Is there a better way to estimate child labour risk in cocoa-growing communities?

Child labour is traditionally measured using prevalence surveys, which are costly and time consuming.

In contrast, community-level data can be collected much more quickly and at a lower cost.

In Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana, there is a strong relationship between some basic community characteristics and the rates of child labour.

ICI commissioned research to identify which community-level factors could be used to estimate child labour risk.

Researchers developed an evidence-based model to estimate child labour risk:

1. 8,200 household surveys were used to measure child labour in 258 communities in Côte d’Ivoire and Ghana.

2. Data were used to create country-specific child labour risk models.

3. Using just 12 questions, the model classifies communities into one of three risk categories: lower, medium or higher risk of child labour.

The model can be used by civil society, cocoa industry and governments to quickly identify the most at-risk communities and prioritise them for support.

Read the study: Understanding child labour risk.