A strategic regional collaboration

MGMA, the Myanmar Garment Manufacturers Association is the apex sector association made up of private sector garment factories. The MGMA has prioritised strengthening its training and skills development facilities and has established a human resource development training centre for the garment industry.

In collaboration with the CBI programme, MGMA has recently signed a Memorandum of Understanding with the Singapore based TaF.tc (Textile and fashion industry training centre) to set up a world class garment industry training centre in Yangon to support a high growth path for the garment industry.

This pivotal Dutch government sector focussed programme is implemented through the internationally renowned fashion and textile industry agency, Clothing Connect BV.

About:
The programme is funded by the Centre for the Promotion of Imports from developing countries (CBI) Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Netherlands and RVO

Contact:
Drs Heidy van der Ploeg MA
CBI Programme Manager of the Myanmar Garments Programme
hploeg@cbi.eu
www.cbi.eu

Open your world to the magic of Myanmar

www.cbi.eu
Garment manufacturing companies from Myanmar have a history of exporting to the EU and US for several years. Having survived the years of trade sanctions, many local factories developed their skills through exports to South Korea and Japan and learnt high quality and precision. With the lifting of sanctions, when the EU opened its markets to Myanmar, several governments and retailers from the EU started re-establishing relations. Since 2013 many brands and retailers in various parts of the EU have successfully sourced garments from Myanmar.

As a result, the garment sector started to flourish. There were approximately 300 factories in 2013 which has more than doubled in 5 years. There are now 600+ garment factories in Myanmar. Large scale awareness building and increased communication between factory and workers has successfully resulted in social and environmental compliance across the sector. Several locally owned businesses have developed joint ventures and are expanding their backward and forward linkages with mills and factories across South and South-East Asia.

The government offers several incentives to foreign investors and the banking sector is gradually, but surely opening up. From zero mobile connectivity, there are now several competing mobile network providers with international partnerships and competitive rates who welcome you across Myanmar. Although there is large scale growth, there are continue to remain challenges and conflict in some areas. These have to and are being addressed as a priority at the national and regional level.

The participating companies at Apparel Sourcing September 2019 are a great example of how quickly the industry can progress and how committed they are to growth and international development and exports.