Electronics Watch
Independent Monitoring for Public Procurement

“Public procurement for industry engagement and social responsibility in ICT supply chains”

Mobile Social Congress
Barcelona
27 February 2019
Universities, hospitals, regions, cities, other public authorities and organisations in EU → annual ICT procurement >€50 bn

Public procurement is a highly regulated process

Long contracts allow

- Engagement, Monitoring, Planning

EU Directive 2014/24/EU on public procurement social, ecological and innovative criteria

Criteria have only impact through follow-up
Mission

Electronics Watch helps public sector organisations work together, and collaborate with civil society monitors in production regions, to protect the rights of workers in their electronics supply chains.
At a Glance

- Independent Monitoring for public buyers
- Follow-up of contractual obligations
- Tools for experts
- Platform for socially responsible public buyers

→ European-wide collaboration of public buyers strengthens leverage in industry engagement
Public Buyer Collaboration and Cooperation with Monitoring Network
Contract Performance and Due Diligence Obligations

**Selection Criteria**

**Award Criteria**

**Contract Performance Conditions**

**Due Diligence**

- Create supply chain transparency
- Collaborate with independent monitors
- Remediate violations

*Before award*  
*After award*
Worker-driven Monitoring

- active involvement of workers
- initiate investigation
- involved in solutions
- offsite
- onsite
- remediation
- informed
- safe
- worker-driven transparency
- local
- expert
- trust
Impact: Ending Forced Student Labour

- **Factory**: China
- **Products**: Notebooks and Servers
- **Framework agreement**: UK higher Education Framework Agreement

Core Issue
- Involuntary student labour

Methods
- Onsite worker survey & worker-management dialogue training
- Dialogue with brands and factory
- Affiliate engagement

Impact
- Student labour only with consent
- 48%: factory improved last 6 months
Impact: Improving Conditions for Indirect Workers

- **Factory**: Czech Republic
- **Products**: Desktops, Workstations
- **Framework agreement**: UK Higher Education framework agreements & others

### Core Issues
- Insecurity & inequality for migrant indirect workers
- Short notice periods before shifts
- “Hidden” temporary agency employment

### Methods
- Offsite worker interviews
- Documentary evidence
- Observation of dormitories & audit
- Dialogue with brands and factory
- Affiliate engagement

### Impact
- Transfer of temp agency
- More free weekends, less short notice
- Guaranteed income for short-term indirect workers

Source: Milan Bures for The New York Times
Impact: Migrant Worker Recruiting

- **Factory**: Thailand
- **Products**: Multifunctional Devices
- **Framework agreement**: Swiss local authorities framework agreement

### Core Issue
- Excessive recruitment cost for migrant workers & confiscation of passports and work documents

### Methods
- Ongoing communication with workers
- In depth research on recruitment networks: interviews with workers and recruiters
- Dialogue with RBA, brands, and factory

### Impact
- Passports & work documents returned to migrant workers
- Direct employment
- Workers compensated
- Working with industry to address root causes and prevent recurrence of violations
Thank you!

www.electronicswatch.org ppawlicki@electronicswatch.org

This presentation has been produced with the assistance of the European Union. The contents of this presentation are the sole responsibility of Electronics Watch and its partners and can in no way be taken to reflect the views of the European Union. This presentation is part of the project 'Make ICT Fair - Reforming Manufacture & Minerals Supply Chains through Policy, Finance & Public Procurement', co-funded by European Union.