

LCG PSD-Trade Working Group

Government funded projects

Labour Standards and Worker Safety in RMG sector

Project Description	Partner	Budget	Description	Direct or indirect link with RMG
European Union funded projects				
Better Work and Standards (BEST) Component Promotion of Social and Environmental Standards in Industries (PSES)	GIZ	€2.3 mln (EU contribution only)	Co-funded with Germany. See below.	direct
Better Work and Standards (BEST) Programme Component: Better Works in Textiles and Garments (BWTG)	UNIDO	€2.97 mln (EU contribution only)	<p>Contribute to the economic growth and poverty reduction by supporting the textile and ready-made-garment industries. Four major outputs under BWTG are:</p> <p>Development of a National Performance Cluster: NITTRAD, BIFT/CEPD, iART are the three technical centres launched by BTMA, BGMEA and BKMEA, respectively to provide training and technical services to the textile, garment and knitwear sectors. The aim of this output is to assist these centres to provide coordinated cost effective demand-driven services to the industry.</p> <p>Creation of International Strategic Alliances: The aim of this output is to assist NITTRAD, BIFT, iART and BITT to establish long-term strategic alliances with regional/international educational and research institutions in the field of education, technology transfer, market analysis, R&D, and marketing in order to upgrade the textile and RMG industry.</p> <p>Formulation of a Long-term Support Plan for Textile Training: The aim of this output is, in consultation with the private sector, to formulate and implement a plan to address the current challenge in human resource development (HRD) for the textile and RMG industry.</p>	direct

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			<p>Capacity Building in Ministries and Trade Associations: Training will be provided to selected officers in MOT&J, MOC, BTMA, BGMEA and BKMEA, who will be responsible for running or coordinating the new activities at NITTRAD, BIFT, iART and BITT during and after the programme. MOT&J and MOC will be assisted to formulate and adopt appropriate sector strategies and policies in investment, technical assistance, technological up-gradation, tariff and taxes, and trade development.</p>	
<p>Bangladesh Investment Climate Change (BICF)</p>	<p>IFC (World Bank group)</p>	<p>Total project contribution €15.8 mln</p>	<p>Project aims to make Bangladesh a better place to do business.</p> <p>BICF is looking at regulating and operating economic zones through a green framework focusing on environmental and social sustainability. The focus is primarily on management of <u>chemicals and other hazardous material, waste management and improving compliance</u> (training of trainers of Bangladesh Export Processing Zone Authority (BEPZA) engineers, toolkit on Environmental Management System provided to environmental councillors).</p> <p>Previously, <u>the labour compliance programme</u> was put in place in two main zones of Bangladesh, Dhaka Export Processing Zone (EPZ) and Chittagong EPZ. This programme provided trainings and advised labour counsellors, on social compliance, occupational safety and health, arbitration mechanism for disputes and grievances.</p>	<p>direct</p>

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<p>Technical and Vocational Education and Training (TVET) programmes</p> <p>2) Skills for Unemployed and Underemployed Labour (SkillFUL): Promoting sustainable training in the informal economy for poverty reduction.</p> <p>3) Technical and Vocational Education and Training for Young People in the Informal Economy in Bangladesh</p>	<p>Swisscontact</p> <p>Save the Children</p>	<p>Total EU contribution</p> <p>€1,4 mln</p> <p>€1.7 mln</p>	<p>TVET programmes have some social compliance/health and safety activities:</p> <p>Health and safety trainings in informal sector such as tailoring (not directly RMG), light engineering and food processing.</p> <p>Health and safety trainings for young people are carried out in different sectors of informal economy.</p>	<p>indirect</p>

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Partnership to combat child labour through corporate social responsibility in Bangladesh	Save the Children	€1.2 mln	This project looking at work standards/conditions of child labourers in both formal and informal sectors (220 small companies, 3 business associations). Target group: 1500 child workers and 220 companies to have improved working conditions (especially focusing on hazardous labour).	indirect
DIPECHO V and VI projects (Funded by DIPECHO – ECHO Disaster Risk Reduction programme)	Action Aid	€26.314	Work with garment factories in partnership (MoU) with BGMEA (Bangladesh garments manufacturers and exporters association) . Key activities with BGMEA. <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Development of contingency plans for garment factories in collaboration with - (FSCD ,ACTIONAID and BGMEA). 2. Development of a simulation drill guideline and training manual on fire safety and earthquake preparedness in collaboration with FSCD ,BGMEA and Action Aid. 3. Two training for compliance officers (200Nos) of garment industries. 4. Calendar developed as part of IEC for awareness on Earthquake and fire preparedness and covered three factories. Direct work with factories(3 No's) <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Risk assessments in three factories (The shanin, natural apparels and loadstar (Closed)). 2. IEC material distributed and dissemination of calendars. 	direct
US funded projects				
USAID, Capacity building for labor unions and NGOs	American Center for International Labor Solidarity	\$ 3.5 mln	Labor related program for Bangladesh in RMG sector. Five year program (2011- 2015). Provides assistance in union formation and registration, as well as capacity building including strategic planning; advocacy; leadership development; financial management; industrial dispute resolution; and collective bargaining techniques. Provides legal assistance to unions, union federations and their members.	direct
Program Pillars in Practice, Capacity building CSOs	SAI	\$ 500,000	Capacity building of CSOs in Bangladesh, Nicaragua and Zimbabwe. In Bangladesh for using Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights	indirect

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US DOL Safer Factories	Implementer(s) not yet selected	\$ 2.5 mln	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improve government enforcement of fire and general building safety standards 2. Increase worker organization's ability to monitor fire and building safety standards and see abatement of such hazards 	direct
US DOL Promoting Fundamental Principles and Rights	ILO Declarations	\$1.5 mln	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Improving the labor law framework in conformity with International Labor Standards 2. Enhancing worker capacity to exercise their rights, including freedom of association/labor organizing 3. Improving labor-management cooperation at the enterprise level 4. Training on occupational health and safety 	
US DOL Better Work Design Phase	ILO	\$685,000	Preparation of Better Work program in Bangladesh	direct
Denmark funded projects				
Building safety			Project for building safety. Transfer of technical knowledge and training from Danish companies to Bangladeshi companies.	direct
CSR Child Labour Project Phase II	UCEP	€308,300	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Contribute to the improvement of the living/working conditions of children and young people in the textile and garment industry in Bangladesh. 2. Build the capacity of the garment industry regarding issues related to children's work and to use the positive opportunities of CSR in relation to children and youth. 3. Contribute with information on responsible child labour to the industry in addition to increasing the general public awareness of child labour issues 	direct

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Germany funded projects				
Promotion of Social and Environmental Standards in Industries (PSES)	GIZ	Total contribution €7.16 mln DE: €4.8 mln EU: €2.3 mln	Co-funded with EU (see above) <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide audit and advisory services to BG/BKMEA member factories under factory improvement program to improve factory grading from C to B and from B to A. - Provide trainings to factory social compliance officers on social compliance and international standards like WRAP (Worldwide Responsible Accredited Production) and BSCI (Business Social Compliance Initiative). - Conduct Training of Trainers(ToT) on Social Compliance in order to develop master trainers on social compliance. - Provide trainings and logistics support to inspectors of MoLE to increase their capacity in factory inspections. - Sensitize women workers on their rights and responsibilities as per law in women cafes through NGOs 	direct
Rehabilitation of disabled persons	GIZ	€ 2.5 mln	Provide occupational, medical and psychological rehabilitation assistance. Promote return to work programs for disabled persons. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide vocational counseling. - Design new training concepts for inclusive skill development for RMG sector. - Develop ideas for the improvement of law which regularizes the interests of people with disability. - Provide self-employment and micro credit facility for the people with disability in RMG sector. - Identify and train deceased / injured workers family members to become income providers. - Provide advisory services to the appropriate government departments. 	direct

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Assistance to handicapped victims of Savar	ICRC / GRC	€ 50,000	Provide assistance to amputees of Savar tragedy, i.e. artificial limbs and mobility devices.	direct
Private funded project: Compliance in factories supplying for LIDL and C&A	GIZ	€5,3 mln	Private sector branch of the GIZ "International Services" works together with the RMG factories supplying LIDL and C&A to improve the social & environmental standards.	direct

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Japan funded projects				
RMG Sector Safe Working Environment Program	Min of Finance Min of Housing and Public Works Bangladesh Bank BGMEA, BKMEA	Up to BDT 1 billion (up to 100 million BDT per applicant/factory)	<p>This program will be based on two of the on-going JICA's programs; namely (1) the Financial Sector Project for the Development of Small & Medium-sized Enterprises (FSPDSME) and (2) Capacity Development on Natural Disaster-Resistant Techniques of Construction and Retrofitting for Public Building. Financing will be available to applicants registered with the BGMEA or BKMEA and is ready to carry out the assessment and subsequent retrofitting (rebuilding) of its factory for the following categories, covering 100% of the financing costs:</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Retrofitting / Rebuilding of the factory (building) 2. Purchase of equipment required for safe working environment, 3. Relocation of the factory (and equipment) <p>This is a joint initiative by the Japanese Ambassador, Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA), Bank and Financial Institutions Division (BFID), Ministry of Finance, the Governor and the Project Implementation Unit (PIU) of Financial Sector Project for the Development of SME Enterprises (FSPDSME) of Bangladesh Bank (BB), Public Work Department (PWD), Ministry of Housing and Public Works, BGMEA and BKMEA.</p>	direct
Norway funded projects				
Capacity building for social dialogue	ILO	\$ 2.5 mln	<p>The donation will be spent through ILO in building capacity for the betterment of the workers in export-oriented sectors including garments, leather and shrimp industries in Bangladesh. It will also be utilized to facilitate building the capacity of laborers to earn the rights of forming union as per the ILO standard, freedom of association and collective bargaining.</p> <p>The support will facilitate continuous dialogue between workers' and employers' organisations and the government and strengthen the tripartite partners' capacity to support the on-going ILO efforts of the Promoting Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work project. The support will also assist in the future implementation of an ILO Better Work programme in Bangladesh.</p>	direct
Netherlands funded projects				

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Capacity building trade unions	Dutch trade union FNV	€2.5 mln	Four year program, 2012 – 2015 Support and training from Dutch trade union organisation FNV to Bangladesh partner union organisations.	direct
Capacity building labour NGOs	Clean Clothes Campaign		Four year program, 2012 – 2015. Campaign and support organisation for better working conditions in the garment industry. Special focus on Bangladesh. Involved in the Safety Accord.	direct
Improvement of worker safety in RMG	partly through ILO	€ 9 mln	Several projects, to be decided soon. Funds will be allocated partly for the ILO Programme 2013 – 2016 for the RMG sector. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Training of 200 extra labour inspectors - Capacity building for independent labour and women organizations - OHS training for middle management and workers - 	direct
Bangladesh Water PaCT (Partnership for Cleaner Textile)	Coordination by IFC, in close collaboration with following partners: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Solidaridad • Water Footprint Network (WFN) • BGMEA 	Total contribution \$ 11 mln EKN: \$ 5.6 mln IFC: \$1 mln Brands and factories: \$ 4.4 mln .	Overarching objective is to reduce environmental and related social impacts that result from prevailing practices in textile wet processing, particularly excessive groundwater extraction and surface water pollution, but including energy and chemical use. Programme results will improve the global and local “license to operate” of the textile sector in Bangladesh and strengthen its long-term competitiveness. Working in partnership with buyers, solution providers, factory owners/managers, financial institutions, donors, government and other key stakeholders, the Program will support selected textile factories to reduce their water footprints. The Programme will engage at three levels: Component 1: Buyer Capacity Building Component 2: Support factories setting and achieving Cleaner Production objectives Component 3: Multi-Stakeholder Engagement in Support of Cleaner Textile	Indirect for worker safety OSH, Direct for garment sector
UK funded projects				
		7.5 mln USD (1)	1. Pool funding for ILO Program to support the National Plan of Action on improving RMG factory safety.	direct

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		<p>1.8 mln GBP</p> <p>18 mln GBP</p>	<p>2. Assist the design and implementation of a long-term building inspection and enforcement regime for all buildings in Bangladesh (not just in the RMG sector). To feed into this, we plan to engage UK expertise to carry out an initial practical study with the public body responsible for enforcement in the Dhaka area initially (RAJUK).</p> <p>3. Increase funding to the new DFID Trade and Global Value Chains Initiative (TGVCI). This is a flexible challenge fund that will form partnerships between clothing retailers, suppliers, civil society and government to improve working conditions and factory culture. This would enable us to quickly fund interesting proposals from the RMG sector, such as scaling-up of successful projects from the previous RAGS challenge fund.</p> <p>4. Provide skills training for workers in the garments and skills industry (which may include a small element of health and safety). This will upskill workers and help increase productivity.</p> <p>5. Once the demand from the sector has been tested with TGVCI above, we may put in place a new flexible fund to allow us to fund further activities</p>	
<p>New phase of the Rights and Governance Challenge Fund called Creating Opportunities for the Poor and Excluded in Bangladesh (COPE)</p>	<p>Manusher Jonno Foundation (MJF)</p>	<p>To be confirmed once all RMG projects chosen</p>	<p><u>COPE work in RMG sector</u></p> <p>Policy level advocacy in the RMG sector: to improve workers’ conditions, for example on the regulations needed to implement the labour law (they worked on the amendments).,</p> <p>Implementation level RMG sector:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> · MJF partners will be working with around 30 RMG industries to help workers understand and exercise their rights and duties, safety and security, · MJF partners will also be helping RMG workers to form Participation committee, make existing participation committee functioning and representative, and will enhance the negotiation skills of the workers. 	<p>indirect</p>

Sweden funded projects				
Establishment of an Environment Health and Safety Academy in Bangladesh	Institute for Sustainable Communities (ISC), who partners with North-South University. Wal-Mart is also funding.	Total budget: 6 mln USD	The project will set up an EHS Academy at the North-South University to which RMG suppliers may send their management for short and specialized trainings. The trainings will build capacity of EHS Managers in the RMG sector in order to reduce the environmental footprint of Bangladeshi factories, improve the overall health and safety of their workers and of the surrounding communities and enhance the factories competitive business advantage.	Direct
HER (Health Enables Returns) project	Business for Social Responsibility (BSR)		Links multinational companies and their suppliers to local NGOs to train workers at the workplace in order to increase women's health awareness. Improved health among the workers also improves the productivity at the factories. A global programme with Bangladesh as one of the main target countries. In Bangladesh, the programme focuses on the RMG sector.	Direct
Centre of Excellence for the RMG sector	ILO and H&M	~1.7 mln USD	The project focuses on skills development in the RMG sector. Within the Centre of Excellence, a replicable model of an industry based, self-sustaining training network operating within the National Skills Development Policy and national institutions and systems will be established. Proper certification of students and recognition of prior learning are some other important parts of the project. The project is expected to effectively increase employability and raise incomes for the working poor.	Direct
Canada funded projects				
Improvement of worker safety in RMG	ILO	7.5 mln USD	Pool funding for ILO Program.to support the National Plan of Action on improving RMG factory safety.	Direct