

The ASSC Special Session 2018 in Geneva

Practice and Challenges of HRDD to Protect Asian Migrant Workers: Seeking for Innovative Collaboration in TITP in Japan

THURSDAY 29, NOVEMBER, 10AM-12PM
Warwick Geneva Hotel, Meeting Room “Jura”
Rue de Lausanne 14, 1201 Geneva, Switzerland

To Join us, **scan QR code** and fill theEntry form, or contact to “info@g-assc.org”
※This is a free session (No payment required).



OUTLINE

The upcoming Tokyo 2020 Olympic and Paralympic Games attracts growing concern on employment of foreign workers especially the ones under TITP (Japan’s Technical Intern Training Program). Currently they count more than 0.26 million workers mainly from Asian countries such as Vietnam, China, The Philippines and Myanmar. Their exploitive employment conditions have been criticized within and outside the country, including in US TIP Report and recently in Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB)’s report. TITP related human rights abuse and risks are perceived prevalent across different sectors. Encountering the problems, revised laws and regulations came into effect in 2017, however, we still need to see the improvement realized. This panel will focus human rights due diligence in migrant workers employment. The panelists share the views of progress and challenges as well as limitation of their respective efforts. The practice needs a cross border collaboration, so the panel aims to seek for joint innovative solution, including the possibility of application of emerging technologies.

AGENDA

10:00	Welcome Speech
10:10	Scene Setters and Keynotes
10:40	Panel Session
11:40	Q&A Session
11:55	Closing Remarks

SPEAKERS



IDE – JETRO
Director
Miwa Yamada

Miwa Yamada is a Director, Law and Institution Studies Group, Inter-disciplinary Studies Center, IDE-JETRO. LL.M (Georgetown), LL.M (King’s College London) Joined IDE-JETRO after working at a business law firm. Served as a Rapporteur at 2016 Asia Regional Forum on Business and Human Rights, Doha. Current research interests include human trafficking, human rights due diligence in supply chain with focus on migrant workers in Japan and Asian countries, implementation of UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in practice, human rights risks and responsibilities in government and private sector co-financing projects. Recent writings include: ‘Legal Technical Assistance and “UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights” – All for the Rights of People–’ ICD News Law for Development, February 2017, Research and Training Institute, Ministry of Justice, Japan.



SupplyESChange
Director
Kate Larsen

Kate Larsen is a Chinese speaking professional with over 15 years’ experience in Supply Chain Environmental and Labour (Human Rights) standards. Kate has played a key role of various sustainability activities at organizations including Burberry(as a Senior Manager Corporate Responsibility Asia), a Nasdaq listed retailer(as a Director Responsible Sourcing), a worker hotline service called “INNO Handshake”(as a Founding Board Member), the Bangladesh Alliance for safety Worker Empowerment Committee (as a Chair), and Human Rights Watch, and worked with FTSE100 listed companies, the UK anti-slavery charity “Unseen” on UK and other supply chain modern slavery remediation projects. Kate is a Trustee of UK charity The Rights Practice which supports social justice in China and Myanmar including for migrant workers.



the ASSC
Executive Director
Takeshi Shimotaya

Takeshi Shimotaya is Executive Director of the ASSC. During his 10 years’ in the Heavy Industries sector, he has gained expert knowledge in HR, General Affairs, Pay Structures, Health and Safety and Worker-Management Communication. Takeshi founded a sustainability research and training company in 2010. He has an MSc from the University of East Anglia and an MBA from the University of Lancaster. He has been dedicated to promoting the awareness of modern slavery, supply chain issues, and the importance of human rights and worker’s rights amongst Japanese businesses. Takeshi has carried out numerous social audit projects based on FLA Workplace Code of Conduct. A certified RBA Lead Auditor.



the ASSC
Director
Masaki Wada

Masaki Wada is a Director of the ASSC. He graduated from Southern Illinois University, Faculty of Economics. Masaki worked for a major, global manufacturer of sports equipment, where he managed CSR procurement and promoted CSR in Japan and Southeast Asia. In 2012, he was invited by the Business Policy Forum, Japan, to become a researcher for a study group on “Business and Human Rights”. In 2013, he joined the Japan International Training Cooperation Organization (JITCO). Masaki works to provide research and consulting services for CSR, and that also tackle human rights and labour issues around migrant workers within the supply-chain in the developing countries.



Teijin Limited

Teijin Limited is one of the biggest Japanese conglomerates which mainly has operation in the field of Healthcare and Materials with its net sales of 835 billion of yen. Currently, it consists of 9 business units including Home Healthcare, Material Business (such as Aramid, Carbon Fibers, etc.) and so on. With its CSR materiality, it's been active on wide range of social/environmental issues focusing on 14 topics, such as conversation of diversity, corporate governance, CSR procurement, etc. Regarding with the topic of this session, Teijin will share its current practices and challenges on tackling possible risks of human rights / workers' rights abuses especially within its supply chains on the ground.

And more...?

About the ASSC

The Global Alliance for Sustainable Supply Chain (the ASSC) is Japan-based NGO which aims for sustainable world by encouraging Japanese companies to take actions of promoting more sustainable business practices. Our approach is twofold; one is to support companies to tackle social and environmental issues in their supply chains on the ground; the other is to facilitate local/global partnerships with businesses, labour unions, civil society/NGOs and overseas initiatives. For more details, you can access the official website, <https://g-assc.org>, or contact us via e-mail (info@g-assc.org)