

Impact of COVID-19 on Vulnerable Workers

Hosted by Caux Round Table Japan, as Round Table 1 at the RISE World Summit 2021

Thursday, January 28th, 2021, 11:00-13:00 IST / 14:30-16:30 JST

Caux Round Table Japan is hosting a round table on Vulnerable Workers, and planning to take this opportunity to collect information and to exchange views on the situation of vulnerable workers, which will be utilized for the [JICA \(Japan International Cooperation Agency\)](#)'s survey, as a part of RISE World Summit 2021, inviting up to 30 organizations who support vulnerable workers around the world affected by COVID-19 especially within supply chain of Japanese companies. The purpose of hosting the round table is to (1) understand key issues vulnerable workers have faced in 10 sectors in 22 countries, where Japanese companies have strong connections, and (2) discuss how civil society organizations / companies / the government can contribute to making the situation better, or preventing the situation from further deteriorating.

Target industry	Construction	Manufacturing					Agriculture	Fishing	Forestry	Mining	Migrant workers (Technical intern Trainees) to Japan
			Apparel, Textile	Automobile, Transport	Electronics	Food Processing					
India	X	X									Yes
Indonesia	X	X					X				Yes
Sri Lanka	X	X									Yes
Thailand	X	X		X		X					Yes
Cambodia	X	X	X								Yes
Pakistan	X	X	X								Yes
Bangladesh	X	X	X								Yes
Vietnam	X	X	X	X				X	X		Yes
Malaysia		X								X	
Myanmar	X	X	X	X		X					Yes
Laos		X	X		X						Yes
Turkey		X	X	X							
Egypt		X	X							X	
Brazil		X					X			X	
Peru							X			X	TBC?
Mexico		X		X			X	X		X	
Ethiopia		X	X				X				
Kenya	X	X					X				
Cote d'Ivoire	X						X				
Nigeria		X								X	
South Africa	X	X								X	
Mozambique	X	X								X	

X: Main Industries in target countries

The Roundtable will consist of three parts, and possible questions to be raised at each Part are;

Part I: Identification of vulnerable workers and their challenges (40 mins)

Who are vulnerable workers (e.g. migrant workers / female workers / child labour), and how are they affected, and what challenges the vulnerable workers are facing under the outbreak of COVID-19?

Part II: Protection of vulnerable workers (40 mins)

How does each civil society organisation protect and help vulnerable workers? What requests/expectations civil society organizations have to companies and/or the government to make the situation better, or prevent the situation from getting worse?

Part III: Collaboration between civil society organizations (40 mins)

What solution can we bring for vulnerable workers? What expectation can we set for companies and government? How can we work collaboratively and effectively across countries to protect vulnerable workers? What questions would be asked to compare the impact of COVID-19 in the target 22 countries?

The Round Table will have no speakers. Up to 30 invited organizations will discuss at each part, led by Caux Round Table Japan, and Karon Shaiva, Chief Impact Officer - IDOBRO & Managing Trustee - RISE Infinity Foundation.

Expected outcomes at the Round Table 1 is to build a network (i) to collect the information on how Japanese companies affect workers, (ii) to understand who vulnerable workers are within the supply chain of Japanese businesses, (iii) to understand what issues and problems vulnerable workers face, and (iv) to understand who support them on what point, (v) what measures works, in the identified sectors and target countries, for another 14 months. The information collection will last until March 2022.

ERM Japan Ltd. is commissioned by JICA to conduct a basic information collection survey titled "Data Collection Survey on Protection of Vulnerable Workers in Response to the COVID-19 Crisis", in collaboration with Caux Round Table Japan.

(ERM Japan Ltd. : <https://www.erm.com/locations/japan/>, and <https://www.erm.co.jp/> in Japanese)

ABOUT JICA

The Japan International Cooperation Agency (JICA) is a governmental agency that delivers the bulk of Official Development Assistance (ODA) for the government of Japan. It is chartered with assisting economic and social growth in developing countries, and the promotion of international cooperation. The OECD's Development Assistance Committee published a peer review of Japan's development co-operation in October 2020. It has been led by Professor Shinichi Kitaoka, the former President of the International University of Japan, since 2015.

<https://www.jica.go.jp/english/index.html>

ABOUT THE RISE WORLD SUMMIT

The RISE World Summit is a unique Relay Conversation across time zones, with partners from Japan, Singapore, India, Germany, Netherlands, Sweden, UK and USA and participants from over 40 countries. It will also be hosting the RISE Citizen Awards and the Glenmark Nutrition Awards in partnership with World Food Programme, India (WFP) - Nobel Laureate for 2020.

Over 30 partners, 20 Core Committee members, 100+ Subject Matter Experts, working groups and volunteers will contribute to making the Summit outcome driven for post-event collaborations and alliances, knowledge assets and more. 10 Roundtables will be co-hosted by Partners and co-located across the world along with 10 parallel workshops, Exhibitions, Chat tables, Innovation Corner, Podcasts and more. Some of the topics that will be covered include Migrant Livelihoods, Circular Economy & Eco-inclusive Enterprises, Generation Unlimited (Youth Development), SDG Mapping & Interlinkages, Climate Action, Learning Crisis, Monitoring & Evaluation, Values in Action (New-age Leadership), Gender Responsive Value Chains and Digital Transformation.

The Rise World Summit has invited Ms. Renata Lok-Dessallien, UN Resident Coordinator - India to deliver the Key note and release one of the RISE Values. It has also invited Prof. K.

VijayRaghavan, India's Principal Scientific Adviser to the Government of India, and Ms. Henriette Kolb, Head of the Gender Secretariat IFC, and Ms. Cherie Blair, CBE & Founder of Cherie Blair Foundation.

LINK to the RISE World Summit: <https://risesummit.in/>, agenda <https://risesummit.in/agenda-2021/>