



Description of the methodology

The prevailing standard for the electronics industry as being used in this overview is based by SOMO on the sustainability -policy, -standard and -practice that is currently broadly shared by electronics companies, often within coalitions such as the Electronics Industry Citizen Coalition (EICC) which is dedicated to electronics supply chain responsibility.

SOMO has sent a questionnaire to a selection of 22 electronics companies to ask them about their policies and efforts regarding responsible mining and the elimination of child labour, with special attention to the mining of gold.

Thirteen companies responded positive; eleven filled in the questionnaire, two of them provided a statement with part of the information that was requested.

The 22 companies that were approached were: Acer, Apple, Dell, Ericsson, Fairphone, Foxconn, Flextronics, HP, Huawei, IBM, Intel, Jabil, Lenovo, LG, Microsoft, NXP, Pegatron, Philips, Samsung, Seagate, Sony, Western Digital.

The companies that did not respond to our repeated requests were: Dell, Flextronics, HP, Huawei, IBM, Intel, Jabil, Lenovo and Western Digital.

On the basis of the answers that were provided by the responding companies, an overview is made by SOMO of the steps taken by different companies regarding the elimination of child labour in their supply chain and the responsible mining of minerals

POSSIBLE QUALIFICATIONS:

- When companies perform above the prevailing industry standard they have taken more efforts with a focus to make a positive change than the companies performing on the prevailing industry level. This is being scored positive (green).
- When companies perform on the level of the prevailing standard for the electronics industry, they have taken steps to address the issue in line with other companies in the electronics sector. This is being scored as up to standard/neutral (light yellow).
- When there is no prevailing industry standard, as in the involvement of companies on the level of mining, any participation of a company on this level is being scored positive (green).
- The absence of company efforts in this field is being scored as missing (orange). This score relates to the importance given to activities on the mining level in this overview.

is made of the steps taken by different companies regarding the elimination of child labour in their supply chain and the responsible mining of minerals. If possible and relevant, the answers of the Electronics companies were checked through publicly available information. The main question is which of the companies has taken efforts to address labour conditions and child labour in artisanal mining, especially in gold mining.

Company name		Short company description	● Above industry standard/involved ● On industry standard ● Not involved
Topic	Description of the prevailing sustainability standard in the electronics industry		
Has the company a policy on the eradication of child labour?	The prevailing industry standard is that electronics companies have a code of conduct which includes a standard on child labour and which applies to all tiers of their supply chain. The code has to cascade down the entire supply chain but in practice it will not reach the mining level. Most companies are a member of the industry association the Electronics Industry Citizenship Coalition (EICC) and have adopted the EICC code of conduct which has a standard on child labour. Compliance is checked through audits at first tier suppliers and sometimes key component suppliers further down in the supply chain.		
Has the company a policy on the responsible mining of minerals?	The prevailing industry standard is that companies do have a specific policy on conflict minerals, tin, tungsten, tantalum and gold (also called 3TG), that are fueling conflicts in the Democratic Republic of Congo. Many companies are a member of the Conflict-Free Smelter Initiative (CFSI) and they are using the tools developed by this initiative to collect and share information about the use of these conflict minerals in their supply chain.		
Is the company involved in specific initiatives in a multistakeholder setting or as an individual company on artisanal mining?	All involvement in initiatives related to (artisanal) mining, including those related to the improvement of labour conditions at mining level, or specific initiatives beyond collecting and sharing information on conflict-free minerals, are seen as above the prevailing industry standard.		
Is the company involved in specific initiatives in a multistakeholder setting or as an individual company on gold mining?	All involvement in initiatives related to the eradication of child labour at mining level are valued as above the prevailing industry standard.		
Is the company involved in specific initiatives in a multistakeholder setting or as an individual company on child labour?	All involvement in initiatives related to the responsible sourcing of gold are valued as above the prevailing industry standard.		
Can the company trace back the origin of gold in its products?	Most information on the origin of gold is collected through participation in the Conflict-Free Smelter Initiative (CFSI). Companies know which refiners are validated as conflict-free and will be able to determine country of origin only for part of the gold they are using.		
Is the company willing to engage in new initiatives to improve labour conditions, including child labour, in gold mining?	Companies can indicate if they are willing to engage in further initiatives		



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Overview

- Above industry standard/involved
- On industry standard
- Not involved

	Has the company a policy on the eradication of child labour?	Has the company a policy on the responsible mining of minerals?	Is the company involved in specific initiatives in a multi-stakeholder setting or as an individual company on artisanal mining?	Is the company involved in specific initiatives in a multi-stakeholder setting or as an individual company on gold mining?	Is the company involved in specific initiatives in a multi-stakeholder setting or as an individual company on child labour?	Can the company trace back the origin of gold in its products?	Is the company willing to engage in new initiatives to improve labour conditions, including child labour, in gold mining?
FAIRPHONE	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green	Green
	Green	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Yellow	Green
	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Green	Yellow	Green
<i>acer</i>	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green
PHILIPS	Yellow	Green	Green	Green	Orange	Yellow	Green
	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green
SAMSUNG	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green
SONY	Yellow	Yellow	Green	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green
ERICSSON	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green
FOXCONN	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green
NXP	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green
PEGATRON	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green
	Yellow	Yellow	Orange	Orange	Orange	Yellow	Green

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