

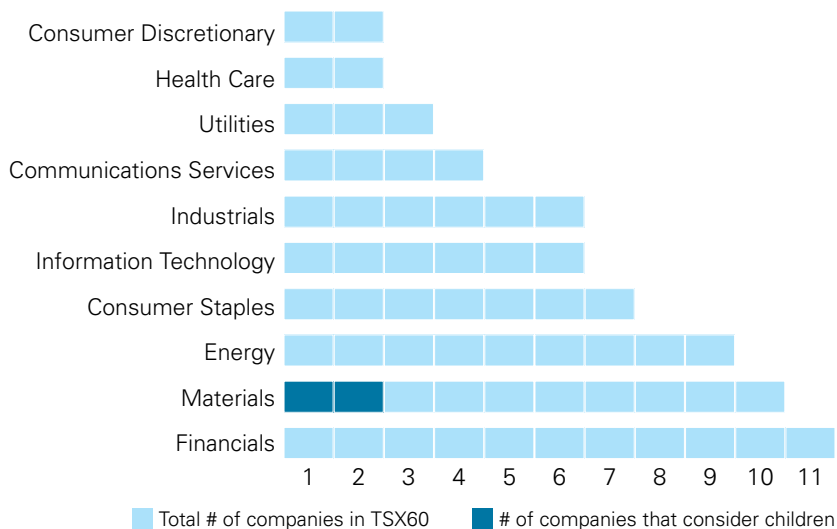


Principle 8: Respect and Support Child Rights in Security Arrangements

Security personnel encounter youth and children in a variety of ways, including as employees' family members, community members, and victims of violations, perpetrators or witnesses of alleged offences on company property. Because of their young age and physical development, children are at greater risk of experiencing abuse, intimidation and harassment.

Implications may be particularly acute for girls and young women who experience an elevated risk of gender-based violence. Therefore, it is crucial for a company to have security arrangements that take children's rights into account. For example, companies should ensure that no children are recruited or used in security arrangements, either directly or indirectly through security providers. Over twelve months, UNICEF records 13,200 children exiting armed forces or armed groups across 17 countries. Training and protocols on the treatment of children should also be implemented, along with accessible and responsive grievance mechanisms.

TSX60 Companies that Consider Children in Relation to Security Arrangements



Good Practice Examples

Several **Canadian mining companies** have implemented the Child Rights and Security [Checklist](#) and [Handbook](#) which equip companies to integrate children's rights into public and private security arrangements, in line with the [Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights](#) (VPs).

- **Agnico Eagle Mines** included the Checklist as part of their all-site security management audit and required training on child rights and immediate reporting of potential child rights violations.
- **Barrick Gold** helped co-develop the Checklist, incorporated it into their external security risk assessments and VPs Standard, and included child rights in training for security personnel.
- **IAMGOLD** commit to address child rights in their security standard and guidelines, and training for security personnel includes specific provisions for addressing and respecting child rights.
- **Kinross Gold** included the Checklist in its toolkit for implementation of the VPs and in its training.
- **Newmont** implemented the Checklist at high-risk sites and audited compliance, as well as trained guards on treatment of minors in line with the UN Convention on the Rights of the Child.
- **Pan American Silver** implemented the Checklist and assessed compliance at all sites, as well as training security personnel and disaggregating grievances by age in their grievance mechanism.
- **Sheritt International** helped co-develop the Checklist, incorporated it into local security arrangements, and had it externally verified through an independent audit.
- **Teranga Gold** is implementing child-specific protocols for the use of force, search and seizure, apprehension, detention and transfer to authorities, with a focus on risks to girls and young women.

Relevant Frameworks



Global Compact
Network Canada

- **Principle 4:** Businesses should uphold the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour; and
- **Principle 5:** the effective abolition of child labour.



- **16.2** End abuse, exploitation, trafficking and all forms of violence against and torture of children
- **5.2** Eliminate all forms of violence against all women and girls, including sexual and other types of exploitation
- **8.7** Secure the prohibition and elimination of the recruitment and use of child soldiers



The Canadian Index of
Child and Youth Well-being

- Feeling safe in my neighbourhood
- Violent crime
- Homicide