



In 2015, SMART Myanmar, a project funded by the European Union and co-funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development, organized a meeting of 17 European brands and retailers, to promote responsible manufacturing practices, especially the project launched the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association's first-ever Code of Conduct for member factories, and linked interested European buyers with garment exporters in Myanmar able to comply with international standards of social compliance

Inspired by this earlier conference, SMART Myanmar organized in 2018 a "**Myanmar Buyers' Forum**" for the garment and textile industry. Last year's conference was also organized in cooperation with the DFID-funded Business Innovation Facility project. From the SMART Myanmar project consortium, partners sequa gGmbH, the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) and the Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers (AVE) jointly organized and planned a 2-day agenda focused on giving space for brand & retailers to discuss topics jointly and an opportunity to hear insights from diverse stakeholders based in Myanmar on the following day.

The **2019 Myanmar Buyers' Forum** will once again gather together brands & retailers in Yangon to discuss issues related to Myanmar's economic growth, responsible product sourcing and joint efforts to promote sustainable consumption and production practices across the Myanmar garment, textile and footwear industries.

Overview of activities & participants:

May 23rd

2019 Buyers' Forum | meeting for buyers, full agenda on page 2

May 24th

2019 Buyers' Forum - Conference with stakeholders | full agenda on page 3

Confirmed buyer-side participants for May 23rd & 24th include 40 persons from...

- | | |
|--------------------|---------------------|
| 1) H&M | 13) Next |
| 2) Fast Retailing | 14) Aldi |
| 3) Lindex | 15) Novi Footwear |
| 4) GAP | 16) KappAhl |
| 5) Li & Fung | 17) Gueldenpfennig |
| 6) L.L. Bean | 18) JLC Sourcing |
| 7) Marks & Spencer | 19) Inditex |
| 8) G-Star | 20) C&A |
| 9) Primark | 21) Miles Group |
| 10) Lidl | 22) Deichmann Group |
| 11) Decathlon | 23) Esprit |
| 12) New Look | |





2019 Myanmar Buyers' Forum (draft agenda)



May 23rd, 2019 - Sedona Hotel, Yangon

Time	Agenda
8.30	<i>Registration</i>
8.50	Welcome remarks by Ms. Andrea Breyer, Head of Policy/Sustainability, AVE
9.00	Grappling with challenges: Political risk & responsible sourcing - Keynote presentation, Ms. Vicky Bowman, Director of Myanmar Centre for Responsible Business
9.30	The evolving legal landscape - Updates on the tripartite process to implement labour law reform. Mr. Rory Mungoven, International Labour Organization's Liaison Officer in Myanmar.
10.00	Progress beyond the headlines - Apparel industry perspective from 2013 to 2019 - Mr. Jacob A. Clere, Team Leader, SMART Myanmar
10.30	Tea/coffee & networking
11.00	Perspectives on sourcing in Myanmar, from engagement with ETI members - Ms. Grace Gao, Capacity Building Advisor, Ethical Trading Initiative
11.10	Overview of 2019 Workplace Safety & Health Law and 2018 Leave and Holiday Act - Mr. Fabian Lorenz, Lawyer, Luther Law
11.45	Observations on labour relations and social compliance - Ms. Nancy Feng, Senior Technical Expert, SMART Myanmar
12.20	Lunch break
13.20	Recap of morning session , Andrea Breyer, AVE
13.30	Brief remarks on coordinated brand activities , Mr. Terence Simon, KappAhl
13.40	Skilling & standardizing - Presentation on industry skills development. Ms. Sue Tym, Director, Skills Component of Aung Myin Hmu
14.05	Introduction to breakout groups, then breakout sessions on... 1. Trade & business environment (facilitator, Jacob Clere) 2. Skills development & training needs (facilitator, Sue Tym) 3. Industrial relations and social compliance (facilitator, Nancy Feng)
14.30	Tea/coffee & networking
15.00	Continue in breakout groups...
16.30	Reconvene as full group. Present priorities identified during breakout groups.
16.50	Concluding remarks , Ms. Andrea Breyer, AVE
17.00	Reception hosted by Luther Law firm and Bollore Logistics until 18.30





2019 Myanmar Buyers' Forum *(draft agenda)*



May 24th, 2019 - Sedona Hotel, Yangon

Time	Agenda
8.15	<i>Registration</i>
8.55	Introduction by Andrea Breyer, Head of Policy/Sustainability, AVE
9.00	Opening remarks by H.E. U Thein Swe , Union Minister of Labour, Immigration & Population
9.20	Welcome remarks by H.E. Mr. Kristian Schmidt , European Union Ambassador to Myanmar
9.30	The Myanmar apparel industry in 2019 - Daw Khine Khine Nwe, Secretary General, Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association
10.00	Trade and investment with the EU trends and considerations - Mr. Filip Lauwerysen, Executive Director, EuroCham Myanmar
10.30	tea/coffee & networking / photo sessions for VIPs
10.55	From ports to potholes: overview of logistics infrastructure and recent developments - Representative from Bollore Logistics
11.15	Introduction to breakout groups - Andrea Breyer, AVE
11.25	Breakout groups (Inya Room, Yankin Room and 3rd room TBC) 1. Trade & business (facilitator, Jacob Clere) / brief remarks by Director General of Ministry of Commerce 2. Skills development & training needs (facilitator, Sue Tym) / brief remarks by Director General of Ministry of Education 3. Industrial relations & social/environmental compliance / brief remarks by Director General of Ministry of Labour, Immigration & Population (facilitator, Nancy Feng)
12.45	lunch break
13.45	breakout groups continue in separate rooms...
15.00	tea/coffee & networking
15.30	Reconvene in plenary. Presentation of highlights from discussions and concluding remarks, Andrea Breyer, AVE
16.15	Factory investor perspectives - Wrap-up panel discussion with Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association, Chinese Textile & Garment Association in Myanmar, Korean Garment Association in Myanmar and Hong Kong Myanmar Manufacturers Association - moderated by Nancy Feng, SMART Myanmar





2019 Myanmar Buyers' Forum *(draft agenda)*



SMART Myanmar is funded by the European Union and co-funded by the German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development. This conference is free-of-charge for participants. The SMART project cannot provide participants with assistance for travel expenses or visas.

Venue details:

May 23rd - - **Yankin Room**, Sedona Hotel

May 24th - - **Inya Room**, Sedona Hotel

Sedona Hotel
No. 1 Kabar Aye Pagoda Rd.
Yankin Township, Yangon

