

# HOW ARE NEPAL'S CHILDREN?

Nepal has ratified (pledged to follow) the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child. This means that Nepal must respect the rights of the child and listen to what children have to say. Are the rights of the child respected in Nepal? You and other children there are the experts.



## 11.5 MILLION CHILDREN

Almost 28 million people live in Nepal. 11.5 million are children, and almost 3 million of the children are under five years old.



## NAME AND NATIONALITY

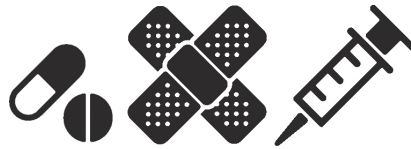
From the day you are born you have the right to have a name and to be registered as a citizen in your country. 584,000 children are born every year in Nepal. 6 out of 10 of them are never registered. There is no documented proof that they exist!



## SURVIVE AND GROW

You have the right to life. Nepal must do all it can to allow children to survive and develop. 1 out of 25 children in Nepal (23,000 every year) dies before the age

of 5, usually due to causes that could have been prevented.



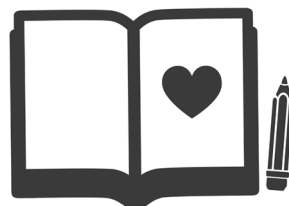
## HEALTH

You have the right to food, clean water, medical care and to privacy when consulting an adult about any health problem. 9 out of 10 children in Nepal have water from improved water sources. Only 4 out of 10 children have access to adequate sanitation facilities.



## A HOME, CLOTHING, FOOD AND SECURITY

You have the right to a home, food and security. 25 out of 100 children in Nepal live in extreme poverty, on less than 1.25 US-dollar (132 Nepalese Rupees) a day.



## EDUCATION

You have the right to go to school. Primary and secondary schools should be free for everyone. 98 out of 100 children in Nepal go to school, but many of them, especially girls, drop-out early on.



## PROTECTION AGAINST VIOLENCE

You have the right to protection against all forms of violence, including neglect, maltreatment and abuse. Only 48 countries have forbidden all forms of corporal punishment for children. Nepal has not. Many schools still allow caning.



## HAZARDOUS CHILD LABOUR

You have the right to be protected against economic exploitation and work that damages your health or keeps you from school. All work is prohibited for children under 12 but in Nepal, around 2.3 million children (over 3 of 10 aged 5-14) have to work. Some are forced into the worst forms of child labour, such as commercial sexual exploitation. An estimated 5,000 children under 16 are exploited in the sex industry. Some 10,000–20,000 girls are trafficked from Nepal annually, to become child sex slaves in India and other countries.



## YOUR VOICE MUST BE HEARD

You have the right to say what you think about any issue that affects you. The adults should listen to the child's opinion before they make decisions, which must always be made in the best interest of the child!

