

Webinar Q&A

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1. Are factories in India & China able to join?

The project is open to businesses within the [BMZ country list](#), this includes India but not China currently.

2. What industries is this available for, only the Toy industry?

The project will be open to other sectors but currently we are prioritising businesses within the toy industry. Learnings will be shared with all industries it will be a very open project.

3. What is the plan after the project ends? How can factories sustain improvements without external support?

One of the main purposes of the joint collaboration is to ensure effective communication with the factories and enabling a sustainable initiative.

4. What cost is involved and can you clarify what payment in kind means here?

Project partners may contribute to the project either cash or in the form of services (in-kind contributions). In-kind contributions are non-cash inputs provided by the private sector partner that directly support the implementation of the project. Typical examples include staff time dedicated to project activities, use of company personnel, travel expenses, material, training delivery and operational resources made available to the project. For example, if a partner company provides an in-house trainer to conduct a training session for the target group. This example constitutes a private sector, in-kind contribution, even though no financial transaction takes place. The programme develoPPP does not audit cost items, contributions are aggregated in simple excel-sheets and are reported on a trust-based principle.

5. Why do you need contributions from brands or buyers?

Private sector contributions from eligible companies are a core element of the develoPPP programme, as they form the basis for the matchmaking with public funding provided on behalf of the German Government.

Through this public–private partnership approach, develoPPP mobilizes up to **50% of the total project costs from public funds**, based on the total volume of private contributions, including both cash and in-kind inputs. This pooling of resources increases the overall scale, quality, and impact of the project and creates added value beyond what individual actors could achieve on their own.

Private contributions are not audited at the level of individual cost items. Instead, they are pooled, and participating companies are required to report in a simple and pragmatic manner on the activities they have already implemented or contributed to within the joint project and their related costs.

Contributions from brands and buyers are particularly important because they bring market knowledge, demand-side commitment, and strategic leverage along the value chain. Their involvement strengthens the relevance of project activities, increases the likelihood of sustainable implementation, and enhances the project’s potential for long-term impact and scalability.

6. Will information on the products I produce in my factory be shared?

We understand and respect the confidentiality concerns of factories and will not be sharing this kind of information in this project. Only information relating to Sustainable Chemistry practices (replicable in any factory), materials and social standards will be shared.

7. Alongside these financial and operational minimum requirements, does develoPPP also consider baseline expectations around responsible business conduct when assessing company eligibility?

GIZ conducts Business Partner Screenings, a mandatory risk-assessment process to ensure that all partners meet legal, ethical, financial, and sustainability standards before working together.

8. How are long-term SDG contributions and value-for-money considerations weighed together during project assessment?

One of develoPPP's criteria is that projects must contribute long-term to the SDGs. When it comes to value-for money considerations, we examine the overall budget, the size of the target group and the envisaged outcome of the project.

9. How do you hope this project will change the way companies and factories approach sustainability in the longer term?

In the long term, this project aims to embed sustainability as a core business practice across companies and factories, rather than treating it as a compliance exercise. By strengthening local factory capacities through training and knowledge transfer, it enables lasting improvements and greater ownership of sustainability performance.

The project improves chemical management and production practices to ensure safe and healthy working conditions, while encouraging the use of sustainable recycled materials to support circular manufacturing and reduced resource use. A gender-sensitive approach to occupational health and safety, including female-friendly grievance mechanisms, helps create more inclusive and equitable workplaces.

By anchoring shared sustainability expectations and good practices across the global toy industry and key stakeholders, the project supports systemic change and raises long-term sustainability standards throughout the sector.

10. On the grievance-mechanism work package, how will effectiveness be assessed in practice and how will responsibilities be split?

The ESCP Worker Helpline, launched in 2010, is a people led service not an App. All cases are remediated to the individual's satisfaction and understanding. We report on Helpline impact including numbers, reasons etc every year publicly. We support factory management to build capability and workers are engaged regularly.

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For further follow-up questions, reach out to us at:

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