

ECOCIDE AND HUMAN RIGHTS: A FOCUS ON THE DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO

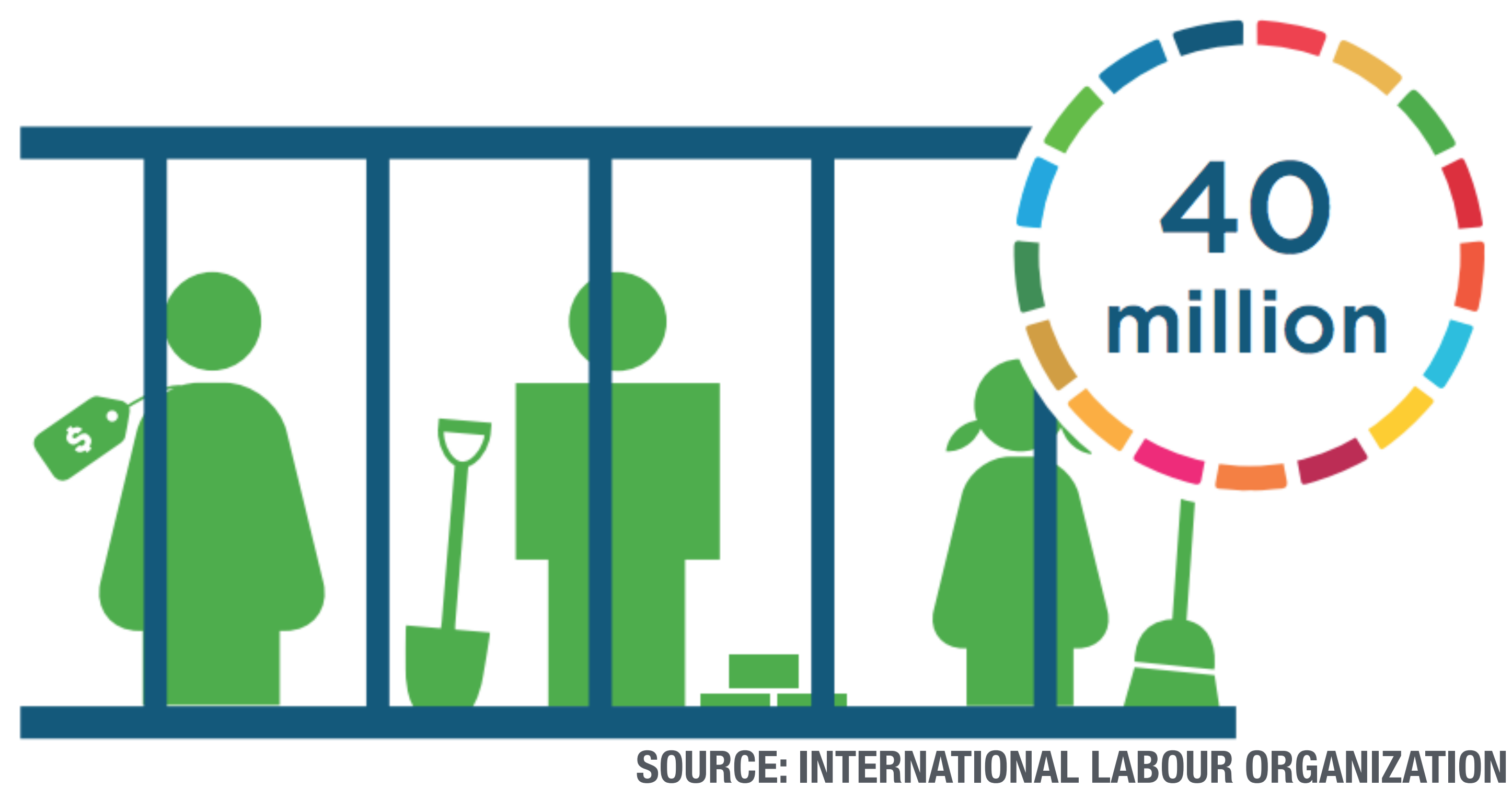
How Did We Get Here?

The culmination of violent civil war, armed rebel conflicts and the resulting corruption within the government has created chaos in the DRC. The competition for rich mineral resources has resulted in ecocide and human exploitation.



The Global Context: Human Trafficking

The ILO estimates that 40 million people are trafficked each year. Africa has the highest prevalence of any region in the world, with 7.6 per 1000 people having been victimized.



In Focus: The DRC



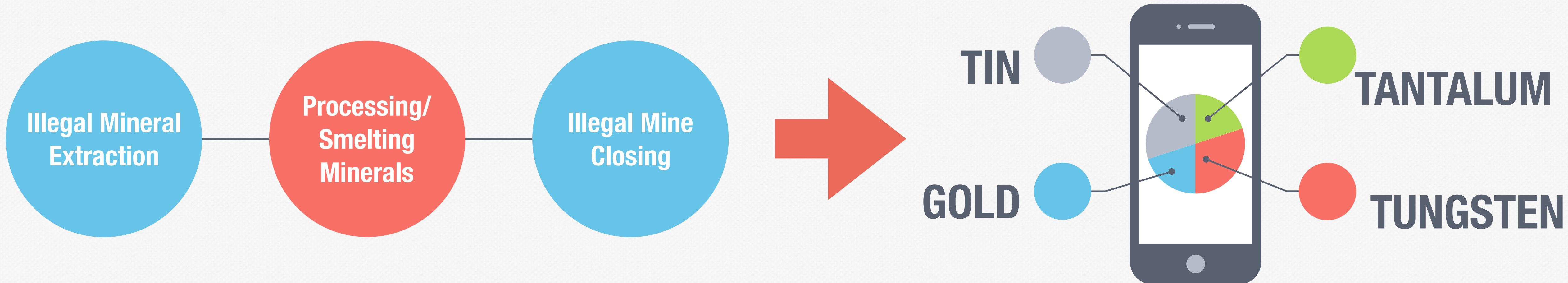
Children, men, and women are trafficked into illegal mining in the DRC by armed groups. Children are forced to carry strenuous loads and work in intense heat, while also being subjected to abuse by mining security guards and state officials.



"I would spend 24 hours down in the tunnels. I arrived in the morning and would leave the following morning ... I had to relieve myself down in the tunnels ... My foster mother planned to send me to school, but my foster father was against it, he exploited me by making me work in the mine."
-Paul, 14 years old
Source: Amnesty International

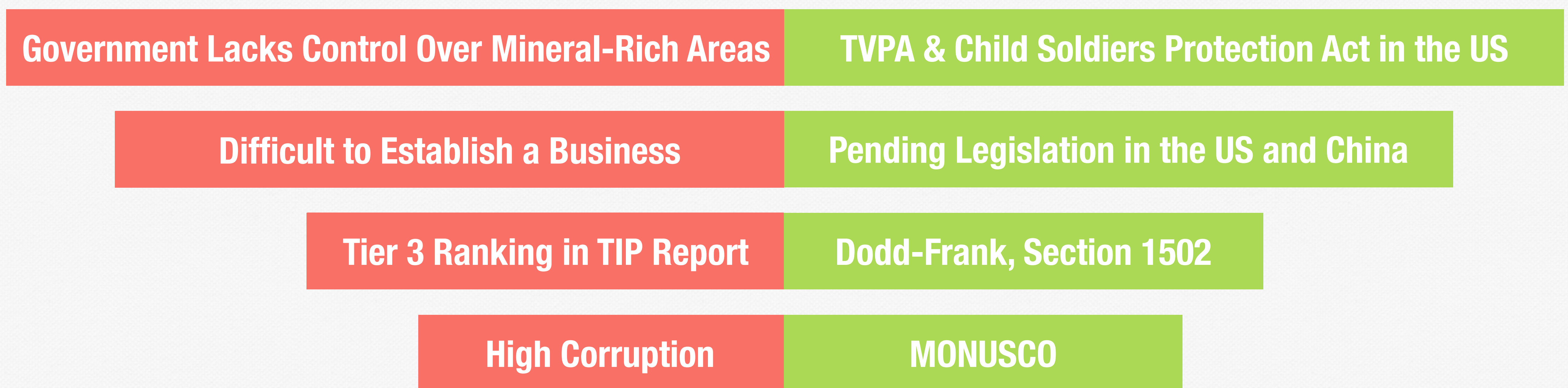
The Mining Process

The process of mineral extraction from illegal mines exacerbates environmental destruction and is facilitated by trafficked labor and armed conflict. These minerals end up in the technology we all use.



Domestic Situation

International Regulations



Conflict Minerals In Your Daily Digital Life

There is a high demand for the basic functionality of these 4 minerals in electronics and extreme profitability.



Current Solutions & Future Opportunities

