

6th-7th
November
2024

electronics  watch

Annual Conference

Public Procurement and the Evolving Due Diligence Landscape



Herman Teirlinck building
Brussels, Belgium

Co-hosted by

AGENCY FOR
FACILITY
OPERATIONS



Flanders
State of the Art

Why attend?

The Annual Conference facilitates learning and exchange at the intersection of socially responsible public procurement and labour rights, and provides a unique opportunity for Electronics Watch affiliates and monitoring partners to meet face-to-face. It will raise awareness about the issues workers are facing, and how they can be addressed through the public procurement process.

It is generously co-hosted by the Flemish Agency for Facility Operations ([Het Facilitair Bedrijf](#)), with support from the Flemish Government.



6 - 7 November 2024



Brussels, Belgium

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**In English with simultaneous
translation to Spanish**



Free entry

Information about local hotels and transportation to and from the venue will be provided to registered participants.

Public programme

Wednesday, 6th November (morning)

9:00-9:30 Welcome

9:30-11:00 The evolving regulatory landscape and the practice of due diligence

This panel will explore recent developments on human rights and environmental due diligence (HREDD) impacting public buyers' obligations and practices. Speakers will focus on how HREDD regulation can be leveraged in public procurement to promote and protect workers' rights. They will highlight successes and challenges in the practice of due diligence. The panel will include perspectives from public buyers, monitoring partners, trade union representatives, European policymakers, and industry representatives.

- Speakers:**
- **Judith Kirton-Darling**, IndustriAll Europe, United Kingdom
 - **Michaël Van Mol**, Flemish Agency for Facility Operations, Belgium
 - **Bart Devos**, The Responsible Business Alliance (RBA), USA
 - **Shigeru Tanaka**, Pacific Asia Resource Centre (PARC), Japan
 - **Nienke Berger**, Hamburger Hochbahn AG, Germany

11:00-11:30 Refreshment break

11:30-13:00 Accountability for business harms: stories from workers' rights defenders from the mines to the factories

In this session, a panel of Electronics Watch monitoring partners will discuss how they navigate and overcome the challenges in monitoring and defending workers' rights in repressive environments. They will spotlight occupational health and safety risks, and present the context of labour rights organising in mines and factories in their countries, highlighting key strategies and successes.

- Speakers:**
- **Han Dongfang**, China Labour Bulletin (CLB), Hong Kong
 - **Lennon Ying-Da Wang**, Serve the People Association (SPA), Taiwan
 - **Jesús Rea Campos**, Centro de investigación y servicio popular (CISEP), Bolivia
 - **Linda Szabó**, Perfiéria Policy and Research Center, Hungary

13:00-14:00 Networking lunch

The remainder of the agenda is restricted to affiliates and monitoring partners.

Programme for Electronics Watch affiliates and monitoring partners only

Wednesday, 6th November (afternoon)

14:00-15:30 **Expectations, realities, and trade-offs: conversations with monitoring partners and public buyers**

This session will bring affiliates, trade union and monitoring partners together to discuss real-world challenges, trade-offs, and strategies. Using practical examples, it aims to improve understanding and practice from different perspectives. The session will conclude with a plenary presentation and discussion, encouraging open dialogue between participants to better understand each other's realities.

- Speakers:**
- **Alexander Ivanou**, IndustriALL Global
 - **Mags Shapiro**, London Universities Purchasing Consortium (LUPC), UK
 - **Björn Claeson**, Electronics Watch
 - **Rochelle Porras**, EILER, Philippines

15:30-16:00 **Refreshment break**

16:00-17:30 **Collective leverage in action**

This session will give visibility to the three public buyer working groups hosted by Electronics Watch: Apple, Cisco, and the Freedom of Association. A representative of each group will present its goals and achievements to-date and any outstanding challenges it faces. The presentations will be followed by a discussion segment in which participants may ask questions, provide feedback and propose potential solutions for discussion.

- Speakers:**
- **Darran Whatley**, The London School of Economics and Political Science (LSE), UK
 - **Kjersti Koffeld**, City of Oslo, Norway
 - **Gemma Freedman**, UNISON, UK
 - **Emil Birk**, City of Copenhagen, Denmark
 - **Peter Pawlicki**, Electronics Watch

17:30-19:30 **Drinks reception with light snacks served at the venue**

Programme for Electronics Watch affiliates and monitoring partners only

Thursday, 7 November

9:00-10:30 Public procurement innovation: updates from affiliates

This session explores innovations within responsible public procurement and emerging Human Rights Due Diligence (HRDD) practices. Facilitated small group discussions will provide a forum for all participants to contribute with their ideas and expertise. Subtopics of focus include supplier dialogue, organisational development aimed at strengthening the impact of responsible procurement initiatives, and forums for engaging colleagues and other key internal stakeholders. Updates presented and discussed in this session may relate to the various sectors relevant to public buyers.

- Speakers:**
- **Karen Amber**, NHS Commercial Solutions, UK
 - **Emil Birk**, City of Copenhagen, Denmark
 - **Penny Green**, NHS Commercial Solutions, UK
 - **Mike Kilner**, London Universities Purchasing Consortium, (LUPC) UK
 - **Michaël Van Mol**, Flemish Agency for Facility Operations, Belgium

10:30-11:00 Refreshments break

11:00-12:30 Simulation game

In this interactive simulation game, affiliates and monitoring partners will step into different stakeholder roles to gain hands-on experience of the challenges and requirements that others face. Participants will gain insights into the limitations and expectations of other stakeholders in the supply chain. The session will encourage collaboration and creative problem-solving, with ideas on how to navigate these challenges shared in a plenary discussion. Electronics Watch will gather and reflect on these insights to further improve its approach to supply chain monitoring and collaboration.

- Facilitators:**
- **Omana George**, Electronics Watch
 - **Peter Pawlicki**, Electronics Watch

12:30-14:00 Networking lunch

Programme for Electronics Watch affiliates and monitoring partners only

Thursday, 7 November (cont'd)

14:00-15:30 **Obtaining credible evidence: updates from monitoring partners**

This session aims to ensure that affiliates and participants understand what constitutes credible evidence. It will focus on defining credible evidence, improving current practices, and exploring better methods for evidence gathering. By the end, participants should be able to distinguish between strong and weak evidence, avoid common pitfalls, and understand the value of worker-driven monitoring as Electronics Watch's unique approach. The session will also highlight the importance of credibility in evidence for both violations and remedies, across all phases of investigation.

Speakers:

- **An Dinh Ha**, Center for Development and Integration (CDI), Vietnam
- **Pradeepan Ravi**, Cividep, India
- **Lennon Ying-Da Wang**, Serve the People Association (SPA), Taiwan
- **Aykut Kazanci**, Electronics Watch
- **Linda Szabó**, Perfiéria Policy and Research Center, Hungary

15:30-15:45 **Refreshments break**

15:45-16:30 **Wrap-up and thanks**

