

SIDE EVENT

Japan-EU-OECD Seminar on Supporting International Collaboration on Responsible Business Conduct / CSR

Responsible Business and Human Rights Forum

Thursday 13 June 2019

13:00 - 14:00

UN Conference Centre (UNCC)

Meeting room F

Rajdamnern Nok Avenue

Bangkok 10200, Thailand

(Lunch will be served outside of the meeting room at 12:30)



European Union



Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Development (METI), the European Commission, and the Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) are jointly hosting this Seminar on supporting international collaboration on responsible business conduct (RBC) / CSR by European and Japanese businesses.

With Japanese and European companies expanding their supply chains across Thailand and the Asia region, the Seminar will showcase best practices and challenges businesses are facing in addressing supply chain risks, and explore opportunities to support collaboration on shared risks and implementing globally recognized RBC frameworks and expectations.

This Seminar is a side session to the [Responsible business and Human Rights Forum \(#RBHRForum\)](#). The RBHR Forum is a multi-stakeholder event addressing an array of priority issues under the Responsible Business Conduct and Business and Human Rights agendas. It will take place during the Bangkok Business and Human Rights Week (10-14 June 2019) and is co-organised by the Royal Thai Government, Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP), International Labour Organization (ILO), and with the participation of the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights. The RBHR Forum includes the [OECD Global Forum on Responsible Business Conduct](#).

The Seminar is an open event and is particularly relevant to Japanese and European companies operating in supply chains in Thailand or the Asia region, as well as participants to the RBHR Forum and additional events being held during the Bangkok Business and Human Rights Week.

Click [here](#) to register for the Seminar and your attendance at the RBHR

AGENDA

12:30 - 13:00 Registration

13:00 - 13:20 Developments related to Japan-EU Responsible Business Conduct (RBC)/CSR Policy

Speakers

- Mr. Shingo Nakano, Deputy Director, Corporate Accounting, Disclosure and CSR Policy Office, Economic and Industrial Policy Bureau, METI
- Ms. Alexandra Kuxová, Policy officer, DG GROW, European Commission

13:20 - 14:00 Business practices in implementing international RBC/CSR expectations and collaboration in addressing supply chain risks (panel discussion)

Moderator

Ms. Cristina Tébar Less, Head, Responsible Business Conduct, OECD

Panelists

- Mr. Hidemi Tomita, Board Member, Lloyd's Register Japan, Member of the CSR Forum
- Ms. Miwa Yamada, Director, Law and Institution Studies Group, IDE-JETRO
- Mr. Yann Wyss, Senior Manager, Social and Environmental Impact, Nestlé
- Mr. Thomas Kentsch, Supply Chain Management, Siemens AG

Background to this event

With the globalisation of business activities advancing, establishing international cooperation and enhancing mutual understanding between countries is crucial for the effective development and implementation of responsible business conduct (RBC)/CSR policies. In this regard, Japan's Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI) and the European Commission Directorate General for Internal Market, Industry, Entrepreneurship and SMEs (DG Grow), established the Japan-EU CSR Working Group in 2013 at the 16th Japan-EU Industrial Policy Dialogue meeting.

Most recently, METI and DG GROW jointly held the 5th Japan-EU CSR Working Group meeting in November 2018 in Brussels. During this meeting, METI and DG GROW agreed to hold seminars focused on supply chains in third countries to raise awareness on international expectations on RBC/CSR policies and business practices.

In response to this meeting, and the EU-Japan Economic Partnership Agreement (EPA) coming into force on 1 February 2019, METI, DG GROW together with DG Trade of the European Commission, and the OECD are jointly hosting this Seminar to facilitate dialogue with business and governments on RBC/CSR, and explore opportunities for supporting collaboration and implementation.

Importantly the EPA includes a comprehensive chapter on trade and sustainable development; encouraging CSR and recognising the importance of internationally agreed principles and guidelines, and expressly referencing the [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises](#) on RBC.

The OECD is the leading organisation in providing recommendations on RBC and supply chain due diligence. The [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises](#) (OECD MNE Guidelines) is the most comprehensive set of recommendations from governments to business on RBC, and are aligned with other key international instruments on business conduct, including the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and the International Labour Organisation Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (ILO MNE Declaration). The [OECD Due Diligence Guidance for Responsible Business Conduct](#) helps companies understand and implement due diligence in line with the OECD MNE Guidelines and other international instruments and expectations. The Guidance is built on the OECD's expertise on sector due diligence in supply chains as varied as minerals, extractives, agriculture, garment and footwear and finance; working with business, governments, workers and CSOs over the last 10 years.

The OECD adopts a multi-stakeholder approach to promoting RBC, building partnerships and outreach at the global level. In the Asia region, the OECD is currently implementing a joint Programme with the International Labour Organisation (ILO) on "[Promoting Responsible Supply Chains in Asia](#)" (Asia Programme), funded by the European Union. The Programme is being undertaken in partnership with Japan, China, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, and Viet Nam.

This Seminar is financially supported by METI.

Organisers

Japan Ministry of Economy Trade and Investment
DG GROW and DG TRADE from the European Commission
OECD

Contacts

Ms Kayo Matsumoto, METI Matsumoto-kayo@meti.go.jp
Ms Alexandra Kuxova, EU Commission Alexandra.kuxova@ec.europa.eu
Ms Stephanie Venuti, OECD Stephanie.venuti@oecd.org