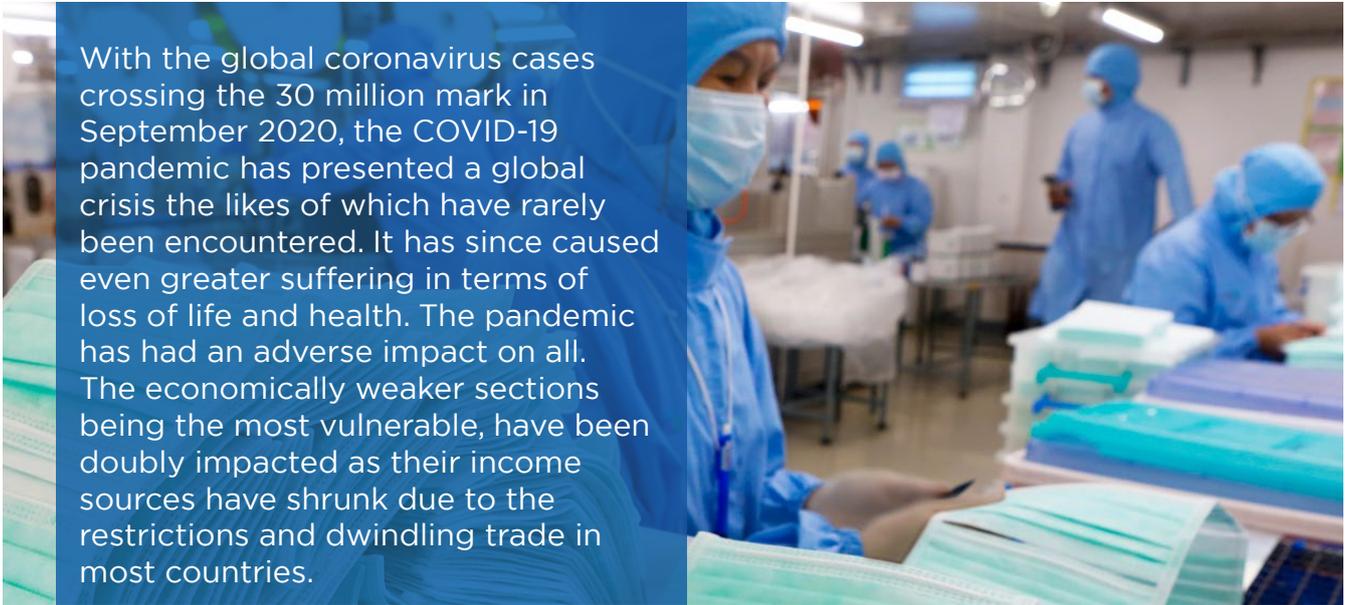


# COVID-19 Response: Textiles & Manufacturing Business Unit



With the global coronavirus cases crossing the 30 million mark in September 2020, the COVID-19 pandemic has presented a global crisis the likes of which have rarely been encountered. It has since caused even greater suffering in terms of loss of life and health. The pandemic has had an adverse impact on all. The economically weaker sections being the most vulnerable, have been doubly impacted as their income sources have shrunk due to the restrictions and dwindling trade in most countries.

**The Textiles and Manufacturing business unit at IDH worked with partners to design a response to the situation, for the sectors and regions it is working in.**

## Supporting worker well-being and businesses in Apparel Industry

The COVID-19 crisis took a huge toll on the apparel sector; with workers being hit the hardest, who are losing their jobs and livelihoods.

As a response to this situation, IDH designed the following interventions to support worker safety and wellbeing, creating employment and productivity possibilities, and boosting the supply of personal protective equipment (PPE).

### Boosting PPE production

- 
- Providing guidance to factories looking to switch to PPE production
  - Connecting PPE buyers and suppliers through an online platform [ppedashboard.org](http://ppedashboard.org)

### Worker health app

- 
- Launched 'Atun', a free worker health, safety, and well-being mobile app, related to COVID-19

### Awareness campaigns

- 
- Guiding workers to welfare packages through public-private partnerships & awareness raising campaigns
  - Convening and supporting global and national platforms, to organize mitigative actions and draft/support joint statements and calls to action in Ethiopia, Pakistan, and Vietnam
  - Communication materials including brochures and videos published for raising awareness on government bailout package for apparel sector in Vietnam
  - Providing health & safety guidance for factories through the Pakistan Buyers Forum and LABS program

## Providing income security to smallholder farmers in India through COVID-19 insurance

In India, many low-income households are employed in the agricultural sector, which accounts for almost 50% of jobs. This is one of the hardest hit segments with disruptions in the supply chain and an extended lockdown on markets. As a result, farmer livelihoods and well-being are directly threatened by the impacts of the pandemic.



In response to the situation, IDH facilitated and funded COVID-19 insurance to provide income security for 180,000 smallholder cotton and tea farmers in India.

### Policy Details

#### The Cover

One-time lump sum pay-out to the insured in case they are infected with the novel coronavirus, to ease the financial burden of unplanned hospitalization and compensate for the loss of income.

#### Payout

Executed through two insurance providers in the country – **Reliance General Insurance** and **Chola MS General Insurance**, the policy will provide a one-time lump sum pay-out between INR 20,000 (EUR 242) to INR 25,000 (EUR 302) to the insured individual.

#### Validity

The policy is valid for a period of one year from the date of issuance.

The insurance has been rolled out through our implementing partners including Lupin Foundation, Ambuja Cement Foundation, AFPRO, CottonConnect, Deshpande Foundation, Arvind Limited, STAC and Spectrum International in the cotton sector, and AFPRO, TRA and RGRC in the tea sector.

IDH has also extended the insurance to all field managers and facilitators engaged by the implementing partners for program delivery of the cotton and tea programs.

A total of 250 cases have been reported as on October 09, 2020, including both – the claim settled and claim under process.

Learn more about critical COVID-19 impacts upon supply chains, and IDH and its stakeholders' mitigating actions [here](#).