### 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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