

# Mapping Child Labor Risks in the Global Automotive Industry



## Shifting Gears Investor Initiative

### Child Labor by the Numbers

According to the International Labour Organization (ILO):

- **152 million** children worldwide are **victims of child labor**
- **73 million** of these children **work in hazardous conditions**
- **19 million** of the children working in hazardous conditions are **under age 12**



Children herding **cattle** in Brazil, Chad, Costa Rica, Ethiopia, Lesotho, Mauritania, Namibia, South Sudan, Uganda, and Zambia, and tanning **leather** in Bangladesh, Pakistan and Vietnam, are often subject to hazardous working conditions.



In India and Madagascar, children begin working in mines sorting **mica** chips by hand at very young ages.

Child labor in **electronics** manufacturing in China is widespread, often linked to abuses in apprenticeships.



Children in Burma, Cambodia, Indonesia, Liberia, the Philippines and Vietnam spend long hours working with sharp tools to tap **rubber** trees.

Tin, tantalum, tungsten, and gold (**3TG**) may fuel or finance violence and conflict in the DRC. 3TG may also be mined by children. In Bolivia, an estimated 3,000 children as young as 6 work in **tin** mines.

Over 50% of all **cobalt** is mined in the Democratic Republic of the Congo, where 40,000 children work in cobalt mines. Some are as young as 7 years old and work up to 12 hours per day.



**Charcoal** is an input to pig iron, used to make steel automotive parts, which may be produced using child labor in Brazil and Uganda.



# Auto Industry Has High Impact & Leverage on Human Rights



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With the projected growth of electric vehicles, demand for **cobalt**, used in lithium-ion batteries, will triple by 2030. Cobalt produced in the DRC may be sourced from mines where child labor is prevalent.



**Electronics** manufacturing is linked to forced labor in China and Malaysia and child labor in China. Electronic components account for 30-35% of a car's costs, and this is expected to rise.

The automotive industry accounts for 16% of steel demand globally. **Charcoal** and **iron ore**, components of pig iron used to make steel, are associated with risks of forced and child labor.



About 75% of all **rubber**, which may be produced with forced and child labor in Southeast Asia and Liberia, is used to produce tires.



About 30% of all **leather** is used in car interiors. Cattle raising is associated with risks of forced and child labor, and leather tanning also relies on child labor.



From metallic paints to brakes, up to 15,000 individual car parts may contain **mica**, which is mined with child labor in India and Madagascar.

**Conflict Minerals:** Up to 50% of car parts contain tin, tantalum, tungsten, and/or gold (3TG), which may finance and fuel conflict if sourced from certain regions of the DRC.