

Responsible Supply Chains in Asia (Thailand)



International
Labour
Organization



AT A GLANCE

→ Partners

Potential partners: Ministry of Labour, Ministry of Commerce, Ministry of Industry, Ministry of Agriculture and Cooperatives, Ministry of Justice and National Human Rights Commission of Thailand, Business and employers' organizations, chambers of commerce (National and International), Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) operating in Thailand, worker organizations (focusing on automobile and agricultural sectors), Civil society organizations (CSOs), research entities, relevant academic Institutions, international organizations and other stakeholders in global supply chains.

→ Donor

European Union

→ Duration

December 2017 - December 2020

→ Target beneficiaries

Government, policy makers, international and national enterprises, Small and Medium Enterprises (SMEs), workers and employers' organizations and educational institutions and CSOs.

→ Geographical focus

Thailand, both at the national and provincial level



PROJECT OBJECTIVES

The "Responsible Supply Chains in Asia" project is a partnership project between the International Labour Organization (ILO), the European Union and the Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development (OECD). The aim of the project is to contribute to an enhanced respect for human rights, labour and environmental standards by businesses with supply chains in Asia, to work in line with international instruments. Taking guidance from the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (ILO MNE Declaration, 2017) and the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (2011), the ILO will promote corporate social responsibility (CSR)/responsible business conduct (RBC) with regard to decent work, labour standards and working conditions along global supply chains.

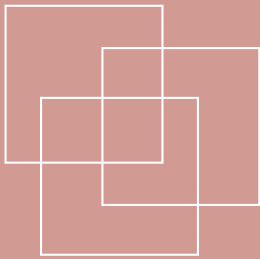
In addition to Thailand, the project is present in five other countries, and targets specific sectors in each country to maximise impact and increase the results in terms of research, policy dialogue and the development of capacities of relevant actors in the supply chain. In Thailand, the project focuses on the agriculture and vehicle parts sectors, both of which account for a high number of jobs in the region and play an important role in trade linkages with the EU and in general within the Thai economy.

CSR is one of the integral ways in which enterprises give consideration to the impact of their operations on society and affirm their principles and values through methods and processes both internally and externally. CSR is a voluntary, enterprise-driven initiative which refers to activities that are considered to exceed simple compliance with the law. CSR is an integral part of corporate management which manages risks, and increases the positive impacts of sustainable development. CSR must be systematically integrated into all long-term business management and planning, not only on occasion.

The project aims to achieve the following immediate objectives:

- Increase understanding and knowledge of investors, businesses, CSOs and policy makers on CSR/RBC from the perspective of decent work.
- Create a policy environment conducive to promoting a socially responsible conduct among businesses.
- Increase opportunities for businesses to have dialogue on challenges and opportunities in relation to CSR.





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MAIN ACTIVITIES

The project is structured around four pillars:

- **Research** aims to generate an updated mapping of current policies, practices and institutions in Thailand, which will lay a solid foundation for the design and implementation of policy dialogues, as well as capacity building, targeted communication and advocacy strategies.
- **Outreach activities** will give a platform for dialogues among various stakeholders to share experiences and learn from national and international practices.
- **Policy advocacy** will provide technical inputs and enhance policy dialogue to promote policy coherence and facilitate the implementation of good practices in terms of CSR/RBC.
- **Training** on internationally agreed CSR/RBC principles and guidelines will be delivered to ILO constituents, multinational enterprises, small and medium enterprises and future business leaders both at the national and local levels, with a focus on specific sectors. Training will contribute to building the capacity and ownership of public and private stakeholders, ensuring the sustainability of activities, as well as demonstrating concrete examples of the implementation of CSR/RBC at the enterprise level.

PROJECT OUTCOMES

- Multi-level partnerships effectively and sustainably implement CSR/RBC practices and approaches in supply chains within Thailand by paying adherence to the ILO Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (ILO's MNE Declaration).
- Establishment of spaces to foster social dialogue on CSR/RBC with the view to building and enabling government policy environments for CSR/RBC, as well as promoting policy coherence with international standards and instruments.
- Coordination of existing policy initiatives, activities and networks of key actors working on CSR/ RBC.

Contact information:

Chayanich Thamparipattra, National Project Coordinator for Thailand
ILO Country Office for Thailand, Cambodia and
Lao People's Democratic Republic
United Nations Building, 10th Floor
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue
Bangkok 10200, Thailand

Tel.: +66 2 288 1796
Fax: +66 2 280 1735
Email: thamparipattra@ilo.org
Website: www.ilo.org/rsca

