



SIDE EVENT:

COVID-19 and Global Supply Chains: The Impact on Jobs and Production

16.00 - 17.30 (Bangkok time, GMT+7), 12 June 2020

United Nations Virtual Forum on Responsible Business and Human Rights

New Challenges. New Approaches.

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Organizer: ILO Regional Office for Asia and the Pacific, RESA

Background

The global virus pandemic has a devastating impact on the world of work. The lockdown measures put in place by governments to limit the spread of COVID-19 have severely affected enterprises and workers globally. Jobs linked to the global production of manufactured goods are especially vulnerable due to both supply and demand-side shocks. While enterprises and workers have been experiencing disruptions to their supply of inputs, there has also been a sharp decrease in global consumer demand due to increased uncertainty and lack of consumer confidence. Given Asia's role as the manufacturing hub of the world, the COVID-19 related disruption to supply chains is expected to severely impact the region's growth prospect over the next few years.

Session Description

The session will discuss how Covid-19 has disrupted supply chains globally as well as in the Asia-Pacific region, and exchange on policy responses to ease the impact on workers and enterprises.

Session Objectives

The session will include the presentation of new findings on the impact of COVID-19 on jobs in global supply chains, forthcoming in an ILO policy brief. It will discuss the impact of COVID-19 on jobs and production, from a short-term as well as a medium- to long-term perspective.

Questions

- How many jobs in manufacturing supply chains are at high risk due to the COVID-19-related collapse of consumer demand?
- How many jobs are vulnerable to disruptions of input supply? What is the current degree of input supply disruption due to COVID-19?
- What will the longer-term impact of the COVID-19 crisis be on global production and jobs?
- What policies can provide relief to workers and enterprises in the short-term and support a transition into a better "new normal" in the medium- to long-term?