Guides for garment factories to build resilience during and after COVID-19

The ILO provides a series of six action-oriented guides for garment factories in Asia to navigate the COVID-19 pandemic and to build business resilience.

Overview: Business resilience guides for garment manufacturers

In the guides:

- Guidance on topics relevant for garment factories that would like to improve business resilience.
- Recommendations and step-by-step instructions for garment factory managers.
- Topics include: Cash flow management, Reducing costs, Finding alternative sources of income, Communicating with your workers, Establishing an online presence and Organizing your factory for safety and efficiency.
- Available in: Bengali, Chinese, English, Khmer and Thai.

The COVID-19 pandemic and Asian garment factories

The Asian garment industry is facing severe impacts from the COVID-19 pandemic. To mitigate the impact, garment manufacturers need to improve resilience and prepare for longer-term impacts on their business. Responding to the urgent needs of the garment industry, the ILO has developed a series of six guides for garment factory managers to navigate the COVID-19 crisis.
Six guides for garment factories

With simple and easy-to-implement recommendations, checklists and additional templates, the guides help factories take action to improve resilience. The guides have been designed primarily for second tier and subcontracting factories.

The following six guides are currently available:

- **Managing your cash flow**: Keep track of your factory’s cash flow to better navigate your factory during this time of crisis.
- **Reducing costs**: Reduce costs to ease financial liquidity and cash flow pressures on your factory operations.
- **Finding alternative sources of income**: Identify new revenue streams to ensure that your factory can survive the pandemic.
- **Going online: Establishing an online presence**: Establish an online presence in order to promote your factory and to facilitate communication with buyers.
- **Organizing the factory for safer and more efficient operations**: Re-organise your factory to provide better safety measures and to improve its operational efficiency.
- **Communicating with your workers**: Maintain good internal communications for a more responsive and productive factory environment during the crisis.

It is recommended that factories read guides in the order listed above. The guides will be made available in Bengali, Chinese, English, Khmer and Thai.

**Disclaimer**: Before resuming operations, it is critical that factory managers ensure workers can return safely back to work. For more guidance on this topic, factories can turn to the following ILO resources:

- [COVID-19 Management Guidance for factories in Bangladesh](#) (also relevant for factories outside of Bangladesh)
- [Safe return to work: Guide for employers on COVID-19 prevention](#)
The COVID-19 business resilience guides have been developed by the ILO Enterprises department for the Decent Work in the Garment Sector Supply Chains in Asia project, funded by the Government of Sweden.

For more COVID-19 related resources to help you navigate the COVID-19 pandemic, visit:

▶ ilo.org/covid19

Decent Work Technical Support Team for East and South-East Asia and the Pacific
United Nations Building, 10th Floor
Rajdamnern Nok Avenue,
Bangkok 10200, Thailand
Tel.: 662 288 1234 Fax. 662 288 3058
Email: BANGKOK@ilo.org