

# How Batteries Are Powered by Child Labor

Cobalt, a key input to lithium-ion batteries, is often mined with child labor. With enormous volumes of cobalt shipped to China from the Democratic Republic of the Congo (DRC), electronic products around the world are at risk of being linked to labor abuse.

The DRC produces over 70% of the world's cobalt. A large portion of this production comes from artisanal and small-scale mining, where thousands of children work in hazardous conditions. Children work underground in tight quarters, carry heavy loads, and face serious injury risks from tunnel collapses and falling down mine shafts.

