

RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY CHAINS IN ASIA: A COLLABORATION TO PROMOTE RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS PRACTICES

Regional website: www.ilo.org/rsca. National: RSCAProgramme
Contact: National Programme Coordinator, Ruby Banez, banez@ilo.org. rsca@ilo.org

Dear Madam/Sir,

I write to introduce the Responsible Supply Chains in Asia programme. A joint initiative of the [European Union \(EU\)](#), the [International Labour Organization \(ILO\)](#) and the [Organisation for Economic Cooperation and Development \(OECD\)](#) that aims to boost levels of responsible business conduct in The Philippines.

Why is it important.

Following the COVID-19 pandemic, we believe our programme is highly relevant both in restoring the national and regional economy and ensuring its greater resilience to future shocks. The trend of society, multinational enterprises, workers and increasingly consumers' organisations around the world being more vigilant about the ways goods and services are produced is likely to continue. The G20, the 2030 Sustainable Development Agenda, and regional meetings have called for action in implementing Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) and Responsible Business Conduct (RBC). Most trade agreements, such as the CPTPP and EFTA, now include chapters on responsible business behaviour.

Activities in The Philippines.

The programme focuses on the agricultural sector and has been present in the Philippines since February 2018. In that time, it has held many seminars with managers, students and unions to introduce them the latest in responsible business conduct (RBC) including in [Western Visayas](#), and [Cebu](#). It has also worked with ECOP and the OECD on RBC in [Agribusiness](#). Most recently, it conducted an innovate online collaboration with ECOP to [train business owners and managers](#) in key principles of responsible business.

Of Interest.

The programme has been [working to educate](#) future leaders to make them more aware of the importance of responsible business conduct in The Philippines. It is also compiling research into labour practices in the food production supply chain, particularly in Pineapples and Coconuts.

About the programme. ([Click here for the country brochure](#) [Click here for introductory video](#))

- The programme uses as a basis the ILO's [MNE Declaration](#). This Declaration provides direct guidance to enterprises (multinational and national) on social policy and inclusive, responsible and sustainable workplace practices.
- The regional programme commenced in January of 2018, and funding of **EURO 9 million** is principally from the EU while implementation is equally shared between the ILO and OECD.
- In the Philippines, it targets national and multinational companies and their supply chains in the seafood and agricultural sectors.
- Through original research, training, opening platforms for dialogue and policy advocacy it is supporting businesses and governments to shift policies to align with international guidelines (instruments) on best practices for corporate behaviour. In practice, it means complying with these international standards on human and labour rights, environmental protection and accountability,

even in environments where the laws or their enforcement currently fall short. You can find a summary of the instruments in the brochure "[Key Messages from International Instruments](#)".

- In The Philippines, the programme is represented by the National Programme Coordinator, who works with a small team to implement its activities. This NPC is supported by a regional head of programme, Fredy Guayacan. The programme also calls on the resources of the ILO and OECD when relevant.

For more information please contact Ruby Banez at banez@ilo.org or Pete Forster at forsterw@iloguest.org