



Responsible Supply Chains in Asia – Vietnam

Global supply chains have rapidly expanded in recent decades. They are an integral feature of international production, trade and investment, and contribute to economic growth, job creation and poverty reduction. Vietnam plays a crucial role in many global supply chains including those within Asia.

The Responsible Supply Chains in Asia Programme aims to support decent work and environmental governance through promoting responsible business practices in the operations of enterprises, including multinational enterprises, and their supply chains.

The programme in Vietnam focuses on promoting multi-stakeholder dialogue and working with business in order to build capacity and ownership of national, local and sectoral organisations to jointly advance the responsible business practices agenda.

Responsible Business Practices in Vietnam

Vietnam has been making substantial progress in modernising its labour and environmental laws policies to align with international standards. However, implementation in day to day business operations is still a challenge, including addressing environmental impacts and working conditions.

About the Programme

A partnership between the European Union (EU), the International Labour Organization (ILO) and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD), with 9 million EUR funding by the European Union, the programme works with partners in Asia to promote respect for human rights, including labour rights, and responsible business standards in global supply chains.

The three year programme (2018-2020) in Vietnam has two broad objectives:

- promote smart, sustainable and inclusive growth by ensuring that investors and businesses have a better understanding of internationally accepted responsible business practices.
- support an enabling policy environment conducive to promoting responsible business conduct and increase opportunities for dialogue.

The Programme in action

The programme in Vietnam is making an impact in a number of areas, including through:

- **Facilitating platforms for dialogue** with the seafood sector to deliver preliminary research findings and recommendations on challenges identified in the tuna industry.
- **Establishing forums for dialogue**, including with the Vietnam Business Coalition on CSR, between suppliers and buyers to share goals and expectations on incorporating responsible business practices into their supply chains.
- **Training sessions** of leading representatives from Vietnamese employer organisations, academia, government institutions and worker's organisations to on-train companies, MNEs, SMEs, future business leaders and others in responsible business practices.
- **Supporting better business practices** in the agricultural supply chain in Southeast Asia through a dedicated pilot project to implement the OECD-FAO Guidance for Responsible Agricultural Supply Chains.
- **Promoting and supporting policy coherence** around responsible business practices, including in investment-related policies in order to support national objectives to promote further linkages with the global economy.

Who benefits?

The programme aims to directly improve the working knowledge of businesses and workers' representatives to boost the welfare of workers in the seafood and wood processing industries. Companies will benefit from increased productivity, new competitive advantages, and sustainable growth. Consumers buying products made in a responsible and ethical manner will also stand to gain, as will citizens living in communities that value environmental protection and respect for human rights.

Target sectors

In Vietnam, the programme focuses on the **wood processing and seafood industries**, as well as **textiles**, all of which are large employers and important contributors to Vietnam's export economy.



Wood Processing



Seafood

A unique collaboration

The programme represents the first time that the ILO, OECD and the EU have joined forces to promote responsible supply chains on a regional scale. Each organisation contributes their expertise and tools to the programme.

International Labour Organization (ILO)

The UN's first specialised agency, the ILO brings together governments, employers and workers of 187 member states, to set labour standards, develop policies and devise programmes promoting decent work and social justice for all women and men.

Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD)

The OECD is an intergovernmental organisation with a mission to promote better policies for better lives of people around the world. Its member countries span the globe and include many of the world's advanced and emerging economies. The goal of the OECD is to build a stronger, cleaner and fairer world.

European Union (EU)

This initiative is a part of the EU's long-standing commitment to promote human rights, decent work and sustainable development, a pledge underpinned by EU Treaties and reinforced in the European Commission's trade policy strategy of 2015 "Trade for All", under the Commission's commitment to identify opportunities for responsible supply chain partnerships.



ILO



OECD



EU

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