Protecting garment sector workers: occupational safety and health and income support in response to COVID-19 pandemic Post Distribution Monitoring Key Findings in Lao PDR



Program to achieve two objectives



To protect employees, workers and their families from the direct and indirect risks of the COVID-19 pandemic

To cushion enterprises against immediate employment and income losses and compensate workers for the loss of income due to the COVID-19

In partnership with:









LAO People's Democratic Republic Vientiane capital, Savannakhet and Champasack provinces



Income support distribution from February to November 2021

20.698 beneficiary workers in 47 factories



900,000kip (KN) (c. US\$100) equivalent to two months wage delivered once

factories surveyed



had to suspend operations due to COVID-19 prevention measures for a period of 11 to 365 days

reported the suspension of operations due to other factors

was preparing to

terminate its

operations

had suspended operations temporarily

80%

migrated from other provinces

77%

60%

lived in factory dormitory or rental apartment

diseases

4%

due to COVID-19 infection



interviewed

Delivery of income support

Income support payment modality

account/card

96.22%

0.29%

account

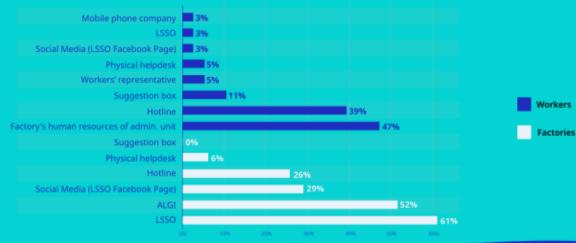
3,5%

money account

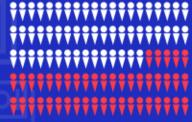
Timeliness of income support



Percentage of surveyed workers and factories that have used the following complaint and feedback channels



The outcome



LSSO or inactive; newly recruited; workers who did not have a bank account or could not be contacted 55% of surveyed workers received income support

45% of surveyed workers

Use of support



Remittance to family 19.29

Household items 8.5%

Rent **7.0%**

Utilities and bills 5.0%

Savings **4.4%**

Clothing and shoes 3.9%

Debt payment 1.8%

Health services 2.3%

Other **7.3%**

Perceived impacts

Perceived positive changes in workers' lives



better sleep; increased feelings of security; better protection and improved healthcare

Reduced stress; increased ability to prepare food;

Perceived impacts on factories



Less stressed, more cheerful and active workers, better working atmosphere, reduced burden on factory, better ability to retain workers, more stable production at the factory

Impact on LSSO \leftrightarrow

that had access to social security; increased

Increase in the number of garment workers

awareness of social security rights

