

Asian Dialogues on Sustainability in the Textile and Garment Industry

Online Seminar Series - "Moving the needle: Creating the future together"

Online Seminar 14: Safeguarding worker rights: Key issues for 2023

Thursday, 23 March 2023, 10:30 AM Berlin / 04:30 PM Phnom Penh / 05:30 PM Beijing

90 Minutes

Our 14th online seminar in this series, hosted by [GIZ Fabric](#), will focus on key issues facing workers in Asian apparel and textile chains in the year ahead, and what has to happen to ensure these workers' rights are safeguarded.

Four panellists with extensive experience researching and supporting workers in apparel and textile supply chains across Asia will discuss research findings from a number of articles and reports published this year. The discussion will be wide ranging, with input on issues such as purchasing practices and the non-payment of wages (still a persistent problem), the impact of this on women and homeworkers, and some analysis on how unions, workers and their allies are seeking to take wage non-payment directly to the brands themselves.

There will be as always time for questions.

[Click here to register](#)

Speakers



Professor Muhammad Azizul
Chair in Accountancy and Professor in Sustainability Accounting & Transparency, University of Aberdeen Business School

Aziz is widely recognised internationally as a leading sustainability accounting researcher. He investigates some of the specific sustainability accounting and transparency issues including (but not limited to) corporate human rights and social audit measures. He was named winner of the Fair Trade and Sustainability category in the Scottish Fair Trade Awards 2022, and has authored several important articles on auditing, slavery, and corporate human rights with a focus on garment supply chains, particularly in Bangladesh.



Sahiba Gill
Senior Staff Attorney, GLJ-ILRF Industry (TextILES), GIZ

Sahiba is senior staff attorney at GLJ-ILRF, where she advocates for unions and workers in global supply chains, focusing on migrant, racial and gender justice. Sahiba holds a B.A. from Swarthmore College and is a graduate of New York University School of Law. Sahiba's writing has been published in the European Journal of International Law. She is admitted to practice law in New York. She is the primary author of the recent report, Big Fashion and Wall Street Cash In on Wage Theft.



Abiramy Sivaloganathan
South Asia Coordinator at Asia Floor Wage Alliance Industry (TextILES), GIZ

Abiramy Sivaloganathan is the South Asia Coordinator at Asia Floor Wage Alliance (AFWA). Her passion to work in the areas of gender equality and human rights led her to work with women, children, and marginalized communities in different parts of Sri Lanka. She earned a Master's degree in Human Rights from the faculty of Graduate Studies, University of Colombo, Sri Lanka and a diploma in Criminal Law at the Faculty of Law, University of Colombo.



Rakesh Supkar
Business Head, Traidcraft Services India Industry (TextILES), GIZ

Rakesh is a sustainable development professional with 22 years' experience across the Asia Pacific region (particularly India/South Asia). He has a Master's degree in Development Studies (majoring in Rural Livelihoods, and minor in Environment) from the ISS in The Hague, and a MBA in Rural Management from IRMA, and formerly worked with Fairtrade NAPP as their COO, as Associate Programme Director with TechnoServe India, at Catalyst Management Services Bangalore, and CARE Odisha.