



8 TIPS FOR RESPONSIBLE SUPPLY CHAIN ACTIONS

FOR COMPANIES WITH THE FUNDS AND MEANS DURING THE GLOBAL COVID-19 CRISIS

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SUPPORT WORKERS

Ask what your suppliers need to protect their workers. You may be unable to provide financial support at this stage, but international institutions like IFC, ILO, World Bank are setting up collective funds to support.

COLLABORATE

Work (even more) closely with your supplier(s) or buyer agent. Engage with industry peers or multi-stakeholder organisations who can facilitate a collective response.

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KEEP PURCHASE ORDERS

Maintain or postpone pending orders if possible to avoid supplier shut-down or worker unemployment. Alternatively, consider if suppliers can help provide crisis-related goods or services.

FLEXIBLE PAYMENTS

Be open for flexibility in your orders, delivery and payment terms. Prioritize faster payments, partial or pre-payments. Consider particular efforts for smallest suppliers.

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UPHOLD LABOUR RIGHTS

Encourage suppliers to work with trade unions or inquire to ensure that earned wages are paid, health precautions are made, over/undertime is fairly compensated, and worker support during shut-down is provided.

ADAPT TO CRISIS NEEDS

If you have to reduce or eliminate supply chain orders, consider whether you could instead adjust your services or production processes to provide crisis-relevant solutions (e.g. sanitizers, protection).

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EXPLORE NEW MODELS

Consider alternative ways that allow (reduced) production and (online) sales for your own or your suppliers' products (e.g. crowdfunding, pre-paid gift vouchers, pay-what-you-can concepts).

PREPARE FOR THE FUTURE

Consolidate with key suppliers. Collaborate on mutual challenges. Discuss required investments and solutions for long-term sustainability based on e.g. no waste, resource optimization, and fair worker's wages.

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