



re-sourcing

Electronics Watch's worker-driven approach and public procurement leverage

Case Introduction: Worker-driven monitoring and public procurement leverage to protect human and labor rights in the electronics supply chain.



Case Study Learning Objective

- **Learn how** worker-driven monitoring is used to detect problems and shape solutions.
- **Understand the benefits** of coordinated public buyer demand for decent working conditions.
- **Get insights into** a constructive engagement with industry to remedy violations and improve conditions.



Case Context

- In 2015 Electronics Watch was formally launched as an independent monitoring organisation.
- The mission of Electronics Watch is to help public sector organisations work together and collaborate with civil society monitors in production regions to protect the rights of workers in the electronics supply chain.
- The aim is to improve industry compliance with relevant labour regulations and internationally recognised codes and workers' rights standards



Good Practice Aspects

- Principles for worker-driven monitoring.
- Consistent methodology for monitoring: off-site qualitative research with workers.
- Findings report is used to engage with companies and industry associations to remedy violations and improve working conditions.
- Public buyer leverage and collaboration.
- Terms of engagement between EW and Responsible Business Alliance.

Challenges Addressed

- Poor working conditions and systemic human rights abuses at electronics manufacturing.
- Lack of credible ways for public buyers to verify if suppliers comply with human rights standards.
- Public buyers' ability to detect problems that workers don't usually report to social auditors, remedy problems in a timely manner, and address systemic issues over time.
- Limitations of social auditing, labels and certification.
- Lack of transparency in the electronics industry.



The characteristics and benefits

- Monitoring manufacturing factories in mayor production hubs.
- Detection of human rights abuses such as forced labor or freedom of association cases.
- Follow up on workers' complaints.
- Compliance investigations.
- Engagement with companies to drive improvements.
- Improved supply chain transparency.

How does it work?

The approach consists of three pillars:

- Workers report their concerns to Electronics Watch monitoring partners.
- Public buyer collaboration within and across countries creates the strength and leverage to address issues such as forced labour and health and safety hazards and improve conditions for workers.
- EW engagement with brands and industry associations (Responsible Business Alliance) to address issues reported by workers.



Please register at: https://wu-ac-at.zoom.us/meeting/register/tJlkfu2rqDIjE9N_GJ9J8XW6ve5RZYE_Jk5n

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