

C2: Lobbying for Good

Bad law can inhibit good practices:

Case study 2 - labour law implementation

Some of China's labour laws aim to deliver a high standard of working conditions. In particular working hours are supposed to be restricted to 40 hours a week and no more than 36 overtime hours per month. In practice there are very few workplaces who even attempt to deliver this. The problems of implementation range from:

- hardly any effective implementation of this law;
- a step by step and haphazard approach by most labour departments which leaves most workers/managers/owners completely in the dark as to what the law is;
- a workforce in the new privatised sector who are marginalised by status (rural registration) and who have little interest in the overtime limit on hours;
- ineffective and almost non-existent trade union representation



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