

<sup>596</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Burundi," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2008; available from <http://www.child-soldiers.org/document/get?id=1329>. See also U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting, January 16, 2009*.

<sup>597</sup> Catholic Relief Services official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, October 2, 2006. See also ILO-IPEC, *Combating the Trafficking of Children for Labour Exploitation in West and Central Africa (LUTRENA)*, Technical Progress Report, Washington, DC, September 1, 2006, 2.

<sup>598</sup> ECOWAS and ECCAS, *Multilateral Cooperation Agreement to Combat Trafficking in Persons, Especially Women and Children, in West and Central Africa*, Abuja, July 7, 2006, 5-13.

<sup>599</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Burundi," section 6d.

<sup>600</sup> U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting, January 16, 2009*.

<sup>601</sup> Ibid. See also U.S. Department of State, "Country Reports- 2008: Burundi," section 6d.

<sup>602</sup> U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting, January 16, 2009*.

<sup>603</sup> Olalekan Ajia, *Over 200 Child Soldiers Demobilized in Burundi*, [online] May 6, 2008 [cited January 8, 2009]; available from [http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/burundi\\_43844.html?q=printme](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/burundi_43844.html?q=printme).

<sup>604</sup> Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program, *MRDP Fact Sheet: Burundi: February 2008*, [online] February 2008 [cited February 5, 2009];

available from [http://www.mdrp.org/PDFs/MDRP\\_BUR\\_FS\\_0208.pdf](http://www.mdrp.org/PDFs/MDRP_BUR_FS_0208.pdf). See also Multi-Country Demobilization and Reintegration Program, *MRDP Fact Sheet: Burundi: August 2008*, [online] August 2008 [cited February 5, 2009]; available from [http://www.mdrp.org/PDFs/MDRP\\_BUR\\_FS\\_0208.pdf](http://www.mdrp.org/PDFs/MDRP_BUR_FS_0208.pdf). See also ILO-IPEC, *Prévention et réinsertion des enfants impliqués dans les conflits armés - Volet burundi - Etude sur les opportunités d'emploi et les offres de formation professionnelle*, Final Report, Geneva, November 2007, 13. See also U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting, January 16, 2009*.

<sup>605</sup> U.S. Embassy- Bujumbura, *reporting, January 16, 2009*.

<sup>606</sup> Ibid.

<sup>607</sup> UNICEF, *Free Birth Registration for all Children Under Five in Burundi*, Bujumbura, August 30, 2008; available from [http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/media\\_45453.html?q=printme](http://www.unicef.org/infobycountry/media_45453.html?q=printme).

<sup>608</sup> ILO-IPEC Geneva official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, December, 2008.

<sup>609</sup> UNODC, *Ongoing Projects in Eastern Africa*, [online] 2008 [cited December 16, 2008]; available from <http://www.unodc.org/easternafrika/en/about-unodc-eastern-africa/ongoing-projects.html>. See also UNODC official, E-mail communication to USDOL official, April 2, 2009. See also UNODC and EAPCCO, *Regional Action Plan to Prevent and Combat Human Trafficking in Eastern Africa*, Addis Ababa, August 2008.

## Cambodia

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Cambodia work in exploitive conditions on commercial rubber and tobacco plantations, in salt production, in fish processing, as porters, in brick making, in the service sector, and as garbage pickers.<sup>610</sup> They also work in occupations determined by the Government to be hazardous, including processing sea products, including shrimp; breaking, quarrying, or collecting stones; working in gem and coal mining; working in garment factories; working in restaurants; and making handicrafts.<sup>611</sup> Children work as domestic servants; most child domestics are girls, 15 to 17 years, who work between 6 and 16 hours per day.<sup>612</sup>

Cambodia is a source and destination country for trafficking in children. Cambodian girls are trafficked to Thailand for factory and domestic work and may be forced into prostitution.<sup>613</sup> Cambodian children are trafficked to Thailand and Vietnam for begging, selling candy and flowers on the street, and shining shoes.<sup>614</sup> In 2008, the IOM identified 112 Cambodian trafficking victims from Thailand who were mostly children.<sup>615</sup> Girls are trafficked from Vietnam to Cambodia for prostitution.<sup>616</sup> Girls are trafficked internally from rural to urban areas for prostitution.<sup>617</sup> Cambodia is a destination country for foreign child sex tourists, and there are increasing reports of Asian men traveling to Cambodia to have sex with virgin girls.<sup>618</sup>

***Selected Statistics and Indicators  
on Child Labor***<sup>619</sup>

Population, children, 10-14 years, 2003-2004:	1,817,863
Working children, 10-14 years (%), 2003-2004:	48.9
Working boys, 10-14 years (%), 2003-2004:	49.6
Working girls, 10-14 years (%), 2003-2004:	48.1
Working children by sector, 10-14 years (%), 2003-2004:	
- Agriculture	82.3
- Manufacturing	4.2
- Services	12.9
- Other	0.6
Minimum age for work:	15
Compulsory education age:	Not compulsory
Free public education:	Yes
Gross primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	119.2
Net primary enrollment rate (%), 2007:	89.4
School attendance, children 5-14 years (%), 2003-2004:	76.8
Survival rate to grade 5 (%), 2006:	62.2
ILO Convention 138:	8/23/1999
ILO Convention 182:	3/14/2006
CRC:	10/15/1992*
CRCOPAC:	7/14/2004
CRCOPSC:	5/30/2002
Palermo:	7/2/2007
ILO-IPEC participating country:	Yes

\*Accession

### **Child Labor Laws and Enforcement**

The Cambodian Labor Law sets the minimum age for wage employment at 15 years.<sup>620</sup> The Labor Law also allows children from 12 to 15 years of age to be hired to do light work provided that the work is not hazardous to their health or mental and physical development and will not affect their regular school attendance, their participation in guidance programs, or vocational training approved by a competent authority.<sup>621</sup> This declaration limits the working hours of children ages 12 to 15 years to 7 hours on non-school days and 4 hours on school days between the hours of 6 a.m. to 8 p.m.<sup>622</sup>

A 2004 declaration issued by the Ministry of Labor and Vocational Training (MOLVT) prohibits work that is hazardous to the health, safety, and moral development of children under 18 years of age.<sup>623</sup> Thirty-eight types of hazardous work are listed, including working underground, tanning, logging, and using chemicals in textile production.<sup>624</sup> Despite these prohibitions, MOLVT may authorize children who are at least 16 years to perform hazardous work under certain conditions.<sup>625</sup> The law also exempts domestic work, which children as young as 12 are allowed to perform under certain conditions.<sup>626</sup> Children working underground must be provided with strict supervision, safety training, and medical exams every 6 months and may not work underground more than 40 hours per week.<sup>627</sup> Children working in factories may not work more than 9 hours per day and must have at least 13 hours between shifts.<sup>628</sup> Employers must submit lists of working children to labor inspectors and must attain the consent of the child's guardian to contract work for "unemancipated" children.<sup>629</sup>

The law prohibits all forced or compulsory labor and hiring people to work to pay debts.<sup>630</sup> The minimum age for conscription into military service is 18 years.<sup>631</sup> The Constitution prohibits prostitution and the buying and selling of human beings.<sup>632</sup> In April 2008, the new Law on the Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation—which contains specific definitions for trafficking crimes, prosecutes for child prostitution and sexual and indecent acts with minors, and defines terms for imprisonment and fines—was in "full effect."<sup>633</sup> The law stipulates 15 to 20 years of imprisonment if the victim of trafficking is under 18 years of age.<sup>634</sup>

The MOLVT is responsible for enforcing the child-related provisions of Cambodian labor law, but an employer has never been prosecuted for a child labor related violation.<sup>635</sup> According to USDOS, inspections in the formal sector were conducted in industries with a low incidence of working children, while industries with a high risk for child work (such as brick making and fishing) saw inspections only after complaints were received.<sup>636</sup> According to USDOS, labor inspectors play no role in enforcing the law in the informal sector or illegal industries.<sup>637</sup>

In 2008, police investigated 168 cases of violence against women and children that resulted in 26 arrests for trafficking.<sup>638</sup> In 2008, 81 Cambodian child victims of trafficking and other acts in Thailand and 206 Cambodian children in Vietnam were returned to Cambodia, and 6 Vietnamese girls were repatriated from Cambodia to Vietnam.<sup>639</sup> As of March 2009, the Government had arrested 11 individuals on child trafficking, child prostitution, and pedophilia charges.<sup>640</sup> According to USDOS, there is some evidence that police are using Cambodia's new Law on Suppression of Human Trafficking and Sexual Exploitation to combat human trafficking.<sup>641</sup> However, USDOS also reports that anti-trafficking efforts continue to be hampered by corruption and an ineffectual judicial system, and there is some confusion as to how the law is enforced.<sup>642</sup> To address such confusion, as of February 2009, a legal advisor provided by UNICEF was working with the Ministry of Justice to provide clarification as to which articles are trafficking crimes.<sup>643</sup>

### **Current Government Policies and Programs to Eliminate the Worst Forms of Child Labor**

In 2008, the Government of Cambodia, in consultation with stakeholders, approved a National Plan of Action (NPA) on the Worst Forms of Child Labor (2008-2012) which contains a shorter list of hazardous child labor than the 2004 MOLVT declaration.<sup>644</sup> The NPA identified the 3 worst forms of child labor (sexual exploitation; trafficking; and use of children in drug production, sales, and trafficking) and 16 hazardous forms (portering; domestic work; waste scavenging; brick making; fishing; working on rubber, tobacco, or agricultural plantations; working in a semi-industry; working in salt production or related enterprises; working in handicrafts or related enterprises; processing sea products; stone and granite breaking; rock/sand quarrying; stone collection; gem or coal mining; restaurant work; and begging).<sup>645</sup> The NPA aims to reduce the number of children 5 to 17 years working in Cambodia to 10.6 percent in 2010 and 8 percent by 2015.<sup>646</sup>

In 2008, the Government updated its NPA on children's issues (2006-2010) to include objectives

on combating trafficking in persons; however, as of February 2009, the updated plan was still in review.<sup>647</sup> The National Task Force (NTF) is responsible for coordinating the country's anti-trafficking efforts.<sup>648</sup> The NTF receives technical assistance from USAID. In November and December 2008, the NTF, MTV End Exploitation and Trafficking-Asia, and USAID organized an anti-trafficking campaign in three provinces and Phnom Penh to coincide with Cambodia's National Day to Combat Human Trafficking.<sup>649</sup> In March 2008, the NTF worked to develop uniform indicators and methodologies for nationwide trafficking data collection and recording.<sup>650</sup>

Cambodia is a signatory to the Coordinated Mekong Ministerial Initiative against Trafficking.<sup>651</sup> The Government is also a signatory of MOUs on bilateral cooperation to eliminate trafficking with Thailand and has a similar agreement with Vietnam.<sup>652</sup> The Ministry of Tourism (MOT) continues to promote its ChildSafe tourism program.<sup>653</sup> In February 2009, the MOT held a National Roundtable to Prevent Child-Sex Tourism in cooperation with Child-Wise Australia. The Roundtable, funded by AusAID, is part of a series of consultations for the development of an ASEAN 5 Years Plan to Prevent Child-Sex Tourism in ASEAN nations.<sup>654</sup>

The Government participates in two AusAID-funded projects. The Mobilizing Communities for Child Protection, USD 1,050,949 (2006-2010) and Child Safe Cambodia project, USD 1,072,659 (2006-2010) both aim to reduce sexual exploitation of children and prevent child abuse.<sup>655</sup>

The Government also participates in a 1-year USD 1.4 million USAID-funded project that began in October 2008 and is implemented by World Education that aims to improve life skills, teacher education intervention, access to schools, youth and community engagement, and information technology for 100,000 children in 3 provinces.<sup>656</sup> Additionally, the Government participates in a USD 4.6 million USAID-funded project implemented by The Asia Foundation (2006-2009) that aims to coordinate governmental and NGO efforts to combat trafficking.<sup>657</sup>

The Government participates in a USD 4.4 million USDOL-funded program (2007-2011)

implemented by Winrock International to withdraw 3,750 and prevent 4,500 children from the worst forms of child labor through provision of direct education services.<sup>658</sup> The Government also participates in a USDOL-funded USD 4.3 million ILO-IPEC project (2008-2012) to develop national capacity to end the worst forms of child labor that targets 7,200 children for withdrawal and 3,800 for prevention from the worst forms of child labor, including trafficking, work in brick making, salt production, fisheries, and working as porters in 15 provinces.<sup>659</sup>

The Government of Cambodia participated in a USD 4.75 million ILO-IPEC program, which ended in December 2008, aimed at eliminating the worst forms of child labor in the brick making, rubber making, salt production, fishing, and service sectors and preventing children from working as domestic workers and porters.<sup>660</sup> The project resulted in 5,884 children being withdrawn and 7,789 children being prevented from labor in these sectors through provision of educational services.<sup>661</sup>

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<sup>610</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*. See also ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Children's Work in Cambodia: A Challenge for Growth and Poverty Reduction*, December 2006; available from [http://www.crin.org/docs/WB\\_Child\\_labour.pdf](http://www.crin.org/docs/WB_Child_labour.pdf).

See also A. Cruz and L. Ratana, *Understanding Children's Work in Cambodia: Mapping & Costing Current Programmes Targeting the Worst Forms of Child Labour (Working Paper)*, UCW, Rome, November 2007, 2 and 6; available from [http://www.ucw-project.org/pdf/publications/cruz\\_ratana\\_WFCL\\_cambodia.pdf](http://www.ucw-project.org/pdf/publications/cruz_ratana_WFCL_cambodia.pdf).

<sup>611</sup> ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Children's Work in Cambodia*, 19 and 20. See also A. Cruz and L. Ratana, *Understanding Children's Work*, 6. See also U.S. Embassy - Phnom Penh, *reporting, June 27, 2008*.

<sup>612</sup> Eleanor Brown, *Out of Sight, Out of Mind? Child Domestic Workers and Patterns of Trafficking in Cambodia*, IOM, January 2007; available from <http://www.humantrafficking.org/publications/585>. See also ILO, *Child Domestic Labour in Cambodia: Why It Has to Stop and How We Can Stop It*, Phnom Penh, 2004, 9; available from <http://www.ilo.org/public/english/region/asro/bangkok/library/download/pub04-12.pdf>. See also ILO, UNICEF, and World Bank, *Children's Work in Cambodia*, 22.

<sup>613</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009, 2*.

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<sup>614</sup> U.S. Department of State, "Cambodia (Tier 2)," in *Trafficking in Persons Report- 2008*, Washington, DC, June 4, 2008, 83; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/tip/rls/tiprpt/2008/>. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009, 5*.

<sup>615</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009, 3*.

<sup>616</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>617</sup> *Ibid.*, 2.

<sup>618</sup> *Ibid.*, 3.

<sup>619</sup> For statistical data not cited here, see the Data Sources and Definitions section. For ratifications and ILO-IPEC membership, see the Introduction. For minimum age for admission to work, see Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, (March 13, 1997), 6; available from [http://www.bigpond.com.kh/Council\\_of\\_Jurists/Travail/trv001g.htm](http://www.bigpond.com.kh/Council_of_Jurists/Travail/trv001g.htm). See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, section 4. For free public education see U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, section 6. See also U.S. Department of State, "Cambodia," in *Country Reports on Human Rights Practices- 2008*, Washington, DC, February 25, 2009, section 5; available from <http://www.state.gov/g/drl/rls/hrrpt/2008/eap/119036.htm>.

<sup>620</sup> Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, article 177(1). See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, para 4.

<sup>621</sup> Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, article 177(4).

<sup>622</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, para 5.

<sup>623</sup> Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, article 177(2).

<sup>624</sup> Government of Cambodia, *Prakas on the Prohibition of Hazardous Child Labor*, Prakas No. 106, (April 28, 2004), items 1 and 2.

<sup>625</sup> *Ibid.*, item 3.

<sup>626</sup> *Ibid.*, 1-2, 4.

<sup>627</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, section 10.

<sup>628</sup> *Ibid.*, section 9.

<sup>629</sup> Government of Cambodia, *Cambodian Labor Law*, 174, 179, 181.

<sup>630</sup> *Ibid.*, articles 15 and 16.

<sup>631</sup> Coalition to Stop the Use of Child Soldiers, "Cambodia," in *Child Soldiers Global Report 2008*, London, 2004, 81; available from [http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country\\_pdfs/FINAL\\_2008\\_Global\\_Report.pdf](http://www.childsoldiersglobalreport.org/files/country_pdfs/FINAL_2008_Global_Report.pdf).

<sup>632</sup> Government of Cambodia, *Constitution of the Kingdom of Cambodia*, (September 21, 1993); available from <http://www.embassy.org/cambodia/cambodia/constitu.htm>. See also ILO, *Ratifications by Country*, accessed

January 28, 2009; available from <http://www.ilo.org/ilolex/english/docs/declworld.htm>.

<sup>633</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 10 and 12.

<sup>634</sup> *Ibid.*, 14.

<sup>635</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, sections 12 and 14.

<sup>636</sup> *Ibid.*, section 14.

<sup>637</sup> *Ibid.*

<sup>638</sup> *Ibid.*, section 17.

<sup>639</sup> *Ibid.*, section 25.

<sup>640</sup> U.S. Embassy-- Phnom Penh, *reporting, March 5, 2009*, section 1. See also U.S. Embassy--Phnom Penh, *reporting, March 9, 2009*, paras 2-6.

<sup>641</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 4.

<sup>642</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, section 19. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 9.

<sup>643</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 13.

<sup>644</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, section 26.

<sup>645</sup> *Ibid.*, para 3.

<sup>646</sup> *Ibid.*, para 26.

<sup>647</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 29.

<sup>648</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, section 17. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 9. See also U.S. Embassy -- Phnom Penh, *reporting, March 23, 2009*, para 2.

<sup>649</sup> ILO-IPEC, *To contribute to developing national capacities to achieve the 2015 national child labour reduction targets and the ILO global targets for ending the Worst Forms of Child Labour in Cambodia by 2016*, Geneva, March 12, 2009, para 14.

<sup>650</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 9, 27, 31.

<sup>651</sup> UN Inter-Agency Project on Human Trafficking in the Greater Mekong Sub-region (UNIAP), *COMMIT Process*, [online] 2007 [cited March 23, 2009]; available from [http://no-trafficking.org/content/COMMIT\\_Process/commit\\_background.html#01](http://no-trafficking.org/content/COMMIT_Process/commit_background.html#01). See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 18.

<sup>652</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 28, 2008*, section 2h. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 18.

<sup>653</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 27 and 31. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, paras 18 and 31.

<sup>654</sup> ILO-IPEC, *Towards Twenty Sixteen: Contributing towards Ending the WFCL in Cambodia, technical progress report, March 12, 2009*, para 13.

<sup>655</sup> Australian Agency for International Development (AusAID), *Aid Activities in Cambodia*, [online] May 2008 [cited March 23, 2009]; available from [http://www.ausaid.gov.au/country/cbrief.cfm?DCon=1061\\_5593\\_8716\\_8236\\_8498&CountryID=34&Region=EastAsia](http://www.ausaid.gov.au/country/cbrief.cfm?DCon=1061_5593_8716_8236_8498&CountryID=34&Region=EastAsia).

<sup>656</sup> U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, January 16, 2009*, section 23.

<sup>657</sup> *Ibid.*, section 24. See also U.S. Embassy- Phnom Penh, *reporting, February 19, 2009*, 8.

<sup>658</sup> U.S. Department of Labor, *OPTIONS: Combating Child Trafficking and Commercial Sexual Exploitation Through Education, Technical Progress Report*, Washington, DC, 1 and 2.

<sup>659</sup> ILO-IPEC, *To Contribute to the Developing National Capacities to Achieve the 2015 National Child Labor Reduction Targets and the ILO Global Targets for Ending the Worst Forms of Child Labor in Cambodia by 2016*, ILAB Project Document, Washington, DC, September 2008.

<sup>660</sup> ILO-IPEC, *Support to the Cambodian National Plan of Action on the Elimination of the Worst Forms of Child Labour: A Timebound Approach*, Project Document, Geneva, September 2008.

<sup>661</sup> *Ibid.*, 24.

## Cameroon

### Incidence and Nature of Child Labor

Children in Cameroon work on family farms and on tea, banana, rubber, and palm oil plantations. Children also fish and raise livestock.<sup>662</sup> The majority of working children are found in the urban informal sector.<sup>663</sup> Some of these children are displaced or street children who live in cities such as Yaoundé and Douala.<sup>664</sup> These children work as street vendors (selling goods such as

tissues and water), car washers, luggage carriers, and domestic servants.<sup>665</sup>

Many children work in hazardous labor conditions on cocoa farms, including handling pesticides and sharp tools; tilling soil; and harvesting and transporting cocoa beans. These children report working long hours and illness due to the activities they perform.<sup>666</sup> Children also