

# Sector scorecard



## BASIC MATERIALS



In collaboration with:



### The State of Children's Rights and Business 2025

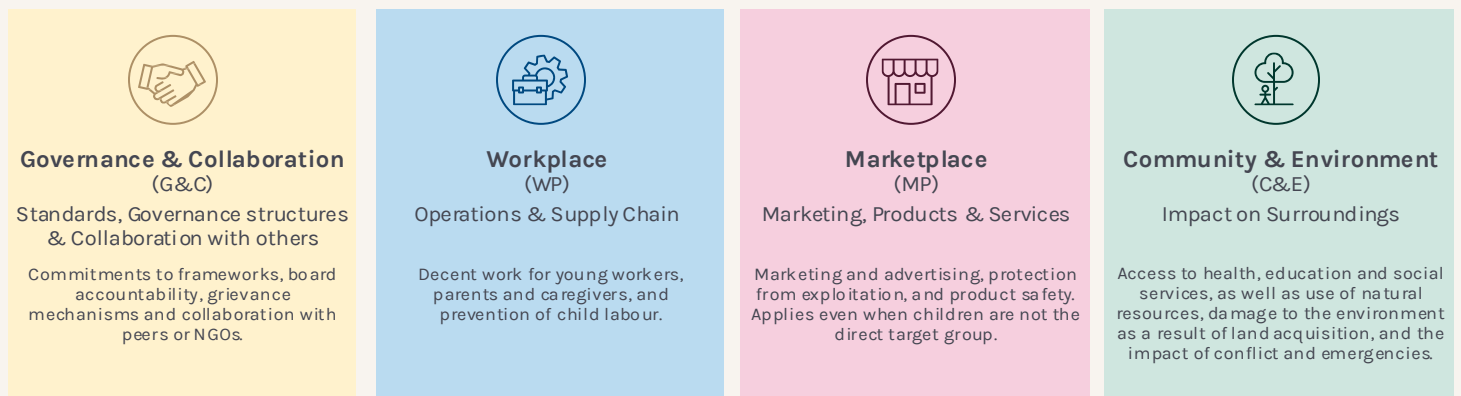
Part of the Global Child Forum Corporate Sector and Children's Rights Benchmark

#### About the scorecard

The set of indicators that companies in this scorecard have been benchmarked against align with the **Children's Rights and Business Principles**<sup>1</sup>, and are organized into four impact areas: Governance & Collaboration, Workplace, Marketplace, and Community & Environment. These impact areas provide an

overview of what companies are doing in each of these spheres of influence, allowing them to identify areas of improvement in relation to their operations. The corporate response of companies is important when assessing the degree of influence as well as areas of improvement for each impact area. Therefore, the impact areas are

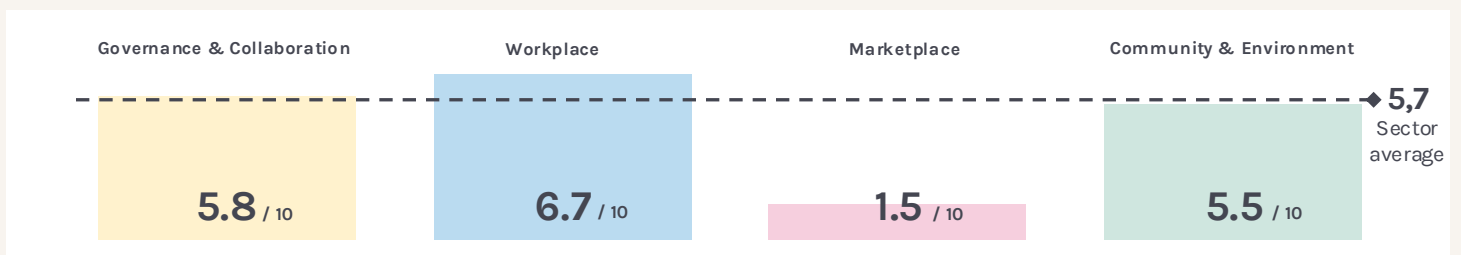
structured by three subcategories, namely, Policies & Commitments; Implementation; and Reporting & Actions, where these sub-categories are viewed as corporate responses to children's rights related issues. The boxes below present a short overview of what the different impact areas measure<sup>2</sup>.



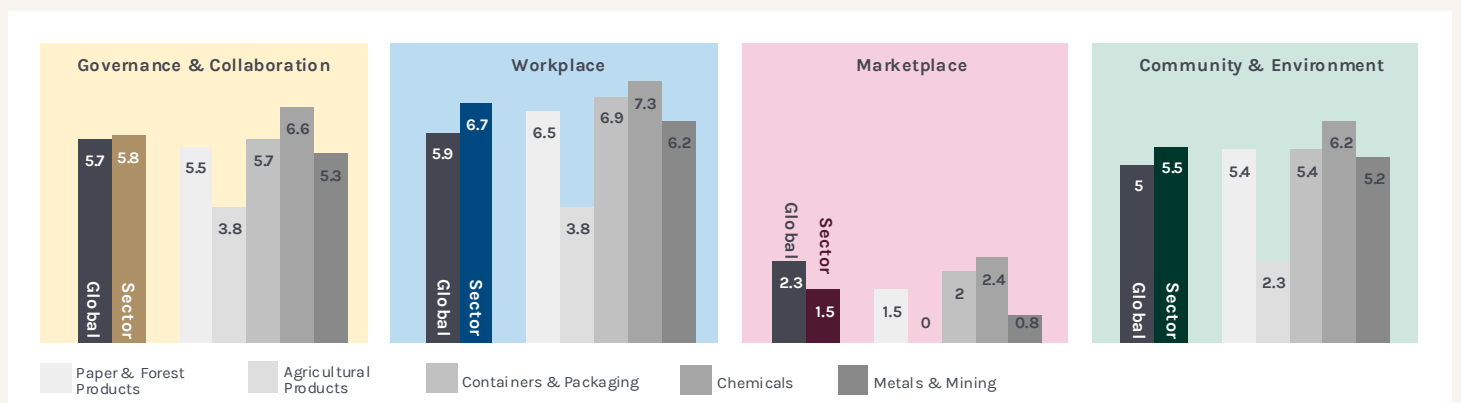
<sup>1</sup> A comprehensive framework for understanding and addressing the impact of business on the rights and well-being of children developed by UN Global Compact, UNICEF and Save the Children.

<sup>2</sup> To learn more about Global Child Forum's methodology, access it [here](#).

#### 1.1 Sector Average Score



#### 1.2 Industry vs Sector and Global<sup>1</sup>



<sup>1</sup> More information on the Industries can be found on the second page of this Sector Scorecard.

## Sector description

The Basic Materials sector includes companies that discover, extract and process various raw materials and are involved in mining, chemical or forestry products. Other sectors rely on this sector for raw materials necessary for the manufacture of goods. Industries included in this sector are *Paper & Forest Products*, *Agricultural Products*, *Containers & Packaging*, *Chemicals*, and *Metals & Mining*.

No. of companies in sector	216
Paper & Forest Products	27
Agricultural Products	2
Containers & Packaging	22
Chemicals	70
Metals & Mining	95

### About our weightings

Our methodology consists of four impact areas (Governance & Collaboration, Workplace, Marketplace, and Community & Environment). The Governance & Collaboration impact area covers topics we consider to be equally important, independent of sector. Hence, the **same weight is applied for this impact area across the board** when calculating the final score. However, this is not the case for the other three impact areas as **each sector face different risks and possibilities when considering their material reality caused by their operations**. For more information, see our [Methodology](#)

### 1.3 Basic Materials

The Basic Materials sector provides key inputs to many other industries, such as infrastructure, automotive, healthcare, electronics, construction, and retail. Given these inputs and its influence on other industries, the Basic Materials sector has the potential to be a driving force in improving children's rights on a global scale. Material topics where the Basic Materials sector can positively influence children might include transition to renewable energy sources in direct and indirect operations, impact on children in local communities where operations are carried out and preventing child labour in direct and indirect (i.e., supply chains) operations.

When viewing the workplace area,

Basic Materials is one of the most exposed sectors in terms of encountering child labour in supply chains. Therefore, extensive risk assessments and monitoring supply chain compliance with child labour policies is essential to protect children from being used as labour. Additionally, the safety of adult employees (including parents) is material in this sector as production plants might entail the use of hazardous chemicals and substances, as well as heavy and dangerous machinery.

A material topic for many Basic Materials companies in the **marketplace** concerns product safety given that many of them produce chemicals that can cause

harm to children. Product design and clear labelling are therefore necessary to prevent children from coming into contact with these products.

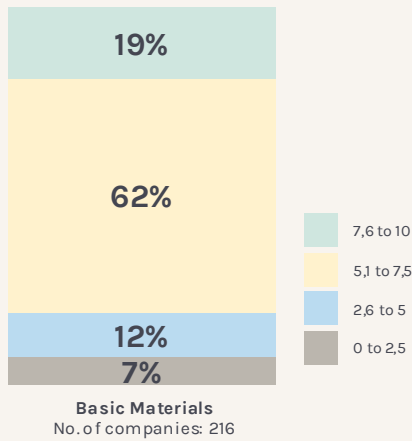
The Basic Materials sector has several challenges in the **communities and the environment** in which they operate. Material topics for this sector which carry implications for children's well-being and health concerns environmental issues (e.g., pollution to land, soil and water) and corporate activities reshaping local communities, such as logistics requiring heavy transportation resulting in traffic hazards and reduction of play spaces for children.

### 1.4 Material Topics<sup>3</sup>

Impact	Where	What	
Child labour	Supply chain	Work collaboratively with others against child labour in informal sector around supplier and/or beyond tier1 (agriculture, minerals) and promote decent working conditions and wages.	Workplace
Safety for parents	Employees/ Supply chain	Collaborate in sector-wide programmes to prevent hazardous work, forced labour and unethical recruitment.	Workplace
Children's health and safety	Products	Ensure that hazardous consumer products are designed and labelled in a safe way to minimize the risk of children harming themselves.	Marketplace
Future wellbeing of children	Operations/ Supply chain	Reduce scope 1, 2, and 3 emissions, switch to renewable energy and recycle raw materials.	Community & Environment
Future wellbeing of children	Operations	Evaluate and prevent any risks to children in the surrounding community caused by road traffic/logistics, land use - reduced spaces to play, pollution/waste, sexual exploitation.	Community & Environment

<sup>3</sup> Governance and Collaboration is not present here as it contains only generic topics

## 1.5 Performance distribution



### Disclaimer

Global Child Forum's assessments are based on publicly available data and specific criteria established at the time of analysis. These assessments do not necessarily capture all aspects of a company's operations, including ongoing controversies, incidents, or updates that may occur after the data collection period.

Our rankings and insights are intended to reflect the information available at the time of assessment and are meant to drive positive change in business practices concerning children's rights. We encourage companies to publicly disclose their efforts to address and remedy any impacts on children's rights, especially in cases of adverse actions.

While a company may receive a favorable assessment, this does not imply the absence of areas needing improvement, particularly if there are concerns related to children's rights abuses. Global Child Forum uses its platform to call for increased transparency, accountability, and continuous progress toward safeguarding children's rights. We aim to act as a catalyst for change, advocating for responsible business conduct and the promotion of children's rights in all aspects of operations.

## 1.6 Top 10 performing companies

Company name	Score	Collaboration & Governance	Workplace	Marketplace	Community & Environment	Country of HQ
Teck Resources	9,1	10,0	9,4	0,0	8,4	Canada
Suzano	8,7	6,9	10,0	2,6	8,4	Brazil
Norsk Hydro	8,6	8,1	9,4	2,0	8,4	Norway
JSW Steel	8,6	10,0	10,0	3,3	6,8	India
Sumitomo Forestry	8,5	8,8	9,4	2,3	7,4	Japan
Nornickel	8,5	7,5	9,4	2,3	8,4	Russian Federation
Dexco	8,4	8,1	9,4	3,3	7,4	Brazil
Anglo American	8,4	10,0	9,4	0,0	6,8	United Kingdom
Hyundai Steel	8,4	10,0	9,4	1,3	6,8	Korea, Rep.
Zijin Mining	8,3	8,8	9,4	1,0	7,4	China

## 1.7 Top three performing indicators

Indicator	Indicator number	Percentage of companies scoring 10/10	Corporate response
Does the company prohibit child labour?	2.1.1	90%	Policies & Commitments
Is the company committed to reduction targets regarding their environmental impact?	4.1.1	82%	Policies & Commitments
Does the company report on its environmental impact?	4.3.1	80%	Reporting & Actions

## 1.8 Three challenging indicators

Indicator	Indicator number	Percentage of companies scoring 10/10	Corporate response
Is the company involved in initiatives addressing children's rights with partners other than NGOs?	1.3.2	25%	Reporting & Actions
Does the company conduct a materiality assessment considering their environmental or community impact on children?	4.2.1	30%	Implementation
Does the company conduct audits with regard to their suppliers' environmental or community impacts on children?	4.2.2	0%	Implementation



For more information on our indicators, see our [Methodology](#).

### **About our Sector Scorecards:**

This scorecard is based on data collected by Global Child Forum in partnership with Boston Consulting Group. The results are based on publicly available data. However, we don't evaluate actual compliance with policies or outcomes of policies and/or programmes.

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### **GLOBAL CHILD FORUM**

Founded in 2009 by the Swedish Royal Family, Global Child Forum is a leading forum for children's rights and business dedicated to innovative thinking, knowledge-sharing and networking. We believe in the power and responsibility of business, working in partnership with all parts of society, to create a prosperous, sustainable and just society for the world's children. In addition to our forums, Global Child Forum delivers research perspectives, best practices and risk assessment tools designed to unlock opportunities for business to integrate children's rights into their operations and communities.

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