

Quick facts

Project name: The Multi-stakeholder Alliance for Decent Employment in the Myanmar Apparel Industry (MADE in Myanmar)

Funded by: Funded by the European Union with co-financing by the private sector

Budget: 3 million EUR + additional budget from private sector retailers

Duration: 13 December 2022- 12 December 2026

Lead agency: sequa gGmbH

Partner: EuroCham Myanmar

Training team: Several experienced social compliance auditors, electrical, mechanical and textile engineers, apparel industry chemical management specialists, trainers and a medical doctor.

Major project components in brief:

SMART Factories Programme

- Social compliance
- Workplace Relations
- Energy, waste and water
- Chemical Management

The Forum on Supply Chain Conduct

- Industry level dialogue
- Bi-partite relations
- Public heightened due diligence knowledge hub
- Capacity building for companies and business associations on legal compliance
- Support labour rights organisations and trade unions
- Set-up grievance mechanism

The Centres for Women's Advancement

- Nutrition help desk for workers
- Sewing Training
- Computer and business skills
- Peer group support
- Psycho-social support



Objective and Outputs

- Our objective is to strengthen and protect responsible business practices in the garment and footwear sector.



Outputs

- Human Rights, Social and Environmental standards are upheld and monitored within the textile, clothing, and footwear industries through continuation of the successful "SMART Factories" programme.
- Responsible business practices promoted and monitored.



Targets



Co-funded by
the European Union

- 200 factories participate in SMART Factories Programme, enterprise advisory modules on social and environmental performance involving on-site assessments and follow-ups.
- 1,440 total participants at technical workshops.
- 20 technical experts and auditors are developed and capacitated.
- 1 grievance mechanism (hotline) is set up.
- 4 policy events in Brussels.
- 1,500 total participants in industry-level events.
- 3 labour rights organisations are supported.
- 4 joint commitments to superior practices are agreed and pursued by international retailers.
- 1 new programme is developed to help women advance in their careers in the apparel industry.
- 2 women's community centers focused on support for migrant workers are developed.



Current activities

- Factory advisory programmes and training workshops of MADE commenced in January, 2023. The project office is running 5 separate enterprise advisory and training teams (over 20 technical experts and trainers) covering topics such as: social compliance, worker/ manager communications and grievance mechanisms, occupational safety and health, chemicals management, energy efficiency, workplace nutrition programmes, clinic safety and some other topics.
- Basic computer and business skill training, a nutrition help desk for workers, and sewing training started at the new MADE women's center in February, 2023.
- Cooperation with other consultancy service providers to develop further, localized, social compliance verification capacities is ongoing.
- With project partner EuroCham Myanmar, increased levels of dialogue with business associations in Europe and dissemination about new standards for supply chain due diligence, from Germany and the European Union.



In addition to funding by the European Union, the MADE in Myanmar project is co-funded by the private sector.

The **MADE in Myanmar** project continues and upscales the successful SMART Factories Programme which has been growing and developing since 2013. As such, SMART continues as one component under MADE, along with a component on supply chain conduct and a component on enhanced support for migrant women workers. When using the SMART name and reputation project teams can more easily gain access to factories, engage with business associations and gain the trust of workers and worker representatives. Nurturing and developing respectful workplace relation is key to enterprise success, and the project teams engage with both management representatives and worker representative to achieve results.

To read more about SMART Factories Programme, visit www.madeinmyanmar.eu

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