

Better Factories Cambodia — Linking Trade Access to Labour-Standards Compliance

City Innovation Library · Good practice · Cambodia

Quality score: 81/100

Evidence strength: Quasi-experimental

Summary

Since 2001, ILO-IFC's Better Factories Cambodia has tied garment-export access to independently monitored labour standards. A Tufts/NBER study (2015-18) found compliant factories gained ~26-31% cumulative productivity, though wage-compliance costs sometimes outpaced those gains.

Key dimensions

Dimension	Score
Evidence of impact / measured results	3/3
Transferability / demonstrated replication	3/3
Scalability	2/3
Sustainability / continuity	2/3
Innovation	2/3
Inclusiveness / equity	2/3
Multi-stakeholder collaboration	3/3

Evaluated by C-NAPSE

Data sources

[C-NAPSE web research](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[International Labour Organization \(ILO\) / International Finance Corporation \(IFC\) — Better Work Programme](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[Better Work — Better Factories Cambodia \(official\)](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

[Brown, Dehejia & Robertson — independent NBER/RDW evaluation](#) — accessed 2026-08-06

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