

# **Better Work**

Improving working conditions and promoting competitiveness in global supply chains









# **Overview**



## **Better Work**



- Partnership programme of the ILO and IFC
- Global-level governance:
  - Management Group
  - Advisory Committee
- Impact Assessment: ongoing global and countryspecific
- Public reporting



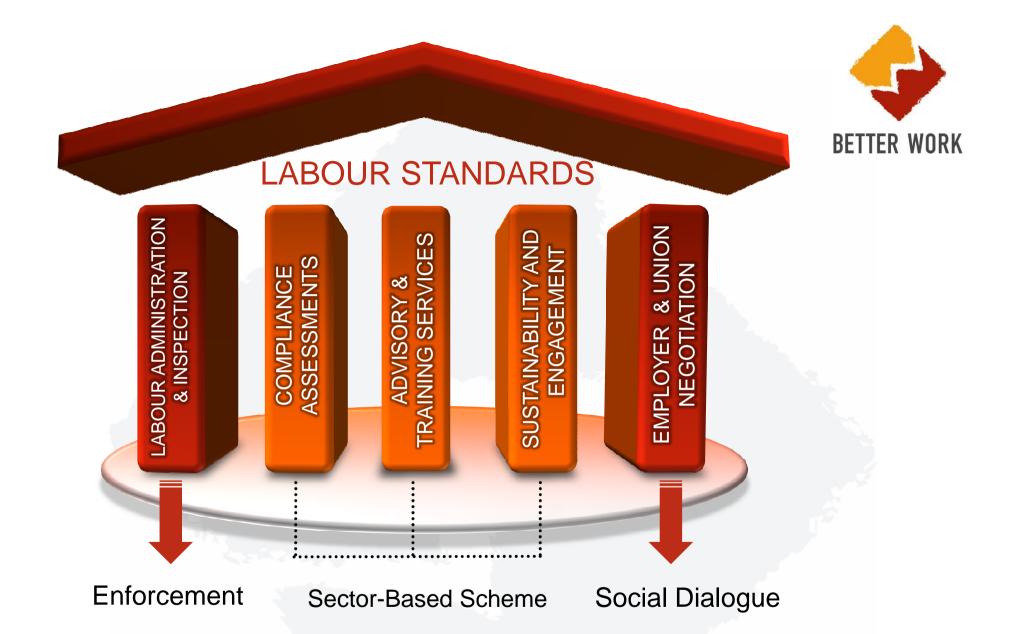


### Better Work Around the World

- Currently in the garment sector in Cambodia (Better Factories Cambodia), Haiti, Indonesia, Jordan, Lesotho, Nicaragua and Vietnam
- Conducting a feasibility study to implement in Bangladesh garment sector
- Exploring expansion to other sectors: electronics, agribusiness, tourism





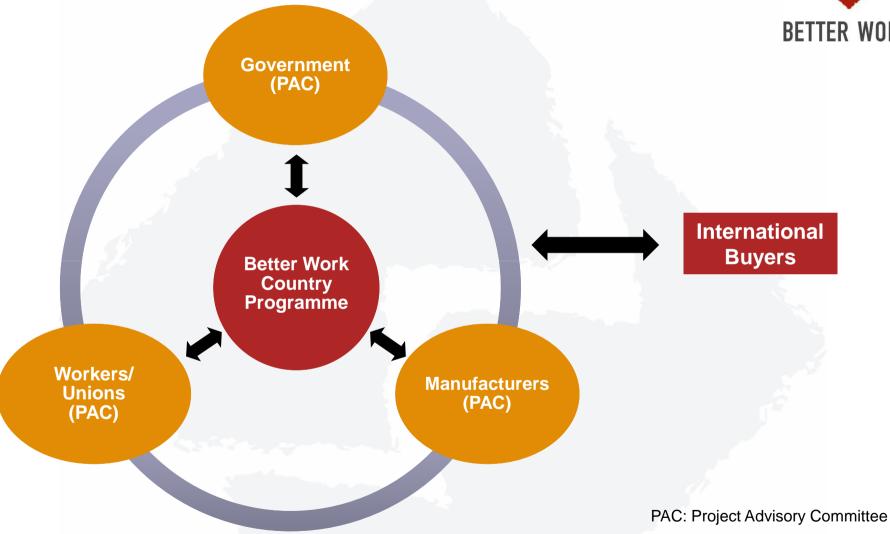






# **Programme Stakeholders**











# Services









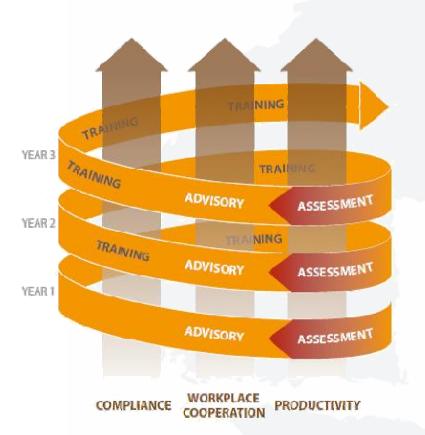


### Integrated approach to improvement:

- ✓ Assessment establishes a baseline
- ✓ Advisory services help factories make improvements, with ongoing technical advice and inputs
- ✓ Training services provide a deeper level of instruction in key areas needed by each factory









#### **IMPROVEMENT OVER TIME**

1<sup>ST</sup> YEAR CYCLE





PICC: Performence Impi

# **Baseline Assessment Services**



# Better Work helps factories identify areas of non-compliance with:

#### International Labour Standards

- Child Labour
- Discrimination
- Forced Labour
- Freedom Of Association and Collective Bargaining

#### **National Labour Law**

- Contracts and Human Resources
- Working Time
- Compensation and Benefits
- Occupational Safety and Health





# BETTER WORK

# Tailored to address specific needs of each enterprise

- Establish Performance Improvement Consultative Committee (PICC), with management and union/worker representatives
- Facilitate PICC to develop and implement improvement plans
- Identify targeted training needs
- Provide bi-annual progress reports on improvements
- \*\* A Better Work subscription offers 10 days/year of advisory work, including: in-person meetings, coaching sessions, phone/e-mail support and good practice resources.











### Improve compliance and competitiveness:

- Delivered by accredited training partners
- Highly participatory approach

### **Key courses:**

- Supervisory Skills Training
- Workers' Training (soap opera-style videos & comic books for large-audience instruction)
- Occupational Health and Safety
- Workplace Cooperation
- Negotiation Skills







# **Benefits**







# **Benefits for Enterprises**



### Stronger relationships with workers:

- Increased workplace cooperation and fewer disputes
- Increased worker productivity
- Reduced worker turnover and fewer work stoppages
- Higher worker satisfaction
- Greater employee loyalty







# **Benefits for Enterprises**



### Stronger business relationship with buyers:

- Demonstration of factory commitment to improvement
- Increasingly skilled, productive and stable workforce

### \*\* International buyer commitment to Better Work enterprises:

- ✓ No auditing in areas covered by Better Work assessment
- ✓ No terminating or significantly reducing orders based on non-compliance
- ✓ Support for Better Work's improvement planning process
- ✓ Better communication between compliance and sourcing staff
- ✓ Review of internal buying practices that impact compliance





# **Benefits for Workers**



- Better working conditions as a result of improved compliance with labor standards
- More accurate payment of wages, incl. overtime
- Enhanced efficiency and effectiveness in identifying and addressing problems through joint worker-mgmt committee
- Stronger ownership in the improvement process
- Greater understanding of rights and responsibilities in the workplace
- Increased skill level through quality training







# **Benefits for Governments**

- Strengthened social dialogue institutions (through PAC)
- Increased labour administration capacity
- Clarified interpretation of relevant labour law
- More stable industry due to increased workplace cooperation
- Ability to market national industry as ethical sourcing location due to increased compliance
- Development of workforce skills/capacity through Better Work advisory and training services





# **Benefits for Buyers**



 Interaction with government, factories, and workers on a sustainable nationally-owned approach

- Participation in Buyers' Forums to identify industry challenges and be part of the solution
- Alignment with other buyers in the same factory to reinforce best practices
- Access to independent verified data
- Reduction in auditing pressure and costs
- Increased focus on practical long-term improvements





# **Better Work Global Donors**



The Better Work global programme is supported by (in alphabetical order):

- Australian Agency for International Development
- Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, Germany (BMZ)
- International Finance Corporation (funds provided by IrishAid and The Walt Disney Company)
- Netherlands Ministry of Foreign Affairs
- State Secretariat for Economic Affairs, Switzerland
- Funding from the United States Council Foundation, Inc. provided by select USCIB member companies





## **Better Work Country Programme Donors**



#### **Better Factories Cambodia**

 Australian Agency for International Development; Cambodian Confederation of Trade Unions; Cambodian Labour Confederation; Garment Manufacturers Association in Cambodia; Royal Government of Cambodia; The World Bank

#### **Better Work Haiti**

 United States Department of Labor; (funding for additional activities provided by Human Resources and Skills Development Canada)

#### **Better Work Indonesia**

Australian Agency for International Development

#### **Better Work Jordan**

 Jordanian Ministry of Labour; Labour Programme of Human Resources and Skills Development Canada; United States Agency for International Development

#### **Better Work Lesotho**

United States Department of Labor

#### **Better Work Nicaragua**

United States Department of Labor

#### **Better Work Vietnam**

 Australian Agency for International Development; IFC's Corporate Advice and Sustainability Program, whose donors include Finland, Ireland, New Zealand, the Netherlands, and Switzerland.









### For more information

• ILO – IFC Better Work Programme <a href="www.betterwork.org">www.betterwork.org</a>
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 ILO Helpdesk for Business on international labour standards www.ilo.org/business

The UN Global Compact Labour Principles,
 A Guide for Business

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