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# Living Lab project brief – Living Wage in global supply chains – current best practice

## Description of the paper

This paper describes a potential project to explore different approaches to the Living Wage in different parts of the world, and highlight current best practice regarding how to move towards paying a Living Wage in global supply chains. The findings could help the University engage with its suppliers of goods and services.

## Draft research question

**What does best practice regarding working towards a Living Wage in global supply chains currently look like, and what can the University learn in terms of engaging with its own suppliers?**

## Background

The University is committed to embedding social responsibility and sustainability considerations into its procurement practices, and the Procurement Office and SRS Department have carried out detailed assessment of risks, opportunities and prioritised next steps regarding the key categories of goods and services we buy. Work is underway regarding engaging Scottish and other UK suppliers regarding paying a Living Wage locally, but there is a long way to go before being able to guarantee a Living Wage is paid in all parts of the global supply chains. We would like to better understand the initiatives that are working towards ensuring a Living Wage in different parts of the world, and their successes and challenges to date, which could help identify what we could ask of our suppliers.

## Objectives

- Identify and assess initiatives working on the Living Wage in different parts of the world e.g. in countries/regions where a lot of manufacturing for global supply chains takes place
- Provide an overview of progress made and challenges that remain
- Make recommendations regarding how the University could engage with suppliers on the issue of the Living Wage in global supply chains