

Projects Abroad Ltd

Disclosure Report Date Submitted: June 11th, 2024



Disclosure Materials

Certified B Corporations must complete a Disclosure Questionnaire to identify potentially sensitive issues related to the company (e.g. historical fines, sanctions, material litigation, or sensitive industry practices).

This component does not affect the company's score on the B Impact Assessment. If the company answers affirmatively to any items in the Disclosure Questionnaire that B Lab deems relevant for public stakeholders, then, as a condition of their certification, the company must:

- Be transparent about details of the disclosure issues identified on the company's public B Impact Report
- 2) Describe how the company has addressed this issue
- 3) Demonstrate that management practices are in place to avoid similar issues from arising in the future, when necessary.

In all cases, the Standards Advisory council reserves the right to refuse certification if the company is ultimately deemed not to uphold the spirit and integrity of the community.

In addition to the voluntary indication of sensitive issues in the Disclosure Questionnaire, companies pursuing Certification also are subject to a background check by B Lab staff. Background checks include a review of public records, news sources, and search engines for company names, brands, executives/founders, and other relevant topics.

Sensitive issues identified through background checks may or may not be within the scope of questions in the Disclosure Questionnaire, but undergo the same review process and are subject to the same possible review by the Standards Advisory Council, including ineligibility for B Corp Certification, required remediation, or disclosure.

B Lab's Public Complaints Process

Any party may submit a complaint about a current B Corp through B Lab's Public Complaint Process. Grounds for complaint include:

- Intentional misrepresentation of practices, policies, and/or claimed outcomes during the company's certification process
- 2) Breaches of the B Corp Community's core values as expressed in our Declaration of Interdependence

This document contains a copy of the company's completed Disclosure Questionnaire and related disclosure documentation provided by the company.



Disclosure Questionnaire

Industries and Products

Yes No Please indicate if the company is involved in production of or trade in any of the following. Select Yes for all options that **Animal Products or Services** $\boxed{}$ **Biodiversity Impacts** Chemicals $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Alcohol Disclosure Firearms Weapons** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Mining** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Pornography** $\boxed{}$ **Disclosure Tobacco** $\boxed{}$ **Energy and Emissions Intensive** $\boxed{}$ Industries Fossil fuels \square Gambling **Genetically Modified Organisms** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Illegal Products or Subject to $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Phase Out** Industries at Risk of Human \square **Rights Violations Monoculture Agriculture** \square **Nuclear Power or Hazardous** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ **Materials** Payday, Short Term, or High **Interest Lending Water Intensive Industries** $\overline{\mathbf{A}}$ Tax Advisory Services

Outcomes & Penalties

	Yes	No	
Please indicate if the company has had any formal complaint to a regulatory agency or been assessed any fine or sanction in the past five years for any of the following practices or policies. Check all that apply.			
Anti-Competitive Behavior		\checkmark	
Breaches of Confidential Information		N.	
Bribery, Fraud, or Corruption		∑	
Company has filed for bankruptcy		N.	
Consumer Protection		V	
Financial Reporting, Taxes, Investments, or Loans		\supset	
Hazardous Discharges Into Air/Land/Water (Past 5 Yrs)		\searrow	
Labor Issues		V	
Large Scale Land Conversion, Acquisition, or Relocation		K	
Litigation or Arbitration			
On-Site Fatality		V	
Penalties Assessed For Environmental Issues		N	
Political Contributions or International Affairs		\supset	
Recalls		V	
Significant Layoffs	V		
Violation of Indigenous Peoples Rights		N	
Other		\checkmark	



Practices

	Yes	No
Please indicate if the following statements are true regarding whether or not the company engages in the following practices. Check all that apply. If the statement is true, select "Yes." If false, select "No."		
Animal Testing		V
Company/Suppliers Employ Under Age 15 (Or Other ILO Minimum Age)		N
Company prohibits freedom of association/collective bargaining		\searrow
Company workers are prisoners		V
Conduct Business in Conflict Zones		\vee
Confirmation of Right to Work		V
Does not transparently report corporate financials to government		N
Employs Individuals on Zero-Hour Contracts		V
Facilities located in sensitive ecosystems		N
ID Cards Withheld or Penalties for Resignation		V
No formal Registration Under Domestic Regulations		V
No signed employment contracts for all workers		\checkmark
Overtime For Hourly Workers Is Compulsory		V
Payslips not provided to show wage calculation and deductions		V

	Yes	No
Sale of Data		\triangleright
Tax Reduction Through Corporate Shells		V
Workers cannot leave site during non-working hours		V
Workers not Provided Clean Drinking Water or Toilets		N
Workers paid below minimum wage		
Workers Under Bond		
Other		

Supply Chain Disclosures

	Yes	No
Please indicate if any of the following statements are true regarding your company's significant suppliers.		
Business in Conflict Zones		V
Child or Forced Labor		\checkmark
Negative Environmental Impact		✓
Negative Social Impact		V
Other		V



Disclosure Questionnaire Statement

Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Others - Disclosure Industries

Topic	Volunteer Placement to Orphanages
Summary of Issue	Projects Abroad offers volunteer placements & internships abroad for a variety of people in a wide variety of settings since 1992. These placements include childcare and healthcare including medical electives for students. Demonstrating their commitment to child welfare, Projects Abroad transitioned away from orphanage placements in 2018. They now focus on supporting community-based childcare programs.
Size/Scope of Issue (e.g. \$ financial implication, # of individuals affected)	The company withdrew their support from former partner orphanages in 2017 and have not had further engagement with orphanages since 2018.
	Projects Abroad has been organizing childcare placements since 1997. They currently work with 23 childcare placements including schools, day care centers, pre schools, afternoon schools and holiday camps. Placements in childcare account for 12% of the company's revenue and 15% of total volunteers placed.
Impact on Stakeholders	Volunteer programs involving children, if not managed appropriately, could potentially pose risks to children, such as disruption of development due to short term connections with caregivers, as well as, risks to children's safety and well-being. For more information please see <u>B Lab's position statement on Orphanage-Based Volunteer Programs.</u>
Implemented Management Practices	Projects abroad has a formal position on volunteering in orphanages (see link below) and has moved on to offering placements in Childcare centers. As a founding member of the Orphanage Task Force, Projects Abroad actively campaigns to end orphanage tourism.
	The company's Childcare Project mission is to provide sustainable educational support, care and protection to disadvantaged children and vulnerable groups to enhance their physical, social, emotional and cognitive development. Projects Abroad focuses on eight key areas to create lasting positive change:



• Promote Early Childhood Development

- Increase Literacy
- Increase Numeracy
- Improve Hygiene
- Improve English
- Raise awareness of healthy living, the environment, family planning
- Improve the quality of life for those living with disabilities
- Improve the level of stimulation to each child.

Projects Abroad develops Care Management Plans tailored to the needs of each location and aligned with agreed priority goals with each project partner. Additionally, the company has created monitoring and evaluation resources, such as early childhood development checklists, numeracy and literacy assessments, to track progress at both the center level and on an individual basis for the children.

To ensure child safety, anyone working with children undergo a background check, provide professional or academic references, and complete a mandatory Child Protection Policy training session during induction. Volunteers over 18 must also submit a criminal record check. Throughout their project, volunteers attend regular workshops and feedback sessions. They are required to report any suspected cases of child abuse to both Projects Abroad and a designated local child protection agency. During their placements, a dedicated on-site supervisor monitors and evaluates each volunteer's work.

Projects Abroad also prioritizes child safety in its selection process. They conduct thorough Childcare Placement Audits to ensure partnerships only with carefully vetted centers. This process involves close collaboration with local authorities (councils, social welfare offices, and ministries of education) and child protection agencies. Additionally, Projects Abroad staff and local institutions regularly inspect childcare project partners.

Management Comments

Projects Abroad public position on volunteering in orphanages
Safety and Worthwhileness on Childcare Projects
Childcare Projects



Disclosure Questionnaire Statement

Disclosure Questionnaire Category: Significant Layoffs of >20% of the Workforce

Projects Abroad Ltd experienced significant layoffs of more than 20% of the workforce within the last five years. Certified B Corps are required to make transparent when such practices have occurred.

Any party aware of specific company practices of this company related to their layoffs that were inappropriate, and which may constitute a violation of the B Corp standards, may contact us via our <u>public complaints procedure</u>.