

Decision tree:

Selecting support to prevent and remediate child labour through a CLMRS

What is this tool?

Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation Systems (CLMRS) identify children in and at-risk of child labour and other rights abuses and provide tailored support to improve their situation.

This operational tool was created to help **identify what type of support to provide**.

How does it work?

The tool consists of a simple flowchart to guide decision-making and help plan prevention and remediation activities.

How was the tool developed?

The tool draws on existing good practice in child protection case management, evidence on the root causes of child labour, as well as ICI's operational experience of implementing CLMRS.

How to use the tool?

This tool can be used to support “remediation planning” by using the flowchart to identify the right support for individual children, their families and communities.

How to select support for children?

When deciding which support to provide to children, their households and their communities, keep the following in mind:

- ✓ **Provide multiple support activities.** One activity alone is rarely enough to tackle child labour. Plan a combination of interventions that address multiple root causes for each child and household.
- ✓ **Combine activities at different levels.** A child's development is largely shaped by their immediate environment. Aim for a balanced mix of support activities that target the child (e.g. bridging classes), the household (e.g. parenting skills training), and the community (e.g. creation of Community Service Groups) to address needs holistically.
- ✓ **Include awareness-raising.** Awareness-raising is one of the most effective ways of addressing child labour. Material support should be accompanied by awareness-raising sessions to help change perceptions.
- ✓ **Consider feasibility and scalability.** Assess how easy the activity will be to implement at scale. Some activities may be better suited for smaller groups (e.g., vocational training), while others may benefit broader categories of children (e.g., school kits for all children in a certain grade).
- ✓ **Avoid unintended harm.** Avoid interventions that may cause harm or have negative side effects for children, households or communities.

Example

Child characteristics

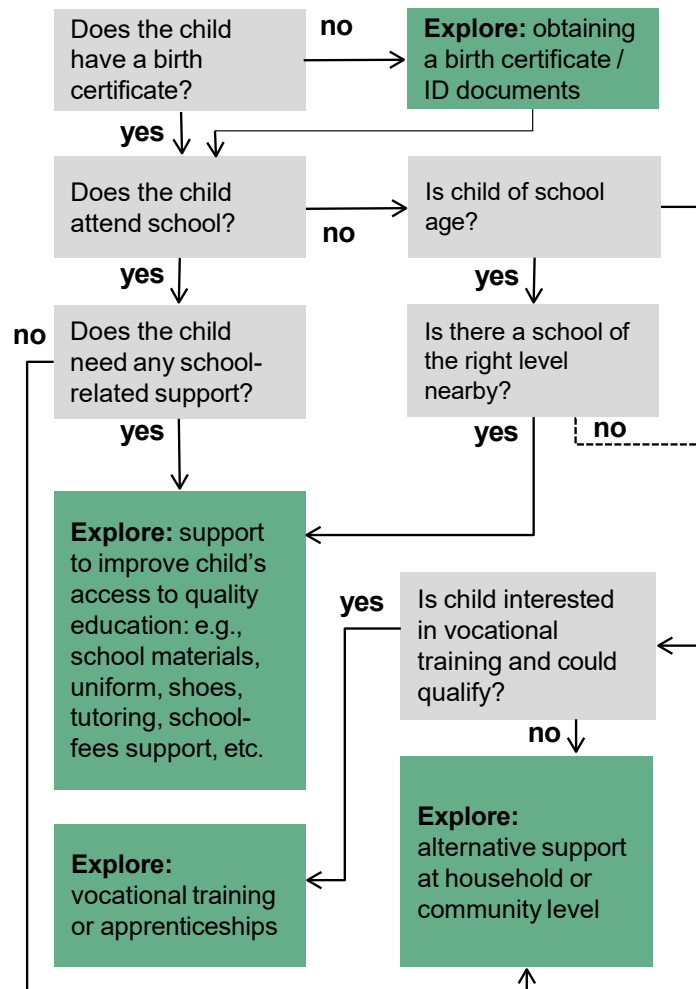
A 9-year-old girl who is in child labour and out of school

Support package

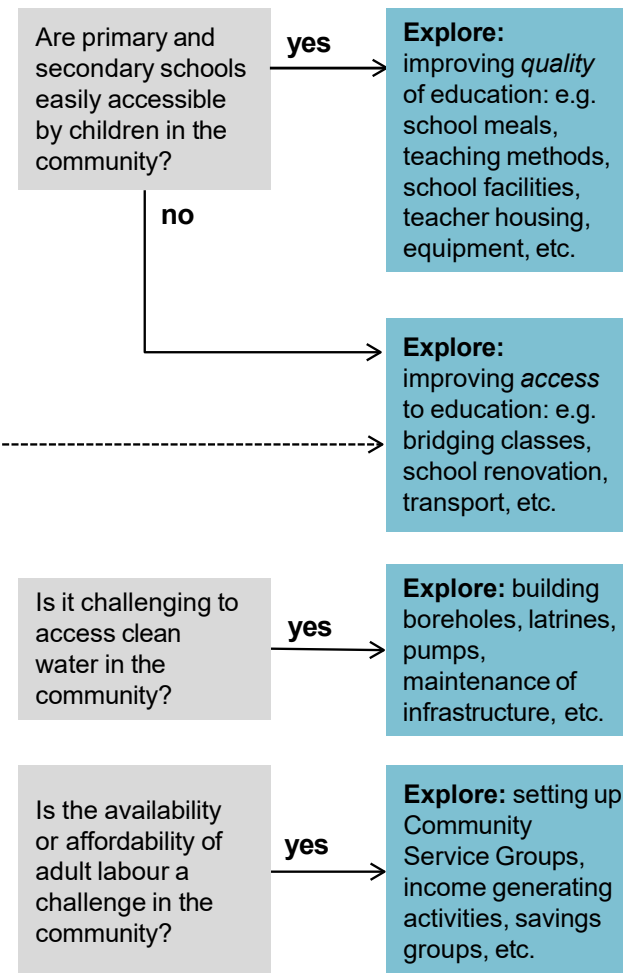
- Bridging class
- Birth certificate (if needed)
- Ongoing guidance and awareness-raising to the household
- Parenting skills training
- Adult labour group (Community service group)

How to select support for children?

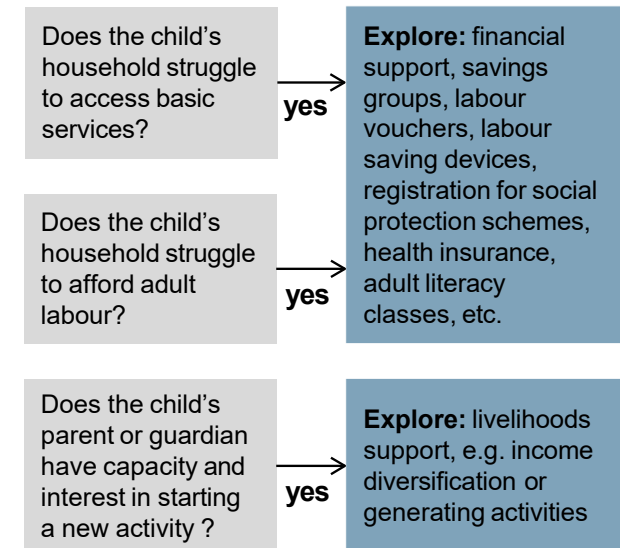
At **child** level



At **community** level



At **household** level



- **Consider preferences** of child and household.
- **Link the type** of support provided to the **situation of the child and household**.
- Community interventions often require more time: **consider waiting** to see if many children share the same challenge before acting.
- Consider **combining remediation options** at all three levels: child, household and community.
- **Link** remediation, Community Action Plans and other programmes, wherever possible.

Additional considerations

How do we know if remediation has been effective?

*Providing support to a child or their family does **not** automatically mean that their situation improves, nor that they are no longer in child labour or at risk.*

It often takes time for support to bring benefits, and children and their families may require various support at different levels (child, household and community) for their situation to change. Children may go in and out of child labour over time.

*This is why it is important to conduct **regular and repeated visits** to monitor children over time.*

Children in need of **PRIORITY SUPPORT**...

(ie. children in child labour)

- *should receive follow-up visits **every six months***
- *visits continue until a child is **not in child labour** for **two consecutive visits** (at least three months apart)*

Children identified as needing **SUPPORT**...

(ie. children at-risk of child labour)

- *should receive follow-up visits at least **every 12 months***

***All children** should be assessed every 1-2 years (either through in-person visits or using a household level risk model based on up-to-date information), regardless of child labour status, until the child turns 18 or leaves the community.*

How do we measure the outcomes of a Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System?

*A key aim of Child Labour Monitoring and Remediation System is **to protect children** and their rights, including the right to be protected from work that is harmful.*

[All systems should regularly report on the CLMRS Core Criteria indicators.](#)

*This includes the following **outcome** indicator:*

- ***% children covered previously identified as in child labour that received at least two follow-up visits** in the past 12 months, each visit spaced between 3-6 months apart, **who were not in child labour at their last two consecutive visits***

*The percentage is calculated as: the number of children identified who report not having engaged in child labour at their **two most recent follow-up visits**, divided by the number of children identified in child labour who received at least **two follow-up visits**.*

What to consider when providing support through referral?

Support for children and their families can be provided either directly, or through referral to existing actors and services. These include public and private sector actors, NGOs and community groups.

Remediation through referral can help to strengthen local services and promote information sharing. But remember, this option still requires time, financial and logistical resources to plan and implement.

Checklist for remediation through referral:

- ✓ **Map existing services and actors** in the local area and check with each *what type of support* they can provide, *based on which criteria*
- ✓ **Check their capacity** to provide assistance – is financial or logistical support needed for them to help a child or family referred to them?
- ✓ **Budget** for referrals, as it may not be possible for other actors to provide assistance without getting support themselves
- ✓ **Record** any children referred to local services in the monitoring system, including the date referred
- ✓ **Follow-up** with all children referred to local services, to *check if they received support*, understand how their situation has evolved, and identify further support needs.