Children’s Rights and Business Tools

The Children’s Rights and Business Principles defines actions that businesses can take to fulfil their corporate responsibility to respect children’s rights and suggests actions to support children’s rights in the workplace, marketplace and community. Learn more about the Principles and the business case for children’s rights in the video; ‘Are Children Your Business?’

In order to meet this responsibility, the Principles call on business to put in place appropriate policies and processes, as set out in the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, including a policy commitment and a due diligence process for addressing potential and actual impacts on human rights.

Putting the Children’s Rights and Business Principles into practice

**Reporting**
Reporting on children’s rights in company performance

**Policy commitment**
Incorporating children’s rights into company policies and codes of conduct

**Workbook**
A framework for companies to operationalize their respect and support for children’s rights

**Assessing and Integration**
Assessing performance and identifying actions for improvement

To learn more about UNICEF’s work on advancing children’s rights in business visit: [www.unicef.org/csr](http://www.unicef.org/csr)
UNICEF has developed a set of tools through a consultative process with business and a wider range of experts and stakeholders. The tools support companies in integrating children’s rights considerations into their policies and processes. They include:

**Children are Everyone’s Business - Workbook 2.0**
*A guide for integrating children’s rights into policies, impact assessments and sustainability reporting*
Authors: UNICEF
Date: December 2013

The workbook outlines a framework for companies to better operationalize their respect and support for children’s rights in the workplace, marketplace, community and environment in alignment with broader efforts to implement the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. It contextualizes the guidance provided in UNICEF’s child rights implementation tools, including ‘Children’s Rights in Policies and Codes of Conduct’, ‘Children’s Rights in Impact Assessments’ and ‘Children’s Rights in Sustainability Reporting’.

**Children’s Rights in Policies and Codes of Conduct**
*A tool for companies*
Authors: UNICEF, Save the Children
Date: December 2013

This adaptable tool recommends ways for all businesses to incorporate children’s rights into their policies and codes of conduct. It reaches beyond the traditional focus areas of child labour and philanthropy, and outlines children’s rights elements that are relevant to all companies. At the same time, it includes elements that companies can adopt and integrate as appropriate, based on their biggest areas of risk and opportunity.

**Children’s Rights in Impact Assessments**
*A guide for integrating child rights into impact assessments and taking action for children*
Authors: UNICEF, Danish Institute for Human Rights
Date: December 2013

This tool provides guidance for companies on assessing their policies and processes as they relate to the responsibility to respect and commitment to support children’s rights. It can be used to integrate child rights considerations into ongoing assessments of overall human rights impacts, as outlined in the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Specifically, it offers a number of criteria that companies can use both to review critical areas of potential or actual impact on children’s rights, and identify actions for improvement.

**Children’s Rights in Sustainability Reporting**
*A guide for integrating children’s rights into the GRI reporting framework*
Authors: UNICEF
Date: December 2013

This tool guides companies on integrating child rights considerations into sustainability reporting, going beyond child labour and community investments. It provides guidance to companies on communicating their actions to respect and support children’s rights through their policies, processes and operations. It also suggests elements of the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) framework that can be used as the basis for reporting on children’s rights.