

Promoting Fundamental Rights and Labour Relations in Bangladesh

(FRLR)

AT A GLANCE

PARTNERS:

Government of Bangladesh

- Ministry of Labour and Employment (MoLE)
- Department of Labour, (MoLE)

Employers' Organizations

- Bangladesh Employers Federation
- Bangladesh Garment Manufacturers and Exporters Association
- Bangladesh Knitwear Manufacturers and Exporters Association

Workers' Organizations

- National Coordination Committee of Workers Education

DONOR:

The Royal Norwegian Government

DURATION:

3 June 2013 - 31 August 2015

Geographical Focus: Bangladesh



Promoting Fundamental Rights and Labour Relations in Bangladesh (FRLR) Project

The FRLR project is funded by the Royal Norwegian Government that aims to promote better compliance with the international labour standards, particularly fundamental principles and rights at work in the ready-made garments, shrimp processing, and shoe and leather sectors. The project has been built on recently intensified works by ILO in Bangladesh in areas of: promotion of labour rights; supporting dialogue between employers, workers and the government; labour compliance; freedom of association, and collective bargaining.

FPRW project has specific components:

The FRLR project aims to promote better compliance with the international labour standards, particularly fundamental principles and rights at work in the ready-made garments, shrimp processing, and shoe and leather sectors. Its immediate objectives are:

Objective 1: Workers and employers in the RMG, shrimp processing and shoe and leather industries will have a better knowledge and understanding of labour rights- in law and in practice.

Objective 2: Workers and employers and their representatives are better equipped to engage in meaningful dialogue and labour relations on workplace issues of mutual importance.

Objective 3: Governmental authorities and labour courts, in particular the Industrial Relations Institutes (IRIs), the Ministry of Labour and Employment, labour courts and Bangladesh Export Processing Zones Authority, will have an improved capacity to perform core functions and mandates.

Objective 4: Support the implementation of OSH improvement measures and the National Tripartite Plan of Action on Building and Fire Safety, in particular its "practical activities."

Expected outcome of the FRLR project are:

- 4,000 workers and employers will have better understanding, skills, and tools to implement their fundamental labour rights and obligations at the workplace.
- Government authorities and labour courts will have an improved capacity to perform core functions and mandates.
- IRIs are better equipped to promote sound industrial relations.
- Policy and procedures are implemented to improve the enforcement of labour rights and dispensation of labour justice.
- Improved occupational safety and health (OSH) and implementation of the National Tripartite Plan of Action of Fire and Building Safety