

ETI Update



ethical
trading
initiative

Produced by the ETI Secretariat to keep members informed of our activities. To provide feedback or to make a contribution, contact Julia Hawkins: julia@eti.org.uk

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Bulletin board

Vacancy: China Project local co-ordinator – see page 6

Launch of Smallholder Guidelines

UK launch:

Thursday 22 September, 2pm

Kenya launch:

Wednesday 14 September, 10am

Annual General Meeting

Wednesday 23 November 2005

Meeting dates

Homeworkers Group

Wednesday 21 September

11 am – 2 pm

ETI offices

Smallholders Project

Thursday 9 March 2006

Time to be confirmed

ETI offices

Sri Lanka Garments Project

Teleconference

Friday 2 September

4 pm

TLWG

Wednesday 28 September

2 – 5 pm

ETI offices

Purchasing practices

27 October, 12– 3 pm

ETI offices

Projects and Working Groups

China Project Group

Exploring tripartite collaboration for change

OHS project progress. The OHS project group has agreed:

- an activity schedule for the project;
- to write a briefing document for local suppliers to explain the project;
- preparatory activities and an itinerary for the October visit to Hong and China to recruit a local co-ordinator for the project.

Recruitment of China Co-ordinator. In early July we circulated an advert and job description for a local co-ordinator to facilitate the OHS project. Details can be found on the ETI website and on page 6 of this Update. Please forward details of this role to anyone you think might be interested. The closing date for applications is **5 September**. Shortlisting will take place that week and interviews will be held during the week commencing 9 October in either Guangzhou or Hong Kong.

Contact Fiona Mabbott: fiona@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/china

Homeworkers Project

Applying the Base Code to an invisible workforce: examining fabric embellishment in India

Guideline development moving apace. The UK and Delhi groups are combining their drafts into a single document and working to complete as much as possible in readiness for October's tripartite visit.

Delhi visit. The visit to Delhi goes ahead from 18 – 20 Oct 2005, with representatives from Community Trade Union, the National Group on Homeworking and corporate group members travelling to meet the Delhi group for the first time. UK-based buyers and technologists will also be represented. The visit aims to increase participants' exposure to homeworking environments; encourage

understanding of how buying practices can impact on homeworkers, and offer an opportunity to consult on the draft guidelines with wider stakeholders.

Next meeting

Wednesday 21 September, 11 am – 2 pm
ETI offices

Contact Liz Kirk: liz@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/hmwkr

Smallholders Project

Progressing the Base Code through the supply chain: developing guidelines for working with smallholders

ETI smallholder guidelines now in print. The guidelines will be launched in three languages and three countries in September: in Kenya (Wed 14); in the UK (Thurs 22); and by group member companies in Spain in mid-September. They will be on the website in English, Kiswahili and Spanish from 22 September. A group representative will also present on the guidelines at the EurepGAP conference in Paris in October.

The group will meet in March next year to hold a workshop looking at uptake and company experience of using the tool. Member companies interested in trialing the guidelines and feeding into this learning workshop are urged to contact the Project Manager.

The next meeting, which will take the form of a half-day learning workshop, will be held on 9 March 2006 at the ETI offices. Time to be confirmed.

"The Ethical Tea Partnership welcomes these new guidelines. We are now actively considering how to develop them into a practical methodology so we can better engage with the smallholder sector in the future"

Gavin Bailey
Executive Director Ethical Tea Partnership

Contact Liz Kirk: liz@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/smlhldr

Sri Lanka Garments Project

Testing different audit approaches in the ready-made garments industry

Audits progress. The UK group has analysed the results and drawn out lessons from the audits in the first three factories. Audits in the fourth factory will be carried out in late August.

Trip to Sri Lanka. All UK group representatives will visit Sri Lanka on 30 September and 1 October to meet with key local stakeholders, compare the analysis of the two groups, agree changes to the audit approaches, plan the next round of trials and agree a strategy for engaging wider stakeholders. Preparations for the visit are well underway.

Project management handover. Juliet has now handed over management of the project to Liz Kirk. Sri Lanka co-ordinator Sonali Guneseckera will be at ETI's London offices on 2 September to meet Liz and participate in preparations for the UK Group's visit to Colombo later that month.

Next UK Group teleconference:
2 September, 4pm

Next Colombo Group meeting:
5 September, Colombo

Contact Liz Kirk: liz@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/srigarm

Temporary Labour (Gangmaster) Working Group

Towards a licence to operate: designing a code of practice and inspection process for providers of temporary labour in UK agriculture

Steady progress on the project continues. We can report the following since the last *Update*:

Registrations still growing: So far, 686 labour providers have registered their intent to comply with the TLWG code. Of these, 87 have been audited and a further 316 have booked audits. Two of the audit firms are now booking into January 2006.

Delisting of labour providers. In early July, the Group de-listed just over 100 labour providers who had registered, but then failed to book an audit or consultancy advice in the time required. More labour providers are likely to be de-listed in the week commencing 22 August.

Increased auditor capacity: A second auditor course was held on 20 and 21 July. A further 7 auditors were trained and all are scheduled to have had their first audit 'witnessed' by the end of September. The group now has capacity to have 500 audits completed by April next year.

Planned TLWG website update. The TLWG website (www.lpcode.co.uk) will be updated in the next fortnight. Revised documents and clearer explanations of the system will be included.

Transition to GLA. ETI and Impactt will submit a proposal in September to fund the TLWG's work on managing transition of the audit process to the GLA. This proposal will be shared with the TLWG at its next meeting.

Next TLWG meeting
28 September, 2-5pm
ETI offices

Contact Fiona Mabbott: fiona@eti.org.uk
www.lpcode.co.uk

Purchasing Practices Project

Exploring how common purchasing practices affect suppliers' ability to meet international labour standards

Project MOU and Confidentiality Agreement Approved. Group members are reminded to return their signed copy to Helen Turner at the Secretariat. Each participating company member is continuing to work with a nominated NGO and/or union to develop a plan for their individual company case study. These will be discussed at the meeting in October.

Project management handover. Juliet has now handed over management of the Project to Helen Turner.

Next meeting

27 October, 12 – 3 pm
ETI offices

Contact: Helen Turner: helen@eti.org.uk

Membership support and development

Membership applications

The following membership applications will be put forward to the ETI Board in September:

Inditex: the second largest fashion retailer group in the world. It owns eight fashion distribution chains including Zara, Mango and Massimo Dutti. In 2004 its turnover was €5.6bn; it had 2,244 stores in 56 countries and 47,046 employees.

Rombouts GB: the UK distributor for Rombouts Belgium, family-owned coffee company based in Belgium. RGB is part of RHM Food Services. Its turnover is around £10m.

Greencell: a £40m-turnover fresh fruit importer whose customers include Waitrose, Lidl and Delmonte.

The Windward Islands Banana Development and Exporting Company Limited (WIBEDCO): a private company set up to drive the commercial development and interests of the Windward Islands banana industry.

New handbook for corporate members

A new handbook has been prepared to help new corporate members find their way around ETI. Although it is primarily intended for those new to ETI, existing members will also find useful information on meeting dates, contact details of members, tips on how to communicate about ETI and guidance on participating in experimental projects. It is available in hard copy on request or in the 'Monitoring Corporate Performance' section in the members' section of the website.

Contact Santiago Porto: santiago@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/rprtng/index.shtml

Feedback on 2004 Annual Reports

Make time! Please make sure you book time with us to go through your feedback letter and targets for next year. More than 15 companies have already done so and at the same time benefited from guidance on using the new annual reporting framework!

Contact Santiago Porto santiago@eti.org.uk

ETI Website tip: Using the search facility

1. Click the 'search' button on the right hand side of the screen, just under the main menu on each page
2. Enter your search terms
3. Click 'google search'

Publications and events

Biennial Conference 2005

Conference section now online. We are pleased to announce that the ETI Biennial Conference 2005 section of the website is now online. At the click of a button you can access and download 45 presentations, 14 audio files from the plenary sessions, participant lists, conference press releases and many other resources.

Coming soon – conference briefing papers...

A set of briefing papers based on presentations and discussions from the conference will soon be available in the conference section of the website. The papers will provide new ideas and practical guidance to ethical trade practitioners struggling to address difficult challenges in code implementation.

<http://www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/lib/2005/05/eticonf/index.shtml> or visit links from the ETI home page and Events section.

Other ETI activities

ETI Impact Assessment

Final case study complete – preparation of final report underway. The final case study, focusing on UK horticulture, has now been completed. The IDS team is now preparing the final report of the overall findings and recommendations, according to a format agreed by the Impact Assessment Steering Group. The report will be finalised in early 2006. In the

meantime, please feel free to contact Man-Kwun if you would like further information on any of the preliminary findings.

Contact Man-Kwun Chan: man-kwun@eti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/rsproj/impact

ETI Training Development

All five training modules now ready. The ETI Training Quality Assurance Panel has now reviewed the final drafts of the training materials and process for modules 2 – 5.

The training courses will run from September onwards and will be open to members and non-members. A flyer will be circulated soon about these courses. In the meantime, the dates are below for your information.

BOOK NOW

Module 1 Introduction to ethical trade and ETI
28 September

Module 2 Developing and implementing an ethical trading policy
11/12 October

Module 3 Managing ethical supply chain issues
8/9 November

Module 4 Interfacing with Internal and External Stakeholders
23/30 November

Module 5 Train the trainers
22 – 26 Jan (5 days)

To book a place on a course contact Steve@co-op.ac.uk. ETI members receive a discount.

The formal launch of the training course will be held on 31 October in the Houses of Parliament.

Contact Fiona Mabbot: fiona@eti.org.uk

Child Labour

Following the closure of the India child labour project last year, a tripartite meeting to consult members on how ETI should approach this issue was held on 30 June. At that meeting it was agreed that in order to implement the Base Code clause on child labour, companies need:

- basic guidance/information
- models and toolkits
- influence and partnerships with suppliers

It was agreed that the first steps to producing such guidance for companies were to:

- negotiate agreement within a small and focused tripartite sub-group on a Terms of Reference which will set out the scope of the guidelines and the process for their development.
- review existing resources on the roles of the different parties (government, retailer, suppliers, trade unions, NGOs etc).

Trade Unions and NGOs already have volunteers (tbc at their September caucuses) to sit on the sub-group. Corporate members are asked at their September meeting to nominate one volunteer per caucus to sit on the sub-group. A fuller update will be circulated to all members with the September caucus meeting papers, where this will be on the agenda for discussion.

Contact Dan Rees: dan@dti.org.uk
www.ethicaltrade.org/Z/actvts/exproj/chlab

ETI and beyond

ETI in the media

Calling members' PR teams. Partly thanks to our new proactive media relations strategy, both coverage and media interest in ETI and ethical trade is growing. To help the Secretariat communicate more effectively with members on media relations we plan to set up an e-network for ETI PR staff so we can:

- alert your PR teams to upcoming issues
- inform them about ETI's response to major stories
- share proactive and reactive messages
- send both positive and negative coverage about ETI when it happens.

If your organisation would like to participate in this, please forward the names and contact details of

your relevant press/PR staff to Julia.

Media coverage. An interview with Alan Roberts on the Kenya Flowers Project for Radio Four's Costing the Earth was broadcasted on Thursday 28 July. Contact Julia at the Secretariat if you would like a recording of the programme.

Contact Julia Hawkins: julia@eti.org.uk

Recent contacts

We are in ongoing contact with the following companies regarding membership: Starbucks, New Balance, Airwair (Doc Martens boots manufacturer), Burberry, Whittards, Disney and Chorion (publishing and merchandising).

Contact Santiago Porto: santiago@eti.org.uk

European Parliament child labour report

European Parliament calls on European Commission to help abolish child labour. A report by the European Parliament published in July stated that despite the hundreds of millions spent by the EU and its member countries on education programmes in developing countries, few have effective strategies for getting children out of work and into school. The report includes recommendations outlined in a position paper by the Stop Child Labour Campaign. The European Parliament Report and the Common Position Paper on Child Labour and Education can be found at www.schoolisthebestplacetowork.org

Secretariat news

Secretariat staffing

All change in the Projects team. August and September are seeing significant staff changes in the Project Team: **Fiona Mabbott** arrived back in the office on 15 August after extended sick leave. **Juliet Edington** will go on maternity leave on 26 August, and **Liz Kirk** will become Acting Head of Projects from 1 September to cover for Juliet. Liz has also taken on management of the Sri Lanka project. **Pins Brown** will return from maternity leave on 26 September on a part-time basis

(Mondays and Thursdays plus one additional day every other week) to manage ETI's new work on Capacity Building.

And finally, we are delighted to welcome Helen Turner, who joined the Project Team on 15 August as a Project Manager (Maternity Cover). As well as spending several years working in Tanzania, Helen has significant experience with Accenture. She will be managing the Purchasing Practices project and working with Pins on capacity building.

Recruitment

Vacancy: China project co-ordinator

ETI is looking for a co-ordinator to manage the China-based work of the China Group's occupational health and safety project. The role will involve:

- facilitating the local project group and factory focused project teams,
- overseeing project work agreed in the UK and China/Hong Kong
- writing up all relevant project activities in order to share lessons learned.

The initial contract will be for 3-4 days per week for a six-month period starting in November 2005. The daily fee rate will be set according to the applicant's experience and location and ETI's guidelines. Full details and application forms are available on request from carol@eti.org.uk or from the ETI website. **Deadline 5 September 2005.**

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Disclaimer: The inclusion of information about other organisations and/or their events and activities does not necessarily imply endorsement by ETI