



SME ACTION ON FORCED LABOUR

Digital conference

Date: 11th of March 2022 | 14:30 - 16:00 CET | Register [here](#)

Overview

The responsibility to respect human rights applies to all businesses regardless of size, sector, or geography. Yet small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) are often overlooked by initiatives aiming to eradicate forced labour and drive responsible business conduct. This is at odds with the fact that SMEs make up 90 per cent of the private sector globally.

Given their reach and overall influence, SMEs could be catalysts in the fight against forced labour and play a crucial role in meeting Sustainable Development Target 8.7 by 2030. This conference is an opportunity to learn from SMEs that are leading the way and to hear from experts how they are supporting SMEs in the fight against forced labour.

Draft agenda

Time	Agenda item
14:30 – 14:40	Opening Deborah France-Massin, Director, Bureau for Employers’ Activities, ILO
14:40 – 15:20	Learning from SME action to prevent forced labour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Niels van den Beucken, Financial Director, Arte Groep Robert Okadia, Founder and Managing Director, Wimrob Bees Company Limited James Sinclair, Head of FSI Consulting, FSI Worldwide Q&A Facilitated by Laura Greene, Programme Technical Officer, ILO GBNFL
15:20 - 15:50	Supporting SMEs to prevent forced labour <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Colleen Theron, Sustainability lawyer and consultant, Ardea International Douglas Opio, Executive Director, Federation of Uganda Employers Houtan Homayounpour, Technical Specialist on Forced Labour, ILO Company representative Q&A Moderated by Matthias Thorns, Deputy Secretary-General, IOE
15:50 – 16:00	Closing: Matthias Thorns, Deputy Secretary-General, IOE