



MYANMAR GARMENTS MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION

October 2021, Issue

NEWSLETTER

Garment Stakeholder Round Table Discussion

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Snapshot of the Myanmar Garment Sector

September 2021



Currently operating: **600+**
MGMA members: **489**



Current total workforce: **487,000**
MGMA members: **408,000 (84.5% female)**

Since the COVID-19 pandemic:



Factory closures: **134**
Permanent: **36** (23 in 2020, 13 in 2021)
Temporary: **98** (43 in 2020, 55 in 2021)*



Jobs lost: **157,000 (24.38%)**
MGMA members: **83,000 (16.9%)**

Based on data by Social Security Board and MGMA, 31 August 2021.
* Up to 13 September 2021

Myanmar Garment
Manufacturers Association

website: myanmargarments.org
Twitter: @myanmargarments



Cash assistance to vulnerable garment workers



Occupational Safety & Health
Management Advanced ToT

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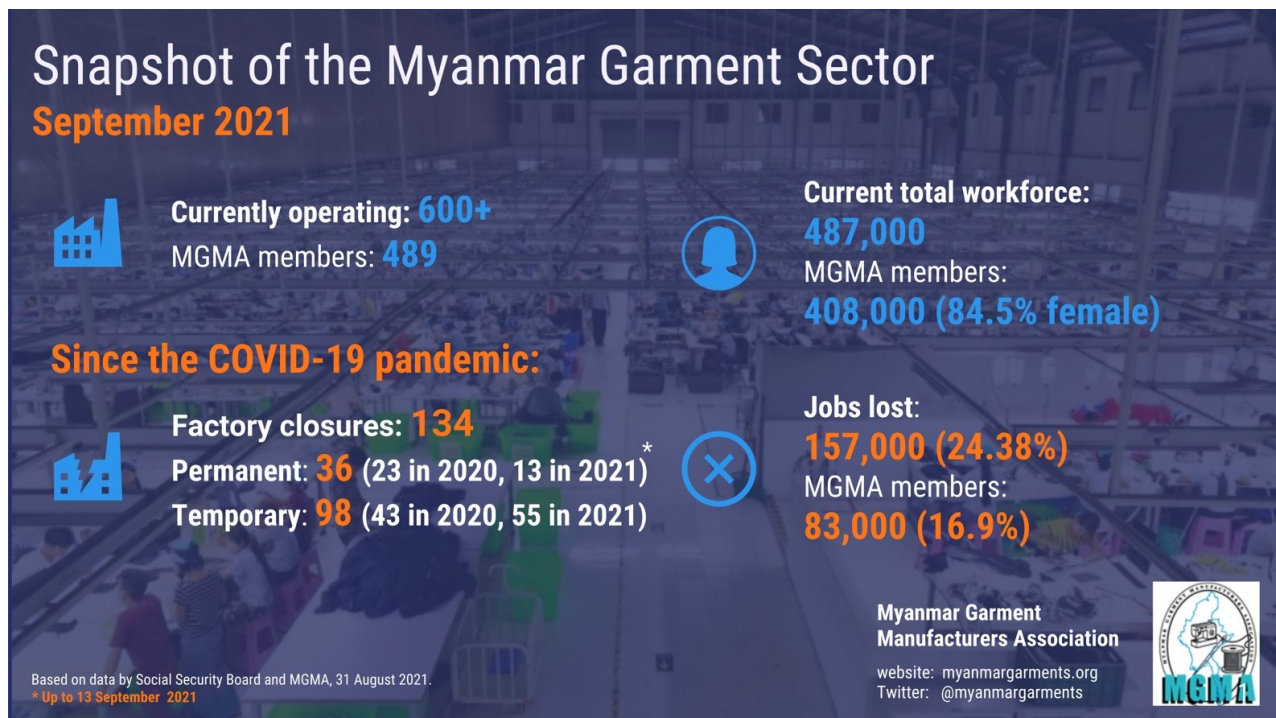
Upcoming Events

<i>No.</i>	<i>Descriptions</i>	<i>Date & Time</i>	<i>Venue</i>
1.	3rd MGMA Members' Day	11 th November 2021	Innya Lake Hotel
2.	Income Management In-Factory Training	15 th , 16 th November 2021	-
3.	Cash Assistance Program to Vulnerable Garment Workers	November (TCB)	-
4.	Social Compliance Workshop	November 2021 (TCB)	TCB
5.	MGMA Annual General Meeting (AGM)	December 2021 (TCB)	Online Webinar (TCB)

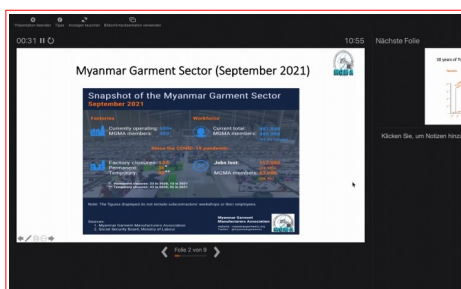
Membership Update

New Members in October 2021	10
Membership Update as of October 2021	10

Garment Stakeholder Round Table Discussion



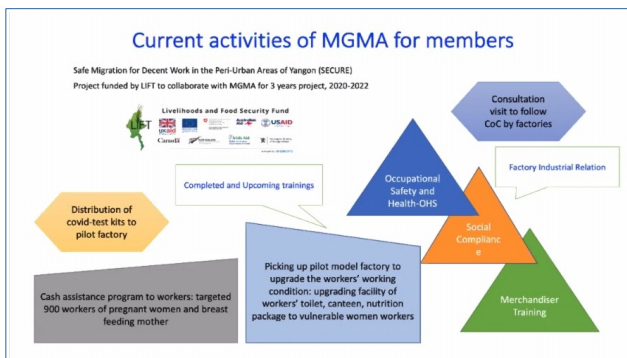
To exchange the ground information and data of current situation in garment sector and workers who are depending on the sector, to discuss for survival and thriving as a better industry, the Garment Stakeholder Round Table Discussion was held on 14 Oct by virtual webinar in coordination between Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) and Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers - AVE. The discussion webinar was moderated by AVE and attended by the MGMA Chairman, U Myint Soe, Secretary General Daw Khine Khine Nwe, and members of executive committee, dignitaries from Smart Myanmar, Center of Economic and Social Development (CESD), Myanmar Center for Responsible Business (MCRB), EIRIS Foundation, and representatives of multinational companies (Buyer/Brand) sourcing in the industry.



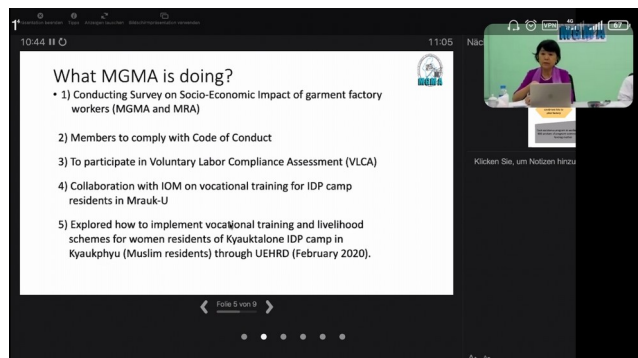
In the webinar, MGMA Secretary General Daw Khine Khine Nwe presented and discuss about the industry's current situation, the workers depending on and other ground information. And she continuously presented the MGMA's perspective on current situation in the industry and ongoing activities of the association.

The project team leader of Smart Myanmar, Mr. Jacob presented their survey results of interviewing 1996 workers during from Jun to Sep 2021. Smart Myanmar is funded by European Union and co-funded by private sector partners. The organization aims at improving working conditions, promoting labor and environmental standards, and reducing labor right abuses in textile and garment industry.

Moreover, the Director of DESD, U Min Zar Ni presented the data of an ongoing survey, and dignitaries from MCRB and EIRI Foundation presented their findings respectively. The representative of multinational company (Buyer/Brand) mentioned huge pressure on them and business impediments.



current activities of MGMA



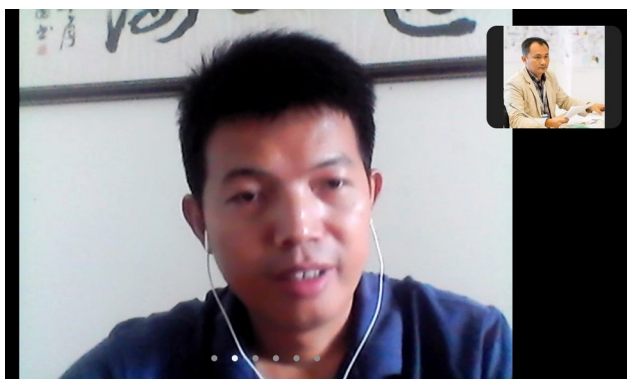
MGMA Secretary General conducting presentation



conductor fro AVE hosting the webinar



buyer/brand representative



Mr. Roger
Chinese Textile & Garment Manufacturers Association in Myanmar

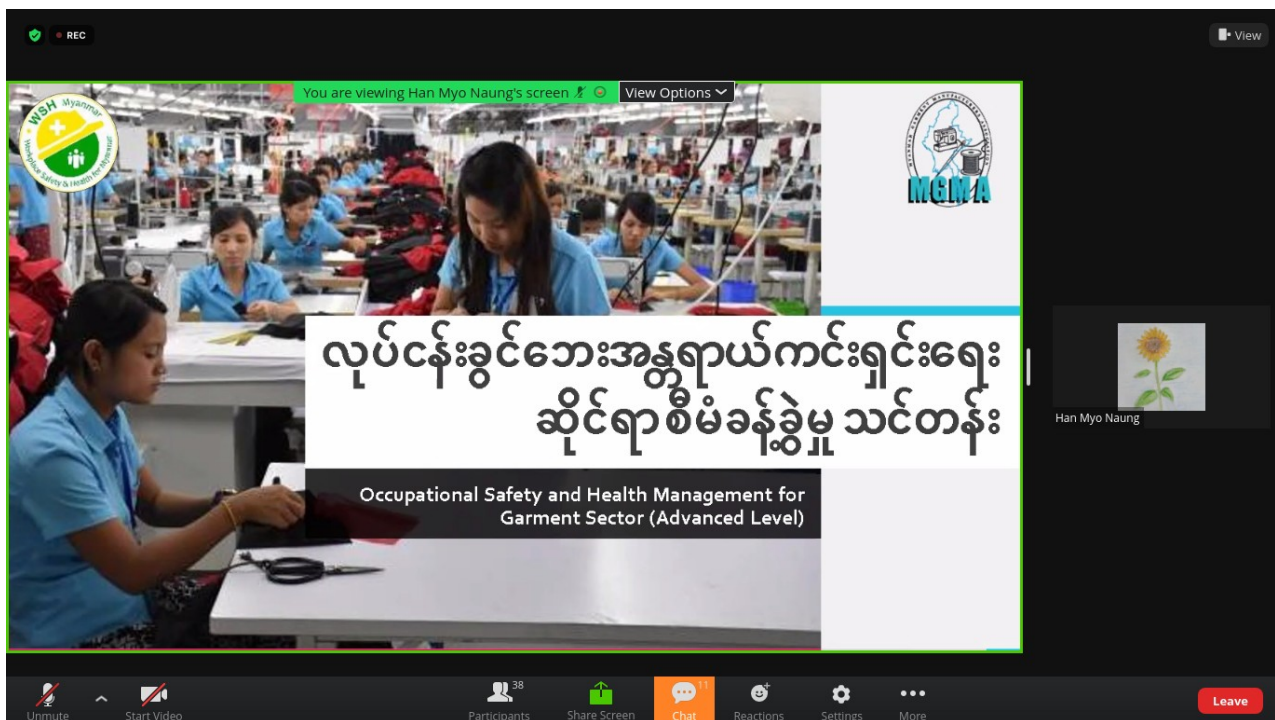


MGMA Chairman, Secretary General, CECs, ECs and MD
Joining the webinar

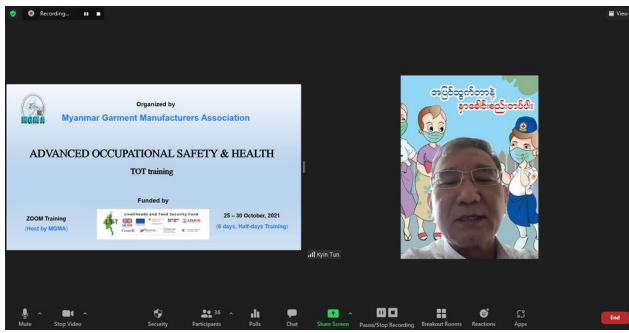
All the participants actively discussed for survival and thriving of the industry in which over 500 factories are still operating and almost five hundred thousand workers including 85% of women are relying on it as their livelihoods. Finally the webinar was successfully concluded by the moderator from AVE after the active discussions of all stakeholders.

Occupational Safety and Health Management ToT Advanced Level Training

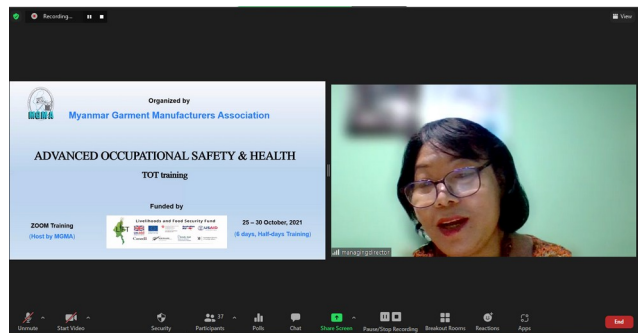
The collaboration project between Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association (MGMA) and ActionAid Myanmar (AAM) had already organized four batches of "Occupational Safety and Health (Introduction to Safety Management System) ToT". After those introductory level trainings were successfully provided, the training of "Occupational Safety and Health Management (Advanced Level ToT)" was conducted on 25-30 October 2021 by online virtual system. The training was attended by managers, supervisors and responsible persons from management departments and CSR compliance department of the member factories, 30 participants in total. The MGMA Managing Director, Daw Aye Mi Shein spoke opening remarks and [WSH Myanmar](#) delivered the training.



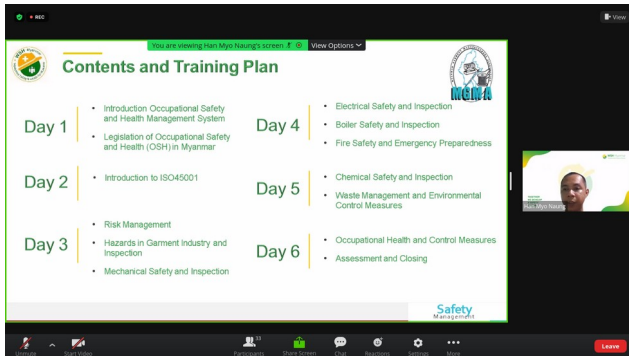
As the training is an advanced level training on managing occupational safety and health in workplaces of manufacturing factories and a tailor-made training course focusing on the garment sector, there were many registration for attending the training. Therefore the next training of "Occupational Safety and Health Management (Advanced Level ToT)" is scheduled to provide on 22-17 November 2021.



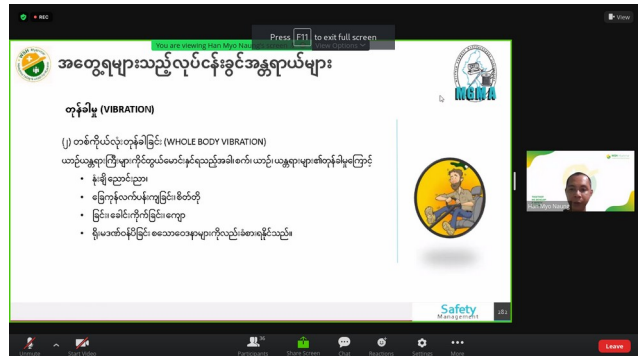
MGMA Joint Secretary U Kyin Tun
Delivering Closing Speech



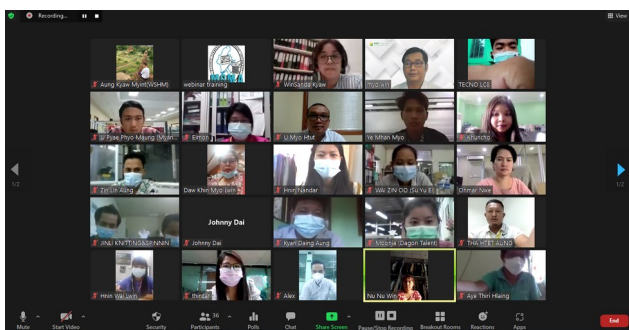
MGMA Managing Director Daw Aye Mi Shein
Delivering Opening Speech



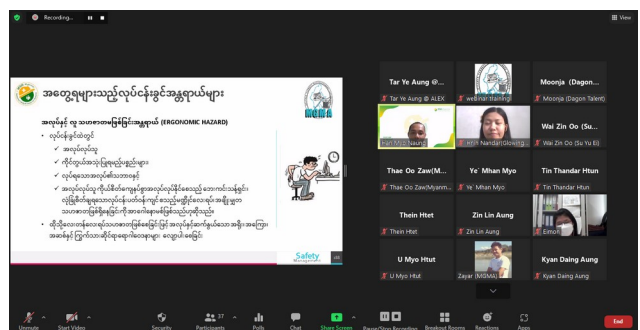
Contents and Training Plans



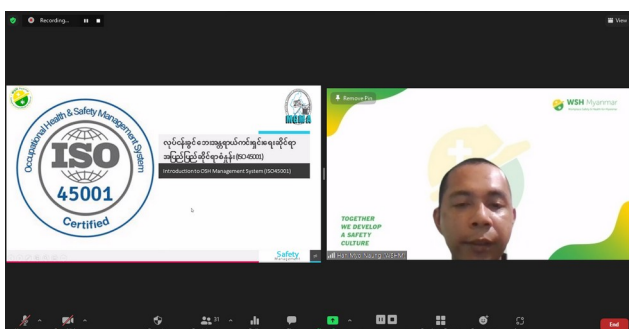
A training slide



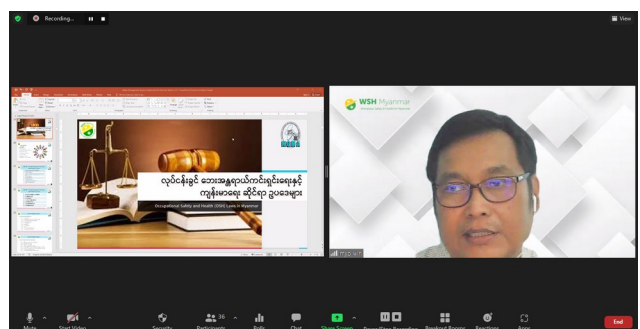
Participants in the training



Training slide and participants



The trainer conducting presentation



The trainer conducting presentation

Urging Members to Participate in Voluntary Labor Compliance Assessment Program and Follow the Labor Law Provisions

There were many factory closures, downsizing and losing job opportunity due to the consequence of COVID-19 global pandemic outbreak as other industries experienced. Now, MGMA has over 600 factories as its members and almost 500 out of them are continuously operating. And it is necessarily required to secure job opportunities by complying with the national labor laws and code of conduct (CoC) promulgated by MGMA.



MYANMAR GARMENT MANUFACTURERS ASSOCIATION
မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ အထည်ချုပ်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များ အသင်း

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တိုက်တွန်းခြင်း

သို့

အသင်းဝင် ကုမ္ပဏီ/စက်ရုံများအားလုံး
မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ အထည်ချုပ်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များ အသင်း

ရက်စွဲ။ ။ ၂၀၂၁ ခုနှစ်၊ အောက်တိုဘာလ (၆) ရက်။

အကြောင်းအရာ။ ။ အလုပ်သမားဥပဒေ ပြဋ္ဌာန်းချက်များကို လေးစားလိုက်နာပြီး အသင်း၏ "Voluntary Labour Compliance Assessment" စစ်ဆေးခြင်း လုပ်ငန်းစဉ်တွင် ပူးပေါင်းပါဝင် ဆောင်ရွက်ကြရန် တိုက်တွန်းခြင်း။

၁။ မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ၏ အထည်ချုပ်လုပ်ငန်းကဏ္ဍသည် ၂၀၂၁ ခုနှစ်၊ နှစ်ဆန်းပိုင်းမှစ၍ ကမ္ဘာ့တစ်ဝန်းဖြစ်ပွားခဲ့သော COVID-19 ကပ်ရောဂါနှင့် အခြား ပြဿနာကြောင့် ပြည်ပ ဖြစ်ရပ်များ၏ ချောက်ဆက်သွယ် သက်ရောက်မှုများကို ခံစားရလျက်ရှိပါသည်။ စက်ရုံ၊ အလုပ်ရုံ ပိတ်သိမ်းခဲ့ရမှုများ၊ ရှိသကဲ့သို့ လုပ်သားအင်အား လျော့ချမှုများနှင့်အတူ အလုပ်အကိုင်ဆုံးရှုံးမှုများစွာလည်း ရှိခဲ့ပါသည်။

၂။ ယခုအခါ MGMA ၏ အသင်းဝင် စုစုပေါင်း ၆၀၀ ကျော်ရှိသည့်အနက် စက်ရုံပေါင်း ၅၀၀ နီးပါးမှာ လက်ရှိ လုပ်ငန်းများ ဆက်လက် လုပ်ကိုင်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ထိုသို့ လုပ်ကိုင်လျက်ရှိရာတွင် ကဏ္ဍတစ်ခုလုံး ဆက်လက်လုပ်ကိုင်နိုင်ရေးအတွက် လုပ်ငန်းများ ဆက်လက်လုပ်ကိုင်နိုင်အောင် အထည်ချုပ်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များနှင့် မြန်မာနိုင်ငံ အထည်ချုပ်လုပ်ငန်းရှင်များအသင်း (MGMA) တို့က ကြိုးပမ်းဆောင်ရွက်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။

၃။ လုပ်ငန်းများ ဆက်လက် လုပ်ကိုင်ရာတွင် အသင်းဝင်များအနေဖြင့် အလုပ်သမားဥပဒေ နှင့် အသင်းမှ ထုတ်ပြန်ထားသော ကျင့်ဝတ်စည်းကမ်းများ (Code of Conduct - CoC) တို့ကို လေးစားလိုက်နာ၍ အလုပ်သမား အခွင့်အရေးကို အကာအကွယ်ပေးလျက် အလုပ်အကိုင်အခွင့်အလမ်းများကို ဆက်လက်ထိန်းသိမ်းထားရန် လိုအပ်လျက်ရှိပါသည်။ ထို့ကဲ့သို့ ကြိုးပမ်းဆောင်ရွက်ရင်း အလုပ်အကိုင် အခွင့်အလမ်းများ ပိုမိုကောင်းမွန်လာအောင် ကြိုးပမ်းဆောင်ရွက်ရန်လည်း လိုအပ်ပါသည်။

၄။ MGMA အသင်းသည် "Voluntary Labour Compliance Assessment" ကို II O ACT/EMP နှင့် ပူးတွဲအကောင်အထည်ဖော်ခဲ့ပြီး ၂၀၂၁ ခုနှစ်၊ ဖေဖော်ဝါရီလ ၁၇ ရက်နေ့တွင် အသင်းဝင်စက်ရုံများသို့ တရားဝင် ကြေညာ၍ စက်ရုံနှစ်ခုအား pilot test အဖြစ် စစ်ဆေးအကဲဖြတ်ခဲ့ပြီး ဖြစ်ပါသည်။ ယင်း "Voluntary Labour

Therefore, MGMA issued a letter dated as 6 Oct 2021 to urge the member factories.

In the letter, MGMA urges all member factories to participate in Voluntary Labor Compliance Assessment program complying with the national labor law and MGMA CoC.

The member factories have to send the commitment letter signed by a responsible persons back to MGMA Office.

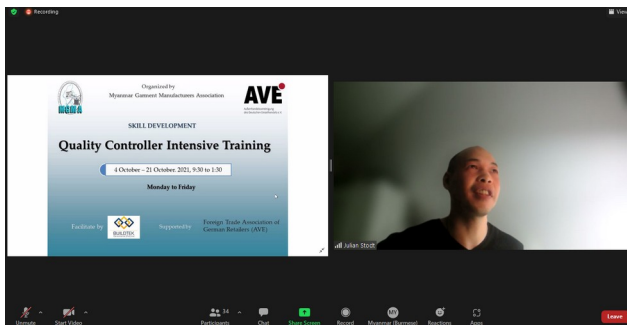
MGMA will collect commitment letters from all member factories and conduct Voluntary Labor Compliance Assessment program as planned.

Quality Controller Intensive ToT

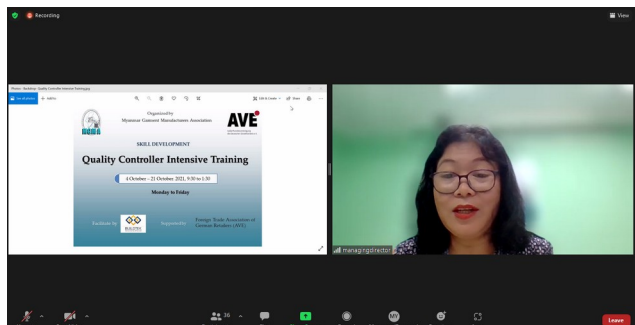
The collaboration project between MGMA and Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers - AVE organized Quality Controller Intensive Intensive ToT Training on 3-21 October 2021. MGMA Secretary General Daw Khine Khine Nwe spoke opening remarks and BUILDTEK Consultants [Pvt] Ltd. conducted the training. The quality controllers from member factories, the trainers from Myanmar Garment Human Resource Development Center (MGHRDC) and others, 39 participants in total attended the training.

The standards and methods of quality inspection and controlling and moreover, the lectures for presentation and communication skill were delivered in the training. As it is intensive training of trainers, the participants are supposed to forward the knowledge to relevant individuals in their respective factories or professional fields.

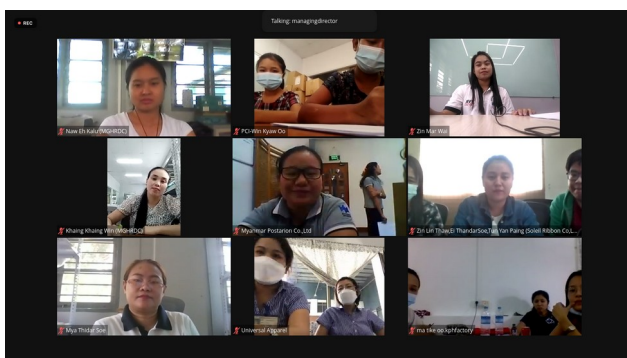
On the last of the training, the project manager from Foreign Trade Association of German Retailers - AVE, Mr. Julian Stodt spoke closing remarks and MGMA managing director Daw Aye Mi Shein announced the exam scores of the participants.



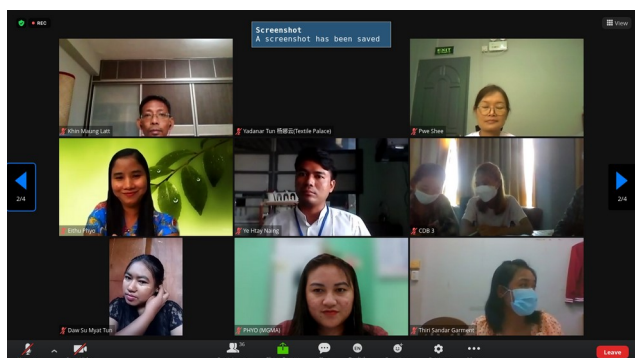
AVE - Project Manager Mr. Julian speaking remarks



MGMA Managing Director Daw Aye Mi Shein announcing exam scores



Participants



Participants

Continue Cash Assistance for Pregnant and Breastfeeding Workers

The program of providing cash assistance to pregnant and breastfeeding women workers and workers who are suffering chronic disease currently working in the member factories with the support of [Livelihoods and Food Security Fund - LIFT Myanmar](#) is continued. Total 299 the said workers from the 19 member factories are given out 70,000 Kyats each in cash in October 2021. This cash assistance program is to provide cash assistance up 900 workers who meet criteria mentioned above during the period from September to December 2021.



Giving cash assistance to vulnerable garment workers



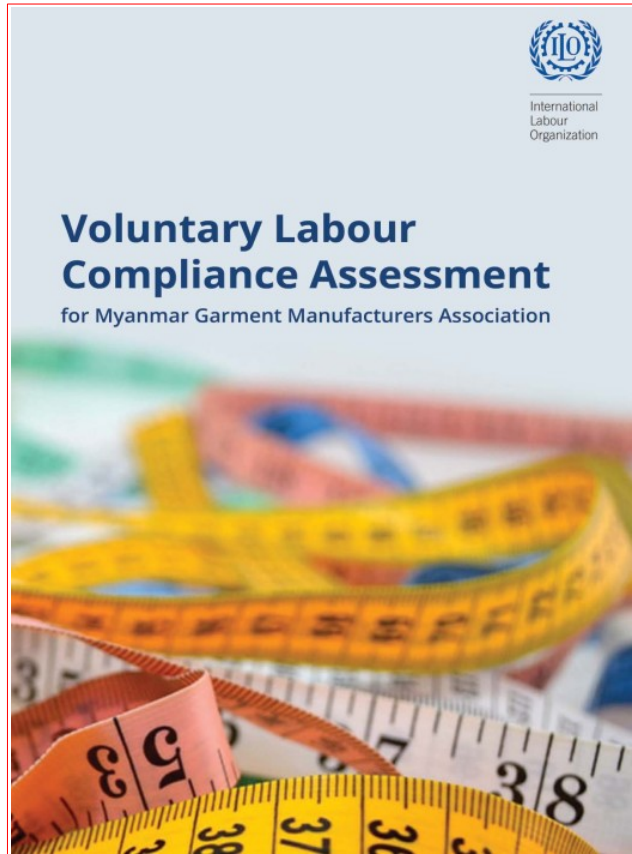
Giving cash assistance to vulnerable garment workers

Voluntary Labor Compliance Assessment

Voluntary Labour Compliance Assessment is an assessment tool implemented by the collaboration project between MGMA and ILO/ACTEMP, Bureau for Employer Activity under International Labor Organization, in 2019.

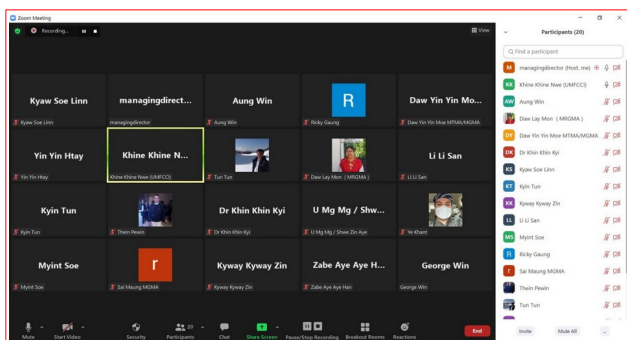
The two pilot tests were conducted on two member factories in also 2019. MGMA officially launched the Voluntary Labor Compliance Assessment program on 17 February 2020. After its official launch, MGMA could not proceed the program due to the impact of COVID-19 global pandemic outbreak. Although it was suspended for some time, Voluntary Labor Compliance Assessment program is still important for the association.

MGMA issued a letter dated as 6 Oct 2021 urging the member factories to participate in this Voluntary Labor Compliance Assessment program and comply with the national labor laws and the association's CoC. And MGMA will proceed the program.



MGMA Executive Committee Members Meeting

The monthly MGMA Executive Committee Members Meeting was held 16 October by online virtual system. The association's Chairman, Vice Chairmen, Secretary General and members of Executive Committee attended the meeting. About and benefits of Stakeholder Round Table Discussion Webinar which was held on 14th October were discussed and shared related information.



And discussed on holding 3rd MGMA Members' Day which is scheduled to hold on 11th November and Annual General Meeting (AGM) which is scheduled to hold in December this year 2021. The association's managing director also presented about collaboration projects in future.

October, 2021

Upcoming Events

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Membership Update

New Members in October 2021

Country	No. of New Member Factories
China	2
-	-
Total	2

Membership Update as of October 2021

Status	Country	No. of Factories
Active	Myanmar	69
	China	259
	Korea	54
	Japan	16
	Others	22
	Joint Venture	25
	Local, Sub-Con, Marketing, Inspecting, Textile	38
Total		483