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# Empowering Responsible Businesses in Cambodia: Navigating Global Mandatory Standards on Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence

7<sup>th</sup> May, 8:30 – 12:15, Raffles Hotel Le Royal, Phnom Penh

## Background

The European and global regulatory landscape is undergoing a significant transformation with the introduction of mandatory Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence (mHREDD) legislations. These regulations compel businesses to be accountable for their impact on people and the environment throughout their international operations and supply chains.

While the EU's Corporate Sustainability Due Diligence Directive (CSDDD) will represent a major component of this shift and it will contribute to a level playing field on the EU level, it is part of a broader global trend towards enforcing mandatory compliance to safeguard human rights and the environment. This evolving framework is essential for companies around the world, including those in Cambodia, where local manufacturers in sectors such as textile, agriculture, and electronics are deeply integrated into global supply chains.

With the German Due Diligence Act fully in effect and the formal adoption of the EU CSDDD expected for end of April, and other regions also stepping up their regulatory frameworks, it is crucial for Cambodian businesses and government entities to grasp these developments. Understanding and adapting to these mandatory due diligence requirements as well as to changing consumer demands for ethical practices is not merely about maintaining market access but about leading in sustainable business practices and thereby, securing sustainable and resilient supply chains.

This event aims to discuss the principles of these global standards such as the principle of a shared responsibility and their potential implications for Cambodia's key industries. By fostering a deep understanding and proactive adaptation among stakeholders, Cambodia can enhance its competitiveness and ensure compliance, thereby securing a sustainable future for its industries amid more stringent requirements.

## Objectives

This event aims to bring together key players from the government, main exporting sectors, including textiles, agriculture, and electronics, and civil society with the aim to:

- **Explore Global Mandatory Due Diligence Standards:** Discuss the principles of responsible business conduct and international regulations (such as those initiated within the EU and other similar legislations) and the potential implications for Cambodian businesses in textiles, agriculture, and electronics.
- **Exchange Knowledge Across Sectors:** Share insights and best practices on implementing responsible business practices and adapting to mandatory due diligence, emphasizing practical approaches for Cambodian industries.
- **Foster Collaborative Approaches:** Enhance dialogue and cooperation among all stakeholders along the value chain and to prepare and equip stakeholders with the strategies and tools needed to comply with mandatory standards and maintain competitiveness in the global market.

Join us for this crucial discussion and equip yourself with the knowledge to navigate the new landscape of sustainable business practices! **Please register until 3<sup>rd</sup> May 2024 [via this link](#).**

## Agenda

Time	Agenda Items	Speakers
8:30 - 9:00am	<b>Registration</b>	
9:00 - 9:05am	<b>Welcome Remarks</b>	Martin Brisson, Director, EuroCham Cambodia
9:05 - 9:15am	<b>Opening Remarks</b> - Germany's role in the Human Rights and Environmental Due Diligence (HREDD) Journey	Jost Kadel, Deputy Head of Mission and Head of Development Cooperation, Embassy of the Federal Republic of Germany
9:15 - 9:25am	<b>Opening Remarks</b> - The importance of Responsible Business Conduct for the Cambodian Economy	H.E. Lim Suyhong, Under-Secretary of State, Ministry of Labour and Vocational Training
9:25 - 10:10am	<b>Unlocking the Rationale of mHREDD Legislations:</b> A moderated Conversation on Implementation, Learnings, and the Road Ahead	Koen Everaert, First Secretary, Delegation of the EU to Cambodia  Reinhard Junker, Acting Head of Unit Transformation of Sustainable Supply Chains, Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ)
10:10 - 10:30am	<b>Coffee break</b>	
10:30 - 11:10am	<b>Insights from the Ground</b>  <b>Preparing for Change:</b> Understanding and navigating potential Implications on Cambodian Supply Chains  <b>Empowering Change:</b> Sharing Good Practices for Responsible Business Conduct from the Textile and Agriculture sector	Archana Kotecha, Founder and CEO, Remedy Project  Tiv Samaun, Compliance Manager, Dewhirst (Cambodia) Co., Ltd.  Agricultural Company with Best Practice Representative, TBC
11:10 - 12:05am	<b>Achieving Future-Readiness:</b> Challenges and Opportunities for Cambodia's Key Industries  Q&A	Ken Loo, Secretary General, TAFTAC  Chi Q. Do, Director, Asia Public Policy, Responsible Business Alliance  Chhin Sophal, Board Member, Cambodia Cashew Federation, and Chairman, ROYAL TRUST TRADING CO., Ltd.



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		Kong Athit, President, Coalition of Cambodia Apparel Workers Democratic Union
12:05 - 12:15pm	<b>Closing Remarks</b>	Marc Beckmann, Program Director, GIZ FABRIC

Note: Khmer and English translation will be available.