

Business & Human Rights Initiatives around the World: A Snapshot from Global Compact Local Networks

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CONTENTS

Introduction 3

Local Network Examples:

Global Compact Network Brazil 4

Global Compact Network Colombia 5

Global Compact Network Denmark 6

Global Compact Network France 7

Global Compact Network Germany 8

Global Compact Network Georgia 9

Global Compact Network Indonesia 10

Global Compact Network Italy 11

Global Compact Network Kenya 12

Global Compact Network Korea 13

Global Compact Network Poland 14

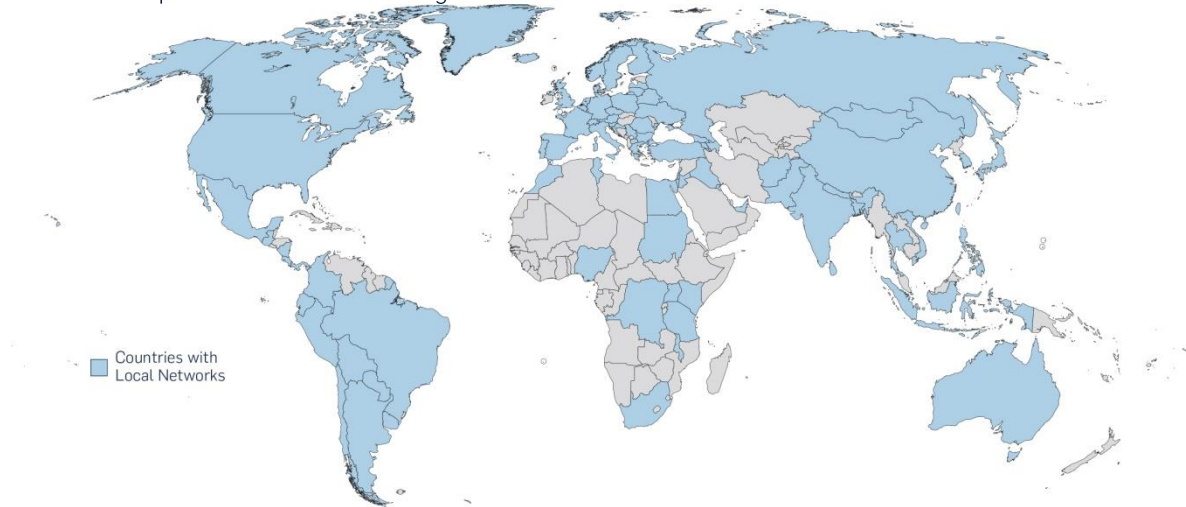
Global Compact Network Russia 15

Global Compact Network Spain 16

Global Compact Network Switzerland 17

Global Compact Network Turkey 18

Global Compact Network United Kingdom 19



INTRODUCTION

Disclaimer

This informal white-paper gathers examples of Business and Human Rights initiatives by Local Networks of the UN Global Compact. It serves as pre-read for the session "Human Rights in International Supply Chains - Where is the disconnect" which is jointly organized by seventeen Local Networks. This document aims to share learnings and inform about the manifold work of Local Networks, and to serve as basis to deepen collaboration between Local Networks in the future. This is an unedited and living document and encourages further Local Networks to contribute and share their initiatives throughout next year. This paper is not an official document of the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights.

About the UN Global Compact and Global Compact Local Networks

As a special initiative of the UN Secretary-General, the United Nations Global Compact is a call to companies everywhere to align their operations and strategies with ten universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. Launched in 2000, the mandate of the UN Global Compact is to guide and support the global business community in advancing UN goals and values through responsible corporate practices. With more than 9,500 companies and 3,000 non-business signatories based in over 160 countries, and more than 70 Local Networks, it is the largest corporate sustainability initiative in the world. Global Compact Local Networks operate locally to support businesses on their sustainability journey in their own regions.



Examples of Cross-Network collaborations:

- European Business and Human Rights Peer Learning Group Meetings: The Human Rights Peer Learning group is an active learning and leadership platform for European companies coordinated by the Local Networks of Germany, Italy, France, United Kingdom and Spain. In the group, individuals tasked with steering human rights due diligence processes within their business come together to exchange their experiences, discuss challenges they face and learn from each other on how to overcome barriers to implementation.

Forward looking collaboration plans:

- Regional CEO Roundtables on Business and Human Rights
- Practical Due Diligence Trainings

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK BRAZIL

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

According to the Brazilian National Committee for Refugees, there are 9,500 recognized refugees in Brazil, and in 2017, 32% of requests for refugee status were made by women. Since 2015, the Global Compact Network Brazil has been supporting refugee women in Brazil to find employment through a joint initiative in partnership with UNHCR and UN Women. This initiative provides professional guidance to its participants and fosters relationships by placing refugees in contact with businesses and potential job opportunities.

In addition, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the Local Network Brazil launched a new project called "The World We Want", which seeks to promote dialogue and raise awareness of the importance of including human rights in public and private policies. In partnership with the International Advisory Office of the Government of the State of São Paulo, the project includes six awareness-raising events as well as a publication highlighting the project's activities, covering themes related to indigenous peoples, racism, gender equity and LGBTI people. The project will also include social media communication and cultural exchange components.

Forward looking plans:

- Human Rights Due Diligence training
- CEO Roundtable
- Webinars (Themes include: UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights; Persons with Disabilities; Supply Chain; Women's Empowerment; Diversity; Modern Slavery; etc)
- Women's Empowerment Refugee project - fourth edition
- Translation to Portuguese of the following publications: Frequently Asked Questions about the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights; Human Rights Translated 2.0

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK COLOMBIA

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

NAP

The government of Colombia launched in 2015 the National Action Plan, which was the first non-European country to have a public policy of this nature. Since 2017, Global Compact Local Network Colombia has been the first ally to the Presidential Advisor Office on Human Rights, which is the institution in charge of the implementation of the NAP. The Local Network and the Presidential Office conducted workshops with different companies to get to know the NAP and the UNGPs.

As the NAP ends on 2018, the LN, the Presidential Advisor Office and different civil society institutions held workshops in seven cities of Colombia in order to know how the implementation of the NAP across the country was and based on the information gathered developed recommendations to the next government for the second version of the NAP. Now, LN Colombia is supporting the development of the second version of the NAP 2019-2022.

SME- training

In 2017, LN Colombia and the Presidential Advisor Office on Human Rights started training in human rights and SDGs approximately 900 security guards of Fortox Security Group (company of the LN) in 8 cities of Colombia. Because of this alliance, LN Colombia published a handbook "Human Rights: Principle of non-discrimination", that has helped other security companies to implement human rights inside their organization.

Peer-learning in Business and Human Rights

On July of 2018, OHCHR, Guías Colombia, National Contact Point of OCDE, IHRB and GCO LN Colombia held a peer learning of the UNGPs with different companies of the supply chain of transnational and Latin-American companies. It was the first peer-learning done by these institutions in Colombia and gathered 30 SMEs, which started to do a due diligence process demanded by the big companies.

Academy

LN Colombia has worked with different Universities in the country doing Diplomas on Business and Human Rights. On 2017, it held a Diploma on BHR, constructing peace and SDGs for different SMEs and civil society. The LN Colombia has also done webinars in Business and Human Rights (e.g. SDG 3 in Colombia, NAP, prior consultation and due diligence) so that companies that are not in Bogotá can also learn more about important topics for the territories.

Dante Pesce visited Bogotá

On 2017 Dante Pesce President of the Working Group on BHR came to Bogota and met with the Government, LN Colombia and companies that are part of the LN. He explained the importance of the due diligence process, the relation between human rights and peace building, and how Colombian companies have to commit to the UNGPs and SDGs.

Forward looking plans:

- Human Rights CEO Roundtable
- Share experiences between LATAM LN on BHR
- Participate as LN in the development of the second version of the NAP
- Continue training companies on UNGPs
- Strengthen the due diligence process among SMEs

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK DENMARK

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

As a local Global Compact network, GCND is committed to working with all 10 principles of the UN Global Compact, and it can be quite difficult to focus equally on all of them. However, it has become crystal clear since the network launched last year that the Danish Global Compact member organizations have a profound interest in human rights. A survey conducted earlier this year revealed human rights issues and challenges to be one of the top areas with which the companies would like the network's support. Consequently, GCND decided to set up a working group with the sole purpose of discussing human rights issues and how we can advance human rights within Danish companies.

Since its establishment, the working group has been building capacity of 45 participating companies by strengthening their knowledge about international and national requirements/frameworks within the area of human rights. More specifically, the network conducted a workshop during the summer focusing on best practice human rights policies and how to comply with both hard and soft law frameworks. This workshop was followed by a workshop on how companies assess and address their human rights impacts through the implementation of a human rights due diligence process - both in theory and in practice. The human rights working group has become a valuable forum for the network members. GCND managed to create a safe space where companies can openly discuss human rights challenges at eye-level with a collective interest to consolidate best practice and raise the bar for what companies can and should do when it comes to respecting human rights. As the working group has been such a success so far, GCND strives to become one of the leading platforms for Danish experts, leading companies and learner companies to meet and share their human rights knowledge and experience.

In addition to running its human rights working group, GCND put focus on human rights during events and campaigns. For example, to celebrate the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the network included a session on human rights and business in the annual Global Compact Nordic Network Meeting. Speakers from the UK, Finland and Denmark discussed the future of human rights in the Nordic countries and what it requires to make sure we celebrate the 100th anniversary with pride. Furthermore, GCND is going to launch a campaign in connection with the anniversary asking high level leaders from Danish Global Compact companies the question "what does human rights mean to your business". The answers will be collected in an article supported by social media graphics for LinkedIn and Twitter with short quotes from the leaders. With this campaign the network aims to emphasize the importance of complying with fundamental human rights avoid "SDG-washing", which has become a new concept in the global business context.

Forward looking plans:

- Strengthening the working group by letting in more companies in the steering group.
- Conducting three workshops in 2019. However, the overall theme has not yet been determined.
- Focus on strengthening our collaboration with the most recognized NGOs, Institutes and Governmental organizations in Denmark.

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK FRANCE

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

To facilitate the integration in favour of human rights within its member companies, the Global Compact France acts with:

Peer Review: the "human rights club" with more than 70 members from companies of all sizes and sectors is the only place where large companies and SMEs can exchange views and peer learning on business and human rights issues every 3 months. The club, which has existed for more than 3 years, has addressed the issue of the duty of vigilance, social dialogue, health and working conditions, discrimination; etc.

Training: the workshop „Human rights: the fundamentals" to raise the profile of SMEs on this theme as well as support functions in large companies (purchasing) - the French platform around the Global deal in order to exchange reflections and best practices around international social dialogue

Support: the Local Network can challenge and support large companies in their human rights and duty of vigilance policies in line with the French law.

Partnerships: the Global Compact Network France has established numerous partnerships with the French Consultative Commission on Human Rights, the Association "Entreprises pour les Droits de l'Homme" and, above all, the French NCP of the OECD and the Paris office of the ILO in order to promote the principles of the global compact and work in synergy. For example, the Global Compact Network France and the French association "Entreprises pour les droits de l'Homme" in December 2017 held a special event on the duty of vigilance law with 200 participants. Finally, the Local Network can challenge and support large companies in their human rights and duty of vigilance policies in link with the French law. Another example is that the Global Comapct Network France was very active and so were its members in the launch of the Global Deal in France in December 2017 , in connection with the French ministry of labour. Since then, the Global Compact Network France has been a member of the French Global Deal platform and leads the working group and the social networks around this group.

Forward looking plans:

- Work with Unicef on the link between children's rights in the supply chain and the SDGs
- Strengthen the due diligence process especially for SMEs in responsible purchasing
- To get more involved in the Decent Work in Global Supply Chains Action Platform by being a pilot network
- To develop more advanced workshops on the duty of vigilance and responsible purchasing

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK GEORGIA

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

Global Compact Network Georgia (GCNG) supports the Government of Georgia in the promotion of Business and Human Rights standards in the country since 2015.

The Network closely cooperates on these issues with the Administration of the Government of Georgia - Human Rights Secretariat and SDG Council, Ministry of Economy and Sustainable Development of Georgia, and Ministry of Health, Labour and Social Affairs of Georgia.

In 2015, GCNG successfully lobbied for the incorporation of a Business and Human Rights Chapter in the National Human Rights Action Plan of the Government of Georgia for 2016-2017. During those couple of years, in cooperation with the Human Rights Secretariat and Ombudsman's Office of Georgia, the Network carried out a National Baseline Study on Business and Human Rights in Georgia, held trainings for Government representatives on the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, and translated the UNGPs, OECD Guidelines and other standards into Georgian language.

The Danish Institute for Human Rights provided framework and guidance for the BHR baseline study in Georgia.

Based on the study outcomes and recommendations, with the Support of GCNG, the new Chapter on Business and Human Rights was elaborated by the HR Secretariat, forming part of the National HR Action Plan for 2018-2020. The Chapter includes 30 specific activities for the promotion of BHR in Georgia, and follows the framework of the UNGPs.

GCNG is also a member of SDG Council of the Government of Georgia, facilitating interaction of the Government and business sector around SDGs. Network supports Ministry of Economy and its agencies, such as Enterprise Georgia, in promotion of BHR among SMEs, beneficiaries of the Government programmes.

Furthermore, the Network has been actively promoting BHR and the UNGPs among its members, and other businesses in Georgia, through trainings, thematic discussions and Conferences.

Forward looking plans:

- The Network will continue to support the Government of Georgia in the implementation of the Business and Human Rights Chapter of the National Human Rights Action Plan for 2018-2020. GCNG will provide support the SDG Council, Ombudsman's Office, and Ministry of Economy in the promotion of BHR among Businesses, through organising thematic multi-stakeholder roundtables and discussions. The Network will also build knowledge and capacity of public officials around the UNGPs.
- The Network will promote the UNGPs among businesses through individual coaching, trainings and other awareness raising activities. GCNG will incorporate the UNGPs into CSR School curricula. CSR School will be launched by the Network in cooperation with Ilia State University in 2019. The beneficiaries of the school will be businesses, students, CSOs, media, and other interested stakeholders.
- In 2019-2020 GCNG will raise awareness of CSOs, media and the population of Georgia around business and human rights through media communication campaign and periodic thematic discussions, University lectures, etc.

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK GERMANY

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

A business may have a range of policies and measures in place to address their responsibility to protect human rights. However, developing a systematic approach to comprehensively assess and address human rights impacts in their operations — and especially in their value chains — is not an easy task. To support companies of all sizes in their endeavor to respect human rights, the Global Compact Network Germany offers a number of capacity building trainings.

The “Fit for the NAP” training programme builds upon the requirements set out by the German Government in their National Action Plan on business and human rights. Through five modules running over six to eight months, small groups of dedicated companies will learn about human rights due diligence requirements, understand how to assess the status of implementation of those requirements for each company (status quo analysis), and clarify the next steps needed to fully comply with national and international standards.

Currently, the third version of the programme is up and running. To date, 25 companies from both German SMEs and multinational enterprises have participated in the programme, embarking on their journey towards a full-fledged human rights due diligence process.

Additionally, the Local Network Germany is delivering a wide range of workshops, trainings and webinars introducing the UN Guiding Principles and human rights due diligence. Some of the activities focus on specific elements (like human rights risk and impact assessment) or specific stakeholders, like a joint UNICEF with training on child rights and businesses.

Information and guidance materials

LN Germany has developed a webpage MR-Sorgfalt.de which has the following three functions:

Human Rights Capacity Diagnostic

Self-Assessment of your companies' capacities to implement human rights due diligence

Getting started

Step-by-step guidance towards managing the human rights impacts of your business

Advanced practitioners

Deep-dive into the different elements of due diligence

Forward looking plans:

- Intensify work with SMEs
- Work with “multipliers” and train the trainers

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK INDONESIA

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

Global Compact Network Indonesia has conducted 10 quarterly multi-stakeholders dialogues to introduce and promote the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in Indonesia. The project is organized in partnership with OXFAM and the International NGO Forum on Indonesian Development (INFID), and is funded under the scheme of European Union-European Instruments for Democracy and Human Rights (EU-EIDHR) scheme. The dialogues have already engaged more than 800 leaders from companies, state-owned enterprises, Government, academia and civil society.

The dialogue series has shown that different levels of corporate understanding of business and human rights continue to be a challenge when it comes to mainstreaming implementation of the UN Guiding Principles. However, at the same time, certain businesses demonstrate clear progress in the understanding and adoption of the UN Guiding Principles.

The dialogues have also played a significant role in changing business perspectives and misconceptions. In the beginning, some businesses perceived business and human rights as exclusively a Government responsibility and political issue. Introducing the concept of “knowing and showing” human rights impacts — instead of “naming and shaming” — encouraged business and civil society organizations to engage constructively on business and human rights issues.

These dialogues have advocated for the Government to be more clear when talking about regulations pertaining to business and human rights. As businesses will be impacted by the regulations, business involvement and public consultation is important. Overlapping Government regulations by sector are also a challenge for businesses, and the dialogues have advocated for the Government to better integrate and simplify regulations. The dialogues are also addressing the need for companies to conduct more comprehensive due diligence processes, encompassing their current and prospective suppliers.

Forward looking plans:

- Establish a “HelpDesk” as a platform website containing information and guidance on business and human rights
- Socialization and training of business and human rights in 5 major cities in Indonesia in collaboration with the Ministry of Law and Human Rights of Republic of Indonesia
- Initiate and support Human Rights Due Diligence especially in Agri-business Industry
- Continue the support of the National Action Plan development

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK ITALY

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

GCNI has organized many different initiatives to support the promotion of Human Rights in business strategies and everyday activities of its members, in line with the UN Global Compact 10 Principles.

Events

The Global Compact Network Italy yearly supports the Ring the Bell event, organized by Borsa Italiana in the occasion of the International Women's Day celebration (8th March). On that day 65 stock exchanges hosted a Bell Ringing ceremony to raise awareness on the role of the business sector in advancing gender equality worldwide. The event represented an opportunity to share best practice on diversity and inclusion of some virtuous companies of the Italian Network.

The GCNI participates in the European Peer Learning Group, together with the German, French, English, Spanish and Swiss Local Networks focused on Business and Human Rights.

The GCNI has organized a thematic workshop to present the Standard of Conduct for Business on tackling discrimination against Lesbian, Gay, Bi, Trans and Intersex People, elaborated by UNHCHR to ensure the rights of LGBTI people in the workplace. The event was a fruitful occasion for some Italian big companies and medium enterprises to share concrete activities undertaken in the Inclusion and Diversity Management.

Best practices sharing

GCNI launched the Italian Business & SDGs Web-Gallery, an open online platform aimed at collecting and sharing organizations' experiences and practices that contribute to the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development and to the achievement of its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Up to day, there are 10 practices that address the SDGs related to Human Rights (Goals 4,5,8,10). The Web Gallery is a practical, evolving and growing tool, providing a space for companies to learn and peer review from other partners on the strategies and concrete actions put in place to implement SDGs and promote sustainability at all organizational levels.

Training

TGCNI, in collaboration with the Institute of Management of the Sant'Anna School of Advanced Study – Pisa, developed a Basic Training Course on Business and Human Rights targeting top and middle business manager to raise awareness on the issue of Business and Human Rights, providing basic information and interpretations to be used in their everyday professional life. The Course firstly gives an overview on the definition and key concepts regarding HR, then it focuses on HR in Business perspective and finally addresses the issue of HR in management practices.

Working Group on HR

GCNI organized a working group on HR with a specific focus on the importance of diversity and inclusion in business and management practices. The group also suggested to launch a "Diversity Week" to maximize the attention of companies on these themes and to launch a "Call for Practices" to collect business experiences on diversity.

Assessment

GCNI developed and managed the TenP Platform, a tool to support companies in self-evaluating their sustainability strategies and performances, also giving them the possibility to track their progresses, to benchmark their company's sustainability performances against peers and to share the self-assessment results with the TenP Platform Partners. The suppliers are required to fill in a self-assessment questionnaire to measure their sustainability performances in terms of Human Rights, Labour, Environment, Anti-corruption.

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK KENYA

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

The National Steering Committee in Kenya is currently spearheading the development of the country's National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights — the first of its kind in Africa. As a member of the Committee, Global Compact Network Kenya is playing a central role in setting policy direction for effective implementation of the UN Guiding Principles. Throughout the National Action Plan development process — including everything from the initial stakeholder consultation to the final validation workshop — Local Network Kenya provided relevant input and consolidated the voice of business in support of the implementation of human rights in business strategy.

In 2018, the Local Network Kenya also participated in two consultations held by the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights. The Network provided important feedback to the Working Group's Africa consultation on applying a gender lens to human rights due diligence, with implications for how gender is addressed in the National Action Plan. Involvement in various policy platforms has enabled the Network to identify gaps in the National Action Plan, to highlight areas where businesses will require support in implementation and to recommend additional issues that require attention.

Crucially, after the adoption of the plan, the Network will be part of the National Action Plan Implementation Committee that will work to ensure its effective implementation through enhanced business awareness and understanding of the UN Guiding Principles, increased business respect for human rights, and improved remedy mechanisms within businesses.

Forward looking plans:

- Support the development of guidelines for human rights due diligence
- Advocate for development of human rights policies by businesses
- Advocate for non-financial reporting by Kenyan businesses
- Conduct targeted training for SMEs on business respect for human rights
- Promote dialogue among businesses on environment protection through dissemination of the Kenya Climate Change NAP
- Advocate for development of operational and industry level grievance mechanisms

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK KOREA

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

Global Compact Network Korea continues to play a crucial role in the harmonious development of environment, economy, and society by internalizing business and human rights to business management and strategies.

This year, the Government of South Korea launched the third version of the NAP (2018–2022), which includes: institutionalizing human rights management in all companies, considering human rights in public procurement, and supporting non-state-based grievance mechanisms. Global Compact Network Korea submitted advisory comments on the third version of the NAP draft.

Advisory engagement on Business and Human Rights

Advisory engagement enables Korean companies to enhance knowledge and capabilities with learning opportunities available regardless of the corporate function. Companies learn how to use a principles-based approach to effectively address and prioritize human rights issues in the company's management. In 2016, Global Compact Network Korea also launched a Working Group on Business and Human Rights for Korean companies.

- Institutionalising business and human rights in all companies
- Anchoring and Embedding business and human rights across all business functions
- Providing Code of Conduct, Self-Assessment Tool, Grievance Mechanism review on business and human rights for continuous improvement of companies

Training and Capacity Building

These forums and seminars are meaningful in that government, enterprises, and related scholars can gather and jointly deliver the message of how business and human rights is an opportunity for business growth at a global conference discussing major issues. In addition, it provided opportunities for experts in each field to share their knowledge and experience. In the future, the Network will continue to guide the enterprises' implementation detailed strategies for business and human rights.

Forum, Seminars, and Publications

Global Compact Network Korea accumulates and shares best practices and case studies of Korean companies. These best practices identify general approaches that have been recognized by a number of companies and stakeholders as being good for business and good for human rights. These case examples also include vision, core strategy, policy, and actions of private and state-owned companies, public organisations, and cities. This effort aims to serve as an opportunity to review Korean companies' progress towards the achievement of business and human rights and to disseminate best practices in and across borders.

Partnership and Collaboration

Global Compact Network Korea works in close cooperation and coordination with all relevant actors such as Governments, National Assembly, UN Agencies, Media, Business Associations, and NGOs.

- Government: National Human Rights Commission of Korea, Anti-Corruption & Civil Rights, Commission, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, Ministry of Trade, Industry and Energy, etc.
- UN Agency: OHCHR Seoul, UNDP Seoul Policy Centre, UNHCR Korea, UNESCAP East and North-East Asia Office, WFP Korea, UNICEF Seoul, etc.
- Media: The Chosunilbo, Maeil Business News Korea, News Tomato, etc.
- Business Association: FKI(The Federation of Korean Industries), WBCSD Korea(World Business Council for Sustainable Development Korea), KCCI BISD(Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry Business Institute for Sustainable Development), KOCIC(Korea Chemical Industry Council), etc.
- NGO: TI Korea(Transparency International Korea), KOSIF(Korea Sustainability Investing Forum), RFBF(Religious Freedom & Business Foundation), etc.
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GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK POLAND

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

Under the banner of “CEOs for Ethics”, the Global Compact Network Poland has kick-started a series of CEO Roundtables on Human Rights, including a C-suite strategic dialogue on priority issues, best practices and sectoral recommendations. The lessons learned are published in the “CEOs for Ethics” Report, as part of the broader “Business and Human Rights — Ethical Standards in Poland” programme which started in 2014. The event series has already gathered over 20 leading Chief Executives alongside Governments and other stakeholders, adding momentum to the business and human rights discussion in Poland.

One of the key issues identified was the link between ethics and the Global Goals. Business leaders also discussed the importance of dialogue between the private sector and Government to increase knowledge sharing of ethical standards, including ways to implement ethical corporate standards among employees, partners and suppliers. Three of the greatest challenges related to integrating ethical practices into business operations and strategy identified by participating businesses included: misuse of funds, decision-making focused on short-term outcomes without adequate assessment of the potential negative impacts and the abuse of classified or private information.

The Standard of Ethics – the checklist of the most common tools and most important values to be implemented– was created by Global Compact Network Poland in coalition of over 100 companies and institutions as a starting point for ethical and responsible business. It includes guidance, case studies and the aspirational (advanced) part for leading companies.

This year's 70th anniversary of Universal Declaration of Human Rights was a central theme during the #GCNP Human Rights Gala. With approx. 200 C-suite members, stakeholders and celebrities who support #GCNP in our work, we took the action to #standup4humanrights. Starting with UN S-G Antonio Guterres' call to action, we followed by presenting statue of the Ethical Standard Ambassador, together with Polish Ombudsman, Polish Spokesperson for Children's Rights and Head of the Supreme Chamber of Control.

Now, the main goal is to share the Standard of Ethics as a good practice within the UNGC network, to be adopted in other countries of the region. This efforts was started this year with the Local Network in the Ukraine, next step Egypt!

Forward looking plans:

- Standard of Ethics – implementation of the tool in other LNs - workshops and conferences.
- Series of meeting “CEOs Roundtables on HR”
- Ring the bell for gender equality conference at Warsaw Stock Exchange
- Participation in publication and reports

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK RUSSIA

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

Since 2015, Global Compact Local Network Russia has been working on promoting and putting into practice the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). This activity is aimed at forming a consolidated position and implementing awareness-raising and analytical work. Key joint objectives are research on Russian business engagement in promotion and implementation of the UNGPs — considering Russian legislation and business competences, synchronization with international standards, as well as determining next steps of public authorities, business community and civil society to harmonize impact and minimize human rights risks for all the stakeholders.

In 2015-2016, GC Local Network Russia initiated the discussion and formed the working group; at the same time, a business liaison with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs of the Russian Federation and the Russian Foreign Affairs Ministry Business Council was established. An expert analysis of the UNGPs against Russian legislation, commissioned by the LN Russia, has become a significant step forward. It was presented at the 2017 UN Forum on Business and Human Rights as part of the Russian programme under the aegis of the GC LN Russia. At present, an expert discussion of promoting the UNGPs in Russia is taking place together with forming a concept statement to the Ministry of Foreign Affairs on behalf of the GC LN Russia expert group. Based on this statement, in 2019-2020 various items are expected: a study the level of understanding an integration of the UNGPs into business models of Russian companies, drafting a report on putting into business practice key provisions and values of the UNGPs, approval and enforcement of a collective actions plan in the context of the SDGs.

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK SPAIN

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

The Global Compact Network Spain is supporting SMEs in their efforts to implement the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

Activities include:

- Online courses providing simple and practical guidelines for small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs) to apply the UN Guiding Principles
- An implementation tool providing SMEs with easy-to-use resources, such as human rights policy templates; the tool also supports SMEs in carrying out human rights risk assessments
- Human rights training projects for suppliers of large Spanish companies, whose supply chains largely consist of SMEs; more than 700 suppliers have completed the training so far

In addition, the Local Network Spain carries out an annual study to analyze the state of implementation of the UN Guiding Principles among the leading companies belonging to the country's main stock exchange index, the IBEX 35. The aim of the annual study is to raise awareness among Spanish companies, public institutions and society in general about the UN Guiding Principles and the Spanish National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights. These studies have been used in the work of different parliamentary committees in Spain and have prominently featured in Spanish corporate sustainability media.

Forward looking plans:

- Participate in the Spanish Government's advisory council for the National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights.
- Organize practical workshops with Spanish multinational companies
- Analyze the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in Spanish multinational companies

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK SWITZERLAND

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

Companies are increasingly expected to comply with human rights and environmental standards - not only in their own production, but also abroad along their value chains. Global Compact Network Switzerland and öbu organize a series of Workshops and facilitates Working Groups, to continue the journey to learn best practices.

In the workshop, participants will learn about the steps involved in the practical implementation of human rights due diligence.

Regulatory developments such as the UK Modern Slavery Act (2015) or the French Loi de vigilance (2017) as well as developments in Switzerland such as the Confederation's National Action Plan and the Responsible Business Initiative make it clear that dealing with human rights risks along the supply chains and the implementation of human rights due diligence is becoming increasingly important for Swiss companies.

The workshops will elaborate, what human rights due diligence does involve and how companies can implement it. The companies get to know the five steps of due diligence and discuss challenges and opportunities of implementation in small groups.

Interested companies are then invited to join the working groups to continue the journey together. The Working Groups are for business members only (without consultancies) and will be kept confidential.

Forward looking plans:

- Trainings and Working Groups will be organized on a regular basis.
- Next workshop Winterthur: 24.1.2019 (german - english)
- Launch Working Group Bern: 5.2.2019 (english).
- For all details: www.globalcompact.ch

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK TURKEY

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

Global Compact Network Turkey organized a “Human Rights in Business CEO Roundtable” in cooperation with the UN System in Turkey. Ten CEOs, seven Local Network Turkey Board Members and the UN Resident Coordinator for Turkey all participated. The aim of the roundtable was to apply a principles-based approach to the Global Goals and to discuss the role of human rights in achieving the Goals in the context of the Turkish business world, ultimately gathering recommendations for a next steps on the road ahead.

Inclusion was noted as a core issue for all sectors, with an emphasis on inclusion of women and youth. The participants identified the need for business to lead the way in advancing equality for employees, with a view towards ensuring an integrated approach. Another important outcome was the clear need for business to account for social impact and investment in society.

Key learnings included:

- Cooperation and communication among CEOs has the potential to create a difference
- Complex problems cannot be solved without the engagement of CEOs
- Multinational companies should share their good examples and know-how at the local level
- It is necessary to take responsibility and discuss how to establish a partnership for the future
- The private sector should work together to create a culture of cooperation and awareness raising on human rights

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK UNITED KINGDOM

Examples of locally implemented BHR activities & initiatives:

The UK Network aims to further the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles that cover human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption and serves members through regular meetings to share best practice and working groups. In 2018, the UK Network's business and human rights activities include:

- Modern Slavery Working Group – with the passage of the UK Modern Slavery Act, a (MSWG) working group was established for members to discuss with peers the implementation challenges presented by the Act. The group is in its third year and have met three times in 2018.
- Modern Slavery Statement peer-review programme – members of the UK Network's MSWG have their statements peer-reviewed and practical guidance on how to strengthen and improve the statement is also offered.
- Organising high-quality business and human rights events with leading practitioners from industry and other relevant organisations providing opportunities to hear from experts and exchange knowledge peer-to-peer across industry sectors. Events this year have focused on women's empowerment, children's rights & business and human rights due diligence.
- Business & human rights-related webinars – the UK Network has organised several webinars on topics ranging from human rights due diligence to transparency in the supply chain.
- All-Party Parliamentary Group on Sport, Modern Slavery and Human Rights – the UK Network provide the Secretariat and thought leadership for this Parliamentary Group. The group's mission is to find solutions to pressing human rights problems affecting large scale sporting events around the world.
- The UK Network newsletter – provides UK-oriented information on engagement opportunities with the UN Global Compact and other organisations actively promoting business and human rights in the UK.
- Government engagement through the Network's well-established lines of communication with Departments responsible for business and human rights-related policy. In 2018, the UK Network responded to various calls for evidence from the UK Government and independent reviews on S.54 of the UK's Modern Slavery Act.

Forward looking plans:

- Develop and launch a 'child labour' working group
- Continue to deliver high quality business and human rights events for members
- Collaborate with other LNs to organise 2019's European peer learning event
- Strengthen offering and engagement for SME's
- Provide members with more opportunities for business & human rights training

THE TEN PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT



HUMAN RIGHTS

- 1 Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and
- 2 make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.



LABOUR

- 3 Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
- 4 the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;
- 5 the effective abolition of child labour; and
- 6 the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.



ENVIRONMENT

- 7 Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- 8 undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
- 9 encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.



ANTI-CORRUPTION

- 10 Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

