

INTRODUCING THE RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY CHAINS IN ASIA PROGRAMME

Website: www.ilo.org/rsca. National: [RSCA China](#); [中文](#)

Contact: Cuijie Ji, Ji@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 China.

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 their 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 now include chapters on responsible business behaviour.

Activities in China.

The programme has been present in China since February 2018. It focuses on the electronics and textile industries. Recently, the programme has resumed [face to face activities](#) including working with the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (MOHRSS) to raise labour inspectors' awareness of CSR/RBC guidance and deliver responsible labour practice training for enterprises in electronic supply chains. Prior to that, highlights include [signing an MoU](#) with the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (MOHRSS) to promote the programme within China, recognising that decent work is an important impetus for sustainable development at the national level (May 2018); [Conducting extensive training](#) with representatives of electronics and textile industries on Labour Standards and CSR. (October 2019); And [holding industry and government forums](#) to educate and promote the business case to industry leaders. (Nov 2019)

Of Interest.

The two research reports on socially responsible labour practices in the garment and electronics sectors in China were conducted by the Chinese Academy of Labour and Social Security (CALSS) and with the support of the Ministry of Human Resources and Social Security (MOHRSS).

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 China, it targets multinational companies and their supply chains in the Electronics and Textile 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 China, 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 Guaycan. The programme also calls on the resources of the ILO and OECD when relevant.

Yours respectfully,

Pete Forster (forsterw@iloguest.org) for
Regional manager Fredy Guaycan (guaycan@ilo.org) and
National Project Coordinator Ms Ji Cuijie, Ji@ilo.org