

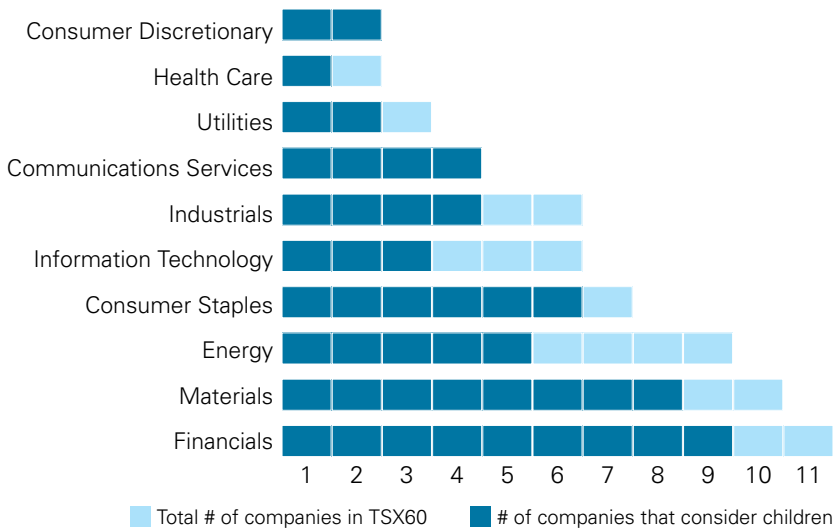


Principle 10: Reinforce Government and Community Efforts to Protect Child Rights

There is much that businesses can do as part of their responsibility to respect children's rights, including avoiding undermining government obligations to fulfil children's rights. Tax payments, anti-corruption measures and social investments all help build schools and hospitals, pay for teachers and provide life-saving health services.

Tax avoidance and evasion deprive governments of the resources they need to expand and sustain public services. Corruption can harm children in many ways – for example, it can increase the overall cost of providing public services such as education, water, sanitation and health; lower the quality of these services; and restrict coverage for the most marginalized communities. Businesses can also have considerable influence with governments and should use this power responsibly to support government efforts to promote children's rights and well-being. Support to community and government efforts should be based on assessments of children's actual needs. Businesses can support such efforts through provision of financial and non-financial resources, as well as publicly speaking out and advocating for children's rights with peers.

TSX60 Companies that Consider Children in Relation to Community Investments



Good Practice Examples

Many **Canadian companies** support community and government efforts on child rights and wellbeing through investments in local communities. The most effective are those that consult with children or children’s representatives, focus on the most vulnerable, align with existing priorities (particularly the SDGs), partner with others, collect disaggregated data, build local capacity, and strengthen existing systems. The Canadian mining industry has several examples, including:

- **Teck Resources** supporting SDG 3.2 in India, reaching 2.5 million mothers to reduce diarrhea-related deaths of children under-five, particularly girls, in three high-burden states.
- **Pan American Silver** supporting SDGs 1.5 and 11.5 across South America, reaching nearly 1.5 million people with the health and education they need during and after the COVID-19 pandemic.
- **Sherritt International** supporting SDG 3.6 in Cuba, reaching 400,000 children through awareness sessions and simulated road environments to reduce deaths and injuries from road traffic accidents.
- **B2Gold** supporting SDGs 4.1 and 5.2 in Mali, reaching 9,000 people and providing education and protection for vulnerable girls working in and around informal mining sites.

Relevant Frameworks



Global Compact
Network Canada

- **Principle 10:** Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.



- **17.3** Mobilize additional financial resources for developing countries from multiple sources
- **17.17** Encourage and promote effective public, public-private and civil society partnerships
- **16.5** Substantially reduce corruption and bribery in all their forms



The Canadian Index of Child and Youth Well-being

All of the indicators in the Index are actionable and can be influenced by government, business and civil society policies, programs and practices. The intersecting dimensions of the Index demonstrate the importance of proactive cross-sectoral collaboration on potential impacts on child and youth well-being.