



Implemented by



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Dear readers,

We are delighted to share with you the fourth edition of our newsletter.

This newsletter provides highlights from all four areas of the project's intervention from June to September 2022.

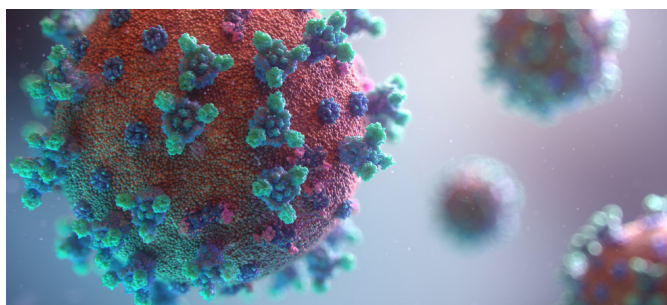
Do you want to know more about the project? Please click or scan the below QR code.

We hope you have a good read!





Output one - Improved worker support



The S.I.C. project conducted a COVID-19 awareness raising training to 8,292 factory workers, administrative and management staff in Debre Birhan, Kombolcha and Adama IPs. The aim of the training was to raise awareness on how the IP workers can protect and prevent the spreading of COVID-19 and other communicable diseases. All staff were trained within three rounds of training between May and June 2022.

Strong grievance mechanisms in IPs enable workers to access support when faced with work-place grievances. While factories operating in IPs have internal grievance systems in place as a clear requirement from their buyers, research shows there is a need for a neutral centre with clear follow-up process in support of the workers. In collaboration with International Labour Organization and BRIDGES Programme, the S.I.C. project supported the EIC's initiative to create a grievance call centre in HIP. The centre is established to address workers' grievances promptly, confidentially and provide appropriate referral support and advice to promote the physical, mental, and emotional well-being of workers. The centre provides standardized anonymous grievance recording and counselling services to workers through its dedicated phone line and in-person visit. This is vital to



safeguard the interests of vulnerable workers, particularly for serious matters such as gender-based violence or issues that contravene labour laws. The intervention also links affected workers to services offered outside the park to support the follow-up and aftercare.



In collaboration with EIC, S.I.C. conducted a validation workshop on a social and environmental audit conducted at Bole Lemi and Hawassa IPs. An external consultant presented the audit findings followed by a validation session of the report where the participants discussed on the key points and provided their inputs. In his remark, the Deputy Commissioner Mr. Daniel Teressa emphasized the need to strengthen collaboration with various actors to ensure social and environmental sustainability of IPs and companies to comply with the standards and its spill over effects.

Output two - Improved industrial park management



In collaboration with another GIZ implemented project, NatuReS, S.I.C. donated 13,137 seedlings to HIP on 12th of August 2022 in support of the Green Legacy initiative promoted by the Government of Ethiopia. In doing so, the project is contributing to the environmental sustainability of the park. The S.I.C. regional team in Hawassa joined the IPDC team in the planting event held in the HIP premises.

A six-day training on mobilising investments for housing was provided to 10 Industrial Parks Development Corporation (IPDC) staff. The training was conducted to build the capacity of IPDC staff on real-estate development and management with a focus on affordable housing for IP workers. The training covered: policies and governance structures; programs and financing mechanisms; real estate development including design, tendering, construction, and project management; real estate management including portfolio, asset, and property management.



Output three -Improved environmental sustainability in industrial parks



World Environment Day is the biggest international day for the environment celebrated on June 5. It is led by UN Environment Programme and held annually since 1974. The event has grown to be the largest global platform for environmental outreach, with millions of people

from across the world engaging to protect the planet. The S.I.C. project in partnership with Alliance for Water Stewardship supported the Adama IP in commemoration of the day. A panel discussion was held where the role of an Eco-Industrial Park in environmental sustainability, and AIP's environmental management system and its challenges were presented along with other on environmental sustainability specific topics followed by Q&A session with participants from the park, Adama University, the city administration, and the regional EPA office. The celebration was concluded by providing an awareness creation session to the IP workers and a cleaning activity in the park premises.

An international conference on triangular cooperation for promoting sustainable textile investments and operations in Ethiopia was held between 15th and 16th of September 2022. The conference had the objective of enhancing exchange on best manufacturing industries Environmental, Social and Governance (ESG) practises. It created a platform for policy discourse to raise awareness of ESG in Ethiopia while strengthening mutual learnings among mutual learnings among Ethiopia/ Chinese-owned companies, FDIs and key stakeholders. It brought together participants from the triangular cooperation, including policymakers, researchers and academicians, commerce, and business councils. The first day of the conference welcomed several speakers who presented various ESG topics, including: the baseline study findings; challenges faced by Ethiopian textile sector; the capacity building measures; and best practices; the role of FDIs and many more. MoU signing



ceremony between the Chinese National Textile & Apparel Council and the Ethiopian Manufacturing Industry Development Institute was held in the second day followed by a panel discussion on manufacturing industry development in Ethiopia. The conference was organized by the MoI, UNIDO, and S.I.C. project on behalf of the Sino-German Center for Sustainable Development.

Output four - Improved sustainability frameworks



The S.I.C. project supported the Environmental Protection Authority (EPA) to develop sludge management guideline and formulation of national sludge standard

and management tools which were endorsed by the state council in April 2022. Following that EPA and S.I.C project organized two round awareness creation workshop at Adama and Hosaena for inspectors, environmental law clinks, universities, environmental compliance officers and other stakeholders to enhance the compliance and enforcement capacity of the authority and implementation of sludge standard. The workshop familiarizes the participants with the newly endorsed sludge standard and sludge management tools, Environmental impact assessment proclamations, hazardous waste management proclamations and other relevant environmental procurations and regulations.



Strengthened linkages between locally-based businesses and industrial parks

After a delay of one year due to COVID-19, the Texworld Evolution Paris Fair took place between 4th and 6th of July in Paris, France. The Ethiopian Ministry of Industry (MoI) and the Ethiopian Investment Commission (EIC) joined forces with the S.I.C. project and Solidaridad Network to form a coalition of Export Champions. A combination of 10 local Ethiopian and foreign textile and garment factories were selected based on stringent criteria, such as product quality and production capacity, to showcase their products at the fair. The fair attracted more than 1,500 exhibitors from the fashion industry worldwide. While last year was challenging for the whole global supply chain, the “Made In Ethiopia” pavilion demonstrated that local and international industries proved highly resilient.



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