

# NEPAL

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# For every child, a safe childhood



## Context

Child sexual abuse is a violation of children's rights and a major global public health problem, with severe short- and long-term consequences on the physical, mental, social, emotional, and economic well-being of children and adolescents.

In Nepal, aftercare services to support abused children are not present enough. Children are the least likely of any social or age group to receive care and protection from the state. This leaves them highly susceptible to the tragedy of repeated abuse and deprivations.

- 62% of **Gender based violence** (GBV) cases reported to the Nepal Police concern children
- 1 out of 10 children have **experienced sexual abuse** by peers at school
- 32,137 women are engaged in **commercial sexual exploitation**; most of them were trafficked into sex work when they were children
- 1 out of 3 female workers in the **adult entertainment sector** is a child
- 3 out of 10 women aged 20-24 are **married before they turn 18**

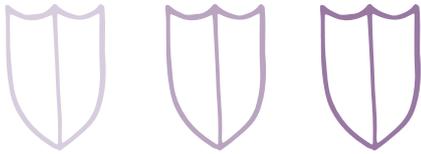
## Our solution

UNICEF aims at supporting child survivors while challenging the status quo and taboos around the sexual abuse of children and its intersection with other forms of violence.

This strategy pushes to enhance the performance and accountability of the police, the education, health and justice sectors as well as the social sectors. Furthermore the strategy combines specific actions aiming at empowering children, families and communities to safely, effectively and consistently challenge violence against children, support safe disclosure and access to care, rescue and protection services.

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## UNICEF key actions



- Ground-breaking developments in specialised care for children who are survivors of sexual and gender-based violence with the country's first child-specific GBV response service
- 1,200 child survivors of sexual and gender-based violence are supported with rescue and social reintegration services
- Empowering 30,000 children and adolescents to address GBV in the family, school and community - 25% increase in community-led actions to prevent or stop GBV
- Strengthened law enforcement and gate-keeping mechanisms in the adult entertainment sector to prevent the sexual exploitation of children

## Story from the field

Until recently, Sapana, 15, had to work under the most brutal conditions in a carpet factory. In April 2015, a devastating earthquake allowed her and her best friend to escape. Unfortunately, they had nothing and nobody to help them.

One day, Sapana met a man and they became friends very quickly. Within a few days, the man had gained their trust and offered them work in Nepalgunj, a city on the border of India. He told them that there would be well-paid work in a hotel.

When they arrived at the border, she noticed that something was wrong and panicked. The fear was

probably written all over her face, because the girl caught the attention of a team working for a partner organization of UNICEF, fighting child and women trafficking. Immediately, the girls were taken into protective custody and were given a refuge.

*"I will never forget the day when, out of desperation, I was about to make the worst mistake of my life. I am horrified when I think of what would have happened to us on the other side of the border. We almost walked into a trap. At least my friend and I are safe now, I am very happy about that."* says Sapana.



## Financing examples

**21,000 €**

Train police, justice and social service officers to protect 200 children

**190,000 €**

Implement complete specialized care for 1,000 GBV survivor children

**400,000 €**

Help to pioneer dedicated GBV services for 30,000 children in Nepal

**700,000 €**

Save 1,000 girls from exploitation and create a secure environment for them



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