ECONOMIC RIGHTS INSTITUTE

BUILDING BRIDGES TO BETTER WORK

THE ELECTRONICS WATCH MODEL:

A PERSPECTIVE FROM THE GROUND



HOW DOES EW SUPPORT THE WORK OF MONITORING GROUPS?

Prioritizing the role of independent workers' rights groups

- In monitoring
- In choices of the organization



Prioritizing the role of independent workers' rights groups

Amplifying priorities from the ground

- Flexible employment
- Suicide & employment conditions
- Freedom of employment



Prioritizing the role of independent workers' rights groups Amplifying priorities from the ground

Getting through the door to suppliers

- Monitoring
- Other interventions?



Prioritizing the role of independent workers' rights groups Amplifying priorities from the ground Getting through the door to suppliers

Response to urgent issues

- Workers seeking restitution
- Urgent, extreme issues



Prioritizing the role of independent workers' rights groups Amplifying priorities from the ground Getting through the door to suppliers Response to urgent issues

Networking

- Skills, perspective of different groups
- Building more holistic view of suppliers [in different countries]





HOW DOES EW INFLUENCE THE WORK OF MONITORING GROUPS?

Need to link directly to suppliers of EW members

- Not always the most pertinent to work on the ground
- Possibly pulling efforts to bigger suppliers



Need to link directly to suppliers of EW members

Pressures to fulfill auditing requirements

 Driven by codes of conduct [not always worker priorities]



Need to link directly to suppliers of EW members Pressures to fulfill auditing requirements

Discussion with industry

• Skills, perspective & compromises



Need to link directly to suppliers of EW members Pressures to fulfill auditing requirements Discussion with industry

Action driven perspective on industry

- Supplier & component lists
- Linking monitoring choices to moments/opportunities for influence



Need to link directly to suppliers of EW members Pressures to fulfill auditing requirements Discussion with industry Action driven perspective on industry

New methodologies

- Surveys
- Automation of internet tools





WHERE DOES EW DRIVE IMPROVEMENT TO WORKERS' RIGHTS?

IMPROVEMENTS TO WORKERS' RIGHTS

Pressure for corrective actions

- Restitution
- Supervisors & dignity in employment
- Excessive overtime
- Workers' well being



IMPROVEMENTS TO WORKERS' RIGHTS

Pressure for corrective actions

Dialogue

- Risks:
 - Suicide & violence
- Interconnections
 - Overtime & flexible employment
- Priorities
 - Worker voice, OHS





NEXT STEPS TO SUPPORT MONITORING GROUPS?



Consistency to support longer term thinking



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Consistency to support longer term thinking Data to guide more effective choices



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Consistency to support longer term thinking Data to guide more effective choices

Opening suppliers' doors



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Consistency to support longer term thinking Data to guide more effective choices Opening suppliers' doors

Linking public buyers to groundwork



NEXT STEPS

Consistency to support longer term thinking Data to guide more effective choices Opening suppliers' doors Linking public buyers to groundwork Visibility of industry conduct



NEXT STEPS

Consistency to support longer term thinking Data to guide more effective choices Opening suppliers' doors Linking public buyers to groundwork Visibility of industry conduct

Identifying opportunities for "networked" monitoring



THANKS

Founded in 2012, the Economic Rights Institute is registered in Hong Kong. Its mission is to support alliances to actualize economic development that respects the rights of all.

We design methods & tools to strengthen multi-tiered discussions: between employees & management, NGOs & the business community, buyers & suppliers. We put the insights & momentum of these discussions in the pursuit of solutions to foster the conditions for better work.

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