



CHILDREN AND MINING

10 steps extractive companies can take to
integrate child rights into policies and practices

unicef 
canada



1. **Baseline Survey:** Evaluate the place of children in current policies and practices. unicef.ca/extractive-survey
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2. **Policy Commitment:** Integrate child rights into human rights policies and codes of conduct

UNICEF worked with Pan American Silver and Sherritt International to incorporate child rights into their CSR Policy and Code of Conduct respectively.

3. **Stakeholder Engagement:** Address child rights through community consultations

UNICEF Canada is working with the Mining Association of Canada and Pan American Silver to consider children in site-level interactions with communities.

4. **Impact Assessment:** Identify and address risks to children

UNICEF worked with Barrick Gold and Sherritt International to integrate child rights into their human rights impact assessments.

5. **Grievance Mechanism:** Ensure children can safely and effectively raise their concerns

UNICEF Canada is working with the Mining Association of Canada and Pan American Silver to increase the accessibility and responsiveness of grievance mechanisms for children.

6. Sustainability Reporting: Communicate impacts on children

UNICEF is working with the Global Reporting Initiative and Pan American Silver to increase corporate reporting and communication on child rights.

7. Consultancy Engagement: Collaborate with consultancies to integrate child rights into their services and reach wider audiences

UNICEF Canada is equipping Canadian consultancies to integrate a child rights lens into the services they offer their corporate clients.

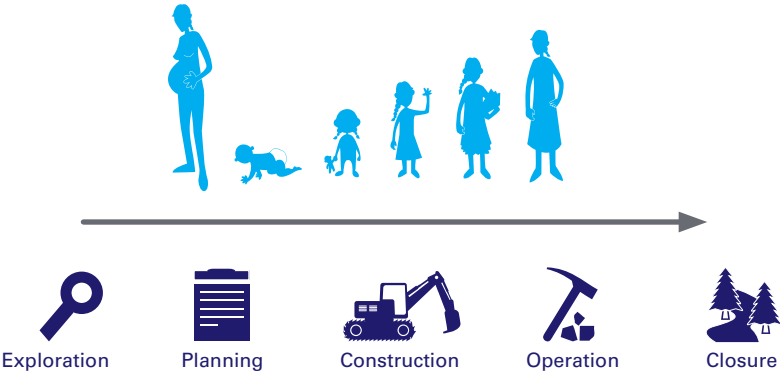
8. Social Investment: Maximise influence and champion child rights

UNICEF Canada has gained the support of Teck Resources to support micronutrient programs in Nepal and Peru, and health programs in Namibia and India.

9. Government Engagement: Partner with government to provide an enabling environment for both business and children

UNICEF Canada is equipping officials at the Government of Canada and in other countries to facilitate companies’ contributions to child rights.

10. Life-cycle Approach: Match the long-term commitment to a mine with a strategy for sustainably supporting host communities and their children



CHILDREN ARE EVERYONE’S BUSINESS

UNICEF Canada helps integrate children’s rights into companies’ existing sustainability initiatives while ensuring benefits for business. Addressing children’s rights enhances organizational reputation, better manages risk, and motivates workforces, while playing a part in saving children’s lives.

The **Children’s Rights and Business Principles** equip businesses to address their impact on the rights and well-being of children. They identify key areas where companies can take action to respect and support children’s rights.

ALL BUSINESS SHOULD:

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| 1 Meet their responsibility to respect children’s rights and commit to supporting the human rights of children | 2 Contribute to the elimination of child labour , including in all business activities and business relationships |
| 3 Provide decent work for young workers, parents and caregivers | 4 Ensure the protection and safety of children in all business activities and facilities |
| 5 Ensure that products and services are safe, and seek to support children’s rights through them | 6 Use marketing and advertising that respect and support children’s rights |
| 7 Respect and support children’s rights in relation to the environment and to land acquisition and use | 8 Respect and support children’s rights in security arrangements |
| 9 Help protect children affected by emergencies | 10 Reinforce community and government efforts to protect and fulfil children’s rights |
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THE CANADIAN EXTRACTIVE SECTOR:

Canada is home to over half of the world’s mining companies. Most of their operations are overseas, where they often encounter the world’s most vulnerable children, and have huge potential for positive impact.