

THE HUB

FOR CHILD LABOUR PREVENTION AND REMEDIATION IN
LUALABA PROVINCE, DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

To get involved or
learn more, please
contact us:

✉ ines.kaempfer@childrights-business.org

🌐 clrhut.org

The Hub provides a collaborative, on-the-ground solution for companies seeking to address child labour linked to artisanal and small-scale mining (ASM) of critical minerals (including cobalt and copper). Our model enables companies to meet human rights due diligence (HRDD) requirements while delivering lasting, positive impact for children, families and mining communities.

Our aims



ADDRESS CHILD LABOUR: Remediation and long-term prevention of child labour. Our programmes deliver **immediate and tangible impact for children** that have experienced or are at risk of ending up in child labour in ASM.



REDUCE SUPPLY CHAIN RISKS: It is nearly **impossible to ensure no ASM cobalt or copper from DRC enters global supply chains** and companies should assume that their supply is associated with the worst form of child labour.



SUPPORT A JUST TRANSITION: Businesses have a key role in ensuring that workers and communities affected by resource extraction – including ASM workers and their children – are not left behind but have **access to decent work and sustainable livelihoods**.

Key challenges



Working children are pushed into informal mining and have no safety nets. One in 6 children are working



Education Crisis: 32% of ASM miners' children aged 6-17 years do not attend school. 44% of children work in ASM to pay school fees for both themselves and their siblings



Lack of decent work or apprenticeships: 72% of working children aged 15-17 in ASM communities work as artisanal miners due to a scarcity of alternative employment or vocational training



Poor psychological health



Short-term projects that fail to create lasting impact

Our programmes



Child Labour Remediation Programme



Emergency and Education Fund



Access to Decent for Youth Programme



After-School Centres



Training and Awareness Raising

Getting involved



Contact The Hub directly to set up a meeting



Donate to a specific programme directly linked to your operations, or invest in a collective fund to sustain The Hub's ongoing work.



Offer apprenticeship opportunities to young workers in your company or your business partners' organisations

Programmes to prevent & remediate child labour in ASM mining

CHILD LABOUR REMEDIATION PROGRAMME

Led by The Hub, this programme enhances local partners' capacity to manage long-term remediation of child labour cases. It provides access to education, medical and child protection support as needed, and a monthly stipend until the child reaches 16 for the most vulnerable families. Assigned case managers ensure ongoing support and engagement with the child, family, and teachers for the best possible outcomes.

EMERGENCY AND EDUCATION FUND

The Hub maintains an Emergency Fund, offering additional medical, or other necessary support to those in the remediation programme requiring support beyond the standard protocol. The Education Fund assists children outside the remediation programme but at risk of entering child labour in mining communities. It covers school fees for primary, secondary, or higher education, as well as vocational training.

TRAINING & AWARENESS RAISING

The Hub offers training on responsible business conduct and child rights to companies, and awareness raising to prevent child labour to key stakeholders and change-makers in mining communities.

ACCESS TO DECENT WORK FOR YOUTH

Recognising that children aged 16-18 in mining communities due to lack of alternatives, often end up engaging in hazardous mining activities, this programme connects out-of-school youth with non-hazardous work and training opportunities. It links companies aiming to cultivate a motivated, young workforce with underage individuals seeking decent and safe workplaces. For 15-year-old youth, apprenticeship programmes are established within local community workshops, providing practical experience in trades such as carpentry and sewing.

Participating companies and workshops receive tailored training and guidance from The Hub to ensure safe and supportive working environments, while youth benefit from both technical and soft skills development.

AFTER-SCHOOL CENTRES

After-School Centres provide various recreational and learning activities, including homework support, to keep children engaged after school and boost their academic success. These programmes are run in collaboration with, and supported by, the local community.

Our Supporters



local CSOs working with The Hub



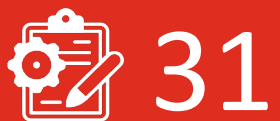
global companies, actors and organisations supporting The Hub, including 9 direct financial investors



mining hubs where The Hub's programme is prioritised



active case managers



approved junior case managers

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🌐 clrhq.org



Child labour remediation for the DRC's ASM cobalt sector

HOW IT WORKS

The Hub breaks the cycle of child labour by bringing companies together to create joint solutions that use their combined influence to drive change. It focuses on areas often missed by traditional efforts, especially in informal tiers of supply chains where child labour risks are highest. The Hub enables collaboration between companies along the critical minerals supply chain to address challenges in scaling up local, community-based approaches. It works directly with local mining companies, ASM co-operatives, and lower-tier suppliers, while building strong local networks – including trained case managers – and actively engaging local communities, governments and other key stakeholders to accelerate progress. All remediation activities are tracked and reported transparently, with regular follow-up on each child's progress.

OVERVIEW OF THE REMEDIATION PROCESS

- Identification of child labour by evolving child protection network or The Hub; immediate support to ensure the child's safety
- Assessment of the child's situation by The Hub and the case manager and development of an individual remediation plan for the child
- Agreement by all parties (financing entity, the child, and the family) on individual remediation plan
- Remediation process: The child receives support on education, living expenses, medial or psychological intervention until he/she reaches the ages of 16 (legal working age)
- If the child wants to continue his/her education after he/she turns 16, The Hub will try to support them through the Education Fund Programme or Apprenticeship Programme

"I'm glad I'm doing this cutting and sewing course; it will help me become a seamstress. The Hub's remediation programme is a great opportunity for me to have a normal childhood again."

Dolie is a girl who dropped out of school at 13 to work in a restaurant in a mining concession. She is now thriving in The Hub's remediation programme where she is taking a sewing course.

Statistics up to May 2025

These outcomes are the result of the collective efforts of businesses, organisations, and partners who believe in the importance of investing in children's futures and supporting vulnerable families in ASM communities.

76

children integrated in child labour remediation out of which 69 are still in the programme



Active case managing organisations

- Alternatives for Action (AFA)
- Action Pour Le Developpement Regional Integre (ADERI)
- Association des Femmes Pour Le Developpment Communautaire (AFEDECO)
- Humanitarian Emergency Rescue Action
- Institut Congalaise des Driots Humains (ICDH)
- National Peasant League for Human Rights (UNAPEDHO)

8

global companies, actors and organisations supporting The Hub



52

children back in primary and secondary school and 13 children provided with vocational skills training

19

active case managers and

31

junior case managers who attended a refresher training and passed their test



months of child labour remediation provided

Legacy Partners

Creating lasting, transformative impact

dormakaba



Fair Cobalt Alliance
L'Alliance du Cobalt Equitable

Sustaining Partners

Providing consistent support for change

CMOC



Entry-Level Partners

Laying the groundwork for impact



Action Hub supporter tiers reflect both the duration and level of financial commitment.