



CHILD LABOR REMEDIATION FRAMEWORK FOR THE UNITED STATES

Disclaimer:

This product was developed using <u>The Centre for Child Rights and Business</u> (The Centre) Child Labor Framework for the United States, as well as their <u>Child Labor Remediation Due Diligence Principles</u>.

A full version of this document is available exclusively to <u>AIM-Progress</u> members.

Detailed guidance on managing and dealing with US child labor risks developed with <u>Verité</u> can be found here.

For further information, please contact **info@aim-progress.com**

Background

This document is a summary of a more comprehensive document developed for AIM-Progress in 2025 as part of our work to tackle potential risks of child and forced labour in US manufacturing.

It was developed together with a child labour stakeholder engagement mapping document available to members.

The overarching objectives of our work are to:

- Raise awareness of child and forced labour amongst US manufacturing sector and service providers
- Strengthen the sector's management systems for identifying, addressing and remediating cases
- Support procurement teams to better identify suppliers and service providers capability in this space and support continuous improvement
- Create a blueprint to replicate effective remediation for future cases of child labour and avoid non-repetition.

CONTEXT & PURPOSE

- Rising concern in the US: Cases of child labor have surged, especially involving unaccompanied migrant minors and high school students in hazardous or excessive work
- Challenge: Few companies have established remediation protocols; many lack clarity on responsibility for remediation and connections with state and civil society organizations who can support them
- Purpose of the Framework: Provide a practical, rights-based roadmap for business-funded remediation in the United States, adapted from global best practices

GUIDING PRINCIPLES

- Child rights come first: Always prioritised over commercial interests
- Tailored responses: Each case assessed individually based on age, type of work, and legal status
- Independent expertise: Remediation must involve child rights specialists
- Access to remedy: Companies must ensure proper support (education, health, legal aid)
- Leverage existing structures: Build on functioning government systems where possible

ROLES AND RESPONSIBILITIES AMONG STAKEHOLDERS

Business Partner

- ✓ Detects and reports suspected child labor cases
- ✓ Approves and funds remediation plan

Coordinating Organization

- ✓ Develops remediation plan
- ✓ Engages local partners
- ✓ Oversees implementation

Local Partner

- ✓ Conducts on-site assessment and fact-finding
- ✓ Provides case management and support (school enrolment, stipends, legal aid, monitoring)
- ✓ Monitors success of support

THE REMEDIATION PROCESS



Notification – Report suspected case with key details (child, work type, legal status).



Rapid Assessment (within 72 hrs) – On-site evaluation of child's situation and risks.



Immediate Actions – Remove child from illegal or hazardous work, ensure safe space, provide emergency support if needed.



Case Categorization – Distinguish under-age children vs. young workers in hazardous work.



Remediation Plan

- Under-age children: living stipends, schooling, long-term monitoring until minimum age.
- Young workers: relocation to safe jobs, vocational training, health checks, wage protection.



Monitoring & Closure – Regular follow-up with child, family, and schools; prevent re-entry into hazardous work; final closure report.

WHO TO CONTACT WHEN YOU DISCOVER A CASE OF CHILD LABOR

Organisations who can help

If you discover a case of child labour, you could start by <u>dialling</u>
211 to find state-based organisations who can help. You may wish to contact one of the following organisations:

- Boys & Girls Clubs of America
- Centre for Child Rights and Business
- East Coast Migrant Head Start (agriculture)
- Immigrant Connection
- Kids in Need of Defense
- Migrant Legal Action Programme
- National Safe Place
- Polaris/ National Human Trafficking hotline
- United Way
- Verite
- YMCA & YWCA

Useful resources

Below is a non-exhaustive list of resources which may help businesses who discover a case of child labour:

- <u>Impactt guidance on remediation of child labor</u> <u>in operational contexts</u>
- Verite responding to child labour training & remediation guidance
- Child Labour in the US: A Call for Corporate Responsibility
- The Centre for Child Rights and Business Due
 Diligence Principles for Child Labour Remediation
- <u>UNICEF USA resources to address child labor in</u>
 <u>the US</u>





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