

Decision tree:

How to prioritise which children receive support in 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 **prioritise which children should receive support**.

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?

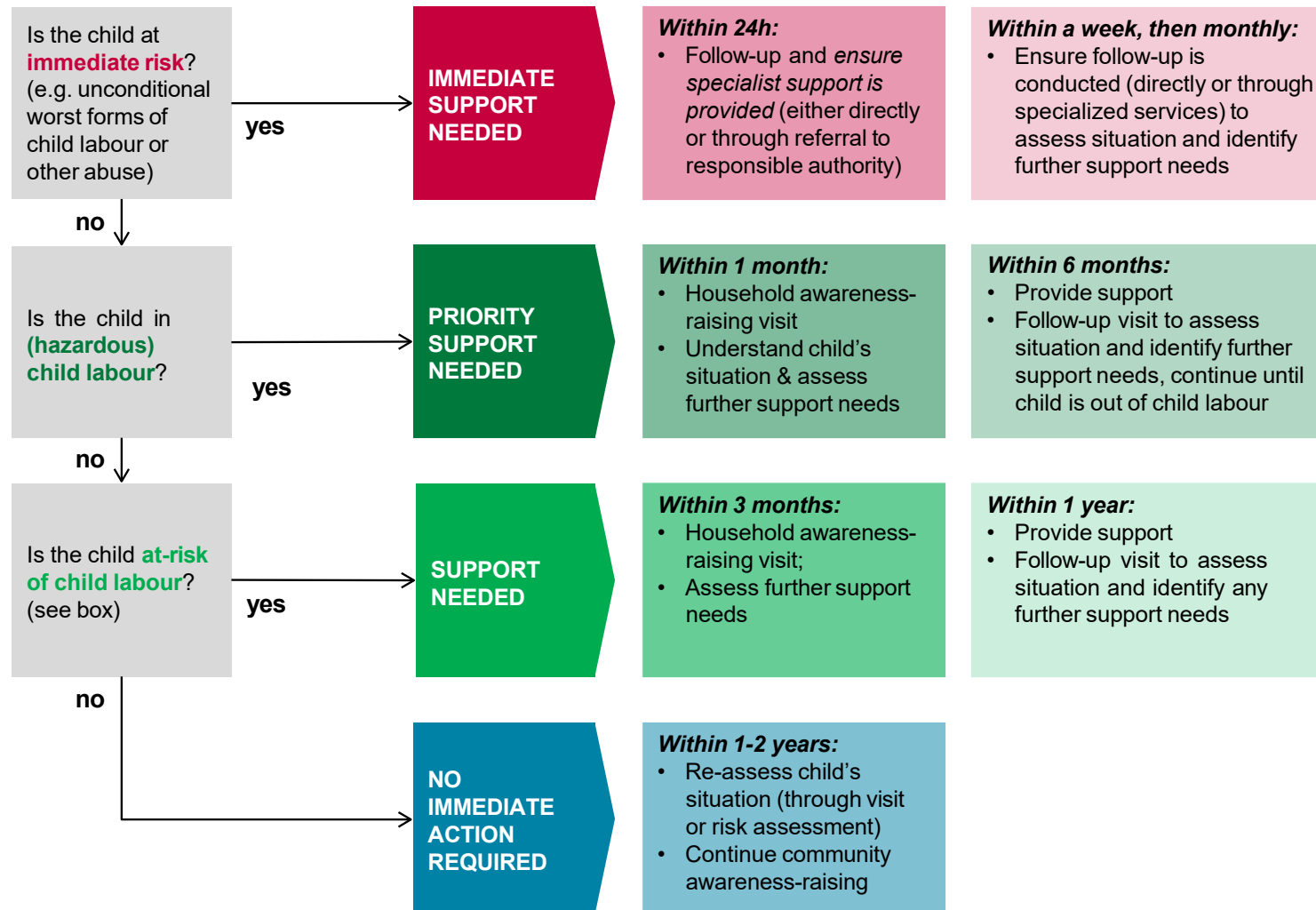
The tool draws on existing good practice in child protection case management, evidence on the root causes of child labour, as well as ICI's operational experience of implementing CLMRS.

How to use the tool?

This tool can be used in two ways:

1. **To guide system set-up and implementation**, by defining the frequency of monitoring, support and follow-up visits.
2. **To support “remediation planning”**, by using the flowchart to identify which children require immediate support.

How to prioritise which children receive support?



Which children may be at risk of child labour?

Children not in child labour but falling into one of the following groups should be considered **at-risk of child labour** and prioritised for preventative support:¹

- Does **not attend school**/ is often absent
- Lives **away from biological parents**
- Lives in a **single-parent** headed household
- Lives in a **child-headed household**
- Lives in a household where the **head of household is illiterate**
- Lives in a community with **no primary school**
- Has a **sibling in child labour**
- Is a parent** themselves

¹ Access to education is fundamental children's right; all other factors have been shown to be correlated with higher likelihood that children engage in hazardous child labour in cocoa.

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.