



Ministerie van Sociale Zaken en  
Werkgelegenheid



## ***Dutch CSR policy***

**Dutch Ministry of Social Affairs  
and Employment  
Directorate International Affairs**

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# Focus Dutch CSR policy

- International Supply Chains
- People, Planet, Profit
- Businesses are responsible (voluntary)
- Government stimulates
- Frameworks: *OECD Guidelines, UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, ILO MNE Declaration*
- Due diligence
- > Ministry of Social Affairs: Labour issues



# National Action Plans

Published in 2013:

## 1. 'CSR pays off' (*national CSR action plan*)

*'Dutch companies operating internationally have to be aware of the potential positive and negative effects of their activities around the world, both directly and through their chain of suppliers and clients. They have a responsibility to assess risks, and be alert to signals from stakeholders and how they can use their influence to bring about improvements.'*



# National Action Plans

Published in 2013:

## 2. Dutch National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights

*Ruggie Framework:*

- *States have a 'duty to protect'*
- *Companies have a 'responsibility to respect'*
- *Victims need 'access to remedy'*



# Dutch CSR policy

- Transparency
- Information
- Setting example
- Monitoring and fostering OECD Guidelines
- Dialogue and CSR Sector Agreements



# Transparency

- Legislation: EU Directive on reporting on non-financial information
- Stimulating: Transparency benchmark



# Information

- Financial support: financial support to organisations stimulating CSR, like 'CSR the Netherlands'
- Tool: 'CSR Risk Checker' for companies
- Embassies give information on CSR to Dutch businesses that operate abroad



# Example

- Stimulating: Sustainable public procurement policy
- Regulation: CSR conditions in export credit insurance
- Trade and Investment agreements





# OECD Guidelines

- Soft law: National Contact Point (NCP)
- Stimulating due diligence



# CSR Sector Agreements

- Sector Risk Analyses (13 sectors)
- Social Economic Council: 10 CSR Sector Agreements
- Dialogue with all stakeholders (companies, government, trade unions, NGOs)
- Come to an agreement on CSR (signing)
- Dutch Textile sector and Banking sector



# Textile sector

- Multistakeholder agreement between: 3 industry associations, 5 NGOs, 2 trade unions and the Dutch government
- Published on <https://www.ser.nl/en/publications/publications/2016/agreement-sustainable-garment-textile.aspx>; dedicated website will follow
- Signed on 4 July 2016
- Over 60 companies have already signed up to the agreement
- Participating companies will conduct a due diligence process, within one year after signing the Agreement, and present an annual action plan to the secretariat of the Agreement
- Annual action plan has to pay attention to 9 prioritised themes
- Labour issues are important (such as living wage, OSH, child and forced labour)



# International

- New EU CSR Action Plan
- UN Forum on Business and Human Rights
- Sustainable Development Goals
- ILO discussion on Decent Work in Global Supply Chains
- OECD developments on OECD Guidelines and due diligence guidelines



# National

- Labour inspection
- Regulation on responsible supply chain management on collectively agreed wages



# Thank you for your attention

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