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WHAT SHE MAKES

IS KEEPING HER IN POVERTY



CIVICS AND CITIZENSHIP
YEAR 7–8



OXFAM
Australia

WHAT SHE MAKES

IS KEEPING HER IN POVERTY

What She Makes: Education Resource has been created in collaboration with Social Education Victoria (SEV) and the Geography Teachers Association of Victoria (GTAV) and Oxfam Australia. It has been developed to support the delivery of a flexible and engaging curriculum to support the What She Makes labour rights campaign, to increase intercultural understanding and awareness of the lives of garment workers in Bangladesh, and it is an intensive and thorough examination of the determinants of living wage equity. This resource aims to inspire young Australians to take action against popular brands to pay a living wage to the women who make our clothes.

What She Makes: Education Resource has been mapped to support the implementation of the Australian Curriculum. Available online for free download, the resource includes:

- Specific mapping to the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship Levels 7–10, Geography Year 10: Geographical Knowledge and Understanding required by Unit 2: Geographies of human wellbeing, and Year 7 Place and Liveability and Year 8 Changing Nations;
- Background notes for teachers to ensure teacher knowledge of context while supporting teacher professional judgment within the local context;
- Tablet- and print-friendly Student Activity worksheets;
- Detailed Lesson Plans with support for assessment tasks decisions by the teacher. What She Makes helps students explore the barriers facing garment workers seeking a living wage, how wellbeing is affected by poverty, and how students can get involved to pressure brands to address these issues.

Credits: Oxfam Australia would like to acknowledge and thank Augusta Zeeng, Terry McMeekin and Lauren Giffen as authors of the resource. Your knowledge, understanding, educational awareness and passion for the issues and curriculum implementation are greatly appreciated.

Special thanks also to Nayeem Emran, Sarah Rogan, and Stina Johansson from Oxfam Australia for your support, expertise, guidance and assistance. This resource was project managed by Augusta Zeeng, Professional Learning Programs Project Manager from Social Education Victoria and Lauren Giffen, Schools Program Coordinator from Oxfam Australia.

Disclaimer: Reference has been made to the Australian Curriculum: Civics and Citizenship and Geography. Teachers should also refer to state jurisdiction for local curriculum context. This resource was originally published in October 2018. All information and links correct at the time of publishing.

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Starting off our exploration into freedoms and values across geographic borders, let's start at home in Australia before moving over to Bangladesh.

What does Australia value?

1. Jump into pairs and work on the following phrases. For each example, choose a colour, symbol, sketch, image or words that you feel best represents or captures the essence of that idea.

What does freedom look like?

What does respect look like?

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What does responsibility look like?

What does compassion look like?

What does equality look like?

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2. Working in the same groups, define the terms below and come up with a shared meaning as a class.

Freedom is _____

Respect is _____

Responsibility is _____

Compassion is _____

Equality is _____

Moving forward, keep some of these terms in mind and how they might link to personal stories about the women who make our clothes.

Your cheap t-shirt costs more than you know

1. Watch the video twice, once all the way through and the second time while filling out the chart on the next page, just jotting down your thoughts.



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Describe what you see:

Describe what you hear:

Describe what you feel:

2. Read the first-person account on the next page from Forida, a garment worker in Bangladesh.
Highlight or underline some interesting parts of her story.

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Forida

Dhaka, Bangladesh

Current position: Operator, making shirt collars

Factory supplies to: H&M, Target

Average target: 80–100 collars per hour

Total years worked: 7 years (started at 15 years old)

Relationship status: Married

Husband's work: Rice miller

Husband's monthly wage: 8,500 BDT per month

Financial dependents: Husband, son, mother-in-law

Forida's wage breakdown

Monthly base wage: 6,000 BDT

Base working hours:

8am–5pm, 6 days per week

Overtime wage/hours:

33 BDT per hour

Usually 5pm–8pm. Can extend to 10pm or even 12am.

3–5 hours extra per day — an average of 24 hours a week on top of her base working hours.

Monthly overtime average wage: 1,500 BDT

Total monthly wage: 7,500 BDT*

*With no deductions for mistakes or missed targets.

In the last 12 months, Forida has been paid an average of 6,500 BDT per month.

BDT is the money used in Bangladesh.

1 BDT = AUD \$0.016

AUD \$1 = 64.52 BDT



Photo: GMB Akash/Panos/OxfamAUS

Forida is hiding her face to protect her identity. She could be in danger for sharing all of this information with us and Oxfam. We are grateful for her bravery.

Monthly household income

Forida's (av) wages (this amount is paid if Forida works 60 to 90 hrs per week and is paid her overtime and bonuses, and limited deductions are made for mistakes and missed targets)	6,500 BDT
Forida's husband's wages	8,500 BDT
Total household wages	15,000 BDT

Monthly household expenses

Rent	3,500 BDT
Food (Mostly rice, veggies, some chicken when this runs out the remaining days they survive off watery rice with chilli and salt)	6,000 BDT
Taking care of mother-in-law	2,000 BDT
Other bills (including Sat TV)	1,500 BDT
Day-to-day expenses	1,000 BDT
Savings	1,000 BDT
Total average expenses	15,000 BDT

How many hours does Forida work, on average, each week?

How much money does Forida make each month when converted into Australian dollars?

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Photo: GMB Akash/Panos/OxfamAUS

Forida is a 22-year-old sewing machine operator who lives and works in Dhaka. She is also wife to a rice miller and mother to a young toddler son (1.5 years). She grew up on the rural island of Bhola, located on the south-central coast of Bangladesh, almost 250km from Dhaka.

Like many parts of rural Bangladesh, Bhola Island is prone to flooding and river erosion, often leaving many of the island's inhabitants homeless and thrusting them deeper into poverty. Living near the island's coastline meant Forida's family was at more risk. After her family lost their third home to a flood, they moved into a small rented room; however, her father struggled to pay rent and support the family.

To try and take some strain off the family, at just 15 years old, Forida moved to Dhaka to live with her aunt, who was a garment worker. No longer able to afford to go to school and with no other options, she too eventually became a garment worker. She started as a helper, which is the lowest-paid role at 3,000 BDT per month — generally filled by those with no prior skills.

In the beginning, she says it was exciting for her. When she received her first paycheck, her entire monthly wage was given straight to her father. For the first time in her young life, she felt empowered with hope because she was able to help her parents. Her monthly wage as helper was still rather low and so she secretly taught herself how to use a sewing machine, driven by the ambition to improve her skills so that she could be promoted. After two years as a helper, Forida's determination paid off and she was promoted to an operator, which she has now been doing for five years.

Each day, like all garment workers, Forida is given a target that she must complete before she can go home. But the targets she is given are impossible to finish within the regular working hours of 8am–5pm, so this means that she ends up

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working several hours of overtime every day. A standard day for her starts at 8am and ends at 8pm, with a one-hour lunch break — the only break allowed.

During busier times, when international clothing brands place demanding orders, she might work overtime until 10pm, and in some cases, even as late as midnight. If she leaves work without meeting her target for the day, she runs the risk of not receiving her full monthly overtime, which amounts to about 1,500 BDT per month.

The pressure is intense. If she makes any mistakes, which is easy to do under such pressure, not only is she scolded and verbally abused by her supervisor but she also has 500 BDT deducted from her monthly overtime wage as a punishment. Some workers are even fired from their jobs. When she was younger, the fear and humiliation from the verbal abuse would reduce her to tears at least once or twice a week.

For Forida, one of the worst experiences was in 2016 when she worked until midnight, six days a week for a month because the company had to meet a large production target. The workers were not given any choice as to whether they wanted or were able to work so late. Nor were they given any notice so that they could make personal arrangements for their families at home. They were notified at 6.30pm the same day that they could not go home and would have to work overtime. During this time, she was constantly worried about her young son. She got little sleep (3.5 hours each night) as she would wake up early to clean the home and prepare meals.

Another time, she was forced to work 12 consecutive days. Afterwards, she became sick from the stress and was suffering from headaches and problems with her eyesight. She took two days off to recover but when she returned to work, her pay and ID card were withheld as punishment. Without an ID card, garment workers can't clock in to



Photo: GMB Akash/Panos/OxfamAUS

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Photo: GMB Akash/Panos/OxfamAUS

work and are not able to go elsewhere to get another job — essentially leaving them unable to work. Eventually she got her job back, but only after she was told to beg.

Forida was very open about her experiences as a garment worker; however, she was concerned that speaking out would impact her current job, which is why she requested to hide her identity with a scarf. Compared to other factories she has worked for, she says this one is much better. Financially, she and her husband also support her mother-in-law who lives nearby and is the sole caretaker of their son while Forida and her husband are at work.

Forida lives in a compound located in a slum area in Kallyanpur, a part of urban Dhaka that is uncommonly surrounded by ponds and parklands. The area was originally

designated as living quarters for official government drivers; however, many of the drivers have since illegally built extra rooms and sublet them out to poorer families to earn additional income, overtime making the area very crowded and run down. Forida and her family share the compound with six other families, including her landlord's. They share two kitchens, one separate toilet and one washing area. The place is made mostly of tin and wood and when it rains, a lot of the area inside gets wet. It's dark, hot and cramped.

Behind the property is a big, black, polluted pond, which attracts a consistent influx of mosquitoes, especially in Forida's rented room, which is half built upon the water. This increases her family's risk of being exposed to mosquito-borne viral diseases such as malaria, dengue fever and Chikungunya.

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3. After reading this story, how well do you understand Forida's story? What part of the story stood out to you — what was the strongest part of her story for you? Describe.

4. What else do you want to know? What information might be missing from the story? What were your first impressions?

5. Is Forida's story different or similar to people in your own life? What do you think it would be like to live like Forida?

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Fair go mate

In Australia, we have a concept called a “fair go”. What does it mean?

As a class, brainstorm “what is a fair go?” Use some of the questions below to guide your brainstorm.

- Why...?
- How would it be different if...?
- What are the reasons...?
- Suppose that...?
- What if...?
- What if we knew...?
- What is the purpose of...?
- What would change if...?

Let’s take a closer look.

Use your own personal knowledge and understanding of what a fair go is, as well as the information on these shared values and principles found in the Australian Government booklet [Life in Australia](#) for new migrants who want to become Australian citizens.

Once you have a group idea of what a fair go is, discuss as a class the limits of these values; are they for Australian citizens only? Are they values for everyone? Where do garment workers, like Forida, and their families fit into our understanding of a fair go?

Perspectives

Take a closer look at the different perspectives offered by big brands and the women who make our clothes on the next few pages. While reading their statements, take notes in the grid to further build your understanding of the difference perspectives that went into making the What She Makes campaign. Ask yourself the following:

- What are the limits?
- Are these values for Australians only or are they values that Australians promote?
- Where do garment workers, like Forida, and their families fit into our understanding of a fair go?

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Stuff brands say

"There is no universally agreed methodology for calculating living wages so we benchmark against the legal minimum wage. We work with stakeholders to adopt a living wage benchmark."

"We are already committed to paying a living wage."

"We take social responsibility very seriously and working on a roadmap for future to pay living wages."

"We support paying a fair living wages and expect our suppliers to pay living wages."

"We only work with suppliers that honour duty of care with their workforce, including offering a living wage."

"We have not published the factory list but we have full traceability of those factories and work with them closely to improve working conditions."

"We take ethical sourcing seriously and conduct regular audits. We require payment of the legal minimum wage or industry benchmark, or collective bargaining agreement (whichever is higher). In any event wages should always be enough to meet basic needs and to provide some discretionary income."

"We recognise a difference between a living wage and a fair living wage and we are committed to closing the gap."

Your thoughts:

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What the women who make our clothes say

Photos: GMB Akash/Panos/OxfamAus



Fatima

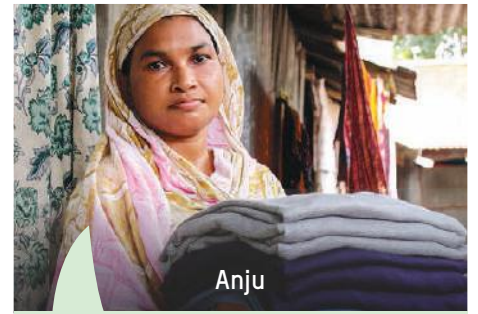
"My target is 80 shirts per hour. I have to complete both sides of the shirt — 160 pieces. This means I have to make two to three pieces in one minute to reach this target. But if I want to do it properly — if I had the time — it would take me one minute to make one piece."



Forida

"I have to meet the target. My targets are so high that I have to keep working until 10pm until I can meet them. If I can meet the target, I can go home; if I can't meet the target, I have to stay."

"If I got a living wage, I could provide food for the last week of the month. I could eat better food like vegetables and meat."



Anju

"You need a good education. If you don't have a good education, you have to be a garment worker. I couldn't get a good education, because my dad died when I was one year old."

"If I don't complete a full dozen (for example, only complete 10 out of 12 sweaters) in a day and it was due to be shipped, I won't be paid at all for that dozen. If it's not due to be shipped for two to three days, they may provide some flexibility to finish."

"Everyone wants their children to have a bright future. If my daughters have a better education here, maybe they will have a good job, and they would have a brighter future."

Fatima explains that sometimes when western buyers come to the factory women are trained to lie about wages and treatment. The Line Chiefs are always present during the buyer visits so workers feel the pressure to lie. Some women are defiant and tell the truth and they get beaten, scolded or sacked once the buyer leave.

They do this to most of the workers but especially to the newer and less educated garment workers who might not be able to read or do not know how to check their payslip properly. The Line Chiefs regularly skim money from them by hiding or lying about the amount they are owed and bullying the garment workers into signing their payslips.

Your thoughts:

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What do garment workers say...	What do big brands say...

1. Do the conditions and rights of garment workers match up with your understanding about Australian values that you looked at above. List and discuss contradictions or alignments with Australian values.

2. Are garment workers getting a "fair go"? Provide evidence for your answer.

3. Whose responsibility is it to ensure that workers are paid enough? Provide evidence for your answer.

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Fair work for fair pay

1. Brainstorm the definitions of the terms minimum wage and living wage.

What is a minimum wage?	What is a living wage?

2. Investigate what is the minimum wage and maximum hours in Australia for garment and textile workers?

Here are some links to get you started:

- [Minimum wages factsheet](#)
- [Maximum weekly hours factsheet](#)

3. Read the article on the next page, highlighting or underlining as you go.

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Explainer: what exactly is a living wage?

Australia's national minimum wage should become a "living wage", according to a **new campaign** from the Australian Council of Trade Unions (ACTU). But what exactly is a living wage?

In theory, a living wage is no different to a minimum wage. Both set a binding "floor" on wages, below which no employee can (legally) be paid. But in practice there are several differences between minimum and living wages, in their value, purpose, and adjustment.

A living wage is set higher than a minimum wage and may be "pegged" to (fixed as a percentage of) some other measure of living standards, such as average weekly earnings. This ensures that a living wage holds its relative value over time.

Essentially, while the minimum wage sets a bare minimum, the living wage aspires to be a socially acceptable minimum. Typically, this is seen as a level that keeps workers out of poverty.

But the point at which workers fall into poverty varies widely, due to differences in family responsibilities, and complex interactions between low wages and welfare payments. These factors necessarily affect how the level of the living wage would be set and adjusted.

The idea to shift to a living wage follows a string of bad news about pay. Many vulnerable workers have been denied their minimum entitlements by employers. Wage growth is so slow that even the Reserve Bank Governor has encouraged workers to demand pay increases. And workers are **getting less** of the national income, as capital owners increase their share.

Living vs minimum wages

Australia's national minimum wage is set each year by an expert panel of the Fair Work Commission (FWC). The panel **receives submissions** from a wide range of organisations and **conducts research** to inform its decisions.

Increases to the minimum wage are based on **objectives** enshrined in law. These refer to different factors, including business competitiveness, employment growth, and the needs of the low paid. There is no specific mention of poverty in the current objectives. Nor is there a fixed relationship with any other measure of living standards.

In other countries, minimum wages and living wages co-exist. In the United States, **long periods can pass** without increases in the federal minimum wage, as there is no mechanism for its regular adjustment. This has led many local governments to set their own mandatory **living wage ordinances**, above the federal (and state-level) minimum wages.

The situation is different in the United Kingdom, where the **Low Pay Commission** recommends a national minimum wage increase each year. Even there, the movement for a voluntary **"real living wage"** has strong support from employers.

If the ACTU plan became law, Australia's living wage would differ from the US and UK models. It would replace, rather than complement, our national minimum wage, substantially raising the wage floor. This would require the FWC's expert panel to have different wage-setting objectives, with its primary goal being to eliminate working poverty.

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Would a living wage help the people living in poverty?

Regrettably, poverty is the reality for many of Australia's lowest-paid workers. Some struggle to make ends meet and go without basic necessities, such as meals and heating — particularly those in **single-income families**.

Neither our current minimum wage nor the proposed living wage is a pure "anti-poverty" tool. This is because the poorest people **do not have paid jobs** — often due to serious socioeconomic disadvantage. A living wage only helps those who rely on paid work (their own or someone else's) for an income.

The intention of a living wage is therefore not to eradicate all poverty, but to end poverty among those who work — sometimes described as "the working poor".

This laudable ambition is complicated by differences in personal and family circumstances. A living wage cannot vary from person to person, yet low-paid workers **are not all alike**: some live alone, some have children, and **many are in** dual-income families.

Who should a living wage be set for? The income needed to prevent poverty is inevitably much higher for workers with families than for those who live alone.

The Social Policy Research Centre (SPRC) produces "**budget standards**" that show the minimum income required by different types of families to reach a healthy living standard. Their evidence has been widely used by the **ACTU** and **other advocacy groups** in submissions to the Fair Work Commission.

According to their analysis, an employed single adult currently needs AUD \$597 per week (before tax, and including housing costs) to live healthily. A couple with two young children needs almost twice as much: AUD \$1,173.

The national minimum wage **is currently** AUD \$695 for a full-time worker. So, according to the SPRC's research, that worker already earns enough for a healthy life if they live alone, but not nearly enough if they have a family. This highlights the difficulty of setting a single living wage that would universally prevent working poverty.

Families with children also receive other government assistance through targeted welfare payments. This further complicates the task of setting a living wage.

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What are the alternatives?

There are other ways to tackle working poverty. In the US, an “earned income tax credit” reduces the taxes of low-paid workers, so their wages stretch further. Such a **scheme** has been recommended for Australia.

Another very different approach to welfare is a universal basic income (UBI). This would provide a guaranteed minimum income, regardless of whether someone works, and without eligibility tests like those behind Centrelink’s recent “**robo-debt**” **debacle**.

Supporters of UBI also see it as a **solution to job losses** caused by rapid automation.

Living wages and UBI are radically different ways of tackling poverty. Work remains vital for a living wage, but is optional for a UBI. A living wage would raise the value of paid work, but might make life harder for some jobseekers whose labour becomes more expensive. A UBI would provide income without work, which might encourage more people to drop out of the labour force altogether.

In pushing to “make work pay”, the ACTU is hoping to capture both the public imagination and, for workers, a larger slice of the economic pie.

Article by Joshua Healy & Andreas Pekarek, University of Melbourne. From **The Conversation**

1. In your own words, define what is considered a living wage in Australia?

In the article above there is a mention of unions. Do you know what a union is? One of the rights in the Life in Australia booklet is Freedom of Association. See page 8 of the document for an explanation.

Many of the above wages and conditions at Fairwork Australia were made possible by workers grouping together and participating in “collective action”. Workers group together by their industry or location and these groups are called unions. Some discussion on the history of industrial relations law (that is the law that relates to wages, conditions, and hours, and the history of unions) can be found on the following page.

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2. What union in Australia covers textiles and garment workers?

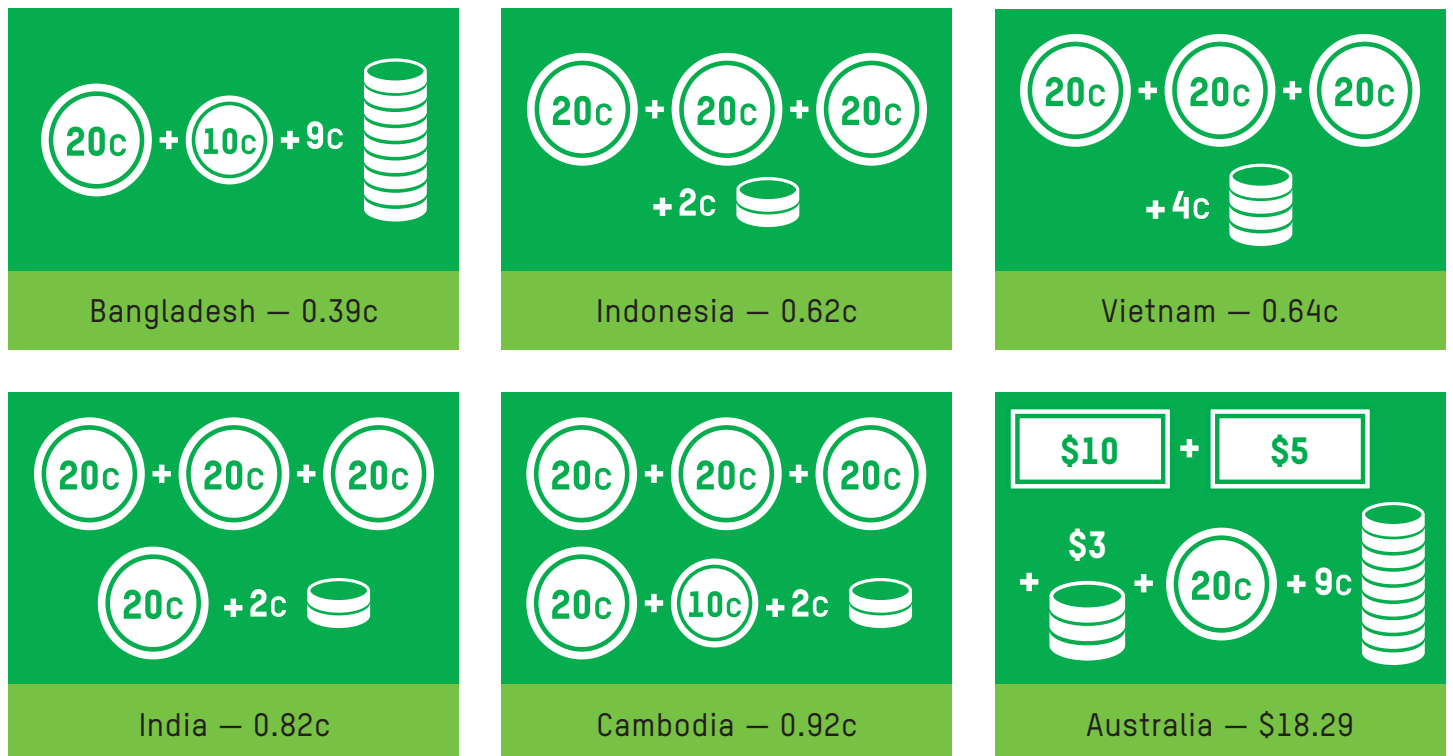
Have a think about wages and conditions for garment workers in Australia. How do these wages and conditions compare with those of garment workers in Bangladesh, the Philippines, China and India?

In some of these countries, it is illegal to join unions, strike, or protest, and some countries do not have extensive Industrial Relations laws.

Resources with more information can be found at these links:

- [Bangladesh Garment Worker's Union rights bleak](#)
- [Brochure for Bangladesh Accord](#)
- [Trade Union Law and Collective Bargaining in China](#)
- [Workers' and Employers' Organisations in Indonesia and Timor-Leste](#)

Minimum wage in AUD per hour



Note: Exchange rate used is 1 USD = 1.25 AUD

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Background history and the law

What are the laws and rules that cover wages in Australian society and how long have they been active? What type of laws are they: statutory or common laws?

- [Australia's industrial relations timeline](#)
- [Trades Hall History](#)
- [History of unions](#)

Unions and organisations such as Oxfam Australia lobby* the Government to improve conditions for workers across the globe. Sometimes they sit on advisory panels, research and write reports, make submissions to Senate committees or create awareness-raising campaigns that aim to educate and inform the public, such as Oxfam's [What she makes](#).

* The word "lobby" means campaigning to exert pressure on particular individuals or groups.

AVERAGE COST STRUCTURE OF AUSTRALIAN CLOTHING PRICES



Note: *GST is 9% because the 10% GST is added to the pre-GST cost of an item. This means, as part of the total retail price of an item, GST usually makes up 9%.

Source: Deloitte Access Economics for Oxfam Australia, "A Living Wage in Australia's Clothing Supply Chain".

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Literally, what does she make?

Well, now we know a lot more about the women who make our clothes, but how are they made? Watch the following videos and follow the instructions for the next few activities and find out everything you ever wanted to know about ... What She Makes.

While watching the videos, take notes of all the steps required in making a t-shirt. It's okay if you miss a few, it's an exhaustive list!

Video 1 (0:47) INTRO: Planet money makes a t-shirt



Video 2 (2:32) COTTON: Planet money makes a t-shirt (Part 1)



Video 3 (1:33) MACHINES: Planet money makes a t-shirt (Part 2)



Steps	Region or Country	Process
Step 1		
Step 2		
Step 3		
Step 4		
How many t-shirts from this single farm?		
Step 5		
Step 6		
Step 7		
Step 8		
Step 9		
Step 10		
Step 11		

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Watch Part 3 to Part 5 of the video series.

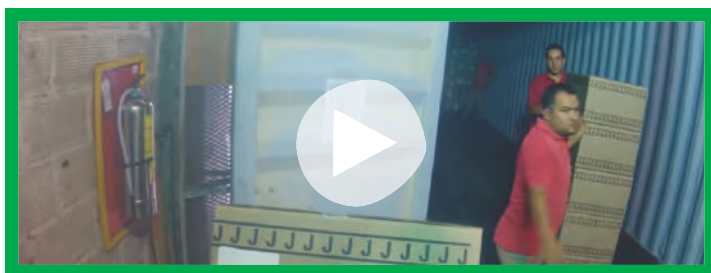
Video 4 (6:21) PEOPLE: Planet money makes a t-shirt (Part 3)



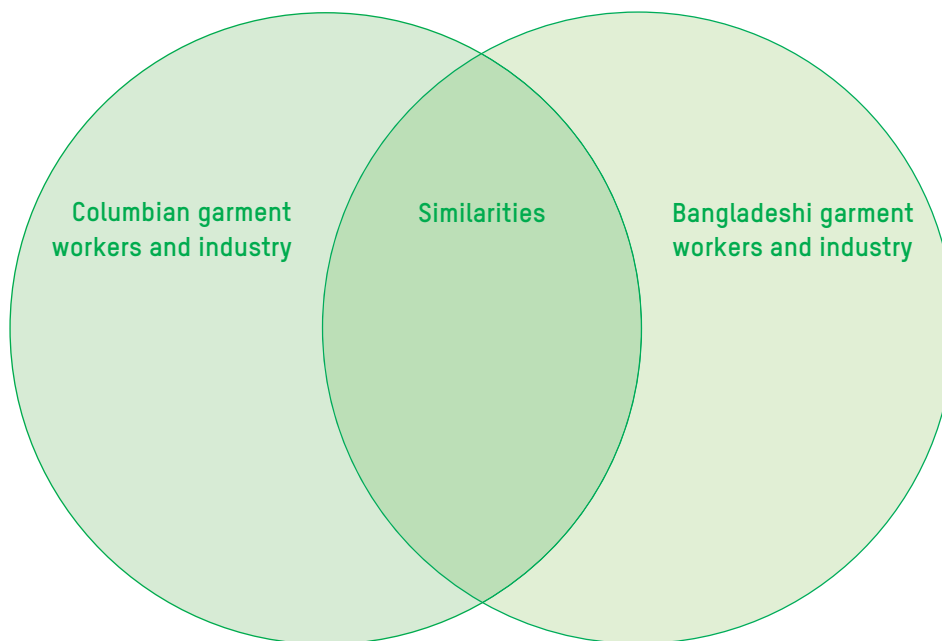
Video 6 (1:40) YOU: Planet money makes a t-shirt (Part 5)



Video 5 (1:37) BOXES: Planet money makes a t-shirt (Part 4)



1) Individually complete the Venn diagram; on the left fill in differences that are specifically seen in the Columbian garment workers and industry. On the right fill in differences that are specifically seen in the Bangladeshi garment workers and industry. In the middle of the Venn diagram, list similarities that are seen in the garment industries and the lives of the workers in both Columbia and Bangladesh.



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Class Roundtable debate: how can we get living wages for garment workers in Bangladesh?

It is 2013 and the Rana Plaza has just collapsed in Bangladesh's capital, Dhaka. The eight-storey building collapsed the day after large cracks were found in the building, but workers were forced to work even after fears for safety. Tragically, 1,138 men and women were killed, the vast majority being women, and 2,500 people were injured. Worldwide media is currently focused on Bangladesh and a group has been called together to come to an agreement to prevent a disaster such as this occurring again. The focus has not only been placed on Bangladesh, but also on large fashion companies to take responsibility for the wellbeing of the garment workers making their clothes. Today, a council made up of fashion houses, garment workers, factory owners, and government officials will meet in the classroom to figure out the best way to move forward.

- a. Read the card you or your team have been given. Take some time to draft out a few points and make yourself familiar with who you are and prepare to get into character. You are to embody this individual and your position on the issue, taking into consideration what you believe their personal interests and motivations are. Have fun, be dramatic and explore the shoes of another person.
- b. As a class, you will be meeting as a council board. At this council board, there will be representatives from government, fashion companies, workers and factory owners. Discuss and come up with a plan of how you will protect the safety of garment workers within Bangladesh.
- c. One to three students (depending on class size) and/or a teacher will act as the council for Bangladeshi garment workers. See the role card for this character to understand motivation and background story. The role of the council for Bangladeshi garment workers will be to hear all of the arguments, take votes, and write out the agreements made in today's roundtable discussion. The council should take a few minutes before the game to understand the voting points system, something they will keep private until it's voting time.

Activity: Build an Accord to protect garment workers

- 1) The council will introduce themselves and ask each member to introduce themselves in turn. (2–3 mins each per role)
- 2) The council will invite members to put forward a single item (90 seconds each) from each role which will be collected on the board (or paper). Try to write out a clear and to-the-point action item suggested by each role to be voted on for the accord in list form. While items are announced other members may cheer or moan and act out dramatically but cannot speak using words. The item should be based on the "aim" of the role you are representing.
- 3) The council will go around the room and allow each role to make the case for the importance of the item which they proposed. Each role will have 2–3 minutes to speak.
- 4) The council member(s) will then collect the anonymous votes from each role.
- 5) Each role will use their allotted voting points to vote on the items they wish to be carried through to the final accord — you can put 1 or all your points on any item.
- 6) The council will write up a final list of the top 3 items moving forward to protect the women who make our clothes.

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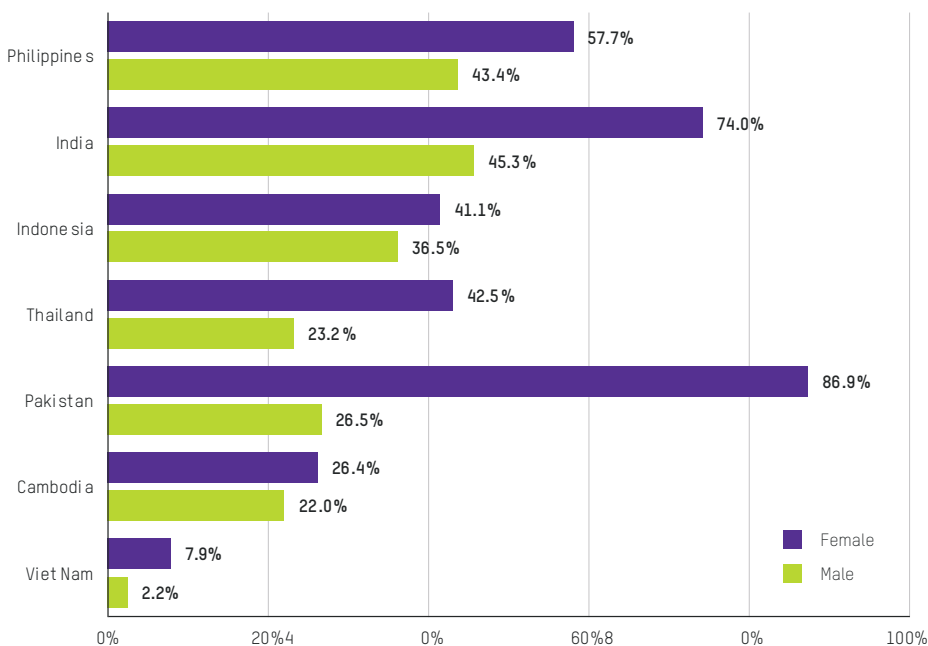
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Equality

Earlier in this investigation we discussed the term “equality” and what it means.

How do you think this issue rates using an “equality lens”. An equality lens might think about differences in how the issue affects people of different gender, ethnicity, location and power. Are there other elements you could look at?

Figure 5: Non-compliance rates with the minimum wage in the garment sector by gender



1. Why do you think this issue disproportionately affects women? Try to list at least two reasons in your response.

2. Describe briefly what you understand by the term “non-compliance” rates with the minimum wage as seen in the above graph.

3. What country has the largest % difference in non-compliance of females to males?

WHAT SHE MAKES

IS KEEPING HER IN POVERTY

Track your clothes

Do you have any clothes made for these brands?

Choose a t-shirt or piece of clothing that is made by one of the following brands.



Best&Less



city chic

COTTON:ON

COUNTRY ROAD

dangerfield

DAVID JONES

FOREVER NEW

GLASSONS

gorman



JEANSWEST



KATIES



NONI B

peteralexander



Sportsgirl



ZARA

WHAT SHE MAKES

IS KEEPING HER IN POVERTY

Now that we know more about the women who make our clothes, try and label the following map to show the path of a t-shirt in the global world, and let's dig a little deeper into the end of the line. Where does a t-shirt's story end?

There is another issue to take into consideration in your supply chain. What happens to your clothes after you wear them? Do you donate to an op-shop? Do you know what happens then? As you can see in the above map, this t-shirt ends up in Tanzania, East Africa.

Here are some further resources if you want to find out the next chapter in the story of your t-shirt.

- [East Africa community to ban second hand clothes imports](#)
- [East Africa Doesn't Want Your Hand-Me-Downs](#)

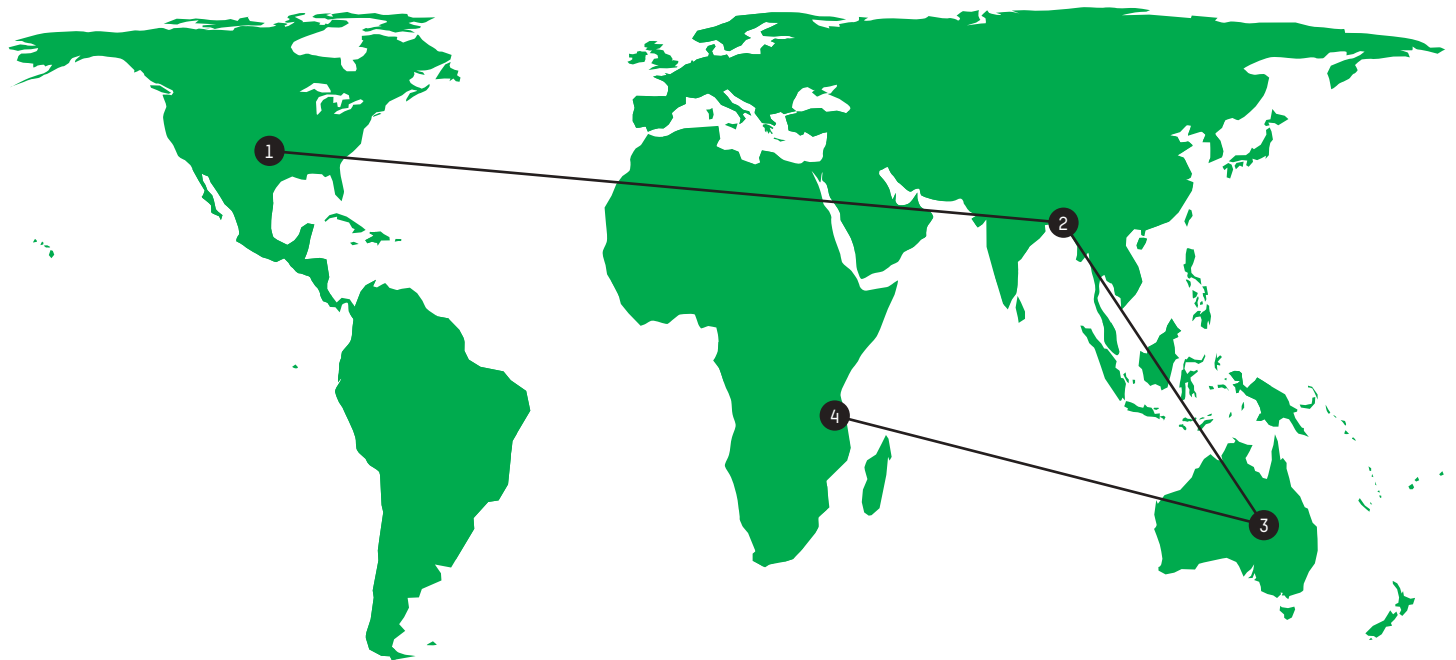
Now that you've watched the video and read the article(s), what are your thoughts on sending our used clothing overseas? Provide two answers for each side of the argument:

Yes, our donated clothing should be going to East Africa:

1. _____
2. _____

No, our donated clothing should not be sent to East Africa:

1. _____
2. _____



WHAT SHE MAKES

IS KEEPING HER IN POVERTY

Take Action

Some suggested actions you can do right now to support What she makes campaign.

- **Sign the pledge**
- Run an awareness campaign at your school with the knowledge you have gained. This could be a poster, an A4 three-fold flyer, a stall or a fundraiser.
- Hold a clothes swap in your class, group of friends or year level.
 - **Fashion Revolution**
 - **How to have a clothing swap**
 - **How to host a clothing swap party – rules and ideas**
 - **Six steps to hosting a successful clothes swap**
- Commit to 'Buy Nothing New' month.
- Make ethical clothing decisions and help others to make ethical clothing decisions. What are five things you can ask about your clothing before you purchase it? Create an A4 flyer that explains five things that people can ask themselves before they purchase. For example, only purchase clothes from retailers who are working towards ethical and sustainable practices, including paying workers fairly and having them work reasonable hours.
- Write a letter to the big clothing brands' CEOs and convince them to make a difference. You could include a petition of signatures from your school or community. For more information, read Oxfam's **Sewing Kit For Living Wages**.

You can use the resource below to help you write and use the brands' arguments to create informed responses.

- **How to respond to the claims made by brands**



Savar, Bangladesh: Rana Plaza, a building housing 5 garment factories, collapsed on 24 April, 2013, killing over 1000 people, most of whom were women. After the collapse thousands of garment workers took to the streets in protest to demand their rights to a safe and fair workplace and a living wage. This image shows women protesting for their rights. Photo: Nicola Bailey / ActionAid.

WHAT SHE MAKES

IS KEEPING HER IN POVERTY

Photo: Artificial Photography on Unsplash



More information on brands and their practices can be found here:

- [Company Tracker](#)
- [Good On You](#)
- [How Cotton On went from a B- to an A by airing their dirty laundry](#)

Fill in a step-by-step guide from purchasing your clothes back to the factory (or country) that your clothes come from.

What brand is your t-shirt? (name of retailer)	
In what country did you buy it?	
How much did it cost to buy? (if known)	
What material is it made from?	



What is your brand's parent company? (it might have a different name to retail brand)	
Where is its head office located?	



In what country is the factory located?	
How much are the factory workers getting paid?	



Where were the raw materials grown and produced? (major exporter of raw materials)	
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WHAT SHE MAKES

IS KEEPING HER IN POVERTY

Reflection 3-2-1

Write down three things you have learned:

1. _____
2. _____
3. _____

What are two conversations you will commit to having with others about the things you learnt today to get the conversation going?

1. _____
2. _____

Commit to doing or sharing at least one ongoing action:

1. _____