

“Getting through the crisis together”

Asian Dialogues on Sustainability in the Textile and Garment Industry
Webinar Series

Webinar 6:

Workers’ Voices: The Impact of COVID-19 on Garment Workers

Tuesday, July 14th, 2020 at 12pm (Berlin) / 5pm (Bangkok) / 6pm (Beijing) – 90 Minutes

The webinar is open for all industry stakeholders and free to attend. To register, please [click here](#).

In the sixth webinar of [GIZ FABRIC](#)’s webinar series, we will look at the impact of the COVID-19 pandemic on workers in the textile and garment industry in Asia. How has their life changed under COVID-19? How did they experience the outbreak of the pandemic and the impacts on their industry in their private and in their work life? What are their fears and concerns? What do they want the outside world to know? We will release materials prepared by garment workers in Myanmar and Cambodia that present their perspectives on the current situation. We will hear insights from local trade union leaders and an international researcher on global workers’ rights and how solutions can work for both, workers and factories.



Ms. Whin Theingi Soe (Soe Lay), Vice President, [Industrial Workers Federation of Myanmar \(IWF\)](#)

Win Theingi Soe is Vice President of the Industrial Workers Federation of Myanmar (IWF), Chairman of the Yangon Regional Industrial Workers Union and worker representative at the Township Level Arbitration Body. She works in a clothing factory and works for the rights of her colleagues by negotiating with representatives of international brand manufacturers, factory managers and owners. As a seamstress in a clothing factory, she can report firsthand on her experience and the difficulties in the clothing industry.



Ms. Ken Chheng Lang, Vice President of the [Confederation of Cambodian Worker-Movement \(CCW\)](#) & Education Officer of [Collective Union of Movement of Workers \(CUMW\)](#)

Ken Chheng Lang is the Vice President of the CCW and Education Officer of CUMW since 2015. Chheng Lang worked as a garment worker from 1997-2001 before becoming a local trade union president in 1999. Since then, she has moved to various leadership roles in textile and construction unions. In 2016, she became a founding member of the Woman Union Network (WUN) along with other women leaders from 16 trade unions and the Solidarity Center.



Mr. Kong Athit, President of the [Coalition of Cambodian Apparel Workers’ Democratic Union \(CCAWDU\)](#)

Kong Athit is the president of CCAWDU, affiliated with the IndustriALL Global Union. CCAWDU organizes more than 50.000 workers in Cambodia. Kong joined CCAWDU in 1999 whilst working in a factory laundry. He was dismissed from his job because of his union activities in 2001. CCAWDU’s current objectives are to represent garment workers with one voice, carry out research on working conditions and the economic and social context and to build international relationships to strengthen the defense of workers’ rights.



Mr. Marc Anner, Professor, Labor and Employment Relations and Center Director, [Center for Global Workers’ Rights](#)

Mark Anner is a professor of labor and employment relations and political science at Penn State University. He is also the founding director of both the Center for Global Workers’ Rights and the School’s master’s program in Labor and Global Workers’ Rights, which is a part of the Global Labour University network. He holds a Ph.D. in Government from Cornell University. Dr. Anner’s current research examines how pricing and other sourcing dynamics in global supply chains affect working conditions and workers’ rights.

Commentator: **Dr. Stephen Frost**, Editor, [The Fashion Sustainability Week in Review](#) & Director, GoBlu.

Moderated by **Jost Wagner**, [The Change Initiative](#).

For any questions, please contact Weini.Zhang@giz.de