Modern Slavery & Remediation

An Investor's Guide: Investor cheat sheet





General actions investors can consider taking

- Build leverage by taking part in collaborative investor initiatives to effectively enable remedy (e.g. Investors Against Slavery
 and Trafficking Asia Pacific, CCLA Find It Fix It Prevent It, Stewart Investors conflict minerals and semiconductor supply chain
 engagement, PRI Advance and Responsible Cobalt Sourcing, Votes Against Slavery and others, see page 9 of the Modern Slavery
 & Remediation an Investor's Guide).
- Consider participating and encouraging investee companies to take part in broader stakeholder engagement to prevent further human rights harm (e.g. following the civil society concerns raised in 2014 regarding use of forced labour in Uzbekistan, Daewoo engaged the Uzbekistan Government, Chamber of Commerce and Industry, and other stakeholders on this issue, see page 19 of the Modern Slavery & Remediation an Investor's Guide).
- Consider taking a systemic approach to remediation by participating, or encouraging investee companies to participate in collective remediation initiatives (Impactt Limited, Rabobank and LTMA Capital collaborated creating a dedicated debt facility aiming to enable small and mid-size employers to repay recruitment fees, see page 22 of the Modern Slavery & Remediation an Investor's Guide.

Actions investors can consider taking at different stages of the remedy process

Remedy stage	Examples of how investors can enable remediation	Case studies
Before – to prevent investee companies causing or contributing to harm and prepare for finding and fixing cases	 Require investee companies to have grievance mechanisms. Consider establishing a grievance mechanism accessible to stakeholders adversely affected by financed projects or investments. Strengthen the remedy ecosystem by advocating for robust business human rights and due diligence legal frameworks which include provision of remedy. 	 ANZ launched a human rights mechanism available to stakeholders whose human rights might have been impacted by ANZ's institutional or corporate lending customers, see page 10. The Investor Alliance for Human Rights has advocated for national human rights due diligence legislation, and remedy-centric improvements to the EU CSDDD, see page 20.
2. During – to support investee companies through the remedy steps		
a. Investigate and verify	 Support investee companies to identify the human rights impact and their relationship to harm. Where serious cases are reported, suggest the investee company appoints an internal investigative team. 	Shimano appointed an executive lead team to investigate their Malaysian supplier accused of labour violations, see page 13.
b. Remediate harm	 Advise investee companies of their expectations to provide satisfactory remedy. Make time-limited demands for a company to provide access to remediation. 	Dutch Pension Fund's Agreement on Responsible Investment requires this approach, which was used by one of the funds to place pressure on Vale (investee company) to provide remediation following the dam collapse in 2019, see page 14.
c. Mitigate and prevent future harm	 Use leverage to ensure an investee company follows up on their remediation commitments. Recommend investee companies develop corrective action plans. 	FSI continued to engage with an investee company accused of debt bondage and other labour abuses, leading to remediation of fees for 11,000 workers, see page 14.
d. Escalation	If an investee company is uncooperative, be prepared to escalate engagement in order to increase leverage for providing remedy. Please note that divestment should be considered as a last resort, as it rarely goes hand in hand with remedy.	 Paedagogernes Pension divested from Amazon following over five years of inconclusive engagement with the company regarding trade unions and collective bargaining, see page 17.
e. Incident reporting and tracking	Require investee companies to develop and maintain modern slavery incident reporting and tracking systems in order to comply with relevant disclosure regimes and refine their approach to risk identification and remediation.	Modern slavery-related metrics reported by Bluescope include the number of suppliers screened and changes in their risk scores, grievances received and their outcomes, training, internal audits and on- site assessments and others, see page 18.
3. After – to assist investee companies to learn lessons to better prevent cases	Encourage investee companies to review complaints and complaint handling, and take measures to prevent similar harm from reoccurring in the future.	Following Woolworths' engagement with a supplier regarding a recruitment fees incident, the supplier introduced controls including assessment checklist for recruitment agencies, updated recruitment policy and a grievance procedure translated into workers' languages, see page 16.

Important information

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