



International
Labour
Organization



From
the People of Japan

Advancing Responsible Supply Chains & Decent Work in Asia (RSC)

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▶ At a glance



Key areas of work

Advancing decent work and promoting responsible & resilient supply chains through three main pillars:

- ▶ Strengthening industry capacity to adopt RBC through improved human rights due diligence (HRDD) & social dialogue (Thailand)
- ▶ Fostering improved dialogue, exchange and coordination on RBC in the supply chain (Thailand-Japan)
- ▶ Strengthening constituent capacity and enabling policies for decent work and responsible business (Japan)



Partners

- ▶ Government: Ministry of Labour & other agencies
- ▶ Employer & Business Membership Organizations (EBMOs)
- ▶ Trade unions & workers' organizations
- ▶ Industry stakeholders & constituents in Thailand & Japan



Donor

Ministry of Economy, Trade and Industry (METI),
Government of Japan



Duration

1 April 2026 to 31 March 2027



Target beneficiaries

Employers and workers in the automotive and electronics sectors, policymakers and other key industry stakeholders



Sectoral focus

- ▶ Automotive & electronics manufacturing in Thailand
- ▶ Private sector in Japan



Budget

Approx. US\$ 577,000 (for Thailand & Japan)

▶ What is the RSC project?

Global expectations for responsible business conduct (RBC) are rising, creating new pressures across supply chains. They speak to a growing recognition that human and labour rights are central to building resilient and inclusive economies and advancing sustainable development.

In the automotive and electronics sectors, Japan and Thailand are responding with policies and initiatives aimed at embedding HRDD in business operations and supply chains. However, to date, many businesses – especially SMEs – still face constraints in applying RBC principles in practice. Similarly, a lack of worker voice and influence in the process can hinder the effectiveness and durability of RBC efforts.

The Japan-funded RSC project helps address these challenges by promoting decent work and supporting practical HRDD adoption in the automotive and electronics industries, and strengthening supply chain collaborations for RBC, especially between Thailand and Japan.

- ▶ Grounded in **international labour standards**, the project will engage tripartite constituents and key industry stakeholders to drive more responsible business in the automotive and electronics industry, in line with emerging global trends and requirements
- ▶ It will strengthen stakeholder capacity and build a **shared industry commitment** to RBC, underpinned by effective workplace dialogue, representation and industrial relations.
- ▶ The project will also support policymakers to develop **more effective policies and frameworks for RBC** (including HRDD).

Profile: Thai automotive & electronics sectors

Automotive:

- Leading automotive producer-exporter in ASEAN; among the world's top 10; accounting for 2 per cent of global automotive trade¹
- Annual production over 2 million units; export revenues of approx. US\$ 28.9 billion in 2025²
- Driven by around 30 OEMs—mostly Japanese and European assembly firms (with increasing Chinese investment)
- Whole sector employs approximately 850,000 workers (about 535,000 in manufacturing) in 2025³
- National plan to be a global hub for electric and zero-emission vehicles⁴, with strong linkages to electronics industries

Electronics:

- Highly export-oriented, with around 90 per cent of production destined for international markets⁵; employing approx. 600,000 workers in 2025⁶
- The 8th world's largest manufacturing base, accounted for 1.9 per cent of global exports (and 27.4 per cent of country's export) in 2024, with the market dominated by Asia & Europe^{7 8}
- Driven by demand from advanced industries such as automation, healthcare, and next-generation automotive sectors⁹

► Project activities

In Thailand:

- (1) Conducting HRDD training & mentoring for enterprises in Thailand's automotive & automotive electronics sectors
- (2) Convening tripartite and multi-stakeholder dialogue to promote an enabling environment through knowledge sharing, exchange & strengthened cross-boarders supply chain networks

In Japan:

- (3) Supporting national capacity development and the strengthening of an enabling environment for promotion of RBC aligned with MNE Declaration

► Expected project outcomes

- Improved HRDD, workplace cooperation and social dialogue practices in the automotive and electronics sectors.
- Stronger and more coordinated approaches to RBC and resilient & sustainable supply chains are secured through multi-stakeholder dialogue (especially between Thailand and Japan).
- Enhanced national capacity in Japan for the promotion of responsible and sustainable business practices for the realization of decent work.

Scan here for more information on RSC



1 UN Comtrade Database, 2023-24.

2 Thailand Automotive Exports 2025, The Federation of Thai Industries (FTI), 2026.

3 Number of employees in the automotive and auto-part industry, National Statistical Office of Thailand (NSO), 2025.

4 Thailand's 13th National Economic and Social Development Plan (2023-27).

5 Industry Outlook 2026-2028: Electronics Industry, Krungsri Research, 2025.

6 Number of employees in electronics industry, National Statistical Office of Thailand (NSO), 2025.

7 Global Electronics Export Statistics 2024, The Observatory of Economic Complexity (OEC), 2024.

8 Trade Statistics Portal, Ministry of Commerce, 2024.

9 Thailand Maps Long-Term Semiconductor Strategy, Thailand Board of Investment, 2026.

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