana town council Wakiso district because of the existence of CSEC. It also enabled data collectors to familiarize with the tools, test skills and check the validity of the tool. Following the pre-test, the research team discussed its outcome with the view of improving the research tools towards the collection of the required data

2.7 Data Management and Processing

2.7.1 Primary Data

It should be noted that the primary data collected in this study was both qualitative and quantitative. Each of these required different techniques of analysis, and the following were used.

2.7.2 Quantitative Primary Data

Manual editing of administered questionnaires was done to ensure quality control soon after fieldwork. After developing the relevant codes for all questions that were not pre-coded prior to data collection, a computerized user-friendly data capture screen and the customized computerized check program in CSPRO was designed. Data entry ensued as well as cleaning and merging of databases.

2.7.3 Data Analysis

Analysis of quantitative data was done using Stata. More manipulations were done by use of Ms Excel in drawing charts and graphs. The analysis provides descriptive summaries and explanatory analysis in respect of key variables.

2.7.4 Qualitative Data

Qualitative data from key informant interviews and FGDs was transcribed and arranged thematically for ease of analysis. The approach to its analysis was interpretative, explanatory and reflective.

2.8 Ethical Considerations

The study team sought and received approval from the Uganda National Council for Science and Technology to conduct this study while observing ethical issues. Confidentiality was prioritized due to the sensitivity of the subject of study at all stages. The participants' identities were concealed at all times and each child voluntarily assented to their participation prior to engagement in any interviews/or activities related to this study. The study team ensured that children's engagement in interviews did not harm them in any way or have negative effects to them even after participating in the study. No payments, incentives or rewards were promised or given to children as a token for their participation in this study.

2.9 Challenges faced during the study

- ◆ In some areas, research assistants were denied information by CSEC victims and key informants. Some community members were cautious that research assistants were police informers that would lead to their arrest for their involvement in illegal activities such as pornography shows and prostitution of children. In some areas, certain local leaders refused to be interviewed because they are some of the employers of child sex workers while others own bars, video clubs and lodges where CSEC takes place.
- ◆ Older CSWs intercepted some research assistants because they wanted to know why some of the girls were being interviewed. In this regard, some declined to participate in the study and refused to continue with interviews or to give answers to some questions, while others demanded monetary compensation for their time.
- ◆ Some of the children were willing to quit commercial sex if they got alternative opportunities to enable them survive. Indeed some wanted to move with the research team to Kampala immediately but this had not been planned for, especially for upcountry areas. In Kampala over 60 children were referred to UYDEL centers for counseling and support.
- ◆ The study team felt more time was needed to study NGO work to be able to document good practices. The team could not rely on incomplete information that was very difficult to corroborate with other sources. This activity needs more time in the field.

2.10 Lessons learnt during the study interviews

- a) Building Rapport with the study participant is very essential in the study in order for him/her to trust the researcher. The researcher needs to be skilled and patient to achieve this. On many occasions, the study participants were found busy or desperately looking for customers (men) and money.
- b) Most children interviewed were not well informed about trafficking and this required more explanations to separate normal migration from trafficking.
- c) The team also found widespread “disguised” protection/shielding and seclusion of children involved in CSE sometimes proving difficult to establish the relationship between the exploiter and the child. In some instances some exploiters especially pimps hid the children and refused them to respond to the interviewers. Many children also used names like Aunties or Uncles for their adult exploiters and one would imagine that the child is related to the exploiter however in many instances there was no blood relationship. One needed to clarify such instances while analyzing issues of trafficking and exploitation of children in CSEC.
- d) There was lack of enough data on resource flow commitments from CSOs.
- e) Disclosure of information considered private or concerning bed room matters was difficult because of cultural issues.
- f) There was also a lot of recidivism/ relapse among many children; a lot of entry and exit.

CHAPTER THREE

LITERATURE REVIEW

3.1 General overview of CSEC

This section presents an analysis of literature on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children. It specifically focuses on child prostitution, child trafficking and child pornography. As is in many other countries, the magnitude of CSEC in terms of the numbers of children affected at a given time is not known in Uganda due to the lack of accurate comprehensive national statistics due to the hidden and illegal nature of CSEC⁴. Although there are few studies on CSEC that attempt to provide some information, they are generally limited in coverage and do not provide national representative statistics. However, media reports, NGO reports and anecdotal information points to the fact that CSEC is a serious and growing problem in Uganda, especially in urban areas. In 2004, ILO/IPEC⁵ estimated that the number of children involved in CSEC in Uganda was 7,000 to 12,000 children exploited in CSEC nationwide with children aged 15-17 years being most affected.

The deprivation of parental care due to HIV/AIDS, insecurity and post war hardships, and poverty are factors leading to child labour and exposing girls and boys to CSEC⁶. Children often suffer irreparable damage to their physical and mental and reproductive health. They face trauma, early pregnancy and risk sexually transmitted diseases, particularly, HIV/AIDS. They are often inadequately protected by the law and may be treated as criminals who will often sexually abuse them in exchange for releasing them after raiding them off the streets⁷. Available interventions addressing CSEC are largely few, sporadic and under-funded concentrating in few urban areas in Uganda.

3.2 Child Prostitution

Child prostitution is reported to be on the increase and is well established in Kampala city and other urban towns. According to Ministry of Health (MOH (2009)⁸ sex work is rampant and rapidly growing in all the divisions of Kampala city, targeting children and young people as victims. In Kampala City alone, the incidence of sex work is highest in Kawempe Division (estimated at 2,540) followed by Rubaga Division (estimated at 1,687), and lowest in Nakawa and Makindye Divisions. Many studies indicate that the age of entry into commercial sex work is increasingly going lower to include children as young as 13 years, as clients of commercial sex increasingly demand to have younger girls as opposed to middle aged women, because among other things they charge lower prices and are presumed to carry less risks of HIV and STIs. Out of 437 people interviewed in the 2009 MOH study⁹, 35 of them (8%) were in the age group 15-19 years, 15% had started commercial sex work before 18 years and 13% of them were staying with a person engaged in commercial sex work.

Although the majority of commercial sex trade involves females, there is a growing trend of young boys engaged in sex work with older and wealthier women, locally known as 'sugar mummies'. These cases are more hidden than female CSWs because of societal condemnation and stigmatization¹⁰. United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF, 2005) notes that commercial sexual exploitation of boys is less well recognized and is inadequately studied save for scattered reports indicating that it occurs. Although some studies such as the one done by ILO/IPEC/MoGLSD in 2004 highlighted that 9% child sex workers were boys. In many ways, studies and interventions on CSEC have continued to concentrate exclusively on girls while there is growing trend of sexual exploitation of boys, thus underlining the significance of age and gender as a factor in vulnerability of children to CSEC¹¹.

In Kawempe, one of the five divisions of Kampala city, in 2007, it was revealed that more than 500 children below the age of 18 were being sexually exploited with most children engaged in survival sex 'Survival sex' is irregular and seasonal, depending on the current survival needs of the child and, as such, the turnover of children forced into prostitution is high. In Jinja district, it was reported that both boys and girls aged between 8 and 16 years old are exploited in commercial sex, with girls being more vulnerable than boys¹². In an environment where many men are looking for sex and poor girls looking for money to survive, it is unsurprising that young girls are increasingly getting involved in commercial sex for survival reasons. Many children are being exploited in urban slums, along truck driver stop over towns, streets, in bars and drinking places.

Prostitution of children is most prevalent in urban centers, in tourist areas, and along major transportation routes. In some cases, children migrate to such areas in search of work, while in other instances; children are trafficked and sold into the commercial sex sector¹³.

Most children join CSW after losing parents and/or dropping out of school which lead to economic hardships. Some of the children also face domestic violence, parental neglect, molestation/harassment, while others are enticed by their friends to enjoy the business of getting money quickly. MOH (2009)¹⁴ revealed that some people who are already earning income from prostitution persuade young girls especially those in social and economic hardships to join commercial sex work. In the same study it was discovered that, some girls who misuse school fees eventually abandon school and seek refuge with their friends/peers who encourage them to sell sex to recover the fees. For those that are already out of school and employed as domestic workers or business attendants, they are also persuaded by their friends already in the sex work business to join especially when they have misunderstandings with their employers or when they need to earn more money. Some children join the sex work business because they admire the “sex freedom” (having expensive clothing, looking good and having a lot of money) of their friends who are already doing it. Other children who are in karaoke dance groups do commercial sex work as a side business to supplement meager income obtained from singing and dancing. Sometimes they control the incomes obtained from commercial sex, sometimes the sex workers control the incomes obtained from commercial sex, other times it is the pimp or karaoke group manager who arranges clients and controls the income.

Evidence suggests that child prostitution in Uganda takes place mainly in slums, rented rooms and in certain lodges and hostels. Most of the young and youthful female CSWs work in poor settings including slums, streets and local/cheap entertainment places. Contact points are on roadsides, on the streets or near wells and springs. The children usually live independently or with peers who are also exploited through prostitution. Some children identify themselves with ‘solidarity groups’ referred to as ‘*ebiduula*’ and follow rules to which every member must conform, such as the amount of money charged for various sexual acts¹⁵.

UNICEF (2001) confirms that child prostitution hotspots in Kampala include slum areas in Katanga, Kisenyi, and around Owino market. Girls are supposedly employed in lodges and bars as workers, but in reality the bar owner gives them this ‘front’ to attract clients who pay for sex. The girl gives a commission to the bar owner and earns a living that way. The girls also provide such services as cleaning, bed making, fetching water and related hotel chores¹⁶. Child victims of commercial sexual exploitation face abuse and degradation. They risk early pregnancies, sexually transmitted diseases, and exposure to HIV-AIDS as a result of the risky sexual behaviors such as unprotected sex, multiple sex partners and related alcohol, drug and substance abuse. Child victims of prostitution are stigmatized and often harassed, including by the police and the Local Defense Units. When they grow older, the once young commercial sex workers will often change roles to work as pimps/brothel owners and perform tasks including recruitment, providing accommodation and inducting and linking customers to the new comers¹⁷.

ILO/IPEC for many years has supported on-going national initiatives implemented by various NGOs to combat CSEC. The existing preventive interventions are in the form of policy and advocacy; awareness raising (to parents, communities and children themselves) as well as direct action on prevention strategies that include economic support to vulnerable families whose children are at risk of commercial sexual exploitation¹⁸.

3.3 Child Pornography

According to the Uganda Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act (2009), pornography means any representation, through publication, exhibition, cinematology, indecent show, and information technology or by whatever means, of a person engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities, or any representation of the sexual parts of a person for primarily sexual excitement¹⁹. Child pornography is any representation, by whatever means, of a child engaged in real or simulated explicit sexual activities or any representation of the sexual parts of a child for primarily sexual purposes (ECPAT, 2001)²⁰. It also refers to images or films, also known as child abuse images and in some cases writings depicting sexually explicit activities involving a child. Child pornography is the sexually explicit reproduction of a child’s image. Encouraging, forcing or fooling children (often with the use of gifts or drugs) to pose for pornographic photographs or to take part in pornographic videos or productions is demeaning and

designed to take away a child's dignity and self-respect. It reduces the value of the child's body to nothing, teaching the child that the body is for sale and has no other value. Child pornography is in itself a form of commercial sexual exploitation. Consequently, it is usually a first step towards prostitution. As such, child pornography is a record of child sexual abuse and exploitation²¹.

Pornography in Uganda is a relatively recently Phenomenon. According to the parliamentary Select Committee on Pornography²², "*pornography has increased in Uganda since 1995, before which there were a few magazines that were stealthily imported from abroad and sold to Ugandans on a person-to person basis. This was the time of post conflict Uganda where the country started opening up to globalization and western cultures. With the liberalization of the economy, video operators started supplying pornographic films. In 1996, the first pornographic magazine called Chic and Secrets appeared on the streets with no controls because it was considered 'soft pornography'*".

In 1998, a wave of imported hardcore magazines such as Playboy, Penthouse and Escort sold on Kampala streets and around the same time, a local magazine thriller was produced. In both instances, the police intervened and the circulation was controlled, while Thriller was abandoned. From November 2001, other publications disguised as newspapers including Red pepper, Entango, Mirror, Extreme, Bukedde (**Ssenga** section) and recently the Onion, and Kamunye publish more explicit pornographic content. Despite public outcry about the accessibility and availability of these materials on the streets of Kampala, no government intervention has been done to stop their production and sale. Alongside these publications another dimension to pornography emerged in the entertainment sector where groups of people particularly women (managed by a man) emerged as karaoke dance groups around 2001. The most popular then was shadows angels that entertained their fans to erotic dances. Although this was disbanded (at will by the manager) other groups sprung up in many of the drinking joints including Amanda dance group that deteriorated into nude dancing "**ekimansulo**". Some media reports have indicated that people have live sexual intercourse on stage while their audiences cheer them on. Although police raided certain entertainment places, their intervention has been sporadic and has not made impact because the groups migrate to different areas where police presence is not vigilant only to come back to the same old spots after the police "fire" has died out.

In the same vain, video halls and libraries around the country continue to sell and show Blue movies and nude pictures, despite specifications on age of persons who should watch the films. Majority of the films also bear parental guidance (P.G) labels, restricting children from watching them. Nevertheless, even when adults buy the pornographic movies, it is still illegal and there is no guarantee that they will keep them out of reach of children, or the effect of such pornographic films on adults will not spill over to children in the form of child sexual abuse. Some television stations such as the East African Television, and other channels on pay-television such as DSTV Girls of the playboy mansion on Series channel and Big Brother Africa, show varying degrees of pornography that is accessible to young people since they find such channels entertaining.

In Uganda, pornography continues to circulate in the media (radio, television, newspapers and magazines), as well as on the internet and in entertainment places (local bars) where strip dancing (ekimansulo) is done. Children are exposed to and also used to produce pornographic materials and strip in karaoke dance groups that entertain revelers in popular drinking joints in Kampala city and other major towns. According to the Uganda Youth Network, pornography is being used to create a worldwide cultural totalitarianism and is being marketed as "new enlightenment and freedom"²³. According to them, pornography has several dangers including: Destruction of the family, the basic unit of society; Health hazards on individual consumers and their social circle due to addiction; Erosion of social values, leading to poor attitudes towards sex as a casual act rather than a sacred responsibility; exposing Women and men who may suffer rape and sexual abuse and exploitation; and a Threat to reverse the success made in the fight against HIV/AIDS.

Other studies state that the increase in violent sexual crimes particularly targeting children is closely linked to rampant pornography in Uganda. According to (.....) poor children living in urban areas in one-roomed houses commonly known as 'mizigo' with their parents watch and listen to their parents engage in sexual acts, and because the slums are congested, they also get exposed to sexual acts of their neighbours as well since houses do not have ceilings. Children are also exposed to pornography through various video halls and the print media.

Teenagers in urban areas are also involved in surfing pornography in internet cafes and on their mobile telephones.

Most city suburbs and upcountry trading centers and town have internet cafes, where users (regardless of their age, gender and social status) pay to browse the web. Among the most popular sites are football, penpals, dating, employment opportunities and pornography. Majority of the cafés do not care what sites are surfed because their business is making money and they would not want to lose any of their customers. The majority of the cafés do not have the technology for blocking pornographic sites. Some have resorted to monitoring what each customer surfs and also display notices/guidelines prohibiting surfing pornography. On one of the facebook pages²⁴, one Henry Lwanga noted: “I am in an internet café in Jinja. Above the desktop monitor it says: “no surfing pornography”. However, a few have gone ahead to expel members who break these rules. At Makerere University for example, certain sites have been blocked and cannot be accessed from the university computer labs and the surfing rules in internet labs reads: anybody found accessing pornography will be banned from accessing this library until he/she leaves the institution.

According to UCRNN, pornography is not only a form of child sexual abuse in its own right but also serves to encourage children to get themselves abused by way of experimenting whatever they are exposed to²⁵. Just like child prostitution, child pornography is another area of CSEC that is not well studied, although some information of its existence is available in a few research studies on CSEC, programmatic reports of NGOs and internet blog entries. According to UYDEL (2010), children involved in commercial sex in slum areas, also engage in taking nude pictures which are sold to the public by vendors, pimps, brothel owners and video libraries. Such girls also perform in karaoke dance groups where they strip dance not only to promote the dance group, but also to attract customers for commercial sex. In many instances, such girls are sold to customers after the karaoke performance by dance group managers, who take most of the proceeds. In many ways pornography and commercial sex have a symbiotic relationship. Someone involved in strip dancing is a candidate for commercial sex, and the same for a commercial sex worker, is a ready candidate for pornography. Many of the CSEC survivors that UYDEL has rehabilitated confirm that they were exposed to pornographic magazines and films to learn different sex styles and sexual acts that appeal to customers, while others have taken nude pictures for sale²⁶.

ILO/MoGLSD (2004)²⁷ states that the most common form of pornography is watching blue movies followed by taking nude photographs. Showing blue movies in widely accessible and cheap video halls is also cited as a push factor for children to engage in CSEC. It is not surprising therefore that of all the children interviewed in that study, who were involved in prostitution, 64% were also involved in pornography. The same report also indicates that children are mainly engaged in pornography for their own entertainment rather than commercial gain. Child victims who take nude pictures and engage in strip dancing are highly exploited by their managers, who enjoy the monetary benefits arising out of the children’s exploitation.

The Penal Code, Section 166 on traffic in obscene publications²⁸ “prohibits any person who for the purpose of or by way of trade or for the purpose of distribution or public exhibition, makes, produces or has in his/her possession any one or more obscene writings, drawings, emblems, photographs, cinematograph films or other obscene objects tending to corrupt morals; imports, conveys, exports or put to circulation obscene materials; carries or takes part in any business that distributes or publicly exhibits any such obscene materials; advertises the circulation or traffic of any obscene materials; and any person that publicly exhibits any indecent show or performance tending to corrupt morals commits a misdemeanor and is liable to a fine of two years or a fine of two thousand shillings”.

Because of a lack of a comprehensive law on pornography in Uganda, the provision on pornography in the Penal Code (Section 166) has in some instances been contested by sections of the Ugandan population on the grounds that it does not provide a clear definition of pornography is²⁹. The fact that it provides for the ‘decency’ of the general population, child pornography which is aggravated abuse is not likely to be taken care of fairly under this law. In addition, Uganda does not have a law that criminalizes sexual offences committed on children outside Uganda. Such confusing patchworks of the law coupled with inconsistent statements by public officials and less prohibitive punishments for the offenders make the law not only difficult to enforce but also perpetuate abuse since the offenders know they can easily find their way out of the arm of the law, thus justification for a comprehensive law on pornography to fill such gaps.

Although the government through the Ministry of Ethics and Integrity recognizes the increasing problem of

pornography in national newspapers disguised as news, the most visible action has remained public statements by public officials, yet it is visibly clear that papers such as Kamunye, Onion, Bukedde and Red Pepper contain sexually arousing images and stories including nude pictures of young people. These publications are also common with young people³⁰. For instance in 2006, BBC news reported that Uganda had banned newspapers containing sexually erotic photographs and cartoons from public sale. Then, the country's Media Council stated: *"in future pornographic content should only be sold at specially designated shops to people over the age of 18"*. In the same story, it was said that *"the ban was to be effected immediately, and was not targeting any particular publication. Until today, the same newspapers, with the same and even worse content are sold on the streets to any Ugandan, regardless of their age. In 2010, the Minister of Ethics and Integrity Hon. Nsaba Buturo made a statement: "I am going to wipe out pornography"*. He noted that pornography has destroyed the morals of Ugandans and that the government is drafting a bill that will see the closure of media houses that print pornographic materials³¹. As widely known that Uganda is a "shopping basket" for good laws and policies in the region, it is yet to be seen whether the enthusiasm of the ministry coupled with the enactment of the law shall make a difference.

There is no specific law that criminalizes pornography but there are provisions under different laws including the Uganda Constitution (1995), the Penal Code, The Prevention of Trafficking in Persons Act and the Police Act(2010). Despite the existing provisions in the legal framework, pornography remains socially acceptable as manifested in the public sale of pornographic materials including films, pictures, magazines and newspaper tabloids on the streets and other public places where children have access. The Minister of Ethics and Integrity Hon. Nsaba Buturo affirms that *"pornography has destroyed the morality of Ugandans and is the mother of immorality in the forms of adultery, fornication and prostitution"*. The ministry is in the process of drafting legislation that will heavily punish the architects, promoters and consumers of pornography³².

3.4 Child Trafficking

Child trafficking violates the human rights guaranteed to children under international law, most notably the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child. Children's survival and development are threatened, and their rights to education, health and protection are denied. The lucrative 'business' in trafficking of persons particularly women and children for labour and sexual exploitation has severely affected vulnerable children in Uganda³³. Many studies on child trafficking point to the fact that Uganda is a source, transit and destination country for men, women, and children trafficked for the purposes of forced labour and sexual exploitation. Within the country, Ugandan children are trafficked for labour exploitation in the fishing, agricultural, informal urban markets and domestic service sectors, as well as for commercial sexual exploitation. Ugandan children are trafficked to Canada, Yemen, the United Arab Emirates, Far East Asia, Saudi Arabia and some European countries for commercial sexual exploitation and forced labor. In addition, there are reports that Ugandan children are trafficked to Pakistan, Egypt, Turkey, and Iraq for labor exploitation. Children from the Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, and Burundi are trafficked to Uganda for commercial sexual exploitation and agricultural work.

The Karamojong women and children of North Eastern Uganda are particularly at risk of being sold as slaves in cattle markets or by intermediaries and are subsequently forced into domestic servitude, sexual exploitation, cattle herding, and begging as far as Mbale, Busia, Jinja and Kampala. Uganda also receives Pakistani, Indian and Chinese workers (men, women and children) for labour and sexual exploitation. Other countries from which children are trafficked to Uganda for labour and sexual exploitation include: Democratic Republic of the Congo, Rwanda, Burundi, Kenya, and Tanzania³⁴. Some children are also dragged into smuggling over the borders early in the morning, with people taking advantage of the fact that the law does not apply to people under 18³⁵. There is little information on the actual number of trafficking victims due to its clandestine nature; however a high number of boys are trafficked at an early age and they mainly fall under the bracket 10-14 years while girls are moved slightly higher age, between 15 – 19 years. This is partly because younger girls are more protected and their movements restricted as compared to boys. A big number of girls who are slightly older are trafficked more to work as child domestic workers, in bars and lodges and other sexual exploitative activities such as early marriage and working in restaurants³⁶.

The major purpose of child trafficking is sexual exploitation and cheap child labour. Sexual exploitation puts victims

at greater risk of contracting HIV/AIDS. Chances are that sexually exploited children are more likely to catch AIDS because of their little knowledge on the dynamic of HIV/AIDS; being disempowered to negotiate for safer sex and naivety to early exposure to sex³⁷. Children's drop out of school and lack of skills training exacerbate the problem of child trafficking. Children often get involved in any activity that could boost their survival and thus may fall prey of trafficking. While the overall ratio of female to male trafficked victims remain unclear, the number appears to be steadily growing due to increase in wars/conflict, orphanhood, urbanization displacements poverty and disintegration of families. A rapid assessment conducted by ILO in 2007 revealed that 70 percent of the trafficked children that participated in the study had been enticed by friends or family members who made promises of well-paying jobs or a good life at the place of destination. Apparently, when formerly trafficked Children go back to villages looking smart, they entice their peers with modern clothing style and bread which makes children living in villages feel that life in urban areas is good and eventually get persuaded to urban areas to have a taste of the "good" life³⁸.

Child trafficking in Uganda happens at two levels; Internal trafficking, where children are moved from their home village or town to another town or part of the country and external trafficking, where children are moved across borders from their country of origin to another country. Some reports note that the problem of human trafficking is rampant in eastern and central regions of Uganda where many children are taken to the border and smuggled easily into neighbouring Kenya and Sudan and Asia for forced labour and prostitution³⁹. While children trafficked across borders risk confiscation of travel documents and bonded labour, those trafficked within are not any better off since they risk getting lost completely or being used in ritual child sacrifice. In a country with no identification cards for citizens and where people's ages are not registered, it is difficult to tell a child's age. Often traffickers and exploiters especially in commercial sex, coach the children to call them "Aunties" or "Uncle" or train them to lie and say they are above 18. They even make efforts to conceal their childlike appearance using artificial hair and makeup⁴⁰.

The act of removing children from their homes and the environment in which they are familiar makes them isolated and creates favorable grounds for domination and exploitation. Often this reflects economic disparities between city and village, or between poor and more affluent regions of a country or poor country to rich country. Internal trafficking of children is often aided by recruiters who are known to the community or families and take advantage of the impoverished family situations to lure children and convince their families into thinking that travel to the city can only bring advantages⁴¹. Movement may involve transport by road, rail, and sea or (less frequently) air. Often it is little more than a bus ride away. Village girls are recruited for unskilled jobs and are then picked up by traffickers either from the village or when upon arrival at the bus station or destination points. Sometimes, when the person who needs a trafficked child gets another alternative, it is common for children to be abandoned by traffickers and transporters in taxi parks⁴². While the activities of the Lord's Resistance Army in Northern Uganda have now been contained, the majority of children live in difficult post-conflict situations characterized by poverty and orphanhood, which create favorable conditions for trafficking to occur.

The ILO (2007) documented several pull and push factors that make children vulnerable to trafficking. The push factors include: the impact of HIV/AIDS and related orphanhood across Uganda, household poverty, conflict and war. The pull factors include: poor law enforcement, porous borders, ignorance of trafficking, and demand for cheap labour.

The US Department of Labour identifies Uganda as a Tier 2 country; meaning that Uganda's response to trafficking does not fully comply with the minimum international standards for the elimination of human trafficking. Since the enactment of the Trafficking in Persons Act in Uganda in 2009, the process of operationalizing and enforcing this law has been very slow. Still to date, there is no national report on the numbers of people convicted for the offence of trafficking in persons. There was a loose network of actors initiated by US Embassy together with government of Uganda to help share on issues of trafficking in persons, while agencies such as ILO/IPEC, the American Embassy, UYDEL, IOM, Refugee Law Project and ANPPCAN have supported and implemented programmes aimed at increasing awareness, advocacy, rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors of child trafficking. Their impact remains minimal due to the fact that they are sporadic, not well coordinated and severely handicapped by inadequate finances to practically prevent, protect, prosecute child trafficking. In fact, some studies suggest that the training of immigration

officers and law enforcement officers is inadequate and they are periodically transferred from one station to another⁴³. They still remain largely ill-equipped in terms of identifying child trafficking rackets, documenting child trafficking cases and interpreting the law. Often immigration and law enforcement officers located at checkpoints are more interested in detecting drug trafficking or smuggled goods than the trafficking of humans. *“There is a local joke that it is difficult to pass illegal drugs through Ugandan immigration, but easy to pass humans”*⁴⁴.

3.5 A Synthesis of the Reviewed Studies

Following from the above literature review; an analysis shows that the previous studies done to some extent have tried to expose more trafficking of children and less on commercial sexual exploitation. The literature was also very candid on hazards faced at destinations but less comes on the social demographic characteristics and the source places for children affected. Most interventions are in rehabilitation and urban based, done more by NGOs and government was not visible and departments concerned with enforcement are under resourced, have limited information, underfunding and weak coordination compounded further by the hidden nature of the problem. Government appears to be more active in legal and policy development.

The literature reviewed revealed that these studies were largely limited in scope and generally covering a small area and reaching fewer numbers of children. Many of these studies were found to be limited in terms of issues and methodologies due to limited funding. Some of the previous studies have been found to be small, thematic and only cover a few areas of CSEC such as Trafficking, prostitution and pornography. These studies were very weak on hazards faced by children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation and few studies have examined CSEC as a broad issue affecting children. The CSEC problem generally has been underestimated by earlier researches and lacked a National outlook since some numbers were small but over-generalized which this study is trying to address.

CHAPTER 4

STUDY FINDINGS

4.0 EXTENT OF COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN UGANDA

4.1 Socio demographic characteristics of Children

This section presents findings on socio demographic characteristics of children interviewed during the study including gender, age, education background and parental status.

4.1.1 *Distribution of children interviewed by region and sex*

A total of 529 children; 16 percent boys and 84 percent girls were interviewed. Thus, establishing that there are more girls, than boys in CSEC. Majority of children interviewed were based in urban areas as compared to rural areas. Almost half of those interviewed were from the central region of Uganda followed by the Northern region and the Western region had the lowest numbers. Table 2 below shows the distribution of study participants by gender and geographical location.

Table 2: Distribution of children by region and sex

Region	Boys		Girls		Both sexes	
	Number	%	Number	%	Number	%
Central	71	23.2	235	76.8	306	100
Eastern	7	9	71	91	78	100
Northern	4	3.9	99	96.9	103	100
Western	2	5	38	95	40	100
Total	84	15.9	443	84.1	527	100

4.1.2 *Distribution of children by age*

Understanding the ages at which most children are at risk of engaging in CSEC was pertinent to the study. The findings reveal that children between the ages 15 and 17 years were the most affected, constituting 89 percent of the total children. Those aged 17 years alone constituted almost half (49 percent) of the total children, followed by 16 years (26 percent) and 15 years (12 percent) involved in CSEC. As seen in figure 1 below, a total of 04 children were aged 10 years, 02 were aged 11 years, 08 were aged 12 years and 11 were aged 13 years.

Age and gender of children:

The study also established that more girls (91 percent) than boys (75.9 percent) in the same ages (15 – 17) were affected. See Table 3 below.

Table 3: Distribution of children by age and gender

Age group (Yrs)	Boys	Girls	Total
Below 15	24.1	8.3	10.9
15	10.8	12.7	12.4
16	25.3	26.3	26.2
17	39.8	52.0	50.0
Total	100	445	529
Number	84	445	529

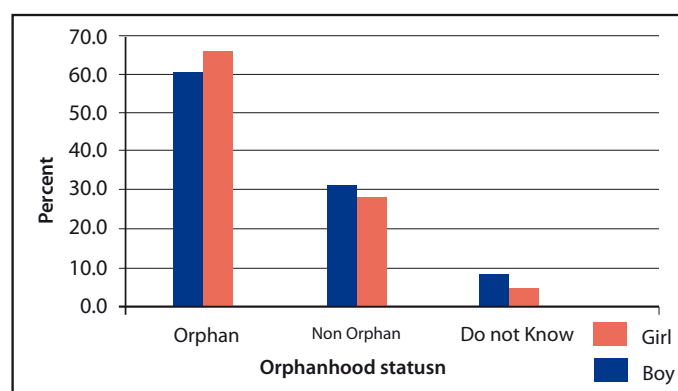
Although children below 15 years engaged in CSEC constitute only 11 percent, it has greater implications of the age of engagement in CSEC getting younger. It should be noted that these are the ages at which children; especially

girls start puberty and therefore are the best candidates for sexual exploitation. “I started commercial sex work at the age of 11 years when my parents died and had no other means of survival. None of my relatives could support or was willing to take care of us with my siblings”. **FGD child participant, Masaka.**

4.1.3 Orphanhood and Parental Status

Orphans are vulnerable to many exploitative situations and can easily become targets of CSEC. It was revealed that 63 percent of the children interviewed had lost one or both parents. Another 30 percent had both parents. Only 7 percent did not know the status of their parents. Almost equal numbers of both boys and girls were orphans from vulnerable families and were likely to be out of school due to absence of school dues and scholastic materials, thus easy target for trafficking and subsequent exploitation in CSEC. As one key informant noted; “children who have dropped out of school early and orphans from poor families are at high risk of exploitation, trafficking and engaging in prostitution”. **Key informant, Gulu.** See Figure 1 below.

Figure 1: Parental status of children by sex

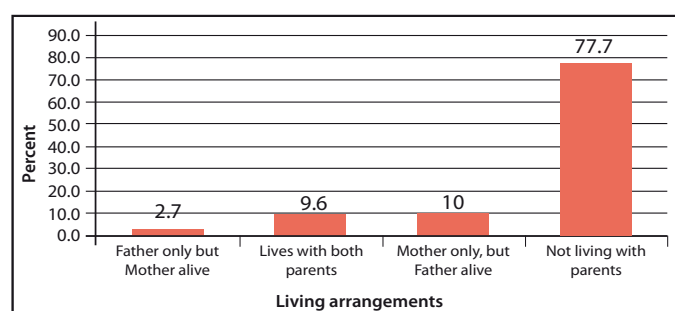


4.1.4 Persons with whom children stay with

Children need care, mentors support and protection, the family and its extended members play a significant role in fulfilling these ideals. Lack of parental care is a key factor that drives children into CSEC.

As shown in Figure 2 below, 78 percent of children interviewed were not staying with their biological parents, only 10 percent of children lived with single mothers and 9.6 percent lived with both parents.

Figure 2: Living arrangements for children whose parents are living



The high numbers of children living without parents raises concerns about the interest and ability of the guardians/ parties with whom children live, to protect them from CSEC. When asked to specify who exactly they live with, the children mentioned aunts, employers, friends or family friends.

“At Lambu, Dimu, Kasenyi and Namirembe landing sites in Masaka most children involved in CSEC were staying alone while others were staying with women called “aunties” with no blood relations who controlled them, and recommended men to sleep with the girls”. **Observed by a research assistant.** This situation also was evident in major urban towns visited.

4.1.5 Schooling Status of children

Schooling status is an indicator of how long the child has stayed in school, and this will significantly affect his/her individual life in social and health behavior in future. Children who have dropped out of school are easy candidates for recruitment into Worst Forms of Child Labour, including CSEC. See Figure 3 below;

Figure 3: Schooling status of children by sex

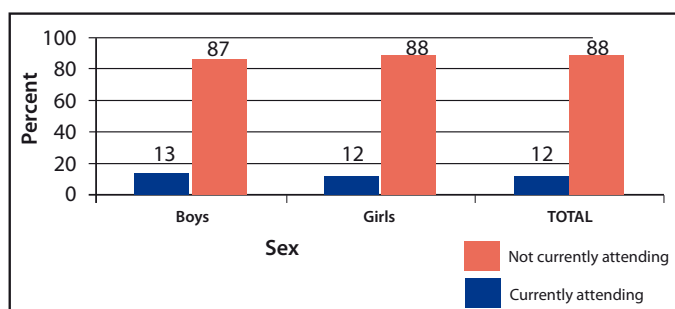


Figure 3 above shows that an almost equal number of boys (87 percent) and girls (88 percent) were out of school. Thus the study has established that most children in commercial sexual exploitation are out of school indicating that being in school plays a big role in deterring children from situation of CSEC. In addition, almost 13 percent of children were in school, indicating a worrying trend of students increasingly getting involved in CSEC.

4.1.6 Education level Attainment of children

In terms of education attainment, it was established that 43 percent of children had attained primary 5-7 level, followed by 28 percent that had attained primary 1-4 and this represent over 70 percent of the children interviewed. Most children interviewed had dropped out of school and had not completed primary level. The number of children who had completed primary were 22 percent. Failure to complete primary and secondary education is a precursor to child exploitation as **observed by a teacher in Wakiso**: “Failure to complete school due to poverty, orphanhood and some guardians who donot care increases the risk of children engaging in CSEC. Children of low education status, who are orphans and living with no parents are more likely to be trafficked for sexual exploitation since they may be out of school, unemployed and therefore viewed as a burden in a home”.

Table 4: Education level attainment of children

Educational attainment	Boys	Girls	Total
No formal education	5.5	4.4	4.6
Pre-Primary	2.7	2.6	2.6
P1 - P4	37.0	26.4	28.1
P5 - P7	41.1	43.3	42.9
Secondary	13.7	23.1	21.6
Total	100	100	100

4.1.7 Apprenticeship Skills levels of children engaged in CSEC

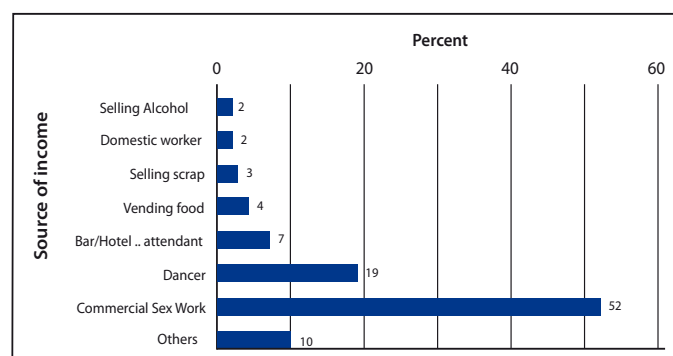
The study was interested in establishing whether the children involved in CSEC, particularly those that were out of school had apprenticeship skills that they could use to find employment other than commercial sex activities. 85 percent of the children interviewed had no apprenticeship skills and only 15 percent had skills. These skills include vocational and business skills training.

The study revealed that over 80 percent of children had left school and majority had not completed primary level, this implies greater difficulties of such children finding meaningful employment or creating jobs. In such circumstance, some find CSEC as a quick alternative. It was noted that 14 percent who had apprenticeship skills were not effectively using them for their economic empowerment.

4.1.8 Main source of income for children

Economic activities which generate income for children provide a picture of the kind of work children engage in for pay. When asked to mention their main sources of income, children mentioned commercial sex work as the major economic activity. See figure 4 below.

Figure 4: Main source of income for children involved in CSEC.



The other significant numbers were engaged in other activities such as karaoke dancing, attending to bars/hotels/restaurants, food vending, and these are closely linked to the entertainment industry where children can be prone to commercial sexual exploitation as noted by one girl from Kampala: “I serve food here in the market and I am paid 1,000 Uganda shillings a day. If I break a plate, I go home with nothing because my days’ allowance should replace the broken plate. So I find a man who can give me money in exchange for sex so that I can survive”.

A small number of children were selling scrap, engage in domestic service and selling alcohol in addition to commercial sex work. It was noted engage in commercial sex to supplement meager incomes from odd jobs since they are not sufficient to meet their basic survival needs also.

The socio-demographic data reveals that the most children affected by CSEC are girls compared to boys and the age is going younger. About 63 percent of the children had lost one or both parents with 30 percent having parents alive. Almost 80 percent children were staying alone and almost an equal number (88 percent) were out of school and had not gone beyond primary level though 12 percent were students. Over 80 percent of children lacked apprenticeship skills. Commercial sexual exploitation was the main source of income for the children supplemented with a few non viable activities.

4.2 Trafficking of Children for Commercial Sexual Exploitation

This section presents findings on the issue of trafficking of children and how they are later exploited in commercial sexual activities at their destination points. It covers methods of recruitment into CSE, the challenges they encounter in exploitation, factors that pull and push children to CSEC, and activities they undertake when they reach their destination points.

4.2.1 Trafficking of children into CSEC

The study sought to determine whether the children interviewed had moved from different areas of the country to the specific locations were found at the time of the study and also to determine what factors contributed to their movement and whether or not they were victims of trafficking as shown in Table 5 below.

Table 5: Percentage of children who migrated before the study

Status	Boys	Girls	Total
Migrated / moved	83.1	76.9	77.9
Never	16.9	23.1	22.1
P1 - P4	37.0	26.4	28.1
P5 - P7	41.1	43.3	42.9
Secondary	13.7	23.1	21.6
Total	100	100	100
Number	83	438	521

The table 5 above reveals that about 78 percent of the children interviewed (83 percent boys and 77 percent girls) had moved from their place of origin to their current residence and only 22 percent were residents of the same place. One key informant noted that “Some children are trafficked by the bar owners and employ them as barmaids to attract customers. The children are told never to refuse sexual relations with the customers”. **NGO worker in Masaka.**

Another key informant in Masaka noted: “most children who are brought here come from Masaka, Sembabule, Lyantonde corridor and are moved to the lake. Of recent many children are coming from the east especially Busoga region”.

The information above clearly shows that most children found in CSE are victims of trafficking.

The study established several reasons why children move and get engaged in CSEC as indicated in table 6 below.

Table 6: Percentage distribution by Reasons for trafficking

Reasons for movement	Male	Female	Total %age
Look for job	61.2	58.9	59.3
Running away from home	7.5	11.8	11.1
Studies	37.0	26.4	28.1
Security reasons	1.5	9.0	7.70
Convinced by friends	11.9	5.0	6.2
Just dumped in town	1.5	1.9	1.8
Total	100	100	100
* Multiple answers were considered			

The main reason for movement was to look for jobs whether boys or girls (60 percent). This was attributed to poverty and economic hardships within homes, followed by 14 percent who run away from home due to dry seasons, famine and truancy behavior. The least mentioned were 11 percent sought study opportunities and 8 percent were convinced by friends to leave their places of origin to their current residence. As one child in Kampala noted,

“You know am an orphan who was taken away from home to live with my auntie, where life was difficult, I was doing nothing and needed a job which could give me money. I always heard that there are people who help someone find jobs, I was ready anytime to go if anybody came by”. Despite their low level of education and lack of employable skills, all the children revealed that they expected better opportunities, including well-paid jobs than the reality in which they found themselves.

4.2.3 Mode of recruitment of children.

Various methods were used to recruit children for trafficking. Most children (58 percent) had been convinced by another party to leave their homes to their current residence, while 13.4 percent were enticed by the perpetrators of trafficking. See Table 7 below.

Table 7: How children were enlisted / recruited.

Recruitment method	Boys	Girls	Total
Convinced	66.2	56.3	58.0
Enticed	13.2	13.5	13.4
Forced	4.4	5.8	5.6
Kidnapped	0.0	0.3	0.3
None	16.2	24.2	22.8
Total	100	100	100

Fewer children (5.6 percent and 0.3 percent) were forced or kidnapped respectively. It was reported that the majority of children interviewed in non-conflict areas are more likely to be enticed by bribes, gifts, and lies to leave their homes than forced or kidnapped when compared to children in war situations. Indeed the study confirms that convincing is the major mode of recruitment of children. One child in Lyantonde observed “I was doing nothing in

our village then one girl who was my former school mate came and convinced me to join her. Another one said that: “one man known in our village came and convinced me with other girls in the village to move to town and work in the hotel industry. On reaching the city, we were introduced to an elderly lady who would find us work. She later told us to first engage in prostitution and that’s how we ended up in this situation”. Kidnap or abduction which was more prevalent in the North, has greatly declined due to the cessation of the Lord’s Resistance Army insurgency. About 23 percent of children had not been moved and were natives of the areas studied.

4.2.4 Recruiters and facilitators of children movements

Facilitators play a significant role in the recruitment of children either by deception or enticing. When asked about who facilitated their movement, 35.6 percent of the children mentioned relatives/guardians, 34.3 percent mentioned friends and peers, 10.9 percent were facilitated by someone from the destination town, and 9.6 percent by a neighbor (see figure 5 below).

Figure 5: Person that facilitated the child to move to current residence

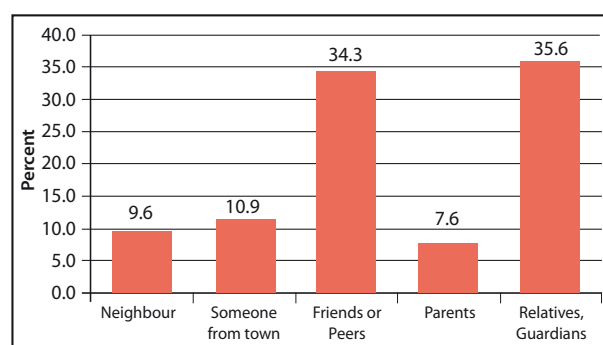
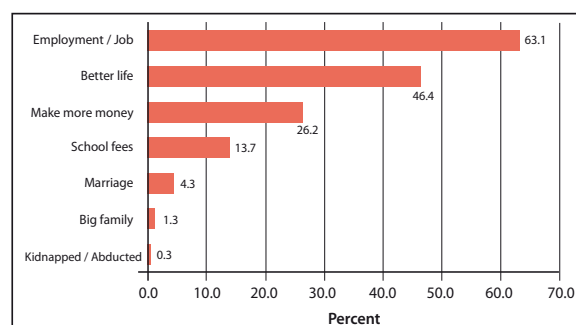


Figure 5 above shows that peer pressure/influence also plays a significant role in fuelling the trafficking of children. Therefore, these statistics imply that children are mostly trafficked by people known to them or known to their families. A discussion with one social worker working with an NGO explained that “the recruiters work with children and relatives to locate potential children for exploitation; others like pimps, brokers, middlemen and employment bureaus have their contacts in villages who scout for potential children for exploitation. They send money to facilitate persuasion of relatives and transport. Of late, sects in churches and mosques are also recruiting children for religious rituals. Some children have been moved to neighbouring countries such as Kenya. Muslims and Christians have been listed as people moving children. Additionally, traditional healers (witch doctors) and mediums have also contributed to abduction and movement of children for ritual sacrifices”.

4.2.5 Promises made to trafficked children

In the process of child trafficking, false promises play a central role in convincing or enticing children and their caretakers to give up their children to traffickers and later to exploiters. Deception is key to making trafficking and subsequent exploitation attractive. False promises are made of good things and opportunities that await children and their families if they follow the plans of traffickers. However once the child arrives at the destination city or town or transit towns it is apparent that the promises will not be delivered. Figure 6 below shows that over 60 percent of trafficked children were promised employment opportunities.

Figure 6: Promises made to children before leaving their homes



*Multiple responses were considered

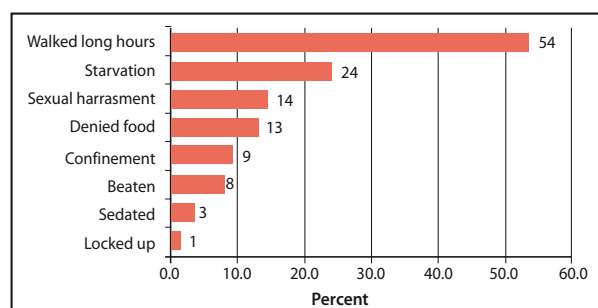
Since most of the children were out of school this rendered them vulnerable to false promises for meaningful employment. One key informant noted that “some out of school unemployed children will accept any offer of employment regardless of distance/place and nature of work. Such children are therefore ready target for traffickers”. Others were promised a better life, money, school fees and marriage.

Another NGO staff observed that “the promises of fees, money, better life and marriage, there is a clear correlation between poverty and child trafficking and exploitation, as many children and their families expect to improve their standards of living once one of their own finds opportunities in the city/towns, which is not usually the case. Children who have dropped out of school also expect to get school fees. Trafficking for marriage reflects a cycle of severe form of sexual and emotional abuse since such marriages do not actually materialize and girls end up in prostitution to survive”. The findings show that traffickers use multiple false promises to both the child and adults during recruitment and sometimes they are aware of the vulnerability of children and the family.

4.2.6 Hardships experienced during transit/trafficking

Literature shows that trafficking is normally associated with hardships during transit. When children were asked about their experiences during transit from their home areas, 54 percent of the children indicated that they walked for long hours, 24 percent starved, 14 percent were sexually harassed while 13 percent were denied food as shown in figure 7 below.

Figure 7: Children’s experiences during trafficking

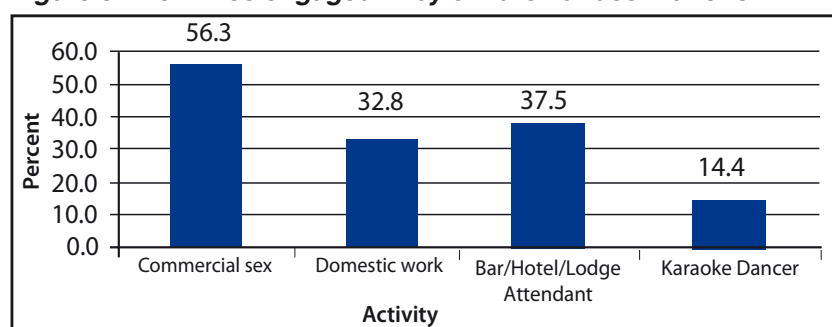


It was also established that children and their traffickers walk for long distances because of difficulties of getting public transport in many rural areas. Figure 7 above also shows that children walk when they get to the city/town looking for their initial employment, after the trafficker fails to provide the promised opportunity. Some children revealed physical and emotional abuse as a result of confinement, beating and sedation, these combined with sexual harassment implies elements of bonded labour.

4.2.7 Exploitative Activities engaged in by children in destination places

The study explored the nature of activities done by children at destination places after being trafficked to their points of destination in order to explore the nature of exploitation experienced by children. It was established that 56.3 percent of the children were involved in CSE; 37.5 percent were attending to lodges, bars and hotel businesses, while 32.8 percent were in domestic service. Another 14.4 percent of children were engaged in karaoke entertainment work. Most child victims of trafficking end up in prostitution prone environments such as working in bars, lodges, karaoke dancing, and sex trade as seen in figure 8 below.

Figure 8: Activities engaged in by children at destinations



*Multiple responses were considered

Almost 78 percent of the children are engaged in work that in one way or another lead to CSEC. **A key Informant in Lira district observed that** “A girl working at a bar/lodge is more exposed to commercial sex by clients and by the fact that the money from the job may not be enough to meet all her needs. Children in domestic service are forced into prostitution due to hardships at the employers place and little pay”. Key Informant in Kasese district observed that “Girls are most preferred compared to boys because a girl can be a waitress, can dance karaoke and at the same time do commercial sex to tap money from different sources doing multiple activities with little pay. Employers also encourage the girls to be prostitutes to get more money”.

At the landing sites, many trafficked children (especially boys) in addition to the work explained above are engaged in hazardous fishing activities including exposure to sunshine, fishing in deep waters and other dangers without protective gear such as life jackets. The majority are recruited from rural areas from surrounding districts as noted by a **Member of Beach Management Unit, Kasenyi-Entebbe.**

“landing sites such as Namirembe, Mumpu, Kiyindi, Kasenyi and those on Lake George like Hamuhungu had very organized individuals of fishermen, boat owners and peers who send out scouts to recruit and move children as far Lake George, some of these were Bakiga and Banyakole and other children were also being recruited from Lake Edward (Bagungu tribe) and Luos and Basoga from Lake Kyoga. Small lakes act as sources for children who have an idea on fishing”

Recruitment for external and internal exploitation

Disturbingly, the study revealed that a growing number of children are trafficked for exploitation by foreign nationals locally or internationally. It was also mentioned by an NGO staff in a FGD that “Uganda children were also being recruited and moved to countries like Kenya where they work as domestic workers, work on agricultural farms, and exploited in the sex trade. Other children have been moved to work in gold mines and timber harvesting in the DRC forests. Sudan was also receiving many children recruited by Uganda to work in domestic work as well sex trade”.

Also affluent Indians, Chinese and Pakistanis have started bringing children and girls to work for them and other were involved Karaoke raids, places like Bombay Gardens has many young people either in transit or searching for work and their travel documents are kept away from them.

Also under the guise of adopting children a number of applications are made to Court requesting for adoption orders. The immigration department also has received many requests for passports to move children out of the country, in spite a short stay in the country and one wants to adopt in a short time and some of these were identified as traffickers. Many of recruiters and traffickers have been facilitated by false marriage agencies, adoption agencies coming up, and false employment bureaus, illegal soccer academy, children homes, educational–scholarship agencies and religious affiliation.

Rwanda, DRC and Burundi young people the numbers have increased and many have been cited in bars and sexual exploitation. Equally another one said a bus from Kenya brings at least 5 Somalis and an Eritrean and Ethiopians come and some cases have been highly linked to trafficking.

Uganda has also made a niche in education and many young students coming as far Lesotho , Zambia, Rwanda , Kenya and Tanzania and a few have been brought in the country on this pretext but many have been coerced into commercial sexual exploitation in the city and hostels. Incidences of arrest were also cited where over 14 children had been moved from Tanzania in guise of education. Teenage mothers and women with children from Kenya and Rwanda have been reported to Uganda Police especially at Kampala Central Police.

This section has conclusively showed that recruitment and movement of children is well coordinated, kidnap has declined, whereas there has been an increase in enticements/convincing. Most female victims of trafficking end up in prostitution prone environments while boys enter hazardous work like fishing on lakes or stone quarries.

4.3 Magnitude of Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

This section presents the scope and magnitude of commercial sexual exploitation of children in Uganda. It highlights child prostitution as a form of CSEC, factors that push children into the different forms of CSE, identification of consumers and perpetrators of child prostitution and how they access child victims as well as methods of payment used.

4.3.1. Child Prostitution as a form of CSEC

Child prostitution as a form of CSEC is one of the Worst Forms of Child Labour with hazardous impacts on the health and development of children, See Table 8 below

Table 8: Number of children involved in CSEC by sex

Sex	Involved in CSEC	Not involved in CSEC	Total
Boys	67	17	84
Girls	150	295	445
Total	217	312	529

The study revealed that both boys (31 percent) and girls (69 percent) are affected. A total of 217 (41%) out of 529 children interviewed were involved in child prostitution. This implies that out of every 5 children interviewed, two faced sexual exploitation. The study team also asked the estimation of children who are affected by CSEC, the study believes/estimates the number entering CSEC had increased from 12,000 according to the ILO CSEC study, 2004, this study now estimates 18,000 children involved in CSEC.

4.3.2 Recruitment of children into Commercial Sex Work

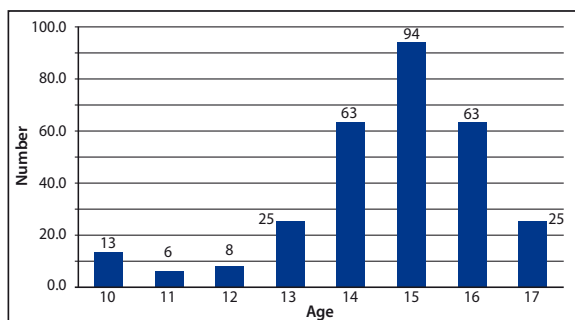
Children are recruited into commercial sex work in different ways. While some are directly trafficked straight into the vice by bar and lodge owners, others are promised work in big hotels and earn big salaries, where exploiters end up selling them to men who end up paying/and once girls get used the practice continues, others are lured or forced by their peers or employers from the conditions within which they work. During interviews with key informants it was discovered that children are further exploited by adults or fellow children with experience in commercial sexual work-as former or active participants at a fee. The peers entice others into the practice with promises of good lifestyle, food clothing and shelter and induct young one and tell them how safe the practice is. Most of those recruited have low self esteem, are desperate and prostitution is the only option left.

“One man here in Makindye had a house and used to collect about 20 girls from different places; put them in karaoke bars and eventually they engage in commercial sex. On Sunday, they would return to their respective places of abode. Landlords are also getting into the business of child prostitution; for example seven girls can rent one room and each day they pay the land lord Ugx. 2,000 – 3000 which they earn through prostitution when the landlord is aware. We have many bars here where young girls in prostitution converge to look for market”. **Key informant in Kampala.**

4.3.3 Age and commercial sexual exploitation of children

As much as it is hidden, child prostitution is steadily increasing especially in urban areas due to the need for young girls to meet the sexual demands created by male customers. Figure 9 below shows the age of first debut of children involved in commercial sex. A total of 94 children had their first encounter with commercial sex at the age of 15 years. An equal number of children (63) had their encounter at the ages of both 14 and 16, while 25 of them were 17 years old, and rest below 13 years. It is important to note that 16 of the children interviewed were 10 years old when they first engaged in commercial sex, which confirms the submissions by key informants about the age of debut into commercial sex is getting lower compared to the 2004 CSEC study.

Figure 9: Age of first debut in commercial sex



Observed by an NGO worker in Kampala, “The number of children, mainly girls, entering prostitution has increased. We are increasingly seeing girls, as young as 11 years getting involved in commercial sex. When we ask them, they tell us they are recruited by other girls experienced in commercial sex work. There are also former house girls (domestic workers) whose relationships with employers collapsed but could not return to their villages because they were used to city life so started commercial sex work for quick money”.

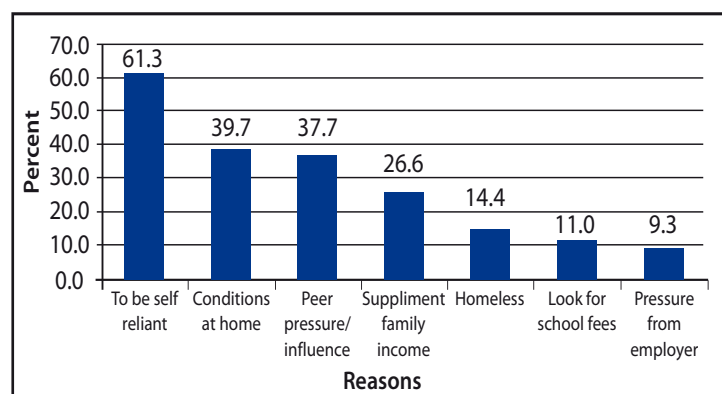
In seeking to understand why some children even below the age of 12 engage in commercial sex, the children were asked whether any member of their family practiced commercial sex work. About 27 percent answered in affirmative, while 73 percent did not have or know of a family member who was involved in commercial sex work. Therefore the 27 percent of children who answered in the affirmative could have engaged in commercial sex because of the influence of the family member involved in commercial sex work.

4.3.4 Factors pushing children into commercial sexual exploitation

There are numerous factors that increase the vulnerability of children to commercial sex work. Some children get involved in sexual exploitation to become self-reliant (61 percent), followed by those forced by hard conditions at home (40 percent). It was established that poverty causes immense hardship on children and their families and consequently force them to engage in commercial sex work in order to earn money to survive.

Other children are enticed into commercial sex work by their peers (38 percent) who are already involved in the sex trade. Remarkably, 14 percent of the children reported entering into CSE to supplement family income while 11 percent were looking for school fees and other school requirements. There are other children who are exploited in CSE as a result of homelessness and desperation (14 percent) as well as pressure from their employers (9 percent) as shown in figure 10 below.

Figure 10: Reasons for engaging in Commercial sex



Discussions with girls involved in commercial sex activities in Kawempe, revealed that some young girls go out to look for men, themselves particularly those in the entertainment industry when they are in the field shooting their videos. **A Key Informant in Kampala also observed;**

“Some girls get excited when they hear celebrities are coming to sing or shoot videos at Link bar. Even if they know they will not get to the celebrity, they can at least get to the members of his crew who can give a drink and/or some money. Many girls flock to see and even try their luck to see whether they will be accepted to participate in the video back ground. However, many have to consent to sex demands and dress skimpily to impress. A few girls come from school, but it is mainly those out of school”.

Another key informant in Kampala remarked: *“Some girls who have parents join prostitution because they are stubborn. They exhibit truant behaviors and eventually run away from home. Too many orders from parents at home and teachers at school work in the same direction to force girls into prostitution as they try to find peace. Children staying with promiscuous parents also engage in prostitution because they get the example from their parents”.*

The children were asked when they engage in commercial sex activities, more than half of the children (56 percent) indicated it is when there is need for money, followed by 34 percent that engage in it when there is demand. A few respondents specifically those in school mentioned that it occurs after school hours (6 percent) and during school holidays (7 percent). See table 9 below.

Table 9: Time for engagement in commercial sex activities

Time	Number	Percentage
Whenever there is demand	162	34.2
When there is need for money	265	55.9
After school hours	30	6.3
school holidays	17	3.6

**Multiple responses were considered*

This representation indicates that day scholars are more likely to get involved in commercial sex activities after school hours, than boarding scholars who are in a controlled school environment. Further analysis of the data indicates demand is further influenced by poverty in households which makes children easy prey for exploiters.

Such children are easy to get in the villages and can do any work at little pay with minimum complaints, very submissive and these children can be expelled at leisure. Also the entertainment industry demands lot of labour intensive work such as washing clothes, serving in bars, cooking, dancing and sex work which all demand physical availability. *“Children are considered amateurs in the sex trade and are easily manipulated and exploited to serve the men interests”*. **Key informant, Masaka district.**

The interplay between demand and supply factors perpetuates child sexual exploitation. Exploitation of children in the sex trade by perpetrators/sexual abusers creates demand for more children while trafficking supplies children sexual exploitation. Victims are becoming younger as demand is increasing. Vulnerable children are especially susceptible to recruitment by pimps and traffickers. Increased attention to the exploitation of children by traffickers has increased as well. Demand for younger girls is increasing as buyers believe they are less likely to be infected with sexually transmitted diseases. Also, younger girls present the vision of innocence and vulnerability sought by buyers.

Buyers of child sexual exploitation services expect immediate and easy access to commercial sex which fuels the trafficking of vulnerable children to satisfy that the high demand. The sexual exploiters of these children are composed of different varieties; low end of society, middle class, and rich that spend an enormous amount of money on girls. Institutional facilitators are the businesses, governments and other institutions benefiting in some way from commercial sex markets which use trafficked children. For example, some hotels facilitate sex trafficking by allowing children to be prostituted on their premises through inaction, tolerance or poor management.

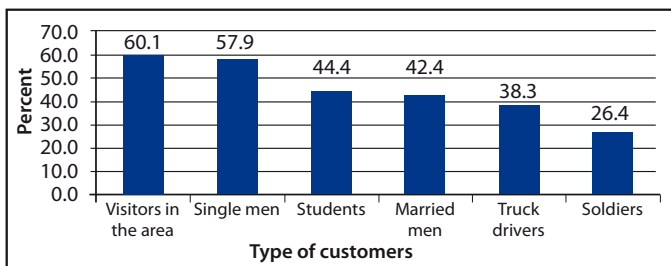
Recent technology especially the internet has also contributed greatly to the proliferation of pornography. The viewing of adult pornography by situational or opportunistic buyers is a primary gateway to the purchase of humans for commercial sex.

From the study findings, it can be concluded that no single factor can explain why children are forced into CSEC, but a combination of both pull and push factors intertwine to trap the children in this vice.

4.3.5 Exploiters of children involved in commercial sex

Children engage in commercial sexual activities with different categories of people as shown in Figure 11 below.

Figure11: Customers for Children involved in commercial sex



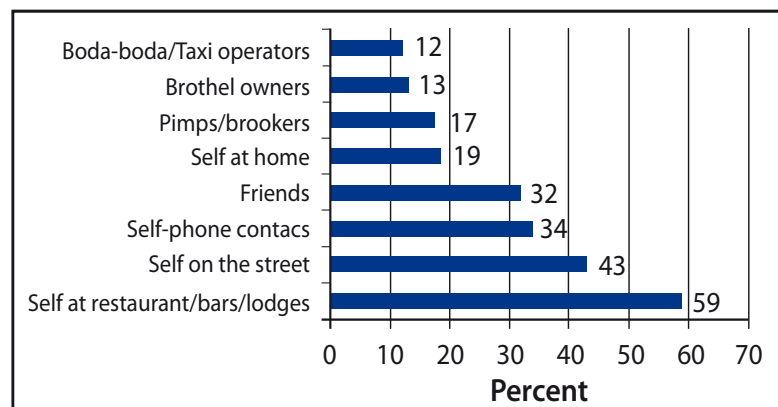
The majority of children interviewed mentioned that their customers are mainly visitors in their areas (60 percent) often strangers, regardless of their occupations, followed by single men (58 percent). Almost an equal number of

students (44 percent) and married men (42 percent) also sexually exploit children. Truck drivers and soldiers were also singled out, particularly in the North and Eastern study districts.

4.3.6 How exploiters or ‘customers’ access child victims of CSE

Entertainment places and leisure spots such as discotheques, bars, and beaches are places where most children are sexually exploited. This study established that the majority of children find their own ‘customers’ for themselves (59 percent), others on streets (43 percent, through phone contacts 34 percent and peers). It was earlier observed in section 4.2.7 that most child victims of trafficking end up in prostitution prone environments such as working in bars, lodges, karaoke dancing, and sex trade. Thus it’s no surprise that majority children get their own customers at bars and lodges, which are presumably the children’s work places. Other children are facilitated by well knitted network of brothel owners, pimps, boda boda cyclists and taxi operators. (See Figure 12 below).

Figure 12: Modes through which children get exploiters/customers



4.3.7 Modes of Payment for Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

Mode of payment to children can help to enhance our awareness on the children’s necessities and how we may intervene. The children’s mode of payment is represented in table 10 below. The study revealed that 99 percent of children received payment in various forms. The study established that the majority of children engaged in CSE due to the need for money. Table 10 indicates other common modes of payment as food (22 percent), alcohol (21 percent), entrance to entertainment places (16 percent), shelter (15 percent), transport (12 percent) and school fees/requirements at the least (6 percent). Most of the modes of pay are more to meet the physical needs and also reveals free expensive life styles the live in CSEC. On the other hand, 21 percent of children noted that exchange of sex for alcohol signifies the role that alcohol and other intoxicating substances contribute to furthering child exploitation in commercial sex work. Despite being the lowest percentage, exchanging sex for school requirement indicates that school going children are also turning to commercial sex as a way of meeting their school needs.

Table 10: Mode of Payment for commercial sex activities with children

Mode of payment	Number	Percent
Money	386	98.5
Food	87	22.2
Shelter	57	14.5
School fees/other scholastic requirements	22	5.6
Transport	48	12.2
Entrance to disco/cinema	62	15.6
Alcohol	81	20.7

4.3.8 Utilization of proceeds and who benefits:

Utilization of benefits can explain further who gains from the proceeds and also gives an indication of the levels of exploitation. The study established that a number of people benefit from the income earned by children from CSEC (See Table 11 below).

Table 11: Persons that benefit from the proceeds of commercial sex work

Person (s)	Number	Percent
None	64	20.6
Brothel owner	61	19.9
Pimp	71	23.2
Parents/guardians	56	18.3
Totals	252	100.0

***Multiple responses were considered.**

Table 11 above shows multiple beneficiaries from the proceeds earned by children. Friends get the lion share (50 percent), followed by pimps (23 percent), brothel owner (20 percent) and parents (18 percent). These form part of the chain of intermediaries involved in obtaining customers and also those who encourage children to get involved in CSEC because of the anticipated benefits.

Besides the money spent on friends, brothel owners, pimps and parents; the study was interested to establish how the rest of the income from commercial sex work is utilized. It was noted that most of the income is used to meet the most basic needs of children especially to buy clothing (84 percent), food (75.6 percent), and rent (53.9 percent). A significant 32 percent of respondents buy alcohol to facilitate their engagement in the sex trade, while a smaller 8 percent of the children interviewed use money to pay their school dues (See table 12 below).

Table 12: Utilization of the proceeds of commercial sex work

Item	Number	Percent
Pay own school fees	29	8.2
Rent	192	53.9
Clothing	299	84.0
Alcohol	112	31.5
Food	269	75.6
Totals	681	100.0

***Multiple responses were considered.**

Most of the funds are spent by the children on clothing, shelter, food and expensive life styles and these are the core reasons why children join the sex trade as shown by this study's findings. Once these factors are addressed by the programmers then we are likely to see fewer numbers of children involved in CSEC. The trend for the children to spending more on clothing is part of the requirement of the trade to look appealing to the customers and the expensive lifestyles here in Uganda associated with this vice.

4.3.9 Arrest by security agencies:

The study established that on numerous occasions, police rounds up girls in the commercial sex trade who eventually get charged with being idle and disorderly. Some of these are among the 16 percent of the children who indicated that they had ever been arrested by police for engaging in commercial sexual activities.

4.4 Risky behaviors in CSEC

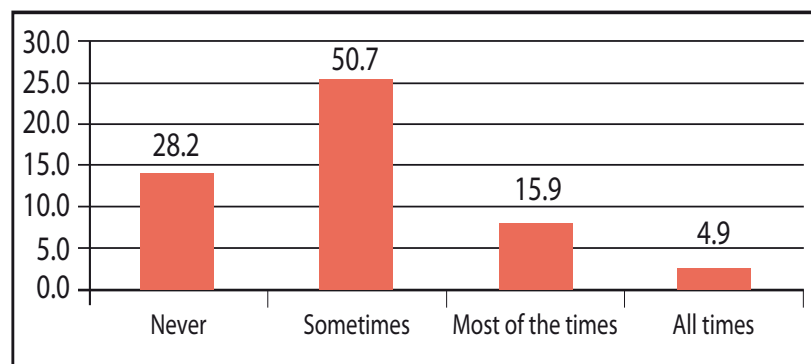
Children involved in CSE are exposed to numerous forms of risky behavior in different circumstances as indicated below.

4.4.1 Condom use

The Uganda AIDS Commission and the Ministry of Health (Uganda Health Sero Status Survey, 2005) identified commercial sex work as one of the drivers of the HIV/AIDS epidemic especially among young people. As part of the response, the government of Uganda has over the years promoted correct and consistent condom use as an

important strategy in the ABC response towards addressing HIV transmissions among sections of the population that cannot abstain or be faithful to one partner. Notwithstanding the high knowledge levels of condom use and improved access, figure 13 below indicates that only 4.9 percent of the children mentioned that they used condoms each time they engaged in sexual activities while 50.7 percent of the children said that they sometimes use condoms while 28.2 percent never use condoms at all during commercial sexual exploitation. The study has established that there is lack of consistent use of condoms among the children and this is a high risk factor for HIV/AIDS and other STI infections due to exposure to unprotected sex.

Figure 13: Frequency of use

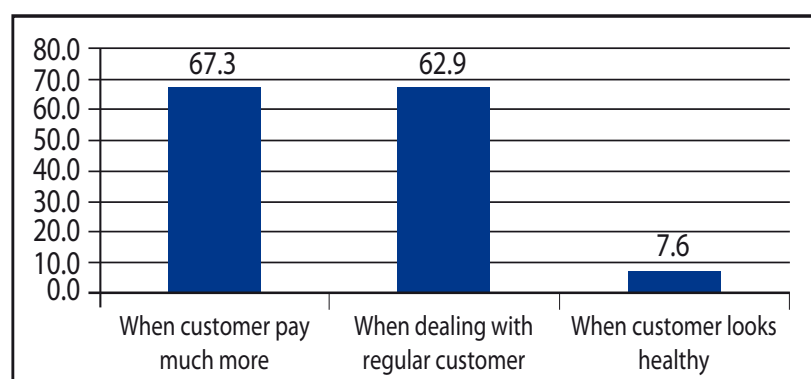


4.4.2 Circumstances for engaging in unprotected sexual activities

The study established that there is a close link between unprotected sexual activities with the desire for more money, as indicated by the majority (67 percent) of the children in figure 14 below. **As one girl participating in karaoke dance group in Bwaise observed,** "you know sometimes customers ask you to go 'live' to give you more money, true we charge them more and we do not mind about catching HIV/AIDS but also remember we do not have anyone to buy me food, pay rent, clothing and yet we have to look smart to attract customers". Other factors for inconsistent use of condoms or no condom use at all include: when dealing with a regular client/partner (63 percent) and perception of low risk of HIV and STIs.

The low rate of condom use is also partly attributed to the fact that these children left school early and may not have had opportunities to be exposed to HIV/AIDS awareness or limited accessibility to condoms in terms of price, accessibility of condom and knowledge about condom use. This is evidenced by the misconception of the 7.6 percent of the respondents that equate healthy looks of a person with being HIV/AIDS negative. HIV information was found to be generally inadequate among these children.

Figure 14: Circumstances for engaging in unprotected sexual activities.



4.5 Hazards Faced By Children Exploited In Commercial Sexual Activities

There are several hazards and dangers associated with commercial sexual exploitation of children and the study wanted to understand what these children go through while in CSEC. The study revealed that 55.2 percent of the children interviewed have been beaten by their customers, 33.3 percent have been defiled, 20.4 percent have been assaulted by the customers' partner and 13 percent have been harassed by the police. (See table 13 on page 27).

Table 13: Harm to children engaged in commercial sexual activities

Nature of harm	Number	Percent
Beaten by customer	111	55.2
Assaulted by Customers' Partner	41	20.4
Defiled	67	33.3
Physical harassment by police	26	12.9
Number of children	166	-----

***Multiple responses were considered**

Most children who reported to have been defiled said that they did not report the cases to the authorities since prostitution is illegal. Many victims of CSEC complained about the spontaneous beating and sexual violence. Children also indicated that their wages are at times deducted or withheld with no explanation given by the exploiters combined with threats of denunciation and harm to relatives who stayed in the villages as a tactic to control the children. It was noted that the pimps many times use threats to keep children in the CSEC practice and these are very effective since children have no place of abode, some escaped from homes and to be chased away since they have no skills for employment.

Children also mentioned that their movements were curtailed and thus confined to work places such as bars, hotels, homes and had limited contacts with outsiders except with the permission of the exploiters. In some instances children were also in debt bondage resulting from negotiations made between the exploiter and parents/guardians and have to pay back by working for the exploiters until they mature. Children noted that their pay could be deducted or withheld while sometimes it is irregular. This appears to keep the children in the practice. Therefore physical and sexual violence goes along with wage manipulation as common tools used by the exploiters to psychologically and sexually cripple children. Addressing violence against children remains largely unaddressed as many NGOs are engaged in advocacy other than direct service provision including psychosocial support.

The focus group discussions revealed various risks faced by children involved in CSE related activities (including commercial sex work and karaoke dancing). It was established that children face problems ranging from sleeping for fewer hours, exposure to HIV/AIDs and STIs, early pregnancies and risky abortions which sometimes result in death. Many girls in karaoke dance groups for example, use alcohol (particularly gins packed in sachets) in order to dance and impress patrons without any inhibitions. Some children reported taking drugs such as marijuana to get high and gain the confidence to approach customers and to brave the cold at night while waiting for clients, and to disengage from realities of the trauma caused by physical abuse and forced sexual encounters. Some girls indicated that many men do not want to use condoms and some gangs in town murder their colleagues after having sex with them and refusing to pay. In focus group discussions with girls in Kawempe, a suburb of Kampala, girls reported kinds of abuse they went through and their general thoughts about the prostitution they are engaged in.

Nature of intimidation to CSEC victims.

- Prolonged beating, Deprivation of pay,
- Debt bondage, cutting their pay,
- Threat of nonpayment,
- Restrict movement, Sexual abuse,
- Threat to report police.
- Wishcraft and sacrifice.

“There is no future in prostitution, we feel helpless because prostitution is not taking us anywhere. In many occasions we end up going with any man who approaches us because we are desperate to survive. Girls who dance in karaoke groups are forced to remove knickers and to have sex with patrons and revelers. Some of those men do not pay or instead pay the karaoke manager who takes all the money. When you insist to be paid, they insult you, can beat you and force you out of their houses police, security guards and local defense also assault us”. **Girl in a karaoke dancing group, Kawempe Kampala.**

4.6 Exiting or Quitting of Commercial Sexual Activities

The study explored whether children involved in commercial sex activities are interested in quitting. This section gives an insight into the reasons for giving up CSEC and resilience of such young people in coping with the pressures and trauma arising from the practice. The study revealed that 57 percent of children had not thought about quitting commercial sex activities. The study further established factors that keep children in the practice and these were lack of alternative skills to seek employment elsewhere, opportunities for quick money, alcohol and drug abuse, fear to venture into the unknown world, belonging to social networks and groups, stigma and fear of rejection all work to bind and keep children from moving out of commercial sex activities. The study revealed that only 124 children (43 percent) have attempted to quit the practice. When children were asked why they had attempted to quit commercial sex, they gave the following reasons as shown in Table 14 below.

Table 14: Reasons why children quit CSEC

Reason	Frequency	Percent (%) of cases
Got married	68	44.4
Convinced by parents or Guardian	12	7.8
Convinced by other relatives	13	8.5
Convinced by religious leaders	14	9.2
Rehabilitated by NGOs/CBOs	33	21.6
Got tired	22	14.4
Got another job/income Source	48	31.4

***Multiple responses were allowed for this question.**

Table 14 shows that 44 percent of the children had got married, followed by 31 percent who got another job, 22 percent who were rehabilitated by an NGO, while 14 percent got tired of the practices. Other reasons for attempting to quit were some children had been contacted by (a partner, a parent/guardian, relative, religious leader or NGO) and some had acquired vocational skills training.

“Most likely this perpetual abuse and sexual exploitation of children ends up in “marriage”. Marriage in this sense means cohabiting as opposed to legal marriages.... Exploiters take advantage of poverty and vulnerability of girls to use them as their “wives”. They stay with men who hoodwink them and allegedly become their husbands with no commitment. The young girls cohabit with men who do not commit to marry them but remain in casual relationships. Such relationships do not last long, especially after they produce children, as they increase the dependency burden on the man. These “husbands” abandon them at landing sites and urban centers for other younger girls. The girls relapse into the business of commercial sex to survive, due economic hardships” **Staff working with an NGO** rehabilitating trafficked victims.

A Social worker at a girls drop in center, Kampala further noted: *“...Many girls in CSEC conceive and produce children but do not know their fathers. The children are fatherless and in case of any problem, the girls have to suffer with the child alone without any support. This situation forces some of them to throw the children away in toilets or at dust bins. It is not a surprise that there are so many abandoned children in baby’s homes and on the streets”*.

It is important to note that in all of the categories of children interviewed whether they left commercial sex activities by being convinced by a third party or by their own initiative, relapsed back into commercial sex. It therefore follows that the interventions the children had received were not adequate, as they did not address their needs to create sustainable change to cause them to quit commercial sexual exploitation. The will for the girls to quit commercial sex is a very significant tool in achieving successful rehabilitation and can be further studied to identify sustainable interventions to withdraw victims and to prevent other children from engaging in commercial sexual activities.

“Some girls leave commercial sex work because they realize there are no future prospects in the business. There are no opportunities for formal education, poor shelter, and inadequate food. Others get tired of the dehumanizing practice of

sleeping with male clients that you do not know yet pay little or nothing at all. Some men have bad body odors; others detest using condoms while some are naturally violent which puts us, girls at risk of deaths and low self-esteem". **Observed one FGD participant, Kampala.**

4.7 Alcohol and Other Substances

Alcohol, drugs and other substances of abuse in many ways facilitate or reinforce activities of commercial sex. Alcohol, marijuana, khat and tobacco (emindi) are the most commonly used drugs by children. As shown in Figure 18, 50.5 percent of the children affirmed that they use drugs and alcohol.

One child in a FGD observed that; *"The use of alcohol and drugs helps lessen the emotional and physical pain of abusive/exploitative experiences; to relax the body, to make them more confident and courageous to engage with many partners or take risks of having unprotected sex. This practice is perpetuated by employers and pimps as well as peers and customers who encourage girls to use substances if they are to be successful in winning more clients. Many clients go ahead to buy the alcohol for the girls".*

Another key informant in Gulu observed that *"Alcohol and drugs like marijuana play a very important role in facilitating commercial sex work. When they are drunk, it becomes easy to lure customers. Some of the girls complain of being raped others are not paid and end up facing physical violence by their clients".*

When asked of the benefits gained from commercial sex activities, 32 percent of the girls revealed that they received alcohol from their clients. Interestingly, in urban slums, the study discovered that many girls smoke pipes (emindi), stuffed with tobacco, khat and marijuana, provided by traditional herbalists/healers to smoke in anticipation for more luck in winning many clients and money. Boys who have been trafficked to fishing villages for fishing activities use marijuana and alcohol to help them manage the cold nights and also gain more courage when the lake is so windy and threats to drown them.

Conclusively this section on child prostitution has showed that children are recruited into commercial sex work in different ways. While some are directly trafficked straight into the vice by bar owners and lodges, others are promised work in big hotels and earn big salaries, where exploiters end up selling them to men. Much as it is hidden, child prostitution is steadily increasing especially in fishing communities and urban centers. Poverty, peer pressure, life style associated with commercial sex, and desire to be self reliant consequently forces children to engage in commercial sex. Students were also cited as victims of commercial sex work. Most child sexual customers are employed in the transport industry, informal business activities and few in formal trade. Many children are connected by pimps or self through telephone contacts, being in places which are frequented by many people such as slums, bars, markets.

Clothing, rent, food and alcohol and expensive life style of girls keep them in commercial sexual exploitation. There is a close link between unprotected sexual activities with the desire for more money. Many victims coerced into sexual exploitation complained about the spontaneous beating and sexual violence. Children also indicated that their wages are at times deducted or withheld with no explanation given by the exploiters combined with threats of denunciation and harm to relatives who stayed in the villages as a tactic to control the children. Children also mentioned that their movements were curtailed and confined to work places such as bars, hotels, homes and had limited contacts with outsiders except with the permission of the exploiters. In some instances children were also in debt bondage resulting from negotiations made between the exploiter and parents/guardians and have to pay back by working for the exploiters until they mature. Such factors like lack of alternative skills to seek employment elsewhere, opportunities for quick money, alcohol and drug abuse, fear to venture into the unknown world, belonging groups, stigma and fear of rejection caused a lot of relapse into prostitution. Alcohol, drugs and substances of abuse in many ways facilitate or reinforce activities of commercial sex.

4.8 Pornography

Exposure of children to sexually explicit images, photographs, writings, videos, films and other materials to children have been noted to be on the rise and this is against the International conventions and laws of Uganda. This study was interested in exploring the trends of child pornography since 2004. In 2004, a thematic study on CSEC by

ILO/MoGLSD⁴⁵ reported that children had been exposed to pornography in the form of blue movies, strip dancing, and group sex. In other subsequent studies, pornography was reported as an increasing form of sexual exploitation of children in Uganda. It was established as shown in Figure 20 below that 65 percent of children interviewed had been exposed to pornography in form of movies, printed material or live sexual performances by other people. About 35.4 percent of the children had been involved in pornographic activities for pay.

The increase in the phenomenon of pornography was viewed by many key informants as a result of the proliferation of the entertainment industry imitating western cultures and forms of entertainment, particularly in urban areas.

The most common forms of child pornography that were identified in the study include strip dancing in bars and music show performances requiring almost nude and skimpy dresses, watching sex explicit movies (blue movies), taking nude photographs and taking photographs while having sex. Child pornography is more prevalent in the budding entertainment industry in urban areas most especially in Kampala. Table 15 below indicates the most common forms of pornographic practices were watching blue movies (86 percent), followed by taking nude photographs (17 percent), strip dancing (14 percent), engaging in group sex competitions (4 percent), taking photographs and having sex (3 percent).

Table 15: Type of pornographic activities

Pornographic acts	Number	Percentage (%)
Taken a photo while nude	30	16.48
Strip dancing	25	13.74
Watching blue movies	157	86.26
Engage in group sex competition	7	3.85
Taken a photo while having sex	6	3.3
Number of children	182	

Strip dancing was identified as one of the most hidden, common and exploitative forms of pornography perpetuated by the entertainment industry especially bars and other entertainment places. *“Local celebrities call on adolescents using local contacts and sometimes with adverts on the FM radio, especially girls who want to participate as “queen dancers or background dancers in music video, but part of the test is to take nude photos and video tape them having sex”.*

Observed a girl in Kawempe.

The study established that in Kampala alone, over 60 bars are known for holding karaoke strip dancing entertainment from Wednesday to Saturday. **One FGD in Nakulabye Kampala** revealed that *“The owners of businesses use such shows to attract more clients to drink more at their bars/entertainment places. Karaoke shows normally convert into strip dancing shows after 11:00pm. There is an increasing demand for young girls with slender, attractive and young bodies because they are more appealing to revelers than older ones. This practice is highly associated with prostitution. These premises, most times owned by local leaders and high profile connected people, are usually heavily guarded by bouncers and security to stop people from taking photographs and any possible intrusion by law enforcement”.*

A FGD with girls who participate in karaoke dance group in Kawempe division in Kampala noted that most girls in karaoke dance groups either have sex with their male group members, their managers or male customers. Alternatively, some karaoke group managers who do not pay the girls in cash identify for them male revelers willing to have sex with girls for money as ‘payment’ to girls for promoting the karaoke group. However, part of the money paid by male clients is given to the manager of the group as commission.

.....managers also have sexual relations with the girls as well as the male karaoke dancers in a group and sharing partners is not a problem. These male dancers are also aware that the girls have sexual encounters with male revelers after their performances. The girls also find themselves in situations where they have sexual encounters with managers and owners of the businesses to win their favour. Any of the girls is readily available for commercial sex once the group leader is paid a commission. **Girl-Karaoke Dancer, Bwaise, Kampala.**

Karaoke in this sense is used as an advertising avenue for girls in commercial sex. In a way, these karaoke managers operate as “**mobile pimps**”. Under such circumstances it was noted in the field that some children could not refuse to participate in commercial sex or pornography acts and were not free to move away, because these children were still debt bonded to the pimps, karaoke owners and bar owners who were feeding them, giving them shelter, food, clothing’s, sending money to their parents or relatives in villages which the girls are obliged to repay.

The study revealed that pornography in Kampala city has been taken to another level from mainly engaging in pornography for entertainment purposes to commercial gain. Pornography is a well-coordinated network orchestrated by music celebrities, bar and karaoke group owners. Pornography is disguised in shooting of films, music videos and strip dancing. These are key avenues in recruiting many children especially teenage girls at unprecedented levels. Media reports of recent have indicated an upsurge of young children participating in strip dancing commonly known as ‘ekimansulo’ used by several girls modeling striping, topless and lap dance groups. Watching sexual and nude images on the internet and taking nude photos appear to be less prevalent in these districts. An observation by the study indicated that activities that take place in entertainment places, particularly in Kampala City reveal the existence and a growing trend of strip dancing as an avenue to attract revelers to drinking or hangout joints. Many of these dance groups employ adolescent girls to strip for money.

An interview with one of the girls in the karaoke dancing business reveals that girls use drugs and alcohol to put on brave acts on stage during karaoke performances. They usually start dancing nude at mid night and they dare strong willed male patrons to join them on the stage to show them their sexual skills. In some renowned karaoke bars, sexual intercourse performances on stage with audiences watching and clapping are a common occurrence as the case below can show.

Life of girls in karaoke dance groups

One karaoke group leader noted that the group members can be upto 60 children both residents and non-residents. Usually groups which dance at several bars may be (10 girls and 10 boys) in number and typically stay together with boys in one rented room which is paid for by their employer. (These are normally called dancing groups or bands and one group in Kampala is owned by a Congolese) The girls are free to go out with other men after their night performances.

The men in this case will pay Ugx 5,000 (USD 2.3) to the employer and Ugx 20,000 to the girl after sexual relations that night. The girls are usually paid Ugx 3,000 (USD1.2) per show from which they are expected to buy their own food from the market, and go to the saloon. It was reported that sexual relationships exist among group members and many may sleep with as many girls as he can depending on the influence. This can be a recipe for violence in instances where one girl sleeps with another boy other than her boyfriend. This also is applicable to group leaders and owners who just sleep with many girls in order for them to be accepted.

The study also established an emerging practice where some celebrity musicians sexually exploit children in their vehicles for pay. For instance, a key informant in Bwaise, a Kampala city suburb revealed that “sexual activities usually take place in musicians’ vehicles with tinted glasses, on club walls, and in dark places. The girls are usually dressed indecently in skimpy clothes to attract the attention of the celebrity musicians. Taking nude photos by commercial cameramen is another common pornographic act practiced by children in the study areas”. Nude photographs are mainly taken in studios, lodges, beaches and residential houses where children engaged in sex work stay. However, it was noted that nude photos are also taken during video shooting exercises for music celebrities as noted by one of the children:

“Celebrity musicians intending to shoot music videos often call on girls in karaoke dance groups for auditions. During the video shoot, girls struggle to impress the ‘celebrity musicians’, others going to the extent of taking nude pictures, without even knowing where the pictures shall be taken or what they will be used for. Other girls have sex with the celebrity crew to please them to appear in the videos. When the girls appear in such music videos, they are paid; sometimes it is for fun, to feel good associating with a celebrity”. **Adolescent Karaoke dancer and CSW in Bwaise.**

Cameramen and some local celebrities are key perpetrators of child pornography. Nude photos of local girls are often sold for money to individuals and tabloids by karaoke group members and camera men who have networks with people who own photo studios that take and sell photographs and compact discs. A look at the daily tabloids, particularly, Onion, Kamunye and Red Pepper also shows a pattern of displaying nude photographs of both young girls and old people and publishing sexually explicit stories such as “the hyena” in Red Pepper. There is also an

increasing trend of girls taking nude studio pictures for sale. The demand for nude photos from tabloids and internet chat rooms has increased the vice of child pornography where photographers, karaoke group managers take nude photos of unsuspecting girls for sale. It was also established that pornography is a key factor in increasing cases of child prostitution.

Another form of pornography includes group sex competitions among girls. However, this form of pornography is less prevalent at (3 percent) and is often associated with other forms like taking nude photos and watching pornographic movies. Watching of sexually explicit or pornographic videos by children is a key form of child pornography and abuse that fuels CSEC. In all study areas, it was established that children watch sexually explicit movies in makeshift video halls. It was also observed that after 10:00pm, video halls and entertainment places in Kampala suburbs where commercial sex is rampant screen pornographic videos with loud music in the background to disguise the sound. It was established that pimps and brothel owners encourage or force children to watch such movies to learn new sex acts and ways of enticing and exciting sex clients. It can therefore be concluded that pornography and prostitution are closely linked and each aids the other to happen. When asked why they engaged in pornographic acts, children gave the almost the same reasons for engaging in commercial sex. However unlike commercial sex where the need for money was paramount, pornography is mainly driven by peer pressure and coercion by the employers.

Increased access to internet through commercial internet cafes was reported to have increased internet based CSE. Children reported that they sometimes visit internet cafes in towns and log into chat rooms to search for clients from different parts of the world in order to market their services. The luring of children for purposes of sexual exploitation in the internet is a growing problem that needs to be addressed. This is an area that needs further investigation. The table below shows hotspots for commercial sex exploitation of children in Uganda.

Table 16: Hotspots of commercial sex work in Kampala

Location	Place
Rubaga division	La Quinta, MM pub, Bristol Pub, Hanny's pub, New life bar, Sunset pub, and Password pub
Kawempe division	Lions club, Punch line pub, Link Up bar, Club Ina and Eden pub
Central division	California pub, Tree shade bar, Texas bar and Nsangayo pub
Makindye division	Punch line Kabalagala
Kireka	Extreme club, Y2K, Afronica, Kyaliwajjala

The study also learnt that entertainment places like Ange Noir, Capital pub, Punch line, Als bar, and Little Mama are places where young girls are sexually exploited. The Observer Newspaper (21st June, 2010) reported that Club Silk was staging monthly pole dancing, strip tease theme night every third thursday on the month and had moved in young girls from Kenya to participate in these nude shows to the extent that managers were happy to see girls getting naked on the stage. The case below shows perils of a guy involved in CSEC. The Observer Newspaper (20th February, 2011) further reported other bars to be involved in the same acts.

Frobisha (a strip dance group coordinator) supports prostitution! It's the only work she knows of and is fruitful! She estimates over 50 girls to be in the practice; she says most of the girls in the practice are from poor families which have failed to educate them, others lost their parents and are staying with their relatives who cannot afford to cater for most of their needs, others stay with abusive guardians who have not taken them to school but wanted them to do most of the house hold chores. Police is concerned about the problem but in but in some way have been neutralized by the employers/owners of the bars and the happening places (lodges, clubs, discotheques) many pay them out when they threaten to take action.

She says that girls find a lot of challenges when starting prostitution such as beatings from customers, and stigma but when they get used to the system, these risks are minimized. Frobisha identifies her strip dancing girls as "kimansulo girls" from the various karaoke groups and some girls just contact her to join. She pays them between Ugx 15,000 and Ugx 20,000 whenever they perform and pays between Ugx 30,000 to Ugx 50,000 for the guest performers who perform different tasks accordingly but says these are most times older saying they range between 19-26 years of age. Her group is comprised of 8 girls and more than half are 16 and 17 years of age because she commented that she needs those who are young as they do not have many needs and are easy to manage.

4.8.1 Children's awareness about support interventions:

The study was interested in finding out whether children had knowledge on the available support interventions for children involved in CSEC. Table 17 below shows the institutions mentioned by children where they had received support.

Table 17: Institutions providing support to children involved in CSEC

Institution	Number	Percentage (%)
Parents/relatives	3	2.29
Religious institution (church/mosque)	20	15.27
NGO/CBO	115	87.79
Fellow children/peers	7	5.34
Police	6	4.6
Local leaders	22	16.8
Number	131	-----

The findings revealed that 88 percent mentioned some form of support in form of counseling, shelter, medical, and food supplies from NGOs and CBOs followed by local leaders (17 percent) and religious leaders (15 percent). Government's intervention appears to be absent in the prevention, and rehabilitation of children coerced into commercial sexual exploitation. Only a small percentage of children interviewed (5 percent) mentioned police as a source of support. Interestingly, the study also reveals that fellow children and peers (5 percent) also offer support to each other. Children reported that they have not received support from relatives. This support is very inadequate to meet the needs of the children. Very often service providers are not able to provide all the psychosocial support needed by the children and referral services are not strengthened in many communities.

It should be noted that labeling victims of sex trafficking especially minors, as willing prostitutes also impedes their access to social services and legal aid. These labels allow buyers of commercial sex to dehumanize the children thus treating them objects that can be purchased and used. The impact of this 'misidentification' also serves to facilitate sex trafficking by allowing the trafficker to operate with little fear of any consequences.

In a nutshell, pornography is a vice that is growing at very fast rate compared to prostitution. Pornography, trafficking and prostitution are closely interlinked. Watching of sexually explicit or pornographic videos by children is a key form of child pornography that fuels commercial sexual exploitation.

Conclusion

The study findings from the foregoing chapter have revealed that over half of the children interviewed had lost one or both parents with majority staying with relatives. Many children were early drop outs of primary school due to poverty and orphanhood. Over 80 percent of children lacked apprenticeship skills, making them potential targets for trafficking by either known people known to them or relatives.

The age of children trafficked internally is getting younger with boys being moved earlier than girls but the number of girls far outweighs that of boys. Recruitment and movement of children is well coordinated. In terms of modes of recruitment, forced movement and kidnap has declined whereas there has been an increase in enticements. Most children end up in prostitution prone environments such as bars, lodges and karaoke dance groups. Despite their low levels of education and lack of employable skills, once promised better employment, better life and money they easily give in to traffickers. Trafficking for early marriages was also evident.

Trafficking is not a distinct act but rather a combination or chain of actions that takes place in the child's home community, at transit points and at final destinations. Ugandan children are trafficked internally but there is also evidence that a good number of them are trafficked across borders to Kenya, Sudan, Rwanda, Congo, Malaysia, Thailand, U.K and United Arab Emirates for labour and sexual exploitation. And equal number of children from

these countries was also trafficked into Uganda for the same reasons. Trafficking patterns have been found to vary and a number of actors are involved at various levels in recruitment, intermediaries' (employment bureaus, transporters and individual linked to sectors).

Much as it is hidden, child prostitution is steadily increasing especially in fishing communities and urban centers. Students were also cited as victims of commercial sex work. Many children are connected by pimps or self through telephone contacts, being in places which are frequented by many people such as slums, bars, markets. Many victims of CSEC complained about the spontaneous beating and sexual violence. Children also indicated that their wages are at times deducted combined with threats of denunciation to control children. Factors like lack of alternative skills to seek employment, opportunities for quick money, stigma and fear of rejection caused a lot of relapse into prostitution. Alcohol, drugs and substances of abuse in many ways facilitate or reinforce activities of commercial sex. Findings on pornography have also shown that this vice has been moving at very fast rate compared to prostitution which are closely linked. Pornography in Kampala city has been taken to another level from mainly engaging in pornography for their own entertainment to commercial gain, involving well-coordinated network embracing music celebrities, bar and karaoke group owners. Child pornography is more prevalent in the budding entertainment industry in urban areas most especially in Uganda.

CHAPTER FIVE

REGIONAL REPRESENTATION OF CSEC AND RESPONSES IN THE DISTRICTS OF STUDY

This chapter presents the regional representation of CSEC by study districts in Uganda. The information in this chapter was mainly obtained from key informants, FGDs, field observations and is largely qualitative. We took a regional analysis because although all districts are affected by CSEC, they each have unique characteristics and manifestations of the problem. Overall this study covered 5 regions including the central region covering Masaka, Wakiso, Lyantonde and Kalangala islands; the Western region covering Kasese, Kamwenge and Mbarara districts; the Eastern region covering Mbale, Busia and Bugiri districts; the Northern region covering Gulu and Lira districts and Kampala City as an individual study area. This study covered both rural and urban settings as well as landing sites such as Namirembe, Lambu, Dimu, Kasenyi, Kiyindi and Ggaba that all reported to have high incidences of CSEC. The team was also able to follow up some rural areas with perceived high incidence of CSEC (source, transit and destination).

5.1 Central Region

This area surrounds the Lake Victoria Basin and is predominantly occupied by Baganda with other smaller tribes including Baganda, Samia, Basoga and many other migrants. The districts covered by the study in Central region include Lyantonde, Masaka, Kalangala islands and Wakiso.

Lyantonde District

Lyantonde district borders Masaka and Kiruhura districts, mainly rural districts with a mixture of farming and cattle keeping. The study in this area showed that Lyantonde is a major source for children who are trafficked. Lyantonde also doubles as a transit and destination area for many young people involved in child prostitution. Many children have been brought to work on the Masaka- Mbarara-Katuna Rwanda border highway. Lyantonde is also a common stopover for truck drivers and thus prostitution has been at its highest peak for over several decades. The exploitation of children has also been fueled further by Reynolds Road Construction (RCC) Company whose many employees flock to the towns with money and engage in sexual exploitation of children. What was also discovered is that some students in school also participate in prostitution in the evenings on part-time basis.

Poverty, ignorance and low education of parents was cited as a major reason why parents are willing to send their children into town to known people and relatives as a way to escape the escalating costs of schooling. Peer pressure and demand for young people in the entertainment industry and also the need to meet the sexual demands of their patrons were also cited as major reasons why children are exploited in the sex trade.

a) Child Trafficking

It was noted that child trafficking exists but passes unrecognized. Child traffickers connect silently with their contacts who ask for young children. They silently survey the area for identification of children who are not in school and others living in poor conditions, and consequently lay a strategy of how easily they will get these children. It is usually a chain of traffickers who work closely together and then inform each other of any new 'deal' and even local people help in such 'deals'. Lyantonde town also serves as a transit and recruitment ground for trafficking in children. Trafficked children are normally moved to other places like Masaka and Kampala. The traffickers make promises to children and guardians depicting a very good picture of the benefits to come once their children start living in urban areas. The guardians fail to resist these deceptive offers that are sometimes accompanied with money or a gift like soap or bread. Traffickers usually take 2-3 children at times using public means (taxis). The taxi people do not usually mind even when they see someone travelling with many children since they do not know where the children are being taken. Children are usually 13-16 years of age and girls who are about to complete

or who have completed Primary Seven are normally targeted. Children who have performed poorly in school and have thus lost all hope of continuing with education and are looking for alternatives are also key targets.

b) Child Prostitution

There are many girls purportedly working as waitresses in lodges and bars in Lyantonde town who are partly engaged in prostitution. Sometimes these girls can move from one lodge to another depending on the location of the patrons. In this area, there are more lodges than rented houses because of the existence of many truck drivers and the patrons who are mobile and thus do not need permanent residence for long. These girls are usually trafficked from inland Lyantonde like Kalagala while others come from Rakai, Masaka and Sembabule. There are also a few young girls from Rwanda and DRC who are engaged in prostitution in this area. Information on how to access children involved in prostitution is normally hidden. Lyantonde town is small so, information spreads easily in the community in case there is a research being conducted. There is a well-organized and coordinated network of recruiting and engaging children in prostitution. Children are also sometimes sent to other places like Masaka, Lukaya, and Kyotera where there is demand. Many times night watchmen also have good information about child prostitution and they work with exploiters to identify and connect them to young girls at a fee or alcohol inducements. In addition, road constructors on the Lyantonde road have also contributed to the increasing level of child prostitution by exploiting young girls by paying for sex acts.

c) Child Pornography

In Lyantonde, pornography is mainly an urban phenomenon where children go to video halls to watch pornographic films. It was also noted that freelance camera men encourage girls to take nude photos and this behaviour appears to be spreading but girls do not know how the photos are used and many are told that the photos were ruined. Even video libraries sell pornographic movies at lower prices.

Interventions to address CSEC in Lyantonde

The study established that interventions specifically targeting the prevention and withdrawal of children from CSE were not visible. A few NGOs were involved in activities which had a bearing on CSEC.

Table 18: Interventions to address CSEC in the Lyantonde

NGOs working on Children in Lyantonde	Activities /interventions to address CSEC	Gaps mentioned by the NGO
Empower Communities Against Child Abuse(ECCA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Counseling, child protection. Parent support, counseling, IGAs, life skills, sensitization, Mobilizing parents Combating child sexual abuse. ● Fighting domestic violence, making referrals. Advocating for rights of children. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Lack of rehabilitation/ shelter centre in area. ● Knowledge is still desirable. ● Disseminate laws on children rights.
Rakai Community Based AIDS Organization (RACOB AO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health support most at risk populations (HIV, VCT, vocational skills training, Income generating activities, community camping to and psycho-social support. . 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Limited coordination among actors. ● CSEC not a primary issue in their efforts.
CHILD AID	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Promote and advocate for rights of OVC. ● Address house hold poverty for OVC 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Technical capacity to deal with children's issues

Salaama Shield	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Organizes holiday camps for young people (sports drama music and dance, talks and life skills). ● School outreach programmes to teach life skills ● Mobilizes women into saving groups 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● In infancy stage of developing vocational skills for the youth and other orphans and vulnerable children.
Police Family and Child protection Unit and district probation officer	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Enforcement of laws against child abuse 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Not visible in area

Lessons learnt in Lyantonde

- ◆ CSEC is prevalent in the area and as an issue did not appear on most NGO programs save for ECCA. There is a need to create more awareness and capacity building for NGOs to address CSEC.
- ◆ There is need for building relationships with people who can support NGOs in program design and implementation and networking in partnership with local government.
- ◆ There are many school drop-outs as a result of the impact of HIV/AIDS and poverty. There is need to strengthen household incomes to be able to keep children in school and prevent them from being vulnerable to CSEC

Masaka district

Masaka District⁴⁶ is southwest of Kampala on the highway to Mbarara; the 2002 national census estimated the population of Masaka District at 767,800, with an annual population growth rate of 3.0 percent⁴⁷. In Masaka District the study team was able establish that the district is major source of children trafficked to Nyendo town especially boys during the grasshopper season where they are engaged in harvesting grasshoppers. It was revealed that one grasshopper dealer can have over 30 children working for them at a given time. Many of these are school going children. Some of these children drop out of school to work in the grasshopper collecting centers and sometimes end up being trafficked to Kampala city. Though respondents mentioned that Masaka area is a major source of children Masaka town also serves as a transit point for many recruiters who pick children from villages and at times move them to landing sites like Namirembe, Diimu, Mirambo, Bukakata, Lambu and Kachanga and other islands within Kalangala.

Temporary fishing villages like Mumpu have many children who have been moved to other fishing sites on Lake George, Lake Edward and Lake Kyoga to engage in pre and post-harvest fishing activities dominated by child prostitution. Masaka had a semblance of source, transit as well as destination attributes. Equal numbers of children move to the lakes and also to Kampala city for labour and sexual exploitation. In terms of Masaka area serving as a destination, the survey team noted that the biggest forms of exploitation of children Kyabakuzi and Nyendo towns in the outskirts of Masaka are key areas where children are working as domestic workers in homes. There are many street children in Masaka town. The majority of street children are boys who spend time in the morning hours picking scrap, cleaning restaurants, picking garbage, fetching water and at night serve as security guards, locked into shops to watch over the merchandise. This is a gross violation of children's rights. Other children at leisure during the day can either go to Child Restoration Outreach or Buddukiro, local NGOS for assistance or they stay loitering in Masaka town and Nyendo suburbs.

"Many children are taken to work in bars, lodges and restaurants. Most of these children are orphans while others come from poor families. Some children are recruited by the fellow peers; there is also a category of children who run away from home due to mistreatment. Some of these children when identified are given temporary shelter by some PWOS and thereafter take them to NGOs" **Probation Officer in Masaka.**

Nyendo town also had several girls who served in bars and dancing groups and many of these were coerced into in child prostitution as well. Many key interviews conducted revealed a large number of young girls who were being exploited in prostitution in bars and lodges. Some slums Kitaka, Masaka and Kyabakuzi were known to house young girls involved in prostitution. Child prostitution was taking place in under the knowledge of local leaders some of whom own bars and restaurants and viewed this as 'normal' practice of helping children. Many people interviewed felt that using children was cheaper and that children complain less compared to adults due to

ignorance and greed for quick money. Many of these children were also in situations of bonded labour and could not move away from one employer to another at will.

The grasshopper seasons in Nyendo are catalysts for child trafficking and eventual commercial sexual exploitation of children. Poverty in villages forces children to catch grasshoppers in Nyendo-Senyange and many do not return to their homes after earning some money. They prefer staying in town and subsequently are trafficked or coerced into sexual exploitation in bars, lodges, and markets. At times some boys end up selling drugs such as marijuana, and cannabis in the folk lands and markets. Likewise many children are trafficked from Mbirizi, Kyazanga and Lukaya to other destination places especially in Kampala.

The study team acknowledged that in terms of pornography, a similar tendency exists such as the case in Lyantonde where photographers deceive girls and take nude photos. However strip dancing is picking up very fast in Masaka town where girls are exploited on several islands by some local musicians. Many children in dance groups are also engaged in child prostitution by employers

d) Interventions to address CSEC in Masaka District

The study team observed that there were more NGOs in Masaka compared to Lyantonde and Kalangala Districts. Most NGOs identified were not doing specific CSEC designed prevention interventions. Agencies such as World Vision, UWESO, GOAL, Kitovu Mobile for HIV/AIDS among others had programmes which were benefiting homesteads with orphans and vulnerable children. Many NGOs were supporting vulnerable households with school fees support, income generating activities, housing improvement and awareness about children rights. Many households with OVCs were helped to improve their capacity to keep the children and also reduce the vulnerability in homes. NGOs need support interventions that prevent and withdraw children from child sexual exploitation.

Table 19: Interventions to address CSEC in Masaka

Name	Activities	Challenges identified by NGO
Child Restoration Outreach (CRO) (in Nyendo and Masaka town)	Day care centre, Literacy classes, counseling, resettlement, sponsorship in schools	No residential facility for street children, limited funding and inadequate support from government
Budukiro Children Agency (in Nyendo)	Day care centre, Literacy classes, counseling, resettlement, sponsorship in schools	Non-resident program, children go back to streets
Love in Action (Masaka Town)	School sensitization and support formal education, withdraw and rehabilitate children from fishing.	Programme only school based

A case study of one of the NGOs visited in Masaka shows their efforts in addressing the problem of sexual exploitation of children below

CRO – Child Restoration Outreach, Masaka

CRO is a street children based NGO with a drop in centre in the centre of Masaka Town. The staffs conduct "Street walks" during day and night, where street children are identified, counseled and referred to the drop in centre. CRO does not run a residential shelter programs for fear to attract poor children from villages. At the centre they do counselling, behavioural change and life skills activities, medical care, hygiene and basic care including bathing, give a hot meal and referrals to medical facilities and resettlement with follow ups for former children placed in homes and schools.

CRO serves children between 7-13 years with a belief that street children can reform any time at their own pace thus need a room and patience. Despite the huge number of street children in Masaka, CRO can only reach a few due to limited resources. Some of these children are trafficked and abandoned in Nyendo and other work as house girls or in hotels. Others sell maize, trap grasshoppers and carry hot food. Others are made to sleep in salons, shops, video halls as watchdogs over goods of business men, with instructions to make noise if someone breaks into the business premises. CRO does not have a specific programme targeting children in CSEC but its activities of withdrawing street children, some of whom are trafficking victims have a bearing on prevention of CSEC.

In spite of the high numbers of children forced into commercial sexual exploitation, the study noted that there were fewer interventions which were limited to Masaka which were mainly preventive in nature. Enforcement of laws to arrest traffickers and exploiters of children was weak. In addition, protection services (counseling, shelter, rehabilitation, skills development and reintegration) were not strong and the impact is not yet visible. Local communities felt helpless in providing rehabilitation services to street children.

Documentation of NGO work was a challenge since there were no statistics on the number of children served and the activities that were run. Staff capacity to deliver good practices needed more support. Due to lack of comprehensive statistics and limited interagency collaboration, there was a high possibility of different NGOs serving the same children. It was noted that the majority of clients served at the two centers of CRO and Budukiro were mainly boys and few girls, mainly below 14 years. Sexually exploited children above the age of 14 were less visible. It was established that many girls in child prostitution and other CSE are not being effectively reached partly due to lack of expertise, high demands, being such a hidden population and the lack of resources to recruit staff. At the landing sites, most children have virtually no services as was mentioned by the local leaders, the beach management committee and the children themselves.

In terms of interventions, given the magnitude of CSEC in Masaka district, it is under-served and there is a need to urgently increase awareness, train NGO staff to integrate CSEC into their programs that focus on HIV/AIDS and income-generating activities, poverty alleviation programs and other preventive programs to reduce children involved in Worst Forms of Child Labour. There is also a need to work with local leaders and CBOs to raise awareness about the exploitation of children and improve on the protection and enforcement of their rights.

Kalangala District

Kalangala district is made up of 84 islands which are situated in Lake Victoria. Only 64 of these are habitable. It was established that most of the children working in the district are trafficked from the neighbouring districts of Masaka, Rakai and Lyantonde. These children mainly come from extremely poor families. In most cases they are double orphans living with their grandparents. The number of children in these households is large and with limited means of earning a livelihood, making it easy for traffickers to convince their grandparents to take them away under the guise of assisting them or getting them employment in urban areas of Masaka, Rakai or Kampala.

It was reported that when these children get to Kalangala they are taken in groups of 3 to 5 children to bars or lodges usually constructed out of timber or mud and wattle from where they get initiated into commercial sexual exploitation. For the first two days girls are told that their employers will take them to beach hotels or shops where they are going to work. At the end of the two days, the girls are told that their would-be employers are no longer interested in them. Eventually, other girls who are victims of CSE come in and try to advise them on how they can earn a living. It is then that they are introduced into prostitution. The person that brought them will show how good she or he is and offer them accommodation. When they get clients, they can sleep out but they should ensure that they leave something behind for the person who is sheltering them. The girls who work in the lodges also experience similar fate.

Some girls join karaoke groups that visit the islands after being promised huge sums of money. Most times the girls must have sex with the owner of the group before they can be recruited. On the other hand, the boys are brought to the islands with promises of good jobs that pay highly. On reaching the island they find that they can only be employed to work on the boats or make chapattis. They are paid little money by their employers because they lack experience. They engage in fishing, which is hazardous work since it involves staying out all night in the lake and children have to withstand a lot of cold weather. Boys sometimes end up having sex with girls when they return to the landing site in order to get warmth and for pleasure purposes. At times a group of 4 boys can end up having sex with one girl to get warm. Some boys engage in brokering girls for CSE by linking them up with the potential clients at a fee.

Interventions to address CSEC in Kalangala

There are no specific interventions targeting CSEC by both state and non-state actors in Kalangala district. UYDEL operates a project on child protection on the island but this does not directly deal with CSEC. Other NGOs

operate in the district but their activities do not cover children involved in CSEC while some NGOs lacked funding. In the past, KADWID (Kalangala District Women Initiative for Development) used to support CSEC activities mainly offering psychosocial support and temporary shelter for victims of sexual abuse but these activities stopped when funding from the Icelandic International Development Agency ended.

Table 20: Interventions to address CSEC in Kalangala

Services to Children in Kalangala	Activities which have a bearing on CSEC	Gaps in area
Child and Family Protection Unit	Counseling	Weak enforcement of laws on child protection Centrally located
Community Based Services department	Counseling	Financial constraints to reach out to those at the grass roots
UYDEL	Psycho social support, Capacity building –training, Referrals and networking to other service providers,	Limited area of coverage, Limited resources in terms of personnel

5.2 Northern Region

In the Northern region, the study covered the districts of Gulu and Lira. The Northern region was chosen for the study because this area has faced the brunt of Northern Conflict for 20 years ending in 2007. These towns are now recovering from war in Northern Uganda. Many people have now resettled back in their communities and most Internally Displaced People’s Camps (IDP) camps have been demobilized. Many people have been living in IDP camps with little or no livelihoods. Studies by humanitarian agencies and NGOs operating in the region indicate that some people, including children engage in sex work to meet their basic needs.

Gulu and Lira Districts are the oldest districts forming the historical homeland of the Acholi ethnic group. Both were affected by the 20-year Joseph Kony insurgency of the Lord’s Resistance Army (LRA) that left many people homeless in IDP camps and left many children orphaned. At the time of this study, the fighting had ceased and there was a massive programme to demolish IDP camps with support given to people to return to their villages.

Child prostitution:

Child prostitution is on the increase in Lira district with an estimated 50 children involved in prostitution commonly practiced in bars, restaurants and discotheques. Prostitution has exposed these children to HIV/AIDS infections, unwanted pregnancies, abortions, homosexuality tendencies among the street children and sometimes deaths. Some girls are physically assaulted by male clients and this could be evidenced by scars on their bodies. The girls noted that they fear pregnancies and not HIV/AIDS and heavily use contraceptives instead of condoms. . Most children stay in the suburbs within the municipality especially those who went back after the camp phase out from Omoro, Amugu, Olilimu, Olwang, Pader, Patongo. Other children practice commercial sex in the fishing landing sites in Amolator. During the day, child prostitutes engage in informal jobs like airtime selling, hotel attendance, phone booth operators, selling bananas and other items, and street vending.

In 2009, an operation led by Aruma Lukule (Police Officer) arrested 200 child prostitutes and put them into prison. Among these were women, house girls and school dropouts. This operation reduced the rate of ‘visible’ prostitution. However, prostitution took a different dimension. Prostitutes resorted to renting in suburbs where 4 to 5 girls rent a grass thatched house for their activities. Many girls have graduated to permanent sex workers moving from one town to another looking for clients.

In Gulu district, child prostitution is very prevalent with an estimated 200 girls involved in the practice. Child prostitution has changed from hidden to an open practice with more girls as young as 14 years openly approaching male clients even during the day time. The children usually rent one room where they stay as many as 10. They usually sleep during the day time and engage in sex work at night.

Child Trafficking:

These two districts are in the war ravaged region of Northern Uganda where over 30,000 children were recruited into rebel activities as child soldiers and sex slaves by the then LRA. However towards 2009, the government had managed to push Kony out of Northern Uganda and there is now relative peace. Subsequently this also had an effect in lowering the numbers of children being recruited into armed conflict in Uganda. However some reports indicate that some numbers of children may continue to be abducted or convinced to join rebel groups in the Central African Republic.

These two districts also receive children who are trafficked on a smaller scale from other areas like Mbale, Soroti, Gulu, Pader, Kitgum and Lango sub-regions even from Kampala, Masindi, Moroto, Karamoja, Jinja, Masindi, Hoima, Mbale, Kibale, and Iganga. These children are brought in by relatives to work as house helpers or sex workers. Others are brought by friends and bus drivers with promises of a better life and education. Traffickers prefer children between 12 to 15 years. Recruitment was usually done from the IDP camps but many of these have now been disbanded. Some children are trafficked for ritual sacrifice, for example, in Namulato five children were murdered and had their body organs removed in Awelo Sub-County, Etamu Parish, Kyoga County and Amulata District bordering Nakasongola.

Gulu in particular receives children trafficked from Kitgum, Apac and Moroto. In such scenarios, the Local Councils normally report such cases to the Police which round them up and interrogate them. Sometimes, trafficked children have revealed that they operate under a pimp who forces them to indulge in sex work in order to be accommodated and that on failure to get the money, they are chased away. Sometimes children come by themselves and when they get stranded, girls indulge in commercial sex in order to get food and accommodation. Some are brought by their peers who stay in Gulu town.

Child Pornography:

According to key informants in these two districts, the majority of people do not understand what pornography is and its implication especially in rural areas. However the common forms here are watching blue movies in video halls, and exposure to print media information in tabloid newspapers such as Red Pepper, and Onion. Children are exposed to pornography by their fellow peers and video hall operators and this has resulted in decadent morals, indiscipline, and early sexual exposure. The community detests pornography to the extent that concerned community members reported a Whiteman to police and was arrested for taking nude photos of young girls in his hotel room.

CSEC in Lira is most prevalent around Baza Street area, Blue corner, Teso bar, Ajjuma, 24/7 pub and K. zone, Kampala road, Kitgum stage, Jinja camp, labour line, Ojjuina, corner bar, Oura Bar, Central park. In Gulu district, CSEC is more prominent around: Buganda Pub, , Harns Club, Green valley pub, café Image II, Pece Lukung, Pece Stadium View, and Kanyagoga A. Other areas include Gulu Independent Market, Olaya Long Market, Buganda Pub, Limo, Cerlenu Industrial Area, Opit Travellers Inn, and Te Gwana.

Factors responsible for CSEC in the region

The study revealed that one of the main factors responsible for the prevalence of CSEC in this region is household poverty where families struggle to support many children with inadequate resources. It should be observed that families in this region were living in IDP camps for close to 20 years with no stable sources of income if any. The families' sources of livelihood were destroyed during the war. Some children dropped out of school and resorted to prostitution as a means of survival to meet their basic needs. The emergence of child headed families due to the effects of war has also contributed to the prevalence of child prostitution. Availability of a ready demand for prostitutes has greatly contributed to prevalence of commercial sexual exploitation of children. Lira is an economic hub of the northern region whereby business people from all regions i.e. Karamoja, Kitgum, and Gulu converge there for trade. Even the army and Police who work in the Anti-Stock Safety Units come to access money from banks in Lira which they use to buy prostitutes hence contributing to the booming sex industry, including sexual exploitation of children.

Children have been targeted in commercial sexual exploitation because they are easy to manipulate; they do not usually fight back even if they are paid less, and they are easier to manipulate into accepting unprotected sex at a lower rate (between Ugx 2,000 to Ugx 5,000) compared to adults. Children are more easily influenced to accept to go anywhere for sexual encounters as suggested by their customers in unfinished building, corridors, dark corners, truck/vehicles. The presence of ready clients in Gulu district has further compounded the problem of child prostitution. For example Sudanese and other nationalities, corporate organizations' staff, soldiers, truck drivers, businessmen, and university students go out looking for young girls. In addition, Gulu district has many entertainment places in towns such as night clubs, and video halls which have also contributed to the prevalence of child prostitution.

Interventions/services in Lira and Gulu Districts

There are very minimal direct interventions targeting children involved in commercial sexual exploitation. The key agencies supporting the prevention of CSEC and rehabilitation of victims are Child Restoration Outreach, War Child Holland, the Uganda Police in Lira district, Uganda Humanist Efforts to Save Women (UHESWO) and the Probation and Welfare Office in Gulu District. The locals through their traditional clan heads "won nyaci" have tried to condemn immorality and CSEC. The clan heads instituted committees to ensure proper dressing code which they looked at as the cause for prostitution and those found in mini-skirts would be stripped naked or handed over to the local leaders. In schools, it was emphasized that children use only uniforms and no other clothes in which they would disguise themselves and escape to engage in child prostitution. The District Police Commander in addition, (DPC) laid down the strategy of deploying Police, patrolling and liaising with the army to ensure that the practice of child prostitution slows down and this has yielded some fruits. The police have worked closely with the Local Government structures by closing video halls and discotheques in suburbs in which sex work was more prevalent. In addition, the bye laws that only allow people above 18 years to attend discotheques have been developed in the region. However, inadequate facilitation of law enforcement officers hinders the arrest, prosecution and punishment of perpetrators of CSEC in the region and also affects transportation of trafficked children back to their origin.

Table 21: Interventions to address CSEC Lira and Gulu Districts

Organizations	Activities
Child Protection Unit-Lira Police Probation Officer-Lira	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Counseling children and parents ● Resolve family conflicts/domestic violence issues
Child Restoration Outreach (CRO) LIRA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Psychosocial care and support to street children in terms of food, health, education, etc. ● Rehabilitation and non-formal education to prepare street children to join formal education or vocational training. ● Resettlement of children with their families with a small package comprising of a blanket, books, basin and mattress. ● Education support (school fees, uniforms, meals and essential text books) to children in primary and secondary schools.
War Child Holland (WCH)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provision of psychosocial services whereby they built a hall in which these children congregate for rehabilitation.
The International Rescue Committee (IRC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Created village savings and loans associations (VSLAs) ● Supported for formal education for children ● Awareness-raising events about child abuse and exploitation
Uganda Humanist Efforts to Save Women (UHESWO) in Gulu	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Psychosocial support, formal education support, vocational skills development, income generating activities and adult literacy

5.3 Eastern Region

The study covered the districts of Mbale, Busia and Bugiri in this region. These districts were covered during the study because they are located on the major road highway to Kenya and border points either by lake or land. Having been covered by previous studies on CSEC, the study aimed at evaluating changes in scope of CSEC and responses being undertaken at various levels. The border towns are major transit points along the great east road, surrounded and characterized by massive rural – urban migration as people search for livelihoods in border trade. They are also transit points to Kenya and a stopover for heavy commercial truck drivers who lure young girls into

the commercial sex work. These truck drivers ply these routes across neighbouring countries of Kenya, Tanzania, Rwanda, Sudan and the Democratic Republic of Congo (DRC) using Uganda as a transit country. Some of these districts attract many children who sometimes are forced into the sex trade. Some children are trafficked to these study areas with promises of descent work and education but end up being exploited as domestic workers and others as child prostitutes.

Magnitude of CSEC

The issue of CSEC is a silent hidden vice and the major perpetrators are people with high repute in the districts. The eastern region is seeing an increased number of children especially girls engaging in prostitution due to poverty at household level, negative cultural practices, peer influence and poor coordination among stakeholders with limited referrals. In Busia, the police have for 3-4 years ago, carried out an operation in the town council where girls involved in commercial sex were arrested and temporarily put in custody. The police followed this up with sensitization campaigns of the public and a consultative meeting with the aunties “*Sengas*” where these women were requested to take back the children to their homes other than involving them in commercial sex work. Cases of sexual exploitation reported to authorities by parents or guardians of children are mainly for seeking economic gains from perpetrators rather than justice for the victims. This implies that parents report cases to police to gain money from the perpetrators. Cases of children in brothels have been documented though it’s difficult to locate the actual victims because due to community vigilance, children have been coached on what to say by bar owners when confronted by enforcement agencies. Over 75 percent of cases received and handled by the probation office are of child neglect. This phenomenon has forced some mothers to engage in prostitution to fend for their children. When girls reach the adolescent age, they are also forced into sexual exploitation either by their mothers or by themselves.

Child Trafficking:

Majority children in Busia district are trafficked from Mukono, Masaka, Mbale, Tororo, Buikwe and the western region. The children are promised jobs and later abandoned in Busia town. Children found in Mbale district are trafficked from post conflict areas in the north – Acholi land and harsh conditions in Karamoja (Moroto district). They come on Gateway buses, and join their friends residing in Nawuyo, Nkoma, Namatala, Namakwekwe, The perpetrators of this trafficking are usually known to the children, most girls come from Malukhu slum due to poverty. These girls are usually sexually exploited by street boys and other men. The children in Namayemba and Bugiri district are trafficked mainly from Mukono, Mbale, Masaka and other parts of the country. Many children are brought here by the so called “uncles and aunties” who are paid by the bar owners to identify and bring for them children to work in their businesses. The truck drivers have also contributed to trafficking of children for sexual exploitation. The truck drivers come with girls from Kenya and rent for them small rooms in Bugiri. These girls are taken as wives whenever the drivers make stopovers in Bugiri. In times when the drivers are away, the girls are forced into sexual exploitation.

Child Pornography:

This is a very hidden and silent problem in the region. Child pornography was more pronounced in Mbale district where it was reported that children watch blue movies from video halls in the evenings compared to the other districts. Incidences of nude/karaoke dancing, nude photo taking, and engaging in group sex competitions were not visible in this region.

Factors perpetuating CSEC in the communities

- ◆ Poverty at household level was reported as the key factor that drives children into the sex trade. The area has large family sizes where parents fail to adequately cater for the basic needs of their children. Districts in the region were hard hit by the HIV/AIDS pandemic and left many orphans in the hands of the elderly who do not have adequate means to look after orphans. These forces some girls into the sex trade as a way of survival. This is compounded by lack of support from the extended family structure as people have increasingly become individualistic and do not need to carry burden of other people yet they also have their own children to look after.

- ◆ Ignorance about child protection policies and misinterpretation of children rights by parents is another contributing factor. Poor accommodation and housing for families which has forced children to rent small rooms in towns thus engaging in prostitution for survival and lastly peer influence from fellow girls

“parents rent small rooms for students in Bugiri town but in the long run parents fail to provide children with the necessary support and thus many find themselves engaging in commercial sex work for survival and provide themselves with basic needs where parents have failed” **NGO staff.**

Table 22: Hotspots for CSEC in the Eastern region

Location	Place
Busia district	Busia Town (Sophia A, Sophia B, Custom road, Sangalo Beach and entertainment places)
Mbale district	Naboa road near Mukwano restaurant, Republic street near maama Nalongo bar, Bishop Wasikye Road (Ashok), Market street (club Oasis), Nawuyo, Namakwekwe, Malukhu, Kikuubo (between Naboa and Republic street, Namatala slum (Aguba with concentration of bars and karamojong population), Nkoma around Kikindu market, Aswani upper entrance of Mbale main market.
Bugiri district	Wakawaka landing site, , Kiyinikibi, Butambula, Naluwerere trading center, Bugiri town, Busoowa trading centre
Namayingo district	Bumeeru landing site, Siguru Island, Busiro, and Lugala
Tororo district	Malaba border point

Good practices

During the study, the team identified a number of good practice undertaken by different stakeholders which can be replicated in other communities to address CSE.

1. Establishment of child protection committees in Lunyo, Busitema sub counties and Busia Municipal Council spearheaded by World Vision These committees are comprised of community members such as boda boda riders, money changers, LCs and other members. These act as spies or informers in case of any issues concerning child protection and violation of children’s rights. These people in most cases pick the children from the streets and take them to police for resettlement. Children/victims of trafficking who are reported to police are resettled back to their home villages with help of the police in the local areas where these children come from.
2. WorldVision has also spearheaded the institution of an advocacy council in Busitema within the goldmines. This initiative has enlisted the active participation of LCs to instill values in community people. The council members act as community vigilantes just like the practice in Kenya where community members would shout at men taking girls in lodges. This practice has led to reduction in early marriages and something for something love affairs.
3. World Vision has designed an integrated program model for implementation involving the co-operation of 12 district partners and stakeholders coming together to fight for children rights and protection in Busia district. This will also serve as a networking platform for CSOs to instill a spirit of working together rather than competition among themselves.
4. Support for the construction of a building that will house the Family and Child Protection Unit of the police force; juvenile cells for both boys and girls. There will be an office for volunteer counselors in a counseling room which is sound proof; a telephone counseling line (ANPCANN and UTL toll free line); data center, common room (which shall mainly be used by the rescued trafficked children during transition to resettlement).

Below is a case study of one of the child respondents in Bugiri District

Case Study

Jane (not real name) is 17 years old and a senior three student, her parents separated when she was 11 years old due to domestic violence and alcohol abuse by the father thus her mother had to leave them. She is the first born in a family of 5 children and a resident of Kiyinikibi zone, Naluweere parish. She says her father drinks and never cares about them, he does not provide scholastic materials and food sometimes thus forcing her to engage in commercial sex in order to earn a living for her and her siblings.

She started commercial sex at 12 years old and her customers are truck drivers, students and fuel syphonners. She charges Ugx 5,000-10,000 per client and she can make 30,000 on a typical day with 4 clients in a day. She uses the proceedings to buy scholastic materials for herself and for her siblings, plus food and clothing. She always gets her customers on the streets and sometimes pretends as a bar attendant in order to get clients. She leaves school at 4:00pm then prepares supper for her siblings and around 7:00pm, she goes to the streets and bars to get customers. She does not know if her father is aware of the practice since he comes home late in the night after she is done with her work - commercial sex. She is used to engaging in commercial sex since it's the major source of income thus has no fear or guilt at all though she is a little depressed. Lodge charges 5000 which is paid by the customer and admits that she uses condoms every single day however much a client is willing to pay, it has to be with a condom. She gets free condoms from WAYS (Women and Youth Services) or Knowledge Room. One of the challenges in this work is that some clients don't want to pay after the services (sex) while others want forced live sex. She would like to leave the practice but is scared of dropping out of school and starving. Her dream is to become a nurse and be able to support her siblings to complete school.

Emerging issues from the region

- ◆ The issue of CSEC is a silent hidden vice and the major perpetrators are people with high reputation in the districts.
- ◆ The Labour officer cannot enforce the laws where investors are the culprits. For example telecommunication companies often use girls during promotions but it's difficult to arrest and prosecute these girls because these companies are well connected to government and anybody who interferes with their work is seen as against government.
- ◆ Busia district has no child care centre but the district was supported by World Vision with construction of a building to house the Family and Child Protection Unit and cells for children in conflict with the law. Majority children are from Karamoja region Mukono, Masaka, Mbale, Tororo, Buikwe and the western region because of the need to find survival opportunities, some find work and are able to send money home. The perpetrators of this trafficking are usually known to the children in most cases.
- ◆ The police worked closely with World Vision in the formation of child protection committees based at parish level and these are mandated to monitor cases related to child abuse and exploitation and issues related with women.
- ◆ The Bugiri district OVC interventions are being implemented since 2007 with funding from Civil Society Fund (CSF) for NGOs and CBOs. Sun Rise agency is expected to work hand in hand with CSF to provide technical support to districts and sub counties. Each sub county has got a Community Development Officer who is directly charged with children affairs and this act as focal people in communities where referrals can be made to victims of CSEC. However the CDOs lack the technical and specialized knowledge in handling children issues especially CSEC.

Measures in place to combat child trafficking at border points

Every child is required to have a travel document, while any person travelling with the child is registered and photographed at the office before crossing to Kenya. Any traveler who is not the child's parent/guardian must have authentic documents from child's parents and LCs allowing the person to move with the child to the point of destination.

There are a number of challenges faced by local authorities in addressing the challenge of CSE in the region. Among the challenges identified was lack of a minimum living wage has made it difficult to enforce laws regarding exploitation of children especially domestic workers and protecting interests of bar maids among others. When

children are exploited without payments then they turn to sexual exploitation activities. There are cases of parents who have lured their children to work as domestic workers with family members across the border in Kenya as well as the mushrooming trade centers have also contributed to the spread of HIV/AIDS as boys with some little money often sexually involve themselves with young girls which exposes them to HIV/AIDS, and early pregnancies.

Additionally cases of delinquents have been reported in Mbale. Some of these children come from well-established homes with parents of good income levels. Such children have in most cases been lured by pornographic blue movies and such practices are against the established cultural norms.

“The children parents/guardians co-operate with the human traffickers by furnishing them with consent forms and local council letters as requirements for a travel document. The borders are porous and big yet we have few manpower. Traffickers take advantage of this to escape with children through bushes. The advent of the EAC has led to opening of borders, thus an avenue for trafficking children” **Immigration officer at Busia border.**

Most duty bearers are not embracing child protection as a key component in ensuring that children rights are protected. There were reported cases where head teachers had defiled girls despite the many messages and information available to them. The enforcement of bye laws on child protection is a very big challenge. It was established that in situations where girls were raped, the Health Center 4 in the district had only 2 doctors and yet the Eastern region had only 1 police surgeon who is mandated to make a medical examination and testify in court. In this regard, World Vision is advocating that the medical personnel at the level of clinical officer at Health center 3 should be allowed to make medical examination and testify in court. At least 2 defilement cases have been successfully prosecuted and each convict was jailed for 18 years.

“Cases of street children boys involved in commercial sex have been reported and handled where boys engage in sexual relations with older women as payment for carrying for them luggage to their homes. The problem of CSEC should be addressed from both rural and urban areas tackling root causes” **NGO staff in Mbale.**

Interventions to address CSEC in the Eastern Region

Table 23: Interventions to address CSEC in the Eastern Region

Busia District	
Organization	Activities
World Vision Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set up child protection committees ● Awareness on children’s rights. ● Vocational skills training for abandoned pregnant girls. ● Construction shelter for children in conflict with the law.
Happy Childhood Foundation (HCF)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Apprenticeship for vulnerable children ● Provide scholastics materials to primary school going children.
Red Cross Society	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides scholastics to school going children ● Council and guide HIV affected families ● Conducts voluntary counseling and testing
Friends of Christ Revival Ministries (FOC-REV)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Conducts voluntary counseling and testing ● Sensitization on Gender Based Violence, and HIV/AIDS ● Scholastic materials for OVCs
Organization for Capacity Building Initiative (OCABI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Provides scholastics to street children ● Reintegration with families
The Orthodox	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Vocational skills for OVC and teenage mothers ● Provides start up kits to the trained groups ● Provides counseling and guidance to the vulnerable families
Hope Case Foundation	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HIV Prevention ● Gender based violence ● OVC support

Mbale District	
Organization	Activities
Uganda Women's Effort to Save Orphans (UWESO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Set up village savings loans to benefit OVCs and their families. ● Vocational training for OVC and school sponsorship program
Child Restoration Outreach (CRO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Psychosocial support to street children (food, health and education) ● Support for formal education and apprenticeships for street children. ● Resettlement of children with their families

Bugiri District	
Organization	Activities
Women and Youth Services	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Health promotion clubs for CSEC victims ● Counseling and guidance and life skills. ● Training families on Income Generating Activity skills.
Bugiri Network of AIDS Service Organizations (BUNASO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordinating CSOs and CBOs on child protection issues. ● Disseminating information through radio talk shows.
The National Forum of PLHA Networks in Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Established Knowledge Information Room where ACSWs and truck drivers seek HIV/AIDS information and HCT services including peer educators, sports and referral services.
Uganda Reproductive Health Bureau Bugiri branch	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Treatment of sexually transmitted infections ● HIV prevention and care (condoms, testing, antiretroviral therapy and income generating activities ● Sports recreation and community dialogues.
Integrated Development Activities and AIDS Concern (IDAAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child protection ● HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support ● Behavioral Change Communication sessions.
Uganda Muslim Rural Development Association (UMURDA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child protection ● HIV/AIDS prevention, care and support ● Behavioral Change Communication sessions.
Uganda Community Based Association for Child Welfare (UCOBAC)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child protection and welfare ● Child rights advocacy
National Community of Women Living with HIV/AIDS (NACWOLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HIV Counseling and Testing ● Community outreaches ● Provide health services to HIV positive children
Bugiri District Union of People with Disability	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child protection ● HIV Counseling and Testing ● Sustainable livelihoods
Naluwerere Community Based Development Association	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child protection ● Community sensitization about HIV/AIDS
Multi Community Based Development Initiative (MUCOBAD)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child protection ● OVC care and support services ● IEC material development and dissemination

5.4 Western Region

Kasese District

Child trafficking:

The problem of CSEC is very prevalent in Kasese. The district serves as both transit and destination young girls who are exploited in prostitution. It was noted that majority of the children forced into sexual exploitation usually come from poor families. Children migrate from villages like Bwera, and Kyarumba while others come from the districts of Kabarole, and Mbarara. On the other hand, some children come from the DRC through the border

point. Other children are also taken from Kasese district for early marriage and child sacrifice. Businessmen are reported to be the key exploiters of girls in Kasese. Trafficking is on the increase because in Kasese there are no restrictions and checkups on roads. Girls escape from schools and go with businessmen and yet school authorities are not keen to find out those who are not present at times. Some parents are neither not concerned about absenteeism of their children and precautions are not taken.

It was established during the study that communities generally do not understand the manifestations of child trafficking. Many parents consent when their children are being taken away by traffickers. Local leaders also participate in looking for children especially to be taken to Kampala to work as helpers. The children are mainly taken to do domestic work and others for petty trade. Trafficked children forego education for labour expecting to earn money but when they are not paid, they end up in sexual exploitation thus an increasing the number of Street children in the area.

Child prostitution:

Child prostitution is not seasoned but a way of life in Kasese. This is partly attributed to the transit nature of the town. There are many truck drivers who pick cement from Hima cement factory throughout the year. Truck drivers especially on Stanley Street and Friends Corner are known for exploiting children. Girls aged 12 years and above are more affected and boys usually act as brokers and pimps who usually benefit from the proceeds of those commercially sexually exploited. Other factors which facilitate CSEC are availability of short term employment for young children. Children are mainly employed as house girls/house helps, bar attendants, hotel attendants, and 'boda-boda'/motorcycle riders. Engaging in sex trade has impacted on children negatively because some are infected with diseases like HIV/AIDS, gonorrhoea, chlamydia syphilis, and candida. There are also other negative effects like unwanted pregnancies, and unsafe abortions. Some girls are encouraged to join commercial sexual exploitation because of the perceived economic benefits after seeing some girls who have been involved in sexual exploitation having earned money and invested in land and other assets like goats and cows.

“CSEC as a problem is increasing especially in the urban areas. It is mainly done on the streets; night clubs e.g. Hima Town Council. People are concerned and look at it as a problem specifically because of poverty and it is difficult to solve because most of them are violent. The practice is increasing because the perpetrators claim that it is their right and it is a way of survival of some girls so they engage in commercial sexual exploitation”. **Probation Officer, Kasese.**

In Kasese town alone hotspots for child sexual exploitation are hotels and lodges and clubs like, Club Atlas, and Mariam club. CSEC is also common in the areas where cotton is grown (Kilembere and Katooro) .Children coerced into sexual exploitation are manipulated because they are easy to convince and many can accept little money for sex and are perceived to be HIV/AIDS free. . Many girls are recruited to work as maids and in saloons after being convinced by friends, neighbours. These children are normally paid little money, thus are unable to sustain their families, which pushes them into commercial sexual exploitation to get more money.

Pornography:

Pornography is understood by residents but is not common in this area. The common forms of pornography include watching blue movies in makeshift video halls. It is believed that this practice is still underdeveloped and has not spread to worrying levels.

Table 24: Interventions to address CSEC in Kasese District

NGOs	Activities
Young Empowered Initiative	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● HIV/AIDS prevention and young people (abstinence, peer education and youth clubs, income generating activities)
Kasese District Mediators Association – KADIMA	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Advocate for rights of commercial sex workers, counseling, treatment of sexually transmitted infections and vocational skills training
African Network for Prevention and Protection Against Child Abuse and Neglect.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● General child protection services

Mbarara District

Child Trafficking:

There is a big number of children trafficked to Mbarara town. It was noted that majority of the children are from other districts e.g. Fort Portal, Kanungu, Kabale, Kamwenge, Kisoro. Most girls are trafficked from rural areas to towns like Kampala to be employed as house maids and end up being exploited. The community does not understand trafficking apart from the refugee communities. Parents of these children consent to traffickers because the traffickers have a deceptive language and are able to lure the children and the parents to accept to release their children but regret the consequences later. Children forced into the sex trade come along the three major routes which are Busenyi, Mbarara, Kiruhura and Isingiro. However, some children come from as far as Fort-portal and Kasese and lastly from Masaka and Lyantonde routes which all intersect at Mbarara. This town has an element of transit and actual destination where CSEC takes place. Some children have been mentioned to come from Rwanda, Tanzania and Burundi. There are also a few from Somalia refugee community who are involved.

In Mbarara area, it was observed that agents who facilitate trafficking of children include friends, parents or relatives, neighbours and employers who eventually connect them to people to bring them to town. These children are normally given out to people who appear to be known to the families and these transport the children by Boda Boda (motorcycle taxis).

It was also noted that many people don't understand trafficking; they think traffickers are only helping them to secure good jobs for their children. There are also incidents where parents don't consent but children just escape from homes and go with traffickers after being enticed. These children are promised good jobs working in shops and in hotels; but after reaching their places of destination, they are instead taken to bars, where customers start asking them for sex and once they accept to sleep with them, they eventually get used to the act and end up in prostitution. Commercial sexual exploitation is reportedly practiced in bars like Memory Pub, Vision Empire and Kacwampare. Other places are clubs, streets, pimps' homes, brothels and nearby trucks.

Child prostitution:

Children are easy targets of commercial sex exploitation because the exploiters think that children are free from HIV/AIDS; they look younger and healthy, they are disciplined (humble) towards customers compared to adults who are arrogant. Children reported that when they are raped by clients, they don't fight back because they are not strong enough. Men make false promises and give gifts to children which make them think that they love them. Gifts include things like necklaces, mobile phones, sweets, rings, accommodation in exchange for sex. Communities in Mbarara and Kasese are not conversant with the laws in place which can be used to curb the practice of CSEC.

CSEC is perpetuated by a chain of middlemen called "kayugirizi" who link girls to traffickers and exploiters. Children trust these middlemen and they have links with people in other towns. It is reported that some parents push their daughters onto the streets to look for money to support the families and their siblings, thus rendering them vulnerable to commercial sex exploitation. There are many girls who end up working in bars and eventually are forced into commercial sexual exploitation. Those who work in bars dress up in miniskirts in order to entice customers and stand in corners waiting for the customers which was not the case before.

Other children face false accusations by customers and are detained by police that they are thieves. Some men grab the money they have paid to the children and take it. Others face violence whereby some customers grab their clothes and force them to go away naked. Other activities girls engaged in besides sexual exploitation are working as bar attendants, hawking, sand papering timber in workshops, loading vehicles, operating phone booths, and restaurants and lodge attendants. Others work in bakeries, clubs and attend parties to look for male customers to get money for sustaining themselves. There is little evidence of pornography, however key informants mentioned that nude dancing commonly referred as Kimansulo takes place.

Efforts to fight CSEC:

There are no comprehensive efforts in place to address the problem of CSEC in Mbarara. In spite the fact that there are a few NGOs in Mbarara which are focused on prevention and responses to CSEC compared to Kasese, both communities are not aware of their good intentions.

5.5 Kampala City

Kampala as a capital city of Uganda has been reported as a main destination hub and transit area for CSEC. Kampala has all the faces of CSEC. In terms of trafficking, the study findings pointed to the fact that many recruiters of children in both informal and formal networks exist. These are perpetrators of commercial sexual exploitation of children. These include employment bureaus, local celebrities, bars, karaoke groups, pimps and Lodge owners who need young girls to attract patrons. There is an increasing number of girls aged 15 and below who are forced into sexual exploitation with most girls getting more involved in these practices during school holidays. In fact more recruitment is done in this period especially in December since it is a school holiday and there is a lot business around this time.

As for the boys, majority are involved in karaoke dancing groups which perform at various pubs and bars around town. The study established that some boys do engage in acting in blue movies. Some public commuter taxi drivers are contacts and perpetuators for child trafficking. In addition, churches under the guise of fostering and adoption have also indirectly promoted illegal movement of children and church goers have also been cited in the illicit movement of children. Child trafficking is evident in orphanage centers through adoption, fostering and guardianship orders. At times, some probation officers connive with individuals to traffic children by availing them all the necessary documentation that allows traffickers to take children across borders. Incidences of child sacrifice were also cited in Kampala area especially in Kawempe and Kireka.

“People here do not mind. They use children and parade them in karaoke performances as sex objects as patrons clap and drink more beer. Some of them want to touch and sleep with us, I really hate it”. **Child in karaoke dance group, Bwaise Kampala.**

Child prostitution and pornography:

Several forms of CSEC exist and these include; child prostitution, pornography, early marriages, courting men and this takes place in bars, lodges, and night clubs. Pornography is linked to child prostitution and exploitation and vice versa and children involved in these acts use drugs and alcohol as a means of coping with violence associated with the sex trade. Many entertainment and drinking places were cited as notorious for sexually abusing children. Each single place can have a maximum of 30-40 children at a single time especially on weekends. Some of these children come to participate in karaoke dancing; others are attached to pimps who connect them to patrons for sex encounters while others are brought by peers or friends who connect them to men. Some children are active in the strip dancing shows while others come to watch performances.

Kampala serves as a hot spot for child prostitution and pornography. Places where pornography takes place with nude dancing shows, nude photo taking and photo studios in the city which sell photos and videos of nude girls in Kampala are known. Increasingly girls are also taking photos mainly in homes, a practice promoted by freelance cameramen, either for sale or for their own pleasure. Photos of nude girls end in local tabloids like Onion, Kamunye and Red Pepper and magazines. Nude photos are also uploaded on the internet social networking sites and street hawkers selling them on open markets especially during music festivals and motor rally sports events. Increasingly pornography is getting tolerated and normalized especially in the city where you find people happily discussing such nude photos of young girls in newspapers. Thus newspapers are among the agents that have promoted pornography in the disguise of exposing the vices in society. There are people who move around taking nude photos and also buy nude photos of young girls for sale. These normally operate at bars and stripping places.

Interventions for CSEC in Kampala

The study identified several interventions to address the problem of CSEC in Kampala including those by government, CSOs, Faith Based, and other individuals. Kampala is the main destination and has an influx of CSOs working in the area of CSEC though some staffs are not well versed with related international conventions necessary to provide services to the target groups. Many CSOs are working with Commercial Sex Workers and not Children involved in Commercial sex exploitation. Staff turnover is high and programmes are mainly donor driven whose funding is unpredictable. The coordination and networking among CSOs working with CSWs and ACSWs is still weak; many

agencies are ignorant of the players in the field, have limited knowledge and skills in the area of CSEC and many have smaller geographical areas covering a small number of beneficiaries. See table below.

Table 25: Interventions to address CSEC in Kampala City

Organizations and services in Kampala district	Interventions
Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Coordinating NGO child actors, child rights monitoring, drafted the national action plan on CSEC.
Platform for Labour Action (PLA)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Child labour programmes, advocacy, research and litigation
Uganda Youth Development Link (UYDEL)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Withdraw, rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors of trafficking and CSEC, Shelter for 200 children, vocational skills training, HIV/AIDS prevention, alcohol and drug abuse prevention programmes. ● Child protection (child rights awareness and psycho-social services, networking and referral of cases to other partners. ● Child labour programmes (CSEC and trafficking), using art therapy.
Save Street Children Uganda (SASCU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Implements street children programs (rehabilitation, formal education, counseling, psychosocial support, nutrition, medical)
Uganda Humanist Efforts to Save Women (UHESWO)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Psychosocial support, Education support for young former prostitutes and vocational skills development ● Economic empowerment and Functional Adult literacy ● Have a video documentary on girls rehabilitated from CSEC.
Save the Children Uganda	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● SCIU has expanded its mandate to work with children in need of care and protection in emergency situations and development. ● Support child labour and child abuse programmes
Family Health International (FHI)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Have established community outpost targeting truck drivers and their clients. ● FHI do not specifically target CSWs and ACSWs are part of wider clientele that seek HIV Counseling and Testing services.
The National Forum of PLHA Networks in Uganda (NAFOPHANU)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Has Information Room centers targeting truck drivers and their clients. ● Work through community moderators who act as peer educators to reach out to the truck drivers with HIV prevention messages.
ANPPCAN Uganda Chapter.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Operates a toll free child helpline, Lobbying and advocacy, awareness on child protection, IEC material development, Resettlement and referrals of child victims of trafficking.
Family Life Network	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Parent seminars, sensitizations, counseling, school outreach. ● Conducts parental courses which last 12 weeks with 2 hours each week. ● Held workshops with Rotarians, associations and youth meetings.
Slum Aid Project (SAP)	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Sensitization, rehabilitation and community groups
Plan International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Counseling and rehabilitation and HIV/AIDS programmes
Women at Work International	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Counseling, awareness on commercial sex work and HIV/AIDS

Below is a case study of UYDEL highlighting one of the rehabilitation models used in the recovery of the children coerced into sexual exploitation.

Case Study:

Jewelry therapy model for Rehabilitation and Recovery of victims

Jewel Girls aims to empower adolescent girls at Uganda Youth Development Link's vocational center at Masooli Rehabilitation Center to lead safer and healthier lives by using art therapy and teaching them jewelry-making, life skills, and how to market their products to an international audience. The girls make beads and necklaces as they share issues about life and their own experiences. This is a very involving exercise relies on the commitment and creativity of each girl in the group. For adolescent girls who have been exploited and abused, the simple act of coming together to make jewelry and talk is a powerful tool to learn life skills, receive counseling and overcome trauma from the past experiences. Jewelry-making provides girls with an additional means of income-generation which empowers them economically and prevents them from turning to more dangerous means of earning a living. The girls meet regularly with a group of 15-20 individuals. JewelGirls offers the possibility of supplemental income-generation for girls who are able to sell their jewelry. This helps lift girls out of poverty, empowers them with the knowledge that they can earn an income without using their bodies and help prevent them from returning to or becoming involved in commercial sex.

UYDEL also have a temporary shelter for both boys and girls where they are provided with psychosocial support, counseling, medical care, food and vocational skills training, recovery, economic empowerment, return and re-integration programmes for survivors of commercial sexual exploitation.

Study findings showed that most programmes and projects are short term based depending on availability of funding. Few clients are aware of these programmes save for PLA, AMREF and UYDEL. There is limited coordination and networking among stakeholders. Actual interventions were lacking and CSEC is not given the due attention it deserves at national and lower local governments.

CHAPTER SIX

NATIONAL RESPONSES AND OTHER EFFORTS TO ADDRESS CSEC

6.0 Introduction:

This chapter discusses the national responses and support towards addressing CSEC. It specifically examines the efforts of the government, international organizations, global/regional efforts, coordination and networking, media interventions and faith based interventions. The study takes note of the different forms of responses and support from the various groups involved, outlines the limitations/gaps in these services and provides recommendations for what needs to be done to combat CSEC in Uganda.

6.1. Government Interventions

Ministry of Gender, Labour and Social Development

The Children and Youth Department under the MoGLSD has the mandate to prevent and protect children from vulnerability and is also mandated to take care of issues concerning Child care and protection. The ministry houses other departments such as gender, culture, youth and children, social protection, disability, labour, community development and most of these in one way or the other has plans which have a bearing on vulnerable children.

Current work undertaken by the Children and Youth Department of MoGLSD:

The Children and Youth department is currently involved in developing the probation and social welfare officer's handbook to help them during service delivery with clear guidelines. The handbook also will highlight the issues of child protection in general and CSEC issues are highlighted as well as the International Conventions and domestic laws which the PWOs need to use to prevent this gross violation of children rights.

The department is currently planning juvenile justice and child protection training in conjunction with Nsamizi Institute of Social Development so that the institution produces graduates with knowledge on children's issues. At the same time, MOGLSD is involved with the Makerere University Social Work Department to design and develop the National Strategic Programme Plan of Interventions (NSPPI II) and as well the National Action Plan (NAP) on child labour. Capacity is being developed to appreciate child protection and the department will integrate issues of child protection and CSEC into the training modules which are demand driven.

Ministry of Internal Affairs

This ministry houses two important departments with the mandate to address trafficking and protection. They include:-

Immigration Directorate:

The Directorate participated in the drafting of the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2009. The TIP Act has not yet been operationalized for enforcement due to lack of coordination between the Ministry of Justice and the Ministry of Internal Affairs. The Directorate manages Uganda's borders and helps to combat child trafficking through border points. The immigration department has been given authority by the Director of Public Prosecution (DPP) to prosecute offences related to migration, and to gather evidence for prosecution in cases of trafficking for sacrifice, sale and/or prostitution of children.

The Uganda Police Force:

This department enforces the law, investigates and supports the prosecution in cases of trafficking. A National Anti-human Sacrifice and Trafficking Taskforce was been instituted in 2010. This task force works closely with the child and family protection unit to handle cases of child abuse. The Government of the United States of America

has assisted in building the capacity of the force to respond to reports of ritual murder and human trafficking, by training over 2,000 officers as first responders. An inter-ministerial Anti-Child Sacrifice/Human Trafficking Task Force, under the Uganda Police, was set up early this year to combat ritual murder but this largely failed to meet due to lack of resources.

National Council for Children (NCC)

The National Council for Children is a statutory body established in 1996 by Act of parliament CAP 60⁴⁸, and is mandated to provide a structure and mechanism to ensure proper co-ordination, monitoring and evaluation of all policies and programmes relating to the survival, protection, development and participation of the child and other connected matters. NCC acts as a body through which the needs and problems of children can be communicated to the government and other decision making institutions and agencies in Uganda. It has an inter-ministerial council that coordinates and oversees its functions related to children. The study team noted that NCC was co-ordinating National Child Labour Partners Forum which meets on a quarterly basis where issues of child labour are discussed. The extent of partner participation in reviews of children's activities and resources is largely limited and needs to be strengthened. It was also noted that NCC undertook to do a baseline survey on CSEC in Kampala with probation officers, but the report never captured the magnitude of the problem due to inadequate resources and capacity to undertake research. Again NCC's mandate has not fully utilized its roles as far as CSEC and OVC issues are concerned due to limitations in funding and staff capacity. Thus most of NCC work appears to either be duplicated by other parallel agencies.

“Ideally co-ordination efforts should be spearheaded by National Council for Children (NCC) because it's mandated to coordinate and monitor efforts of children affairs by different actors in the country also compile data and reports to report to parliament. The Permanent Secretary cannot coordinate these issues with fellow Permanent Secretaries because they are at the same level”. **MoGLSD Official.**

Functions of NCC include:-

- ◆ To advise and promote policy and programmes regarding the survival, development and protection of children in Uganda;
- ◆ To ensure proper planning and coordination of all child-based programmes within the broad guidelines of the programme of action;
- ◆ To regularly review and identify obstacles to the implementation of the programme of action and to advise on feasible solutions to overcome them;
- ◆ To monitor and evaluate programmes and activities of the programme of action;
- ◆ To mobilise and evaluate programmes and activities of the programme of action;
- to advise on programmes and budgets for the implementation of the programme of action;
- ◆ To act as a clearinghouse for information and data on the situation of children and activities designed to benefit children in Uganda;
- ◆ To disseminate research and development findings on the needs and problems of children through seminars, workshops, publications and other means of communication;
- ◆ To work in close cooperation with and to coordinate the activities of all persons, institutions, sectors and organisations, involved in child-based activities;
- ◆ To do all other things incidental or conducive to the efficient carrying out of the provisions of this Act as the Minister may direct and, by statutory instrument, prescribe.

6.2 Interventions by Institutions of higher learning

Makerere University – Case study:

The Department of Social Work and Social Administration has developed a course unit tailored on child rights protection. As of now, it is not a full course unit, but is only briefly covered under a children rights module; yet is one of the topical issues that are negatively affecting children. In terms of capacity at the University, there are enough competencies among its lecturers and a big volume of students who pass through the university. This same situation is also reflected in training in other universities, tertiary institutions and government institutions such as police and immigration. As of yet, these institutions have not recognized CSEC and there is a big gap in making concerted efforts to integrate this knowledge and realities of CSEC in Uganda into the curriculum so that the students who are the future policy planners and programs officers will be informed about this important issue. Universities and other tertiary institutions of higher learning need to incorporate CSEC issues in their curriculums in order to discuss how to provide solutions and blend theory to practice. University institutions have the capability to provide evidence based activities on how to mitigate such a societal problem.

6.3 Global, Regional and International Organizations Efforts

In November 2008, the Government of Brazil, UNICEF, and the NGO ECPAT International (End Child Prostitution Child Pornography and Trafficking of Children for Sexual Purposes) sponsored the World Congress III against Sexual Exploitation of Children. The Congress brought together over 3,000 people, including official government delegations from 140 countries, representatives from the private sector, civil society groups, and 300 youths. The Congress resulted in a blueprint for action called the Rio Declaration and Action Plan to prevent and Stop the Sexual Exploitation of Children and Adolescents. The Plan stresses that a Comprehensive approach to the problem is necessary. Such an approach must include effective laws, policies, regulations, and a broad spectrum of services such as social welfare, education, health, security, and justice.

Road map for achieving the elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour by 2016:

This roadmap resulted from the Global Child Labour Conference held in The Hague, Netherlands, 2010 and emphasizes policy priorities for governments to implement national legislation and enforcement; education and training; social protection; labour market policy. The roadmap further outlines expected actions by social partners, NGOs, CSOs, international and regional organizations, promoting and monitoring progress of the action plans.

International Organisation of Migration (IOM):

IOM is one of the most experienced organisations working to prevent and support victims of cross-border trafficking. In addition, IOM has done research on trafficking and commercial sex work; and trained service providers and immigration officers on trafficking issues. A toll free hotline has been set up to support victims of trafficking and sexual gender-based violence in Northern Uganda.

UNODC regional training:

A capacity building project to train key government stakeholders in issues of human trafficking took place in Kampala in early 2008, the East African countries sent representatives who were trained to integrate the skills and knowledge in their country and to participate in a 2-year \$460,000 USD regional anti trafficking technical assistance project implemented by the UNODC's Regional Office for Eastern Africa and funded by Norway and Sweden. The project ended in December of 2009, and was aimed at bolstering coordination among the 11 EAPCCO countries through the Regional Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Eastern Africa, and to harmonize national legislation with the Palermo Protocol.

United Nations Population Fund (UNFPA):

In collaboration with MoGLSD, UNFPA is supporting programmes on Sexual and Gender-Based Violence (SGBV) programmes especially in northern Uganda. They have developed materials, trained people and built capacity of NGOs to address SGBV. CSEC is part of the program, but is not deliberately targeted. They have funded two subsequent studies, one on Gender dimensions of trafficking, 2008 and another on HIV/AIDS and commercial sex work (2009). The studies highlighted the problems and risks of engaging in prostitution.

USAID:

Through its PEPFAR funding has been supporting interventions geared towards reducing the risk of HIV infection and improving the welfare of orphans and other vulnerable children and most at risk populations of children and youth including adolescent commercial sex workers.

UNICEF:

Their work was visible in the north of Uganda because of the Kony insurgency that lasted close to 20 years where many families were displaced in IDPs. UNICEF supports the MoGLSD financially and technically to develop policies and implementation frameworks relating to child protection. In many parts of the country, UNICEF has supported child-focused programmes including formal education, water and sanitation, child protection, birth registration, welfare of children affected by armed conflict and capacity building for civil society in terms of training and coordination to deliver a strong response to child protection.

UNICEF has developed training manuals on child protection (6-modular training manual on child protection) and human trafficking and gone ahead to train practitioners how to use them. In addition, UNICEF has conducted research and documented issues relating to child protection including trafficking and prostitution that has been relevant in improving knowledge levels among actors and guiding their interventions.

UNICEF has also supported initiatives of gender based violence focusing on sexual abuse and child prostitution based in Gulu district. These models have been taken up by War Child Holland, ARC, IRC, Child Fund, CCF have developed a response mechanism to local problems tailored to the environment. UNICEF has also supported the leveraging of policy at national level and also committed to the finalization of the commercial sexual exploitation action plan developed by MOGLSD and UCRNN. There are current programs on child protection aimed at preventing and responding child sexual abuse with support from UNFPA.

The United States Department of Labour (USDOL):

Has been one of the outstanding supporters of efforts to address the worst forms of child labour in Uganda. Some of the supported programmes/organizations include: ILO/IPEC, International Refugee Committee, World Vision-KURET project.

ILO-IPEC:

Since 1999, ILO/IPEC has supported civil society organizations in Uganda and the ministry of Gender to implement programmes to eliminate the worst forms of child labour. The support to government includes financial and technical support in the development of policies and action plans while that to NGOs includes capacity building, awareness raising, popularization of laws and policies and support to programmes on withdrawal, formal education support, vocational skills training and rehabilitation and reintegration of survivors of CSEC with families. Other activities have been supported toward the development of the Ugandan National Action Plan to eliminate child labour in 2010, including CSEC and supporting other partners, both government and NGOs, to eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labour.

ILO-IPEC supported the implementation of the school-based programmes such as SCREAM working with Kyambogo University. ILO-IPEC has been very instrumental in collecting data on WFCL using their SIMPOC and other rapid assessment methodologies. ILO-IPEC supported a study on CSEC in Uganda in 2004, and a study on trafficking in Uganda in 2007. It has funded UYDEL for the last 10 years to address the trafficking and CSEC issues. Thus far four projects have been implemented from 2003-2010.

At the time of this study, ILO/IPEC and USDOL are implementing a preparatory phase of time bound programme, code-named Supporting the National Action Plan (SNAP) project targeting the prevention and removal of children from the WFCL and also enhancing social protection through the provision of income generating activities to families with children in child labour in the districts of Wakiso, Mbale and Rakai through the implementation of an Integrated Area Based Approach.

6.4 Efforts by national Child Rights Networks and Coalitions

The study has revealed that several forums and networks exist to address issues of CSEC;

- ◆ **Child Labour Partners Forum:** Chaired and hosted by National Council for Children. It consists of many NGOs and government stakeholders who implement activities geared towards rehabilitation of children involved in child labour. In this Forum, stakeholders discuss and share experiences about child labour issues including CSEC which is discussed one among many issues every quarter in the year. This forum meets quarterly but is hampered by inadequate resources.
- ◆ **The Child protection working group chaired by UNICEF:** This is also a network supported and hosted by UNICEF to handle issues of child protection in general.
- ◆ **Uganda Child Rights NGO Network (UCRNN):** This is the most outstanding network at this level. It is a coalition of 95 child focused civil society organizations (CSOs) in Uganda formed in 1997, and has since then been at the forefront of advocating, lobbying and monitoring the implementation and adherence to child rights instruments at national, regional level. From time to time members meet, agree on positions and papers and reminding government and other bodies' of their responsibilities based on CSO voices closely working with a few NGOs like UYDEL, ECPAT, ANPPCAN, PLA it has championed the drafting of the NAP-CSEC and has a working committee on trafficking and CSEC. The frequency of the meetings went down due to lack of resources to support the
- ◆ **Most at Risk Population Network (MARPS):** The MARPs Network is a Government initiated Civil Society Organization (CSO) whose purpose is to promote coordinated leadership in HIV prevention among MARPs in Uganda. The MARPs Network Secretariat is an Information clearinghouse, conduit for capacity building and resource mobilization and platform for advocacy on MARPs in Uganda. Networking among actors is still weak and loosely done. Interestingly, MARPS has incorporated CSEC component in their strategic plan, a deliberate effort to help member plan and undertake activities in this area. There is need to raise issues of CSEC among these MAARPS members to be able to reach out to children affected by CSEC in their work. The biggest challenges members face include among others: low funding, Fear / stigmatization of their clients, low advocacy and Education, Staffing issues enabling access to services.

Interventions by the private sector

Federation of Uganda Employers

With support from the Government of Uganda, the Federation of Uganda Employers along with the labor unions developed guidelines to reduce child labor in various businesses. The Uganda Tea Association developed a code of conduct to prevent child labor in the tea sector. The Government's labor inspectors participated in trainings on trafficking. The Government also continued awareness raising activities on trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation through radio, billboards, and other programs.

6.5 Parent-Related Interventions

Parental involvement is a key in addressing problems which may lead to trafficking and eventual commercial sexual exploitation and pornography. This study revealed that there are few organizations; especially Faith based organization, NGOs and the Ministry of Ethics and Integrity that have taken on issues of pornography and sexual exploitation during their parental seminars and training.

Family Life Network is an NGO that has been very prominent in working with Parents and students in conducting parent seminars, sensitizations, counseling. It has also undertaken parental courses which last 12 weeks with 2 hours each week. They also undertake schools education awareness, work, and hold workshops with Rotarians, associations and youth meetings.

“Parents have been largely ignored and yet when children face problems they are one to blame. Many parents need the skills of helping their children when faced with problems of pornography, teenage pregnancy and sexual exploitation at large. This group has been left out and we cannot cover the whole country” **Family Life network.**

There is need to professionalize and repackage the parents training module/intervention to emphasize issues of trafficking, drugs, pornography with prevention messages. And these can disseminate widely in the country. We also need to train parents as peer counselors to reach others in the communities and also mentor other people to undertake similar activities and also pass on information to communities.

6.6 Media Efforts

The media reaches many people and can positively or negatively influence and shape opinions regarding CSEC. Information shows that since 2008 there are diminishing reports on CSEC issues. More has been written in forms of exposure of sexual exploitation and child prostitution. Some section of the media appear to promote pornography through writings and pictures and report increasingly on places where children can be accessed in terms of sexual exploitation.

However, the media has exposed issues surrounding CSEC and once in a while insightful articles have been written on sexual exploitation and what parents can do about it. There has been little or no deliberate efforts to address CSEC in general and application of knowledge is lacking as exhibited in some radio and TV discussions.

- ❖ More sensitization for the media
- ❖ Laws on publishing and use of TIP law to curb print of materials
- ❖ Prosecution of culprits.
- ❖ Reporting on CSEC issues.

6.7 Faith Based Interventions Against Pornography

Campus Alliance to Wipe out AIDS, an NGO, has contributed to efforts of curbing child pornography. Pornography is linked to child prostitution and exploitation and children involved in these acts are often given drugs and alcohol by exploiters to lower their resistance or to suspend their problems temporarily. Increasingly older men are looking out for children who are younger and this has led to the rise in HIV incidences in youth, as well as teen and unwanted pregnancies. The NGO also took the matter to Media Council to rein in on the Red Pepper pornographic publications. The Media Council found the Red Pepper guilty and consequently the Media Council directed the Red Pepper to stop producing pornography but concluded that they had found no evidence that the Red Pepper was guilty of publishing pornography.

Further to that development, the Media Council issued directives to the Police to fight against the use of child pornography but they later withdrew the directive and hinted that they were going to find long term solutions to the problem. These efforts have gone to waste because the Media Council and Courts of Law are the only places for justice and they are already compromised.

A report was generated and presented to the Committee of Parliament on Pornography for action. It was presented to the Select Committee and raised on the floor of Parliament. MPs are waiting for the Draft Bill to be presented by the executive, but so far nothing has been realized from these efforts. More efforts were also initiated with Uganda Revenue Authority (URA), where parents were invited to discuss during a forum on how to control this vice. However, these efforts have also not yielded many results to this date. These efforts needed the services of a consultant to take this initiative to another level.

CHAPTER SEVEN

LEGAL, POLICY AND RESOURCE FLOW COMMITMENTS

This chapter elaborates on the identified National legal framework and policy responses for addressing CSEC. It examines legal and policy interventions taken and the roles played by various stakeholders.

7.1 Legal Framework Addressing CSEC

This section examines the international instruments and conventions signed by Uganda and the subsequent obligations for action, as well as National legislations adopted in the country.

7.1.1 International Instruments

The government of Uganda has made commendable achievements aimed at protecting children from exploitation in general. Many of these efforts directly and indirectly impact the protection of children from commercial sexual exploitation. The Government has ratified the following important international instruments that relate to CSEC, as outlined in Table 24 below.

Table 26: International instruments ratified by Uganda

No.	Instrument	Important provisions
1	ILO Convention 138 Minimum Age of Admission to Employment (1973), ratified on 3/25/2003	This Convention provides for the development of a comprehensive national Child Labour Policy and interventions on child labour
2	ILO Convention 182 Worst forms of Child Labour ratified on 6/21/2001	Defines the worst forms of child labour
3	The UN Convention on the Rights of the Child, ratified on 8/17/1990	This convention commits Uganda to promote children's rights to survival, development protection and participation through articles 34 on sexual exploitation, 35 on sale, trafficking and abduction, 36 other forms of exploitation, 37-torture and deprivation of liberty, 38- armed conflict and 39-rehabilitation and care.
4	UN Convention for the Suppression of the Trafficking in Persons and of the Exploitation of the Prostitution of others (1949)	Addresses slavery and slave like practices. It sets forth the principle that prostitution and trafficking is incompatible with the dignity of human persons and advances the need for protection of victims of prostitution and prosecution of people who traffic others for prostitution.
5	Convention on the Elimination of all Worst Forms of Discrimination Against Women (CEDAW) 1979.	Article 6 requires governments to institute measures to suppress all forms of traffic in women as well as sexual exploitation and prostitution. It also identified trafficking of women as a form of gender based violence.
6	Protocol to Prevent, Suppress and Punish Trafficking in Persons, especially Women and Children, supplementing the UN Convention against Trans-national organized crime(2000): (The Palermo protocol)	Commits the state to address the crime of trafficking in persons, particularly women and children. It states that states shall take all measures to discourage the demand that fosters all forms of exploitation of persons leading to trafficking of children.
7	The Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the sale of Children, Child Prostitution and Child Pornography 25 May 2000. It has been assented to 11/30/2001	Commits government to put in place mechanism to prevent and suppress child prostitution and all measures to address and rehabilitate victims. And their eventual reintegration.

8	Optional Protocol to the Convention on the Rights of the Child on the Involvement of Children in Armed Conflict, 2000 (CRCOPAC, 5/6/2002)	The protocol sets 18 as the minimum age for direct participation in hostilities, for recruitment into armed groups, and for compulsory recruitment by governments. States may accept volunteers from the age of 16 but must deposit a binding declaration at the time of ratification or accession, setting out their minimum voluntary recruitment age and outlining certain safeguards for such recruitment.
9	The ILO Convention concerning the prohibition and immediate action for the elimination of child labour of 17 June 1999.	The convention identifies and reorganize sexual exploitation one of the worst forms of child labour.
10	The African Charter on the Rights and Welfare of the Child (1990)	Article 27 requires States Parties to protect children from all forms of sexual exploitation and sexual abuse and take measures to prevent: the inducement, coercion or encouragement of a child to engage in any sexual activity; the use of children in prostitution or other sexual practices; and the use of children in pornographic activities, performances and materials. Article 29 requires States Parties to take appropriate measures to prevent: the abduction, the sale of, or trafficking in children for any purpose or in any form, by any person including parents or legal guardians of the child and the use of children in all forms of begging.

7.1.2 National legislation

Commendable progress has been made by the government of Uganda in terms of domesticating international instruments into national legislation (See Table 25 below). **The National Constitution of 1995** provides for the protection of all children from all forms of exploitation. Article 25 of the Constitution of Uganda (1995) prohibits holding in slavery or servitude of any person in Uganda including children; Article 34(4) protects children under the age of 16 years from social or economic exploitation. Some laws have been enacted, notably the **Trafficking In Persons Act (2009)** and the **Sexual Offences Bill (2010)**, while others are in the process of being amended to respond to current trends in child protection especially the **Children's Act, 2000 Cap 59**. At the time of this study, there continues an on-going process since 2005 to review the Children's Act by the Law Reform Commission. Previously the Children's Act did not define child labour. Most legislations and policies (Employment Act-2006, Child Labour Policy -14 years and the Constitution -16 years) are still contradictory in terms of age.

The suggested provisions in the Children's Act are important in supporting policies and programmes and efforts to enact these amendments. The amendments of the Children's Act also look at adoption, foster care and legal guardianship of children. The new amendments will solve issues including length of screening time before adoption, which was previously too short a time for guardians to adopt. This had created fertile ground for unscrupulous people to traffic children in the name of adoption. The provisions include provisions for Amendments on the Children's Act Cap 59 section 8 on harmful employment, which has been elaborated to include provisions on human trafficking and harmful employment.

In 2009, the Government of Uganda passed the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2009. However, since the act passed into law it has not been formally passed on to the parent Ministry of Internal Affairs for operationalization. The police have assumed that they are the main unit responsible to enforce this act. The police handle several crimes related to the TIP Act, including current efforts to curb child sacrifice; however there exist many areas in the TIP Act which have been left unattended too.

The TIP Act, 2009 has not yet been operationalized because the Minister of Internal Affairs has not issued the operationalization instrument. The statistics on victims of child trafficking are not concrete. The cases of trafficking are still being recorded as kidnap or abduction. The Ugandan police constituted a national task force under the IGPs office to foster inter-ministerial and inter-sectoral linkages with people from gender, education, ISO, scene of crime officers, CLOs and intelligence; but operates without a budget. This task force was to depend on funding from the relevant police departments to include trafficking as part of their core activities.

Child trafficking is evident in orphanage centers through adoption, fostering and guardianship orders. For example, a recent case involving a team leader for Karamojong children who was charged with kidnapping children from lawful guardianship. Taxi men are an innocent network though they are contacts and perpetrators for child trafficking. Employment bureaus work with labour officers and not the police, as should be the case; the labour officers do not follow up on most of these cases. At times probation officers connive with stakeholders to traffick children by availing them all the necessary documentation that allows traffickers to take children across borders. Noted the Head, Anti Child Trafficking Task force

Table 27: National laws with implications to Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children

No.	National legislations	Important provisions
1	The Constitution of the Republic of Uganda (1995)	Article 25 prohibits holding in slavery or servitude of any person in Uganda including children; Article 34(4) protects children under the age of 18 years from social or economic exploitation. It emphasizes that children shall not be employed or perform work that is likely to be hazardous or interfere with their education, be harmful to their health or physical, mental and social development.
2	The Children's Act, 2000 Cap 59	Article 5(3) defines a child, Article 5(6) establishes the rights of the child and Art 5(9) prohibits the employment of children or their engagement in any activity that may be harmful to their lives, health, and education, mental, physical or moral development.
3	The Local Government Act, 1997 as amended 2006.	Designates the Secretary for Children's Affairs at all local Council levels and gives them mandate to plan and implement programmes at that level.
4	The Penal Code Act (Cap 120)	Penal Code criminalizes trafficking of children, as well as the act of having sex with a girl less than 18 years. Pornography is prohibited under section 166 and concealment under section 246.
5	Sexual Offences Bill, 2010	Provides more protection for children against sexual abuse and rise the age of consent to 18 years.
6	Employment Act (2006)	Provides that no young person may be employed in any environment which is injurious to health, dangerous or otherwise unsuitable. No person may employ a person of or under the apparent age of twelve years except on such light work as the Minister may, from time to time, by statutory order, prescribe.
8	Occupational Safety & Health Act (2006)	The Act regulates the safety and health of all workers including children. The Act provides for inspection of all work places, identification of hazards at the work place and other related matters. The employers have a duty to protect workers and provide protective gear.
9	The Domestic Violence Act, 2010	The Act outlaws depriving the victim of economic or financial resources to which he or she is entitled to. This may include property jointly or separately owned by the victim or payment of rent to the shared household and maintenance. It also includes household necessities for the victim and his or her children.
10	The Education Act, 2008	States that Universal Primary Education is compulsory and provides for penalties and offences for any person, organization or agency that refuses to enroll or deters a child from enrolling for UPE in accordance with the Act.

However, there are some other additional Ugandan laws that have a bearing on combating the trafficking of children such as the

- ❖ Electronic Media Act, Cap 104;
- ❖ The Press and Journalist Act, Cap 105;
- ❖ The Uganda Citizenship and Immigration Control Regulation Act, 2004 and its amended Act, 2009;
- ❖ Penal Code Act, Cap 120, Employment Act (2006).

7.2 National Policy Framework

Several programmes of action have been laid down in frameworks of National Policy and which have a bearing on combating CSEC.

- a) **The National OVC Policy, 2004:** Guided by the National Strategic Programme Plan of Interventions for OVC (NSPPI), the government, through the Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development (MoGLSD) and in collaboration with other partners, is implementing a national programme targeting orphans and vulnerable children in terms of improving capacity of duty bearers and coordinating efforts to protect children, prevent abuse and mitigate the impact of vulnerability. By the time of this study, the MoGLSD was undertaking the process of formulating the National Strategic Plan-2 that for the next five years (2010/11-2014/15) shall guide action for vulnerable children. In spite the fact that the NSSPI I was a good document, in the course of implementation stakeholders shied away due to a lack of technical expertise, limited funding, and that the document was weak on child protection issues and CSEC did not appear anywhere. The National Strategic Plan II for OVCs currently being developed has incorporated issues of commercial sexual exploitation of children including trafficking and those of Worst Forms of Child Labour.
- b) **The Universal Primary Education, 1997 and Universal Secondary Education Policy, 2008:** The implementation of this policy is guided by the education Sector Investment Plan. Under this, the government aims to increase school enrolment and retain children in schools. Programmes here include classroom construction, curriculum development and plan of action for the education of girls.
- c) **The National Child Labour Policy, 2006:** This policy came into action in May 2006; it defines child labour and provides guidance into the integration of child labour concerns into national, district and community programmes and plans. Since its inception, the policy which was meant to guide the actions of MoGLSD together with its partners in terms of designing programmes to address child labour has not trickled down thus remaining largely unutilized. A similar fate affects the National OVC policy.
- d) **The National Policy on HIV/AIDS and the world of work** -The policy aims at providing a framework for prevention of further spread of HIV/AIDS and mitigation of social economic impact of the epidemic within the world of work. The policy notes that children who have been forced out of school due to HIV/AIDS-related factors are often forced to join the labour market, with the dual consequence of engaging in exploitative labour and therefore increasing the pool of unskilled workers.
- e) **The Decentralization Policy, 1997** -The local governments provide structures for addressing child labour at the community level. The policy mandates the vice chairperson of each local council the responsibility of handling children's affairs. Child labour committees also exist in some districts, though with limited functionality.

7.3 National Action Plans and CSEC

Specific National Action Plans which have a bearing on CSEC have been drafted and are waiting validation in 2011.

- i. **The Draft National Action Plan (NAP) on the Elimination of Exploitative and all Hazardous Forms of Work affecting Children 2011-2015:** The NAP was drafted because of the need to emphasize the importance attached to child labour and to accentuate it as a national concern at the highest level. The NAP is also meant to be a tool to fulfill the national and international commitments Uganda has made under various policy frame works, including ratified conventions. The NAP provides a framework for a broad based national dialogue on child labour involving the government, agencies and institutions at all levels (national, local

governments), employers and workers organizations, civil society representatives, international development partners and other stakeholders.

- ii. **The Uganda National Plan of Action on Child Sexual Abuse and Exploitation:** This NPA was initiated and supported by ECPAT-Uganda and taken over by MoGLSD. This document is still in draft form and is a follow-up by NGOs to the Geneva Child Rights Committee presentation in 2008 which showed a glaring gap on combating the sale and prostitution of children in Uganda. Priority areas for this NAP are; prevention, legal and policy framework, Child Protection and Support Services, Coordination and Partnerships. This National Plan of Action targets all actors in the national development process at all levels, whose interventions or services can prevent or respond to CSAE with special focus on children who are sexually exploited and those at risk. These are Government ministries, departments and agencies both at national level and local governments, The Parliament, Civil Society Organisations (community, national and international) Faith-Based Organizations, Traditional and Cultural Institutions, Development Partners and Private sector (including the media, tourism institutions, telecommunication companies, internet service providers etc). This NPA was validated by stakeholders and reviewed by a technical working group.

Gaps in the legal and policy framework for addressing CSEC

The study findings point to the fact that the legal and policy framework in place for the protection of children against CSEC in Uganda is one of the best in the region. The main challenge faced by Uganda remains in the inadequate capacity (limited knowledge about the conventions, laws in Uganda; resources, and weak structures at lower levels) of duty bearers mentioned above to implement the policies and enforce the laws for the benefit of the children.

Many structures, at national and lower levels are insufficiently funded, have acute staffing levels and limited technical skills to handle child protection issues

“Although some sectors such as the UPE get a sizeable share of the budget, other critical sectors such as community and social services where community awareness on CSEC, positive parenting and community empowerment generally fall is grossly underfunded⁴⁹. At the same time, the lack of conditional grants from the national authority to district local governments to cover child protection, has contributed in part to the limited inclusion of child protection within district priorities and development plans, and led to an over-reliance on NGOs, CBOs and FBOs’ resources for response”⁵⁰.

Key challenges

- Weak immigration law on Trafficking
- Lack of TIP office to coordinate
- Scattered efforts in combating trafficking in persons.
- Limited prevention and protection services
- Weak referral services
- Lack of a national policy on trafficking in persons and CSEC.

It should be noted that the interventions by government programmes tend to target the general population of children, with no specific focus on children affected by CSEC. The uniqueness of the realities associated with CSEC and its impact on children is lost in general protection issues and children are not given adequate protection and care. The failure to understand this by law enforcement officers leads to viewing victims as offenders that should be arrested and prosecuted and not survivors of violence requiring withdrawal and protection. To date, there is no visible or at least documented evidence of government intervention beyond legislation and policy development in terms of protection, prevention and prosecution of offenders as far as CSEC (prostitution, trafficking and pornography) is concerned.

Challenges of legal administration and CSEC

In spite of having a good legal environment, the discussions of the study revealed that there is no established government task force committee to follow through the implementation of the Trafficking in Persons Act, 2009. The task force when established should liaise with other sectors and also work with other departments. Most people are ignorant of particular laws in the country and thus cannot claim their rights. There has been sluggishness in popularizing the law and doing more advocacy on issues of CSEC, trafficking and child sacrifice. There is need to do more in the areas of awareness, protection, prosecution and rehabilitation.

The majority of agencies have tended to fund programmes in the northern region, but all of them mention the challenges facing interventions to include poor law enforcement by both the police and courts of law, limited funding opportunities which affects the implementation of activities and serving of clients, harassment and stigmatization of children involved in CSEC by law enforcement officers which pushes the children into hiding, low advocacy for issues related to CSEC at a national level to influence policy and funding, as well as the limited capacity of staff to provide psychosocial support to clients.

Corruption at institutional levels has exacerbated syndicates involving some probation officers, judicial officers, lawyers, travel agents, mushrooming foster homes and collecting centers to facilitate acquisition of travel documents for children for purposes of trafficking. The Immigration officers at border points are largely left out by government efforts yet they play a key role in combating child trafficking. The immigration efforts are to a great extent adhoc and uncoordinated. The absence of a coordinating office for Trafficking creates more problems in movement of children.

7.4 Resource Flow Commitments Towards CSEC and Trafficking

The study sought to establish the amount of resources, both monetary and non-monetary, currently committed to address CSEC in Uganda. Among the many actors, including the government, it proved difficult to establish the amount of funds committed to combat CSEC, save for UYDEL, UCRNN and ANPPCAN. The uniqueness of CSEC and its impact of children are lost in general protection issues and children are not given adequate specialized protection and care.

In addition, the study found out that most funds and other resources for general OVC are from donors, especially USDOL, USAID and CSF. Additionally, NGOs also mobilize funds from Europe and America as the case study explains:

Case Study

The Government of Uganda continued to participate in a 2-year \$460,000 USD regional anti trafficking technical assistance project implemented by the UNODC's Regional Office for Eastern Africa and funded by Norway and Sweden. The project ended in December of 2009, and aimed at bolstering coordination among the 11 EAPCCO countries through the Regional Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Eastern Africa. Its overall goal was to harmonize national legislation with the Palermo Protocol. The USDOS, the Governments of Uganda, the Central African Republic, the Democratic Republic of the Congo, and southern Sudan coordinated joint military operations to rescue abductees by the LRA.

The Government of Uganda is participating in a 4-year \$4.79 million USD Project of Support for the Preparatory Phase of the Uganda National Action Plan for the Elimination of Child Labor. This project, funded in 2008 by USDOL and implemented by ILO-IPEC, aims to withdraw 2,712 and prevent 5,426 children from exploitive child labor in agriculture, commercial sexual exploitation, fishing, domestic work, construction, mining, quarrying, and the urban informal sector. The project will also contribute to the development of "child labor-free zones" in Wakiso, Rakai, and Mbale Districts.

The Government also participated in the USDOL funded \$3 million USD ILO-IPEC project to combat HIV/AIDS-induced child labour in Uganda and Zambia, which ended in December 2008. The project withdrew 2,642 and prevented an additional 2,072 children from exploitive child labour through the provision of education in both counties. During the reporting period, the Government worked with the ILO-IPEC and local NGOs to enhance awareness of child labor issues, contributing over \$21,000 USD to these activities. ILO-IPEC also distributed over 500 Supporting Children's Rights through Education, the Arts, and the Media (SCREAM) modules intended to train teachers on child labor, as well as HIV/AIDS-induced child labor.

The Government continues to participate in the 4 year \$5.5 million USD project funded by USDOL and implemented by the International Rescue Committee (IRC) and the Italian Association for Volunteers in International Service titled Livelihoods, Education and Protection to End Child labour (LEAP). The LEAP project aims to contribute to the prevention and elimination of 379 child labour cases in Northern Uganda and the Karamoja region through awareness raising and improving access to and quality of education. The project aims to withdraw a total of 2,825 children and prevent another 8,450 children from exploitive labor. During the reporting period, the Government participated in numerous LEAP project lead talk shows and radio sessions dedicated to child labour.

The Government of Uganda participated in the 4-year Kenya, Uganda, Rwanda, and Ethiopia Together (KURET) project, which was funded by USDOL at USD 14.5 million and World Vision at USD 5.9 million through March 2009. Implemented by World Vision, in partnership with the IRC and the Academy for Educational Development, the project withdrew and prevented a total of 32,823 children from exploitive labor in HIV/AIDS affected areas of these four countries through the provision of educational services. The Government continued to participate in the 7 year project started in 2001 funded by the Eliminating Child Labor in Tobacco-growing Sector Foundation. The project aims to eliminate child labor in the tobacco-growing sector in Uganda.

Source: US Department of Labor; Findings on the Worst Forms of Child Labour, 2008

There was a lack of visibility at the national and district levels in regards to the amount of resources committed for child protection in general and for CSEC in particular. The issues of CSEC are completely absent in the majority of NGO strategic plans as you move further from Kampala city. This is a sign of a lack of awareness about CSEC on a national level. This is perceived as largely constituted by direct support to OVC and their families. In the outgoing five year NSSPI I, issues of child protection received less attention in terms of funding and activities, the duty bearers had insufficient funds and human resources. This area largely remained unaddressed.

CHAPTER EIGHT

MAIN CONCLUSION AND RECOMMENDATIONS

8.1 Introduction:

This chapter highlights the major conclusions from the findings of the study and deduces specific recommendations to address and combat the realities of CSEC in Uganda.

8.2 Conclusions

The conclusions of the findings are presented based on the objectives of the study, including socio-demographic characteristics, the extent of the problem of CSEC, national and community responses addressing CSEC, regional representation of CSEC, and legal and policy interventions.

In Uganda, trafficking and commercial sexual exploitation of children exist; they are hidden, more prevalent in urban settings, and appear to be infiltrating schools. Uganda has developed a good legal and policy framework, but in all the districts visited, interventions and legal responses were weak and the few that existed were focusing on child protection in general and many children engaged in commercial sexual exploitation are still not being reached. The problem of CSEC and trafficking is increasing and there is urgent need from the highest level of government, the international community and civil society to renew their commitment and increase their efforts in addressing the problem. The need to design programs and begin a stronger response to combating the problem of CSEC needs urgent attention and strong commitment from duty bearers at different levels.

The Extent of the problem of CSEC:

As it was in the 2004 ILO study, not a single district had concrete information on numbers save for a few actors who had started compiling information. The study has estimated that the number of children affected by CSEC had increased from 12,000 now estimated to be 18,000 annually with more girls being the most preferred compared to boys. The age is getting younger though the majority of children interviewed were between 14 -17 years. Almost 80 percent of children interviewed were staying alone and almost an equal number (88 percent) were out of school and had not gone beyond primary level, though 12 percent were students. Over 80 percent of children lacked apprenticeship skills. Commercial sexual exploitation was the main source of income for the children supplemented with a few non-viable activities.

Given the short time, the study interviewed 529 children but given more time, more children exploited in commercial sex could have been reached. It was noted that there was a lot of entry, nomadism, relapse and exit from CSEC sometimes influenced by school holidays, Christmas seasons, production processes which demand use of more children and festive and entertainment industry.

Trafficking:

The numbers of children being recruited into commercial sexual exploitation are increasing. It was revealed that recruitment and movement of children is well coordinated. Kidnapping has declined, whereas there has been an increase in enticements/convincing. Most female victims of trafficking end up in prostitution prone environments while boys enter hazardous work like fishing on lakes, markets, metal scrap or stone quarries. No single factor can explain the cause of movement, but poverty intersects with many other factors, such as orphanhood, to push children into situations of exploitation.

Trafficking is occurring more internally, though elements of transnational trafficking have also become more evident; children are targeted more for adoption, fostering, religious extremism, labour and prostitution. CSEC thrives well in Uganda partly because exploiters in the entertainment industry want to amass wealth at the expense of children's lives, also because of ignorance about the law and also lack of law enforcement by relevant agencies (police, probation, local government and trade ministry) coupled with ignorance of communities who mistakenly regard traffickers as good people. The patterns of trafficking have changed significantly since 2004 and have been

found to vary; children from poor families are moved from rural to urban centers and urban to urban. Similarly a large number of children are moved from rural to rural especially in fishing and agricultural areas especially in central Uganda; others are moved across the country and beyond. Most recruiters are adults known to the victim's families, but also children participate in recruitment especially for those working in bars and lodges and many times employers give children money to go back to villages to recruit more girls. Structures of support victims of commercial sexual exploitation were few yet trafficking is a complex phenomenon hidden in the production processes in agriculture, fishing and business enterprises. The study noted that there is a variation in presentation and manifestation of CSEC. Some districts serve as source a source for child victims of trafficking, other districts are transit and destination places.

Prostitution:

It was established that children are recruited into commercial sex work in different ways. While some are directly trafficked straight into the vice by bar and lodge owners, others are promised work in big hotels to earn big salaries, where exploiters end up selling them to men. Much as it is hidden, child prostitution is steadily increasing especially in fishing communities and urban centers. Poverty, peer pressure, life style associated with commercial sex, and desire to be self reliant consequently forces children to engage in commercial sex. Students were also cited as victims of commercial sex work. Most child sexual customers are employed in the transport industry, informal business activities and few in formal trade. Many children are connected to exploiters by pimps or self through telephone contacts, being in places which are frequented by many people such as slums, bars, markets.

The preference of exploiters of children in sexual and labour exploitation is to create a disguised practice that is characterized by abuses which are continuous or spontaneous in all dimensions (sexual, physical and psychological). This is also characterized by threats of denunciation and intimidation in order to keep children in the practice by depriving them of their wages, limiting their movements and contacts with outside world. Unless children escape or receive help from NGOs and churches, quitting may be difficult because they anticipate their pay, fear threats and other children had incurred debts. It was also noted that children were working in extreme and harsh conditions in homes and dangerous circumstances and fishing in deep waters, exposed to wild animals and other dangers without protective gears such as life jackets. Overall quitting strategies were minimal in the area of study and in many areas victims of CSEC had no exit strategies.

There is a close link between unprotected sexual activities with the desire for more money. In some instances children were also in debt bondage resulting from negotiations made between the exploiter and parents/guardians and have to pay back by working for the exploiters until they mature. Needs such as clothing, rent, food, alcohol and expensive life style keep them in commercial sexual exploitation. This is exacerbated by a lack of alternative skills to seek employment elsewhere, limited opportunities for quick money, alcohol and drug abuse, belonging to bad peer groups, stigma and fear of rejection caused a lot of relapse into prostitution.

Pornography:

Pornography as a vice is moving at very fast rate compared to prostitution. Pornography, trafficking and prostitution are closely interlinked. Pornography in Kampala city has been taken to another level from mainly engaging in pornography for their own entertainment to commercial gain, involving well-coordinated network embracing music celebrities, bar and karaoke group owners. Over 60 bars can engage and exploit over 30 girls on one weekend alone, with an approximation of 1,800 children being exploited. It is disguised in shooting of films, photos, videos and participating in strip dancing. Watching of sexually explicit or pornographic videos by children is a key form of child pornography that fuels CSEC. Newspapers and internet chat rooms have created additional avenues for demand and exploitation of children.

Interventions in area of pornography have concentrated more in petitions to line ministries, Media Council, Parliament and a few court cases. Children failure to mention government presence shows either absence or failure of government programmes to trickle down to address this dehumanizing servitude practice. In spite of a purported increase in NGO services for CSEC more have tended to target adult CSWs and CSEC largely remains unattended to by a few NGO efforts. The few NGOs addressing the problem of CSEC cover smaller geographical

areas reaching few beneficiaries and many of these CSOs need capacity building. Networking and coordination among CSOs working with CSEC is still weak, underfunded, limited staffing, uncoordinated and limited capacity in many districts. Other challenges facing interventions include; poor law enforcement both by police and courts of law, stigmatization which pushes the children into hiding, low advocacy for issues related to CSEC at national level to influence policy and funding, limited capacity of staff to provide psychosocial support to clients.

Children largely were un-informed about their rights and how to free themselves from sexual exploitation; many agencies are ignorant of the players in the field, staff have inadequate knowledge and skills of handling victims of sexual exploitation due to limited funding,

CSEC is not a fully-fledged topic or course unit in all universities and other higher institutions of learning, but dismally covered under the children rights module. There was lack of visibility at national and district level of the amount of resources committed for child protection in general and CSEC in particular. NGOs do more resource mobilization compared to government. Interestingly the issues of CSEC are completely absent in most the NGO strategic plans. The study found it difficult to track resources due to poor documentation at national and district levels.

It has become clear in this study that CSEC as a problem is increasing in Uganda and many children are being exploited. With this trend, trafficking, prostitution and pornography are likely to continue. There is virtually limited commitment on the part of government to address the problem of CSEC, compounded by poor mobilization of actors and lack of resources. Drafting a good legal regime and other policies is not enough unless accompanied by enforcement structures and personnel. A few NGOs have tried to address CSEC but the problem represents different needs from children and requires a multi sectoral approach at community, district and national levels.

8.3 Recommendations

Based on the findings from the study, a number of policy and programmatic recommendations have been made in order to address the problem of CSEC and child trafficking in Uganda by all stakeholders at different levels. The recommendations are broadly categorized into promoting education, skills building and employment opportunities; withdrawal and rehabilitation; social protection; legal and policy measures; advocacy; strengthening the capacity of government, civil society and private sector; integrating CSEC studies into institutions of higher learning; and research for building evidence base. The study has developed these suggestions aware that addressing CSEC is a primary responsibility of government to protect and provide for children while the civil society, private sector and international development partners play a complementary role.

1) Promoting education, skills development and employment opportunities

- ❖ **Support retention of children in Schools:** The study established that many children were out of school and/or orphans. High dropout rates in school is an issue that needs to be addressed through a high intensive retention strategy that must confront issues which cause early school dropout and the need for working children and exploitation both in urban and rural areas. The schools also provide a good platform for raising awareness about anti CSEC activities. This could be done activities such as drama, debates, pictures, posters, and testimonies from former victims. Similar prevention and awareness campaigns should be taken in villages and urban areas known for trafficking to reach out to children who are out of school.
- ❖ **Provide vocational skills training to children affected by CSE and support them to engage in decent employment:** The study found many victims and potential victims particularly those within the age bracket of 14-17 years. Most youth who participated in the study did not have employable skills. There is urgent need to introduce education programmes such as vocational skills training and job creation activities supported in form of youth groups and improved access to micro credit facilities to initiate their own businesses.
- ❖ **Promote youth employment** and descent work through vocational and business skills

training for out of school disadvantaged children and providing them with knowledge on starting up businesses and income generating activities other than engaging in CSEC. Descent work initiatives should be promoted as an alternative to CSEC which exposes children to HIV/AIDS and other risky behaviours. The BTVET department under the Ministry of Education and Sports should sensitize the young people on the importance of technical vocational education and further support institutions offering vocational skills training across the country.

- ❖ **Create a conducive learning environment:** The Ministry of Education and Sports should give a clear mandate to Head teachers and District Education Officers to follow up school drop outs at their guardians' homes. There is need to create a conducive atmosphere for children in schools by motivating teachers to encourage children to stay in school.

2. **Withdrawal and rehabilitation of CSEC victims**

- ❖ Strengthen the capacity of labour officers and law enforcement officers to monitor and investigate working conditions and the age of children working in homes, bars, landing sites, and the general entertainment industry and withdraw children involved in CSEC for rehabilitation. and taken to specialized care while establishments exploiting children should be subject to criminal prosecution in accordance with the TIP Act
- ❖ **Establish and support shelters for withdrawn children:** The study also discovered that the majority of children lacked shelter, employable skills, food and clothing. There is need to support shelters and institutions which can meet the needs above. Rescued children from prostitution, pornography and trafficking need shelters where specialized care including psychosocial, medical, vocational skills and victim friendly services for possible re-integration can be provided. Given the traumatic experiences faced by the children, victim shelters and other facilities should be and supported in areas where they do not exist and facilities should be strengthened where some shelters exist. These should be supported with adequate staff, social workers, medical personnel to ensure that these children receive specialized care which contributes to their wellbeing and also be able to monitor their adjustments and re-integration.
- ❖ The government should to play a primary role by mobilizing and allocating adequate financial resources towards prevention and withdrawal of children prone to or engaged in CSEC. It must mobilize resources and give more support in terms of resources and technical assistance towards the identification, assessments, victim protection and assistance, psychosocial support, trauma counseling, talent identification and recreation, vocational skills training apprenticeship and economic integration of former children involved in CSEC.
- ❖ Strengthen the capacity of poor families to provide adequate care to children vulnerable to CSEC: Households with children below 14 years at risk of CSEC should be assisted to start income generating activities, access to micro credit, training them in entrepreneurial and family planning skills to be able to meet the basic needs of their children.

3) **Strengthening Social protection and family systems:**

- ❖ Provide social protection to vulnerable households to enable them to absorb the shocks arising out poverty and HIV which make them vulnerable and unable to support their children. CSEC is just a symptom of the wider problem. The Social Assistance Grant for Economic Empowerment (SAGE) that is being piloted in Uganda and the NSPPI 2 should target children at the brink of joining commercial sexual exploitation.
- ❖ Support poor and vulnerable families to start income generating activities to meet the basic needs of their children. This system shall supplement efforts at various levels especially in delivery of social services and community development.

- ❖ Family based intervention, empowerment and information on child upbringing and parenting skills, abuse, counseling, referral as well as long term sustainable programs to empower the family, and community structures. Therefore parental guidance and responsibility should be promoted.

4. Legal and policy measures

- ❖ **Strengthen the capacity of state actors:** Capacity building programs in terms of skills, knowledge and good practices is urgently required to strengthen government (Police, immigration, labour officers, Community Development Officers, probation officers, judicial officers, Trade and Tourism, Education, Local Government, Information) local and community based actors and NGOs. Capacity building should also focus on training agencies and all professionals involved in prevention and protection of children from sexual exploitation and victim support. This type of training should be on going and work closely with other agencies such as IOM.
- ❖ **Strengthen law enforcement:** Law enforcement should be strengthened (human resources, financial and infrastructure) and prioritized since the enabling policies and laws are available for the responsible institutions to undertake. The Trafficking in Persons office as a coordinating body should be set up under immigration as the responsible department for implementing and enforcing the TIP Act, 2009. The TIP office should then establish an enforcement unit and focal point from which stakeholders can meet to deliberate on issues and share experiences. Civil society needs to push for the establishment of the national coordinating office and its committee.
- ❖ **Regulate the media on CSEC:** The Broadcasting Council and Media Council should ensure that both electronic (televisions, radio) and print media (newspapers) abide by the minimum broadcasting standards. Information relayed in the Tabloid newspapers and explicit pictures in the music videos should be censored to safe guard the children.

5. Advocacy strategy

- ❖ **Increase awareness about CSEC issues:** A prevention strategy to increasing awareness about CSEC issues targeting the perpetrators, exploiters, community stakeholders including children in rural and urban areas is highly recommended. This can be done through production and dissemination of the CSEC report to NGOs and other stakeholders in most districts visited to increase visibility and awareness of the issue and drawing plans to address the problem.
- ❖ **Widely disseminate laws for prevention of CSEC:** There is need to undertake massive production, translation into the major languages and dissemination of the TIP Act, 2009 and the Child Labour policy, 2006 for distribution to police officers at different police stations and other stakeholders across the country. The TIP Act should be enforced in tandem with the Children's Act and the Domestic Violence Act.
- ❖ **Undertake a multimedia campaign against CSEC:** The potential of media in electronic, print and drama have not been fully utilized in the fight against CSEC. Initially there is need to have orientation workshops for media for both print and electronic staff to raise awareness among journalists on CSEC. This will help to increase reporting, investigation and writing of news and features related to CSEC. This strategy was used to build up the issue during the time TIP law was being debated in 2008 and found to be effective, the press was very supportive but now the interest appears to be going down.
- ❖ Sensitize business entities that create demand for CSEC such as bars, employment bureaus, night clubs, lodges, internet service providers and other relevant institutions about the negative impact of commercial sexual exploitation on children's lives. Sensitizing the employers/traffickers on the available child labour policies and laws should be urgently undertaken.

6. Strengthening the capacity of government, civil society, and private sector

- ❖ Capacity building to scale up good practices and integrated area based approaches is needed for victim support related agencies, NGOs undertaking rehabilitation, HIV/AIDS prevention, poverty reduction, child protection agencies and schools since some of the girls in CSEC are students.
- ❖ Train advocates for fighting CSEC and child trafficking at all levels: Advocacy levels to increase visibility and also ensure enforcement mechanisms of the laws were generally non-existent and the few efforts were not much visible. There is need to train more advocates about CSEC issues among key government sectors such as Members of Parliament and policy makers so as to increase awareness and also visit facilities of actors to interface and hear from CSEC victims.
- ❖ Train staff of the judiciary, police, immigration, the department probation, social welfare and youth and in trafficking and victim support services.
- ❖ Train Child Rights Advocates to equip them with knowledge about trafficking conventions and human rights, CSEC and other actors is urgently needed as many will be located in the areas where many children are recruited and other in destination places where exploitation occurs. These will pass on information and also report to NGOs and other enforcement bodies' issues to address CSEC. Developing a training manual facilitate training of national trainers in trafficking and CSEC to give back up training in the regions.
- ❖ Support and undertake Training of Trainers (TOT) seminars in areas surrounding the Lake Victoria Basin where CSEC is very rampant in a bid to prevent CSEC and child trafficking to address sexual exploitation and movement of children. This training should target the relevant stakeholders especially the Beach Management Units, transport bodies like UTODA and bus transporters association as well motor bike boda bodas fishing communities, local government departments, community leaders in areas that act as sources for children and places notorious for exploiting children to further create awareness and educate people about the importance of safe guarding the rights of children.

7. Integrating studies on CSEC and child trafficking in institutions of higher learning

There is need to support the Integration of studies on CSSEC and child trafficking in institutions of higher learning. The core departments (Psychology, Human Rights, Social Sciences, Development Studies and Social work) at the higher tertiary institutions of learning need to combine theory and practice by designing modules on CSEC and trafficking. It is important to review the course units and modules and integrate issues of CSEC and child trafficking in the existing curriculum.

8. Research and building knowledge base

- ❖ There is need to step up research to generate evidence and country wide picture of the problem of CSEC. Improving data collection system and harmonizing both NGO and government departments' interventions would be a good starting point in this direction. The Data based Direct Beneficiary Monitoring and Reporting (DBMR) which is a software data capturing child labour beneficiaries developed by ILO/IPEC needs to be promoted and NGOs helped to adopt it.

9. Strengthening National Networks and Community Coalitions against CSEC

- ❖ The National Council for Children (NCC) should be strengthened resource wise to perform its coordination mandate of efforts regarding CSEC. This will then form the basis for working with District based coalitions to follow up the implementation of plans, policies and interventions in the various localities.

- ❖ Work with Local Government at districts to combat CSEC and trafficking: There are several entities at the districts such as the District OVC Committees among others which should work with the respective district local government staff to formulate child labour bylaws and ordinances for the local levels as well use other mechanisms like trade license to disallow enterprises including bars, lodges and entertainment industry that exploit children. The Community Development Officers, judiciary, police officers, and Probation officers should be oriented and consulted during the drafting of the bylaws to ensure that different players work together to smoothly enforce the laws. In addition, the Local Governments should have deliberate efforts to address personnel gaps especially in terms of labour officers mandated to carry out labour inspections.
- ❖ Strengthen interagency collaboration for CSEC: The Child Labour Unit needs to liaise with other agencies such as the NCC, OVC Secretariat and other line ministries in coordination of efforts to understand and combat trafficking and CSEC. There is also need to train NGO staff; undertake stakeholder analysis to assess opportunities, responses and challenges; organize periodic meetings with victims and staff to enhance child protection activities.
- ❖ Strengthen collaboration with Ministry of Tourism, Trade and Industry. There should be increased support of companies operating in tourism and travel by signing the Code of Conduct for the Protection of Children from Sexual Exploitation in Travel and Tourism.
- ❖ The Ministry of Gender Labour and Social Development should work with Local village Council 1 to Local Council 5 at district level to register all OVCs based at village level to enable tracking movements of children. In addition, by-laws that require older children of legal working age (15-17 years) working in urban areas to produce a recommendation letter of the LCs from their home villages.

8.4 Areas For Further Research

More research is needed in the following areas

- ❖ Bonded child labour and slavery activity around Lake Victoria basin.
- ❖ Effectiveness of district bylaws' on CSEC and child trafficking in the districts where they have been enacted. Draw experience and lessons from Kenya and Tanzania in fighting CSEC and trafficking.
- ❖ Follow up of children withdrawn and rehabilitated from commercial sexual exploitation to evaluate the percentage of success stories.

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APPENDIX 1:

THE CHILDREN QUESTIONNAIRE

Section 1:

STUDY ON COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION OF CHILDREN IN UGANDA

CSEC QUESTIONNAIRE (10 - 17 years)

SECTION 1A: Identification Particulars		
1	DISTRICT	Article 25 prohibits holding in slavery or servitude of any person in Uganda including children; Article 34(4) protects children under the age of 18 years from social or economic exploitation. It emphasizes that children shall not be employed or perform work that is likely to be hazardous or interfere with their education, be harmful to their health or physical, mental and social development.
2	COUNTY/KCC	Article 5(3) defines a child, Article 5(6) establishes the rights of the child and Art 5(9) prohibits the employment of children or their engagement in any activity that may be harmful to their lives, health, and education, mental, physical or moral development.
3	PARISH	Designates the Secretary for Children's Affairs at all local Council levels and gives them mandate to plan and implement programmes at that level.
4	SUB-COUNTY/DIVISION	
5	EA/ LC1	Designates the Secretary for Children's Affairs at all local Council levels and gives them mandate to plan and implement programmes at that level.
6	Physical Description of Work Places (e.g. Brothel, Street)
7	Name of Interviewer: Signature:..... Date:.....
8	Name of Team leader: Signature:..... Date:.....
9	Starting time Signature:..... Ending time:.....
Uganda Youth Development Link P.O.Box 12659, Kampala (U) Tel: +256 - 414 - 530 353 / +256 - 77 - 470 190 E-mail: kasiryer@yahoo.com		

Hello, My name is..... am from Uganda Youth Development Link based in Kampala. I am part of a team conducting a study on Commercial Sexual Exploitation of Children (CSEC) in Uganda; specifically; on involvement of children in trafficking, pornography and prostitution. This study will provide information to help the government, NGOs and other partners to plan for the protection of affected children and those at risk of abuse. We would very much appreciate your participation in this survey. I would like to discuss with you issues regarding your life experiences. Whatever information you provide will be kept strictly confidential and will not be shown to or discussed with other persons except for the purposes of this report. This discussion will take 20 to 30 minutes.

At this time, do you want to ask me any thing about the survey?

May I begin the interview now?

*RESPONDENT AGREES TO BE INTERVIEWED: **Continue.** IF RESPONDENT DOES NOT AGREE. **End.***

Section 2:

BACKGROUND INFORMATION

1	SEX	Male			
		Female			
2	Age in Complete years	<i>(Record as mentioned)</i>			
3	What is your Marital status?	Married			
		Widowed			
		Divorced/Separated			
		Co-habiting			
		Single			
4	What is your nationality?	Ugandan			
		Kenyan			
		Tanzanian			
		Rwandese			
		Other (Specify) ...			
5	How many children do you have?	<i>(Record as mentioned)</i>			
6	How many people (including yourself) stay with you?	<i>(Record as mentioned)</i>			
7	What is your relationship with the household head?	Am the head			
		Spouse			
		Servant			
		Other relative			
		Non relative			
8	Are your parents still alive?			Mother	Father
		Yes			
		No			
		Don't Know Mother or Father			
9	What is the marital status of parents (if either of them is alive)?	Married			
		Separated			
		Divorced			
		Widowed			
		Single Parent			
		Other (Specify)			
10	Is your biological father living in this household?	Yes			
		No			
		N/A			
11	What is his usual occupation?	<i>(Record as mentioned)</i>			
12	Is your biological natural mother living in this household?	Yes			
		No			
		N/A			
13	What is the highest level of mother's education?	No formal education			
		Less than primary			
		Completed primary			
		Completed O-level			
		Completed A-level			
		Completed University			
Do not know					

14	What is her usual occupation?	<i>(Record as mentioned)</i>	
15	Was/is your family characterized by one of the following? Circle multiple responses as given by the respondent	Domestic violence	
		Alcohol/drug abuse	
		Mental illness	
		Sexual promiscuity	

Section 3:

EDUCATION

1	Are you currently attending school	Yes	
		No	
2	What is your highest level of education you have attained?	Pre primary	
		P1 – P4	
		P5 – P7	
		Secondary level	
		Tertiary level	
		No formal education	
3	Did you learn a trade or technical skill?	Yes	
		No <i>(If No skip to No. 6)</i>	
4	What type of trade or technical skill did you have?	<i>Record as mentioned</i>	
5	How did you acquire this trade or skill?	Vocational school/course	
		On job training	
		Learned from a friend or family member	
		From an NGO or community organization	
		Other <i>(specify)</i>	
6	What main economic activities did you engage in during the last 30 days?	<i>Record as mentioned</i>	

Section 4:

Child Trafficking

1	Have you lived in another place, such as another village, another town or country, for 3 or more months at one time?	Yes	
		No <i>(Skip to Section 5, Qn.1)</i>	
2	When did you move here [CURRENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE] the most recent time? YEAR	<i>Record as mentioned</i>	
3	In what district or country did you live before coming to [CURRENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE] the most recent time?	<i>Record as mentioned</i>	
4	Was the place where [NAME] lived before coming here a rural or urban area?	Yes	
		No <i>(Skip to Section 5, Qn.1)</i>	
5	Have you lived in another place, such as another village, another town or country, for 3 or more months at one time?	Rural	
		Urban	

6	What was the main reason you came to [CURRENT PLACE OF RESIDENCE] the most recent time?	Look for job	
		Security reasons	
		Running away from home	
		Convinced by friends	
		Just dumped in town	
		Studies	
		Others (Specify)	
7	Were you convinced, enticed, forced or kidnapped to move to the current place of residence?	Yes, convinced	
		Yes, enticed	
		Yes, forced	
		Yes, kidnapped	
		No	
8	Who convinced/enticed/forced you to move from your place of origin to this area?	Neighbor	
		Someone from town I didn't know	
		Friends/peers	
		Parents	
		Relative/guardian	
		Friend/peer	
		Others (Specify)	
9	What promises were made to you before you came to this place? <i>(Multiple responses expected)</i> <i>(if Q406=1)</i>	Marriage	
		Employment/Job	
		Big family	
		Better life	
		Make more money	
		School fees	
		Kidnapped/abducted	
		Others (Specify)	
10	What happened to you during transportation and harboring at final destination that you did not like?	Denied food	
		Worked long hours	
		Beaten	
		Locked up	
		Sedated	
		Confinement	
		Sexual harassment	
		Starvation	
		Remove organs/deform people	
		Others (Specify)	
11	Have you lived in another place, such as another village, another town or country, for 3 or more months at one time?	Yes	
		No (Skip to Section 5, Qn.1)	
12	What activities did you do at the place of destination?	Commercial sex	
		Domestic work	
		Bar/lodge/hotel attendant	
		Karaoke Dancer	
		Nothing	
Others (Specify)			

13	Were you paid for the work mentioned in Q410?	Yes	
		No	
14	What exploitation did you experience while doing this work?	Physical abuse/ beating	
		Verbal abuse	
		Working for long hours without rest	
		Working without food	
		Sexual abuse	
	Others (<i>Specify</i>)		

SECTION 5:

COMMERCIAL SEXUAL EXPLOITATION (PROSTITUTION)

I want to ask you questions on this kind of work you are currently engaged in

1	Who are your customers? <i>(Multiple responses expected)</i>	Soldiers	
		Students	
		Visitors in the Area	
		Truck Driver	
		Single Men	
		Married Men	
	Others (<i>Specify</i>)		
2	How old were you when you were first exposed to sexual activity of this nature?	Age	
3	Who recruited/persuaded you to join sexual activities of this nature?	Friend	
		Relatives	
		Pimp/ Brothel operator	
		Child Trafficker	
		None	
	Others (<i>Specify</i>)		
4	Is there any member of your family/household involved in sexual activities of this nature?	Yes	
		No	
5	Why are you involved in sexual activities of this nature? <i>(Multiple responses expected)</i>	Supplement Family Income	
		To be self reliant	
		Look for school Fees	
		Homeless	
		Conditions at home	
		Peer pressure/influenc	
		Pressure from employer	
Others (<i>Specify</i>)			
6	When do you normally involve in such sexual activities?	Whenever there is demand	
		When there is need for money	
		After school hours	
		School Holidays	
		Others (<i>Specify</i>)	

7	Who are your customers? (Multiple responses expected)	Soldiers	
		Students	
		Visitors in the Area	
		Truck Driver	
		Single Men	
		Married Men	
		Others (Specify)	
8	How do you get them? (Multiple responses expected)	Self- At Home	
		Self – On Street	
		Self- At Restaurants/Bar/Lodges	
		Self – Phone Contacts	
		Pimp/ Brokers	
		Friends	
		Boda- Boda /taxi operators	
		Brothel Owners	
		Others (Specify)	
9	What is the mode of payment? (Multiple responses expected)	Money	
		Food	
		Shelter	
		School fees/Other Scholastic requirements	
		Transport	
		Entrance to Disco/Cinema halls	
		Alcohol	
		Others (Specify)	
10	Who negotiates how much to be paid by the Customer? (Multiple responses expected)	Brothel owner	
		Pimp	
		Friends	
		Parent/Guardian	
		Others (Specify)	
11	How much do you earn on a typical day?	<i>Record as mentioned</i>	
12	How many Customers do you take on a typical day on average?	<i>Record as mentioned</i>	
13	Other than yourself, who benefits from the proceeds you get? (Multiple responses expected)	None	
		Brothel Owner	
		Pimp	
		Friends	
		Parents/Guardians	
		Others (Specify)	
14	How do you utilize the proceeds?	Pay own school fees	
		Rent	
		Clothing	
		Alcohol/Drugs	
		Food	
		Others (Specify)	

15	How often do you engage in sexual activities without using a condom with customers?	Never	
		Sometimes	
		Most of the times	
		All times	
16	Under what circumstances do you engage in sexual activities with a customer without using a condom? <i>(Multiple responses expected)</i>	When customer pays much money	
		When dealing with regular customer	
		When customer looks healthy	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	
17	Have you ever been arrested for engaging in sexual activities of this nature?	Yes	
		No	
18	Do you currently use any drugs like tobacco/cigarettes, marijuana, khat, pipes, or alcohol?	Yes	
		No	

SECTION 6:

PORNOGRAPHY

I am going to ask questions about Films, Videos, Magazines, Writings, Photographs, Computer images or any other materials produced by either adults or children or both that contain sexually explicit images of children and Youth under the age of 18 to cause sexual arousal to themselves or other viewer.

1	Have you ever been involved in any pornographic acts for pay/materials benefit?	Yes	
		No <i>(Skip to Qn.6)</i>	
2	What pornographic acts have you been involved in?	Taken a photo while nude	
		Strip dancing	
		Watching blue movies	
		Engage in group sex competitions	
		Taken a photo while having sex	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	
3	Why are you involved in pornographic acts? <i>(Multiple responses expected)</i>	Supplement Family Income	
		To be self reliant	
		Look for school Fees	
		Homeless	
		Conditions at home	
		Peer pressure/influence	
		Pressure from employer	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	
4	Who approached you to get involved?	Parent	
		Brother/sister	
		Guardian	
		Friend	
		Pimp/brothel operator/Trafficker	
		Boyfriend / girlfriend	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	

5	What is the mode of payment? <i>(Multiple responses expected)</i>	Money	
		Food	
		Shelter	
		School fees/Other Scholastic requirements	
		Transport	
		Entrance to Disco/Cinema halls	
		Alcohol	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	
6	Have you ever recruited someone to engage in pornographic acts?	Yes	
		No	
7	Have you ever suffered any physical harm as a result of engaging in commercial sexual activities?	Yes	
		No	
8	What was the cause of the harm?	Beaten by customer	
		Assaulted by clients' Partner	
		Defiled	
		Physical harassment by police	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	
9	What action did you take after the physical harm?	Took no action	
		Reported to Police	
		Reported to Local authorities	
		Went for medical care/check up	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	
10	What emotional impact have you experienced as a result of exploitation you have gone through?	Fear	
		Guilt	
		Depression	
		None	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	

SECTION 7:

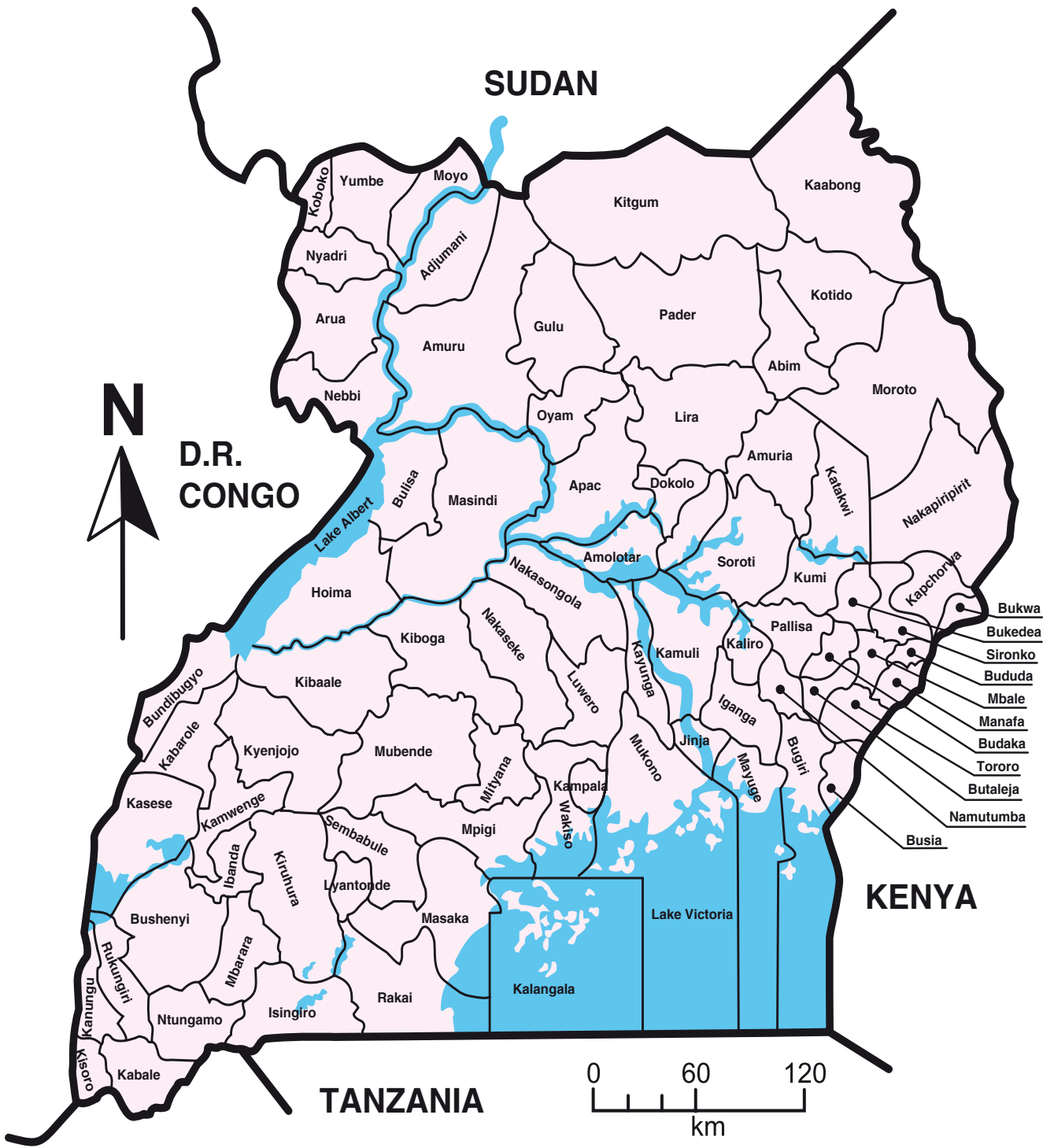
WITHDRAWAL, INTERVENTIONS AND SUPPORT

1	Are your parents / guardian aware that you engage in such CSEC activities?	Yes	
		No <i>(Skip to Qn.3)</i>	
2	What is their opinion about your involvement in such activities?	Not bothered (indifferent)	
		Against	
		Supportive	
		Others <i>(Specify)</i>	
3	Are there some children you know of who quit engaging in CSEC activities?	Yes	
		No <i>(Skip to Qn.7)</i>	
4	Why did they quit?	Got married	
		Convinced by parents /Guardian	
		Convinced by other relatives	
		Convinced by religious persons	
		Rehabilitated by NGO / CBO	
		Got tired	
		Got another job / income source	
Others <i>(Specify)</i>			

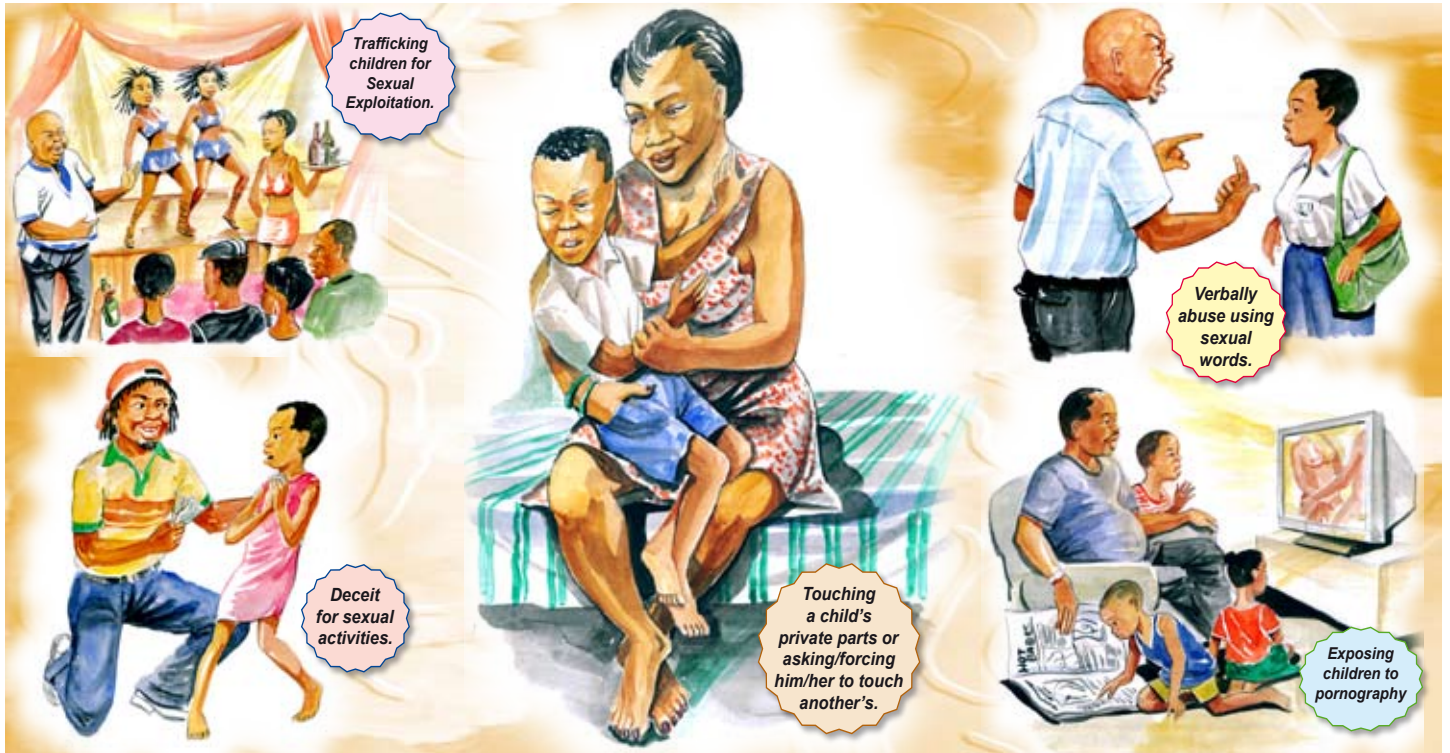
APPENDIX 2:

LIST OF REFERENCE TECHNICAL WORKING GROUP FOR THE CSEC STUDY

Name	Title	Institution	Tel. Contact	E-mail Address
Dr. James Kimera Sekiwanuka	Executive Director	CALM Africa	0772- 784497	james@calmafrica.com
Dr. Esther Kaggwa	Research/ Evaluation advisor	John Hopkins University	0787-244333	ekaggwa@jhsph.edu
Doreen Sampa	ECPAT Coordinator	UCRNN	0772-341881	d.sampa@ucrnn.net
Dr. Narathius Asingwire	Head, SWSA Dept,	Makerere University	0752-790594	nasingwire@ss.mak.ac.ug
Mbonigaba William	Manager, TSO Unit	Save the Children Uganda	0772-508183	w.mbonigaba@sciug.org
Jackie Banya	Senior Programme Officer	ILO-IPEC	0772-503618	jbanya@ilo.org
Dr. Martha Kibuuka Musoke	Manager	PLA	0711-185200	info@pla-uganda.org
Geoffrey Bamuteta	Program Officer	UCRNN	0752 - 823342	grbamuteta@yahoo.co.uk g.bamuteta@ucrnn.net
Aldrine Namara	District Labour officer	KCC	0772 – 469325	Namadrine@yahoo.com
Dr. Mujisha Geoffrey	Executive Director	MARPS Network	0774-008178	gmujisha@gmail.net
Eunice Kisembo	Senior legal officer	Ministry of Internal Affairs, Immigration	0772-612337	kisemboeun@yahoo.com
Robert Mbegga	Program Officer	WAYS	0772 – 446655	waysuganda@yahoo.com
Moses Binoga	Anti Human sacrifice & trafficking	Uganda Police	0715-411677	binogamoses@yahoo.com
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CHILD SEXUAL ABUSE INVOLVES...



Report any cases of Child Sexual Abuse to the nearest Police Station, Local Council or Child Rights NGO.

Prepared by:-

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