SNV LAUNCHES WORKING WITH WOMEN-II PROJECT

Building on the success of a pilot initiative, SNV launched the second phase of the Working with Women project on 11 March 2018. The second phase of the project will set the stage for a sectoral change in the RMG sector in Bangladesh through improved health and well-being of workers, with a special focus on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR).

The second phase of the Working with Women project was officially launched at a launching ceremony held at the Lakeshore Hotel in Gulshan, Dhaka.

Representatives from different government agencies, Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, NGOs, development organisations, private sector, partner factories and buyers were present at the event. Funded by the Embassy of the Kingdom of the Netherlands, the Working with Women-II will implement three Inclusive Business (IB) models in 10 partner factories for a sector-wide expansion to harness market mechanisms for delivering win-win solutions for businesses and the workforce.

The new phase of the project follows a successful pilot initiative (2014-2017) where 10 IB models were implemented in 20 factories to testify the viability of SRHR investments in the garment sector. Through September 2021, the project will collaborate with 200 factories in Bangladesh to ensure better access to health, including SRHR for garment workers. The Inclusive Business models designed under project focus on three key areas—gender-based violence, health insurance and menstrual hygiene management.
Working with Women-II Partners meeting

The Working with Women-II project organised its first partners meeting on 4 February 2018 at SNV Bangladesh office to allow the partner organisations to share their work plans for 2018 under different components of the project.

Presided over by Project Team Leader Farhheeba Rahat Khan, representatives from partner organisations including Sajida Foundation, UCEP Bangladesh, Bangladesh Institute of Labour Studies (BILS) and PhulkI shared their respective activity plans for the phase-2 of the project. The meeting provided constructive feedback on the proposed work plans and shared SNV’s M&E and financial procedures applicable to the project.

Inclusive Business training for BUFT

SNV Bangladesh organised a two-day training on Inclusive Business for participants from BGMEA University of Fashion & Technology (BUFT). Five faculty members from different departments of BUFT attended the training on 21-22 March 2018. The training was a part of a partnership between SNV and BUFT for building systems to support the garment and other private businesses in designing Inclusive Business solutions.

SNV wins 'Best Practice' award

SNV Bangladesh received the ‘RMG Times Best Practice Award-2018’ in recognition of its efforts to create a positive impact on RMG workers’ health through the Working with Women project. The RMG Times, a leading apparel news platform, handed over the award on its second anniversary on February 28.

The Working with Women-II aims to set the stage for a sectoral change in the RMG industry through improved health and well-being of the workers, with a special focus on Sexual and Reproductive Health and Rights (SRHR). For more information please visit http://www.snv.org/country/bangladesh or contact Shuda@svn.org