

Improving working conditions of homeworkers:

The *ETI homeworker guidelines* & homeworker agencies in India

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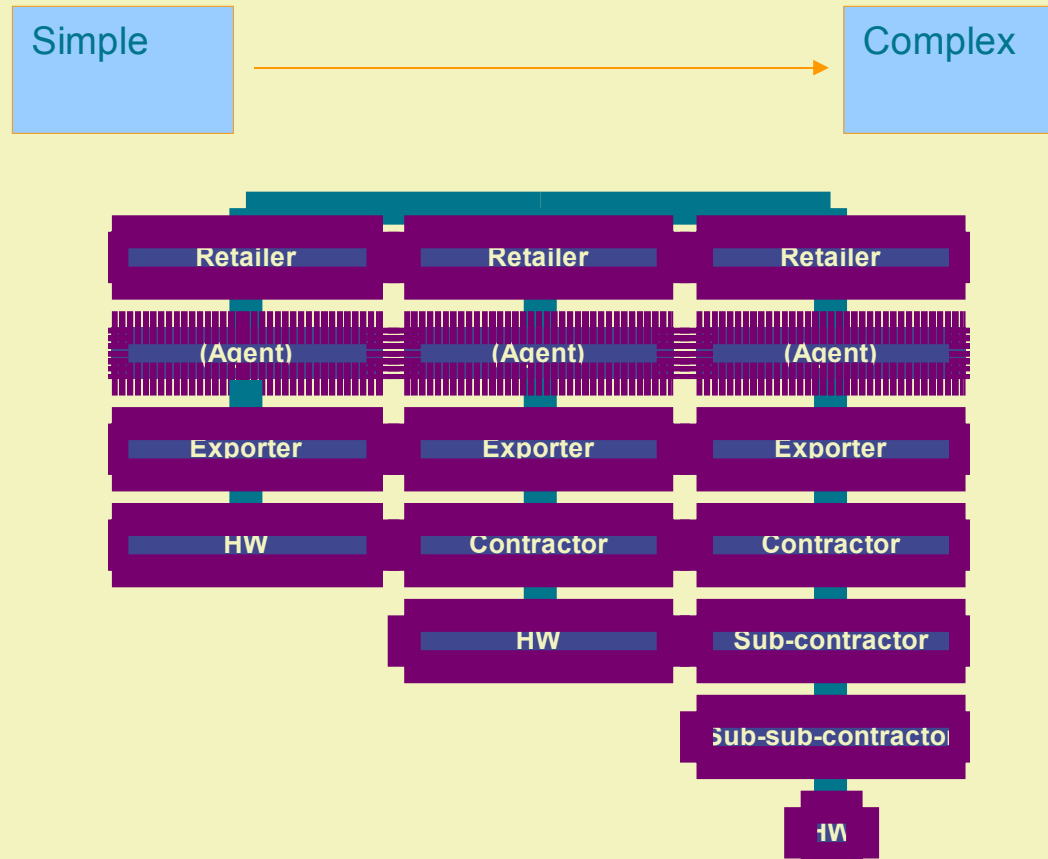


ethical
trading
initiative

Why the ETI homeworker project?

- Homeworkers emerging as an important but hard to reach group of workers
- Often poor working conditions, poor legal protection, poor traceability of workers.
- need for guidance on social responsibility

The challenge - homeworker supply chains:



What we have aimed to do:

- create a practical document for global supply chains –*the ETI homeworker guidelines* (**download at www.ethicaltrade.org**)
- test the *guidelines* – share lessons within membership and beyond

Basic principles of the *ETI homework guidelines*

- homeworkers have an important role to play in production
- improving standards with HWs is complex and needs a very gradual approach
- that members need to take **individual** and **collaborative** approach

The National Group and the Bareilly Group

National Homework Group

Oversees Bareilly Group set-up
Refines GLs

Monitors actions of members & BHG
Identifies next area for Regional HG



Bareilly Homework Group

- State & industry specific (Uttar Pradesh fabric embellishment industry)
- Implementing 'joint' actions

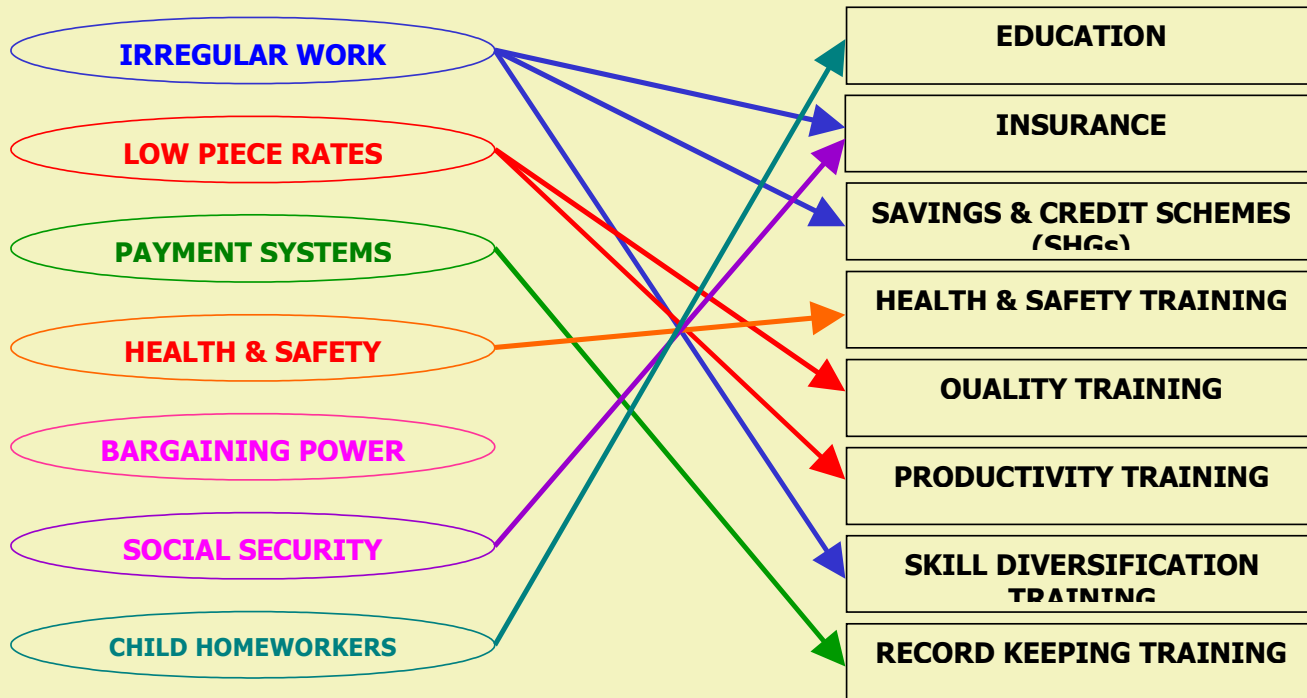
Founder members of the National Homeworker Group (NHG)

- Retailers
 - Gap Inc
 - Monsoon
 - Next plc
- NGOs
 - Centre for Education & Communication
- TUs
 - Hind Mazdoor Sabha
 - Self Employed Women's Association
- Exporters
 - Nandeetas
 - Aesthetics
 - Chelsea Mills

The Bareilly Homeworkers Group (BHG)

- Set up in September 2006
- Membership - Eight contractors, One NGO
- Extensive research into HWs issues and suggestions
- Have agreed actions and began implementation

Options presented to HWs in Bareilly (Aug 06):



Homeworkers' priorities revealed:

OVERALL REACTIONS		OPTIONS
Extremely Beneficial	1.0	Education
	2.0	Insurance
	3.0	Record Keeping Training
Very Beneficial	○	Skill Diversification Training
	○	Savings & Credit Schemes
Beneficial	●	Quality Training
	●	Health & Safety Training
Not Very Beneficial	●	Productivity Training

Next steps for NHG

- **Advocacy**
- **Recruitment of new members**
- **Development of a workshop on the GLs**
- **Future strategy**

Challenges

- Involvement of retailers
- Industry wide momentum
- Scale of impact
- Ownership
- Sustainability