



Eliminating child labour in international supply chains

WORK: NO CHILD'S BUSINESS

The Work: No Child's Business Alliance aims to achieve that children and youth are free from child labour and enjoy their rights to quality education and (future) decent work. The Alliance consists of Save the Children Netherlands, UNICEF Netherlands, the Stop Child Labour Coalition, in close collaboration with partner organisations and country offices in India, Ivory Coast, Jordan, Mali, Uganda and Vietnam.

Eliminating child labour requires an **integrated approach, combining a supply chain approach with an area-based approach**. The Work: No Child's Business (WNCB) Alliance aims to address and prevent child labour by supporting companies to eliminate child labour in their supply chains, and by engaging all relevant stakeholders in the sourcing and production areas to tackle the root causes of child labour and realise sustainable change for children and their families.



With the **supply chain approach**, we urge and support companies to do due diligence in line with the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises and the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Child labour is one of the risks companies are expected to identify, cease, mitigate and prevent throughout their supply chains, as per these guidelines. As child labour is often prevalent in the deeper tiers of the supply chain, where also informal and home-based work is carried out, importing companies face challenges identifying and addressing child labour. Collaboration with other companies, supply chain partners and stakeholders that are in direct contact with workers, their families and the communities) is therefore key to successfully conducting due diligence on child labour. This will ensure that companies' actions are embedded in an enabling environment.

The **area-based approach** aims to tackle the root causes of child labour and invest in viable alternatives. Engagement with governments to strengthen child protection systems, provide public services incl. accessible and quality education for all children, and create opportunities for youth and livelihood support is key. Also, changing norms and mobilising all stakeholders – children, parents, teachers, community leaders, local government and local companies/employers – are crucial strategies of the area-based approach, especially when used towards creating a child labour free zone, to realise children's rights.



Working with an **integration of the approaches** enables us to target all children in a community, including those children who are working in the deeper tiers of supply chains, and beyond. Moreover, this prevents children from moving from one sector to another and/or entering more hidden or worst forms of child labour. With an integrated approach we support children not only to get out of child labour but also to be mainstreamed into the formal education system as a viable alternative, offering better perspectives of entering decent employment when they have the appropriate age.

Join forces with WNCB and take the following steps

1. Co-sign the WNCB position paper
2. Endorse the Children's Rights and Business Principles (CRBPs) and ensure that your company operates in line with these principles.
3. Explore how to work with partners to implement this in your own supply chains.





Linking communities in India with international stone companies in Europe

Achieving norms change within communities and improving labour conditions for adults to eliminate child labour in the natural stone supply chain in Rajasthan, India.



Multi-stakeholder collaboration in the gold mining sector in Uganda

Improving labour conditions in the mining sector, ensuring policy frameworks, and establishing access to training and education to stop child labour in the mining communities in Busia.



Child labour in the cocoa sector Ivory Coast

A podcast about child labour in the cocoa sector. The Dutch company Tony's Chocolonely shares a view on what companies can and should do.

