

Global Compact Local Networks:  
**Accelerating  
National SDG  
Implementation**

2018 Edition



United Nations  
Global Compact

**MAKING GLOBAL GOALS  
LOCAL BUSINESS**



# FOREWORD

We are fast approaching the third anniversary of the adoption of the Sustainable Development Goals by all UN member states in September 2015, and while the last 1,000 days has seen some good progress in raising awareness, the world is not yet on track to meet any of the 17 goals by 2030.

That is not necessarily bad news. It's just the current reality. The good news is that the wheels of transformation are now turning and increasingly the private sector is embracing its role in creating a more sustainable, inclusive and prosperous planet.

Business is central to the 2030 Agenda envisioned and articulated by all 193 UN member states. While governments need to put the right goals, plans and policies in place it is the private sector that will need to deliver its share of the resources, the innovative ideas, the scalable solutions and the skills that we so desperately need to turn this vision into a reality.

The UN Global Compact is already playing its part in catalysing the change that the world's governments seek for their nations and their people. By engaging thousands of large and small companies around the world, we are working to mobilize a true global movement of responsible companies that help advance the SDGs -- not only for the benefit of their societies but for their own benefit too.

Responsible business is good for business and, anyway, few companies will succeed if the society is broken.

Anchored in the UN, we offer companies a principle-based platform on which to build and to promote their sustainability objectives, the tools and knowledge that they need to turn the global goals into business strategies, and a seat at the table where the future is being designed.

For thousands of our participants, it is the Global Compact Local Networks that provide the main gateway to inspiration, knowledge and collaboration. Local Networks are an integral part of the UN Global Compact and on the absolute frontlines of delivering value and impact at scale.

Global Compact Local Networks uniquely offer opportunities for businesses and other types of organizations to engage on the Sustainable Development Goals based on international standards and global leadership practices, while focused on national challenges and priorities in collaboration with other local actors. It is through these Local Networks that we can truly make the Global Goals Local Business.

With this publication, we aim to demonstrate how our Global Compact Local Networks can help accelerate action and collaboration to close the gaps between where we currently are and where we need to be by 2030.

Whether you are a CEO or graduate trainee, I hope you will be inspired to accept this sincere invitation from the UN Global Compact to join us in embracing the vision of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals.

We need leaders of all kinds to ensure no one is left behind as we develop our communities, societies and nations in a profitable yet sustainable and responsible way. By working together, we can create an unstoppable global movement of responsible companies and organizations to create the world we want.



**–Lise Kingo**  
CEO & Executive Director,  
United Nations Global Compact

# CONTENTS

**FOREWORD FROM LISE KINGO,  
UN GLOBAL COMPACT CEO & EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR**

<b>INTRODUCTION</b>	<b>4</b>
<b>CHAPTER 1: AWARENESS RAISING: HELPING BUSINESS UNDERSTAND SDG RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES</b>	<b>6</b>
<b>CHAPTER 2: CAPACITY BUILDING: MAINSTREAMING A PRINCIPLE-BASED APPROACH TO THE SDGS</b>	<b>12</b>
<b>CHAPTER 3: RECOGNIZING LEADERSHIP: PROVIDING INSPIRATION THROUGH GOOD BUSINESS PRACTICES</b>	<b>18</b>
<b>CHAPTER 4: POLICY-DIALOGUE: ENGAGING RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS ON NATIONAL SDG ACTION PLANS AND POLICIES</b>	<b>22</b>
<b>CHAPTER 5: MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS: FACILITATING COLLABORATION AND COLLECTIVE ACTION</b>	<b>26</b>

# INTRODUCTION

Change happens locally. Small and medium-sized enterprises — accounting for over 95 per cent of firms and creating the bulk of worldwide employment — predominantly operate in national markets. Even large multi-national companies must adapt to local priorities and challenges, addressing the impact they have through local operations and subsidiaries. It is at the local and national levels that partnerships are built, projects are implemented, and new solutions are put to use.

The United Nations Global Compact is uniquely positioned to accelerate country-level action and collaboration – at a global scale!

Headquartered at the United Nations in New York, the UN Global Compact is defining leadership practices on the Sustainable Development Goals. Under the Making Global Goals Local Business initiative, we aspire to build a truly global movement of sustainable business. The 69 Global Compact Local Networks are essential to the success of this mission. Through the Local Networks, the UN Global Compact can work closely with the more than 9,000 business and 3,000 non-business participants across different languages and business cultures. And because of the Local Networks, do we see these numbers growing every day.

## Business-led, multi-stakeholder platforms

Global Compact Local Networks span both mature and emerging markets around the world. The strongest growth can be seen in some of the markets of the Global South, where the social and environmental pressures are most significant and where the need for accelerated action is greatest. Out of the 69 Global Compact Local Networks, 60% of the Networks operate in the Global South.

Several Local Networks have been operating for more than a decade and are fully embedded in their local business community. Others are still in the early phases of defining a new national agenda around corporate sustainability and multi-stakeholder partnerships. The Local Networks are all business-led, multi-stakeholder platforms anchored in the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and uniquely positioned to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Over the past few years, Local Networks have been building stronger governance structures, and they have generally become much more resourceful, allowing them to support national SDG implementation in a strategic and systematic manner.

## Systematic business engagement

Global Compact Local Networks focus on five types of activities that consistently and systematically drive business engagement on the SDGs at a national scale:

- 1. Awareness Raising:** Helping Business Understand SDG Risks and Opportunities
- 2. Capacity building:** Mainstreaming a principle-based approach to the SDGs
- 3. Recognizing Leadership:** Providing inspiration through Good Business Practices
- 4. Policy-Dialogue:** Engaging Responsible Business on national SDG Action Plans and Policies
- 5. Multi-Stakeholder Partnerships:** Facilitating collaboration and collective action

Each of the five workstreams are closely connected and build on the outcomes of each other. Business interest in capacity-building activities, for example, requires companies to understand the SDGs and the business risks and opportunities involved, and inspiration to engage further often comes from leading companies showcasing good practices and solutions. Further, business capacity on sustainable development is a prerequisite for effectively engaging companies in a public-private dialogue which, in turn, builds trust and lays the foundation for multi-stakeholder partnerships and collective action.

**9,000+**  
BUSINESSES

**3,000+**  
NON-BUSINESS  
PARTICIPANTS

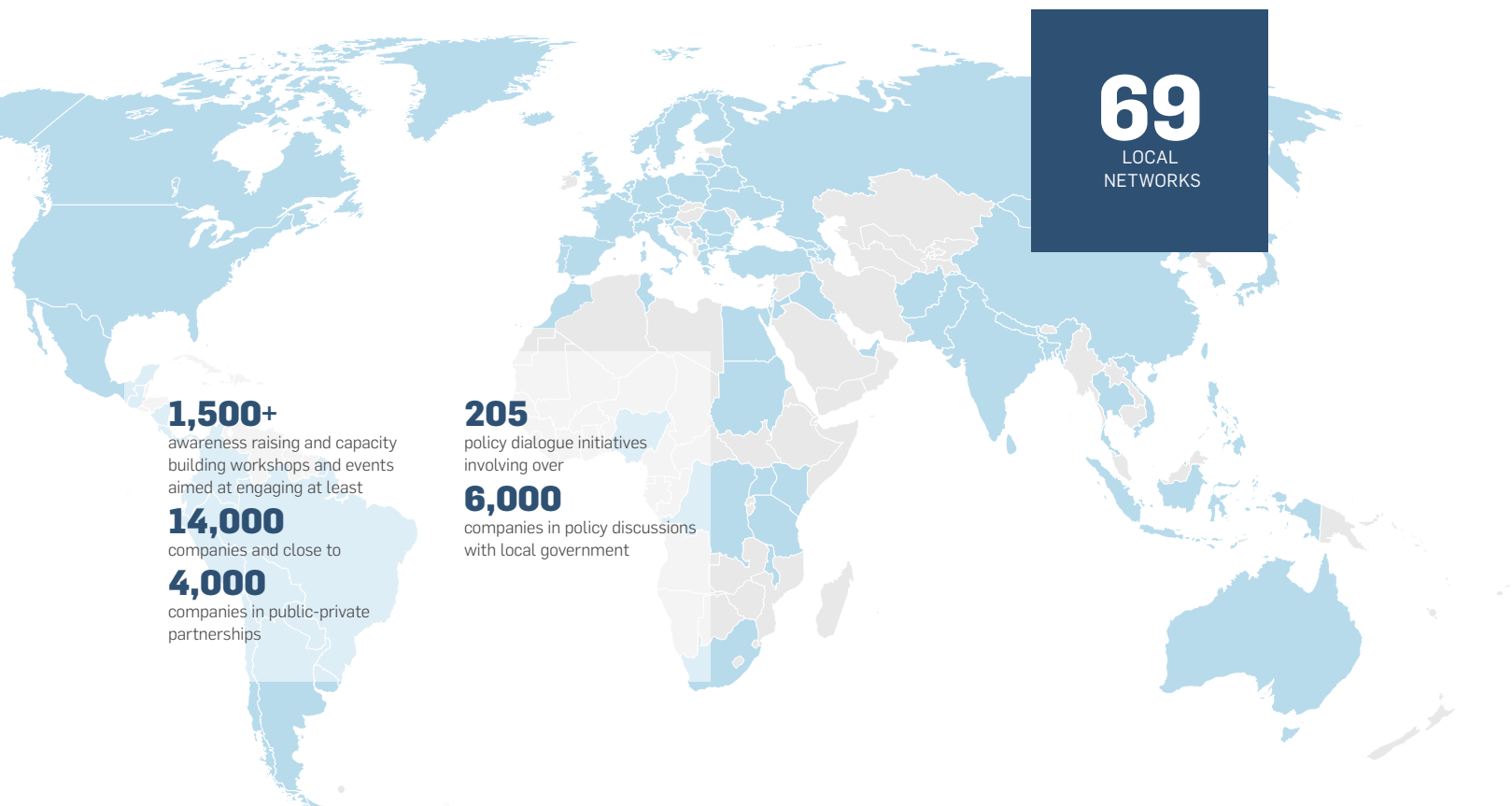
**The UN General Assembly Resolution “Towards Global Partnerships” specifically recognizes “the important role that Global Compact Local Networks will play in supporting the implementation of the 2030 Agenda” and that Local Networks “provide an avenue for diffusing United Nations values and principles and facilitating partnerships with business on a broad scale” (A/RES/70/224).**

This publication targets anyone interested in working with the United Nations Global Compact at the national level. It shows how Local Networks around the world are engaging businesses and investors to implement the 2030 Agenda, and how the different initiatives ultimately connect to the mission of the UN Global Compact to mobilize a global movement of sustainable companies and stakeholders to create the world we want.

Over the past 12 months, Local Networks have organized over 1,500 workshops and events aimed at awareness raising and capacity building engaging directly at least 14,000 companies and close to 4,000 companies in public-private partnerships. It is estimated that 205 policy dialogue initiatives were also set in motion directly involving over 6,000 companies in policy discussions with local government.

This report contains examples from more than 30 countries around the world, but are merely illustrative of the wealth and variety of initiatives that Global Compact Local Networks are working on every day.

In addition, the UN Global Compact also supports SDG delivery through a number of global and regional initiatives organized by the UN Global Compact from New York. These include an array of business tools and resources, the new Global Compact Academy, high-level events as part of the annual Leaders Summit and a number of global Action Platforms that defines the leadership practices required to deliver the SDGs.



# 1. AWARENESS RAISING: HELPING BUSINESS UNDERSTAND SDG RISKS AND OPPORTUNITIES

Localization of the 2030 Agenda begins with raising awareness among policy makers, companies, investors, trade unions, civil society organizations, academic institutions, consumers and citizens in both developed and developing countries. Any meaningful action requires relevant actors, helping them understand the importance and ambition of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) and what they can do to help achieve them.

Creating awareness among companies of all sizes and sectors is of particular importance, considering the key role that the private sector can and must play for any and all of the goals to be realized by 2030.

The United Nations Global Compact is uniquely positioned to mobilize a truly global movement of sustainable companies to help advance the SDGs. It is with this ambition that the Global Compact since 2015 has been running the Making Global Goals Local Business campaign; already helping thousands of companies around the world to familiarize

themselves with the SDGs and their relevance to businesses.

## Responsibilities and opportunities

Following a principles-based approach, it is important that business leaders become aware of the responsibilities and opportunities that the SDGs represent to their companies. Businesses that want to be part of the solution need to first make sure that they are not part of the problem. Companies must understand their responsibility to comply with all relevant legislation and to uphold internationally recognized minimum standards and principles. As embedded in the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and reaffirmed and elaborated in the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, all companies must first and foremost address any infringement on human rights that they are involved with through their own activities or business relationships.

If all companies were aware of these responsibili-



**EGYPT**

Established **2004**

+ **79** Companies

### Deep Dive into the SDGs through Awareness-Raising Initiatives

The United Nations Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UN DESA) has estimated that Egypt's population will reach 150 million by 2050, exerting significant pressure on resources and services, including land, water, energy, transport, health and education. Global Compact Network Egypt is dedicated to identifying innovative solutions to the challenges that come with the population growth and to strengthening the role of the private sector in the work towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The annual SDG Roundtable co-hosted by Network Egypt, the Gerhart Center for Philanthropy, Civic Engagement and Responsible Business, and Care International Egypt served as an opportunity for participants to contribute to a multi-stakeholder dialogue on the SDGs and explore innovative solutions for implementation. Every year, the event brings together business leaders, high-ranking Government officials,

civil society, and students to map current initiatives to implement the SDGs and to seek to fill in gaps and form new partnerships. With the gradual roll-out of the initiative, the accumulated knowledge is shared with governmental bodies such as the Egyptian Ministry of Planning and the Ministry of Social Solidarity. The outcome of the dialogue also serves to draft policy briefs and create an SDG barometer for civil society and the private sector.

The annual Egyptian Business for Peace Iftar Event in June 2018 highlighted the role of the private sector in building peaceful, just and inclusive societies. The event brought together senior officials and high-level executives from the private sector, Government, and civil society to raise awareness on issues, such as migration, gender equality, refugees and employment. This comes before the anticipated UN Global Compact Business for Peace event to be held in Egypt November 2018 in collaboration with UN offices in Egypt, governmental entities and business participants.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**15**

AWARENESS RAISING  
ACTIVITIES

**180**

COMPANIES  
REACHED



ties and were to act accordingly it would — in the words of John Ruggie, Former UN Special Representative for Business and Human Rights — “generate an unprecedented large-scale positive impact on the lives of people who may be most in need of the benefits of sustainable development” and hence go a long way in helping to realize the SDGs.

Beyond these baseline responsibilities, the awareness-raising activities run by the United Nations Global Compact seek to inspire and motivate companies by highlighting the enormous business opportunities that the SDGs represent. A growing number of companies acknowledge the strong business case for integrating sustainability into strategies and operations — bringing material benefits in terms of brand reputation, productivity gains, alignment with business partner requirements, market differentiation and talent recruitment. Too many companies are still unaware of the sizeable market opportunities available to companies that are able to develop relevant technologies and innovative solutions to help advance the 2030 Agenda. According to the Business and Sustainable Development Commission, achieving the SDGs will by 2030 open up at least USD 12

trillion of market opportunities within the economic systems of agriculture, cities, energy and materials and health and well-being, and markets tied to SDGs are often growing two to three times faster than the overall economy.

## Raising awareness across countries, cultures and languages

Global Compact Local Networks are central to the Making Global Goals Local Business campaign and the broader awareness-raising activities of the United Nations Global Compact. While the Local Networks are business-driven, they have the capacity to convene relevant players from Government, the UN system, academia and civil society. Importantly, they are deeply embedded within the local community and connect with relevant organizations and individuals in the local language and with messages and tools adapted to the local culture and traditions.

Global Compact Local Networks reach companies through a variety of events almost every day. These activities range from CEO roundtables — connecting Local Networks with businesses at the highest level — to more specialized conferences focusing on just one or a few SDGs, to roadshows aimed at reaching companies throughout the country. More than 13,800 companies participated in one or more of the over 700 SDG-related awareness-raising events and activities organized by the Local Networks in the past 12 months.

In addition, Global Compact Local Networks are actively advocating for the SDGs and relevant initiatives through traditional and social media, and other types of campaign initiatives. Local Network social media presence is far reaching with thousands of monthly impressions across various digital platforms and close to 700 mentions over traditional media with 800 direct contributions from Local Networks in a 12 month period across 2017 and 2018. Through a variety of activities, Local Networks are hence not only rallying existing Global Compact Signatories around the SDGs, but also reaching thousands of companies that have not yet made a public commitment to sustainability. As such, they are day by day helping the UN Global Compact to grow the movement of sustainable companies that understand and deliver on the 2030 Agenda.



**13,800+**

companies participated in one or more of the

**700+**

SDG-related awareness-raising initiatives organized by Local Networks in the past 12 months



**ECUADOR**Established **2011****+ 103** Companies**Making Global Goals Local Business**

In November 2017, the United Nations Global Compact and Global Compact Network Ecuador organized a regional Making Global Goals Local Business event in Quito, Ecuador, discussing how the private sector across Latin America can contribute to the achievement of the 2030 Agenda.

The event convened over 300 participants, with 70 per cent of them representing businesses and other participants coming from the Government, civil society, United Nations and academia. Numerous Global Compact Local Networks from Latin America and the

United States attended the event, sharing their local experience in scaling up businesses' contributions to the advancement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

The event was part of an awareness-raising campaign kicked off in 2016 that has helped more than double the number of Ecuadorian companies that are participants of the UN Global Compact. The event was also attended by high-level representatives of the Governments of Colombia, Costa Rica and Ecuador, the United Nations Resident Coordinator and the Permanent Representative of UN Women in Ecuador as well as representatives of UN Global Compact, Economic Commission for Latin America and the Caribbean, and the United Nations Development Programme's (UNDP) Regional Bureau for Latin America and the Caribbean.

The event was an excellent example of a Local Network's capability to convene a multi-stakeholder and high-level event specific to a region. It also served as a good example of South-South and Triangular Cooperation, providing a platform for countries to share the actions they are taking to advance the 2030 Agenda and to find potential partnership opportunities.

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY  
SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)**12**AWARENESS RAISING  
ACTIVITIES**250**COMPANIES  
REACHED**PORTUGAL**Established **2009****+ 47** Companies**Social Responsibility Week: Making the Business Case for SDGs to Startups and SMEs**

Global Compact Network Portugal held a Social Responsibility Week between May and June of 2018 in various cities across the country including in Lisbon, Matosinhos, Leiria, Aveiro and Porto. Organized in cooperation with Associação Portuguesa de Ética Empresarial (Portuguese Association of Business Ethics), the initiative was first launched in 2006 to provide a multi-stakeholder platform for representatives of Government, business, public organizations, civil society and academia to come together and discuss shared sustainability issues and opportunities. Under the theme "Sustainability and Competitiveness," this year's edition discussed the challenges of implementing the 2030 Agenda and its 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) in Portugal.

A series of events were held as part of the Social Responsibility Week to make the case for using the SDGs as a catalyst for innovation to startups and small and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs). On this occasion, several startup founders discussed how they are leveraging disruptive technologies such as autonomous mobility and artificial intelligence to develop solutions aligned with the SDGs. Government officials also participated in these workshops to discuss "Industry 4.0," a strategy developed by the Portuguese Government aimed at strengthening the country's digital economy. Industry 4.0 aims to transform Portugal into a hub for the development of disruptive technologies and incentivize startups to leverage them to build businesses that generate economic growth while promoting sustainable development.

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY  
SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)**8**AWARENESS RAISING  
ACTIVITIES**300**COMPANIES  
REACHED



## RINGING THE BELL FOR GENDER EQUALITY

The Ring the Bell for Gender Equality initiative aims to raise awareness of the pivotal role the private sector can play to advance gender equality and Goal 5 of the 2030 Agenda. Implemented by the United Nations Global Compact together with UN Women, the Sustainable Stock Exchanges Initiative, the International Finance Corporation, Women in ETFs and the World Federation of Exchanges, the campaign utilizes market opening and closing ceremonies around the world to highlight the critical role businesses and markets can – and must – play to close the gender inequality gap.

In March 2018, over 60 stock exchanges globally hosted a bell ringing ceremony in support of gender equality, involving over 55 Global Compact Local Networks. Held in celebration of International Women's Day, the events aimed to raise awareness about the business case for women's economic empowerment and underscore the ways in which the private sector can advance gender equality and sustainable development.

Each of these events encourages participants to begin scaling up efforts to improve gender equality

in their markets by adopting the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs). The participants are then asked to take other actions, including improving diversity in senior management and on the board of directors, enacting more gender-friendly policies, developing a gender-themed investment product and improving transparency on gender policies and practices.



### UNITED ARAB EMIRATES

 Established 2015

+ 112 Companies

#### Youth Ambassadors Push SDG Agenda

In November 2017, Global Compact Network United Arab Emirates (UAE) launched its Youth Ambassador Programme to forge further collaboration between academic institutions and the private sector and to increase private sector exposure among the youth. The Academic Advisory Task Force of Network UAE, co-chaired by American University of Sharjah and the Chalhoub Group is implementing the programme together with Paris-Sorbonne University Abu Dhabi, the American University of Dubai, American University of Sharjah, Institute of Management Technology, and Middlesex University, encouraging the next generation to hold their employers and colleagues to a higher standard by signaling the importance of corporate sustainability particularly in attracting a new generation of talented employees and creating a sustainable work environment.

As part of the programme, over 50 Youth Ambassadors from accredited universities and across various disciplines, are tasked and trained by Network UAE to promote the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact as well as the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among the private sector targeting both large and smaller companies alike representing an



array of sectors. Network UAE has also trained the Youth Ambassadors on drafting a Communication on Progress — an expression of commitment to the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact, required from participating companies on an annual basis. With non-financial reporting adopted by only a minority of companies in the UAE, the Youth Ambassadors are providing one-on-one support to companies that are looking for guidance on synthesizing a report based on existing data. This provides the Youth Ambassadors with valuable experience in different working environments and an excellent opportunity for networking and professional development.

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY  
SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

7

AWARENESS RAISING  
ACTIVITIES

200

COMPANIES  
REACHED

 **UNITED KINGDOM**

Established **2003** + **342** Companies

**SDGs Roadshow**

A survey conducted in late 2016 by Eurobarometer asked approximately 27,000 European citizens the question, "Have you ever heard or read about the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) agreed by the international community?" This exercise revealed that the UK ranked last amongst European countries for awareness on the SDGs.

While awareness of the Goals was high with UK-based participants of the UN Global Compact, it was evident from this survey that awareness outside this community was low. Recognizing that business must make a significant contribution if the SDGs are to be achieved, in the spring of 2017, Global Compact Network UK and the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME) Chapter UK & Ireland organized a "Making Global Goals Local Business SDGs Roadshow," visiting 11 cities across the country. The objective of the project was to raise awareness on the SDGs and mobilize business communities across the country in support of the Goals. The events under the umbrella of the Roadshow served to inform the audience on what the SDGs are, why business should care and how business can effectively contribute to their achievement and benefit in the process.

Feedback from attendees confirmed that the objectives of the Roadshow were achieved. Over the course of the initiative, more than 400 attendees gathered, generating significant attention on social media. Audiences were a mix of businesses and other stakeholders, with 27 per cent saying their knowledge of the SDGs before the event was low to none.

Plans are in place to visit 12 cities in 2018 — six in the spring and six in the autumn. The events held to date have been significantly outperforming those in 2017, with higher average attendance, higher percentage of business attendance and higher attendee satisfaction. These SDG Roadshows have effectively positioned Global Compact Network UK as the leading organization in the country for business engagement around the SDGs. Not only have businesses noticed this, but the Government, seeing the value of the Network, has looked to create new avenues for engagement in the country.

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY  
SNAPSHOT  
(SINCE 2017)



## TANZANIA

Established **2016** + **24** Companies

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY  
SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 3

AWARENESS RAISING  
ACTIVITIES

# 500

COMPANIES  
REACHED

### Partnering with the Financial Services Sector to Map And Prioritize the SDGs

Tanzania aims to attain middle-income economy status for the country by 2025. Accelerated financial growth has been suggested as a key development strategy for ensuring higher quality of life, improved quality of education and skills, faster poverty reduction & employment generation, and transforming the economy into middle income status.

Recognizing that the financial sector is an effective instrument for the advancement of the SDGs in Tanzania, Global Compact Network Tanzania with support from UNDP, is embarking on a mapping and prioritization exercise in collaboration with the financial sector to identify good practices within the sector on sustainability and responsible business.

The Network held consultations with CEOs of key financial sector institutions in February, including: Tanzania Banker Association, Association of Tanzania Insurer, Tanzania Association of Microfinance Institutions and Dar es salaam Stock Exchange, to discuss how best the financial sector can seize opportunities to align their business strategies to the goals.

The challenges highlighted during these consultations presented issues for the sector around SDGs understanding, prioritization, financing and measurement. It also delved into the need for companies in the sector to move beyond the important first step of communicating on what a company is doing to setting new commitments on investing in sustainable development solutions and measuring the impact of these investments.

As the next step for their sectoral engagement, Network Tanzania is working with UNDP and participant financial services companies to publish a report that will showcase the sector's contributions to the Sustainable Development Goals while also noting gaps and potential barriers and challenges for the sector to support the SDGs. Outcomes from the report will then inform the development of SDG engagement guidelines for the financial sector, to be developed in partnership between Global Compact Network Tanzania, UNDP and representatives from the financial services sector and will be launched at a SDG Finance Symposium in the country.

## FRANCE

Established **2004** + **1097** Companies

### Promoting Action around the SDGs among Small and Medium Sized Enterprises

With over 1,000 companies and 100 non-business stakeholders, Global Compact Network France works to advance the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) through engagement with companies from diverse sectors. The Network designs its initiatives to cater not only to the largest companies but also to small and medium enterprises (SMEs) building their understanding of the pivotal role they can play to help achieve the SDGs.

Network France's flagship programme – "Tour de France PME" – is designed to raise awareness of sustainable business practices among SMEs. Launched in 2016, the year-round initiative demonstrates the economic opportunities that SMEs can unlock in implementing the SDGs. Building on Tour de France PME, Network France hopes to create a national movement promoting the strategic integration of corporate sustainability practices into business policies and processes. Through conferences, interactive workshops and company visits, close to 900 companies have benefited from the roadshow across more than 10 cities since its launch. Recent events organized around the country



have focused on gender equality, quality of education, climate change, and decent work. In rolling out the different initiatives, relevant local partnerships were forged with city officials, chambers of commerce, business schools, and key Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) networks.

Network France also hosts an online awareness raising platform, *Global Impact+*, that houses examples of sustainable business practices implemented by SMEs across the country. The platform enables the sharing of innovative and ambitious good practices among SMEs, encouraging them to integrate the SDGs as part of their business strategy. The platform demonstrates the leadership of the French private sector in implementing the SDGs — over 100 actions have been posted by 115 companies ranging

from reduction of carbon content in the welding sector to adopting sustainable fishing practices in the hospitality sector and to reclaiming water in the utilities sector. Please visit the platform at actions.globalcompact-france.org.

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY  
SNAPSHOT  
(SINCE 2016)

# 10+

CITIES  
VISITED

# 900

COMPANIES  
REACHED

## 2. CAPACITY BUILDING: MAINSTREAMING A PRINCIPLE-BASED APPROACH TO THE SDGS

Building on a good understanding of the SDGs, the next step is for companies to develop capacity at all levels to create strategies and actions that help maximize the company's positive impact on society, while also generating business value.

Based on preliminary data collected from the 2018 UN Global Compact Survey, 78 per cent of companies are already taking some action on the SDGs but there is a need for practical tools and solutions. Responding to the needs and demands of the business community, the United Nations Global Compact seeks to systematically transfer knowledge among companies and other stakeholders. It develops relevant business tools — such as the Blueprint for SDG Leadership and the SDG Compass — based on best practices implemented by leading companies. The core activities of the UN Global Compact also include offering companies structured learning opportunities and facilitation of the exchange of best practices and peer reviews.

**78%**  
OF COMPANIES ARE  
ALREADY TAKING  
ACTION ON THE SDGS

### Integrating the SDGs into business strategy

As outlined in the SDG Compass, a strategic approach to the Sustainable Development Goals requires companies to have capacity at least in the following four key disciplines.

First, each company must define a clear set of priorities, selecting the goals and targets it will focus on.

The 17 SDGs will all have varying levels of relevance to different companies. Each company will benefit from defining its priorities through a systematic assessment of the positive and potentially negative impacts it is currently having on the SDGs across its operations and value chain. While over 90 per cent of companies participating in the UN Global Compact have policies in place in all areas of the Ten Principles — human rights,

**90%**  
OF COMPANIES HAVE  
POLICIES IN PLACE IN  
ALL AREAS OF THE TEN  
PRINCIPLES

**27%**  
CONDUCT CORPORATE  
RESPONSIBILITY IMPACT  
ASSESSMENTS

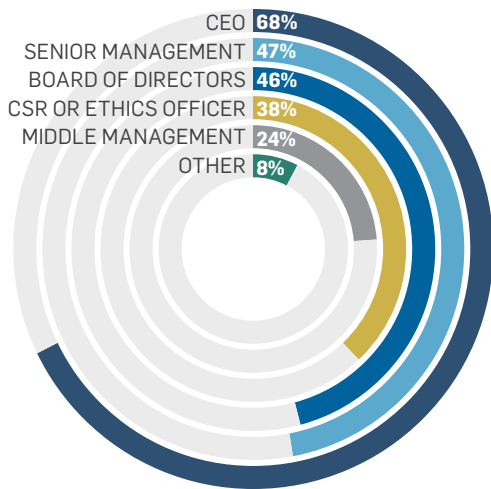
environment, labour, and anti-corruption — only 27 per cent conduct corporate responsibility impact assessments.

Second, being able to set specific, measurable and time-bound sustainability goals and targets is essential to incentivize performance across a company. Setting science-based targets aligned with the SDGs will drive creativity and innovative solutions to the benefit of the business and the society.

Most importantly, knowledge of how to integrate sustainability across the core functions of a company — starting from the top and reaching finance, research and development, product development, supply chain management, and other functions — is required to build a more impactful and successful business. Preliminary results from the 2018 UN Global Compact Survey show that 68 per cent of companies develop and evaluate corporate sustainability policies and practices at the CEO-level with a drop at the middle management level at 24 per cent. Building capacity among managers and professionals at every level of the business has the potential to transform all aspects of a company's core business.

Finally, communicating and reporting on the SDGs helps a company gain trust and connect more effectively with potential partners and other key stakeholders. With the SDGs, the expectation for companies to be transparent and accountable has increased. Committed companies should develop their capacity to systematically align sustainability practices and integrated reporting with the SDGs.

### AT WHAT LEVELS WITHIN YOUR COMPANY ARE CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY POLICIES AND STRATEGIES DEVELOPED AND/OR EVALUATED?



## Building Local Capacity for a Global Shift

From the United Nations headquarters in New York, the UN Global Compact works with highly-committed companies to define global leadership practices and develop hundreds of business tools, with a view to disseminating these among companies around the world. The regional and global events organized by the UN Global Compact as well as the newly launched UN Global Compact Academy — a solutions-oriented platform delivering informational sessions led by world-class experts — offer companies numerous opportunities for learning. However, the Local Networks are the primary channel for the Global Compact to support continuous learning and improvement in the thousands of companies currently signed up as participants to the initiative.

Over the past year alone, Global Compact Local Networks organized an estimated total of 800 activities and events aimed

at building capacity in nearly 7,500 companies. Networks from Australia to Argentina were running task forces and working groups on SDG-related challenges and issues, helping develop, translate and promote around 150 tools for local business communities. All Local Networks work with companies participating in the UN Global Compact to support them in meeting their annual reporting requirement — titled *Communication on Progress* — through various initiatives, including on-one-coaching and peer-reviews for knowledge exchange. The Local Networks customize their support based on the size and sector of the company.

Capacity building is key to supporting companies in the implementation of their commitments and in making their operations and value chains more sustainable. At the same time, building these competences is a precondition for effective dialogue and partnerships with Governments and other stakeholders.



**7,000+**

companies participated in one or more of the

**700+**

SDG-related capacity-building initiatives organized by Local Networks in the past 12 months



**BRAZIL**



Established **2003**



**532** Companies

### Integrating the SDGs into business strategies

Since September 2015, Global Compact Network Brazil has led an SDG Working Group to engage businesses to advance the 2030 Agenda by promoting partnerships, public policy dialogue and the utilization of various learning tools. The Working Group uses a local methodology it developed in 2016 to implement the SDG Compass and to help companies understand the business opportunities related to the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

In collaboration with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) and the World Business Council for Sustainable Development in Brazil — and with support from Anglo American Brazil, Enel iBrazil, Itaú Unibanco, and Vale Brazil — the SDG Working Group launched a series of workshops to facilitate the exchange of good practices for each of five steps of the SDG Compass. Since 2016, the group has organized workshops in six



Brazilian states, reaching more than 1,000 participants from the private sector, civil society organizations and the Government. Network Brazil has also offered private training on the SDG Compass for around 10 companies.

The SDG Working Group recently implemented a study on the SDGs' integration into business strategy in Brazil. It found that companies are using the SDGs as a planning tool to connect corporate strategy to global performance priorities and understand the key factors for successful implementation of the SDGs, including the forming of partnerships, cross-sector collaboration, engagement of senior leadership, and the development of a long-term strategy and innovative technologies.

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY  
SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**20**

CAPACITY BUILDING  
ACTIVITIES

**400**

COMPANIES  
ENGAGED

## WHAT ACTIONS HAS YOUR COMPANY TAKEN TO EMBED CORPORATE RESPONSIBILITY THROUGHOUT ITS STRATEGIES AND OPERATIONS?

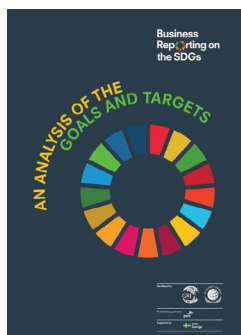


### DENMARK

 Established 2017 + 322 Companies

#### SDG Reporting in Denmark: Taking a Systems Change Approach

The newly-established Global Compact Local Network in Denmark began its work by seeking to understand how familiar participants of the UN Global Compact in Denmark were with the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). Out of 145 respondents, nearly 95 per cent of companies confirmed they had referred to the SDGs in their Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) reports or intended to work with and embed SDGs into their 2018 initiatives. However, only two out of the 145 companies indicated that the SDGs were driving systems change within their business, with the majority of companies using the SDGs as a new communication framework to elaborate on activities that were already taking place.



With high rates of awareness on the SDGs, particularly among large companies, Network Denmark is focused on building companies' capacity to align systems and processes with the SDGs, and enact changes to "business-as-usual" reporting. To meet this need, the Local Network established a Working Group on business reporting and monitoring of progress on the SDGs.

In the future, a series of interactive meetings will be held to share best practices for fully integrating the SDGs within business strategies, including conducting materiality assessments, setting goals, engaging the entire company, implementing strategies and reporting on set goals. In addition, the financial sector represented within the Working Group helps provide further insight on the reporting demands of financial Pension Funds and Asset Managers.

Within the realm of this work, the Network is working closely with Statistics Denmark to set up a portal for monitoring the Danish National Impact on the SDGs (available at [www.dst.dk/da/Statistik/Sdg](http://www.dst.dk/da/Statistik/Sdg)). Network Denmark will play a role through including business contributions on this platform.

Learnings from this Working Group continue to feed into the activities of two other Working Groups established by Network Denmark. These Working Groups focus on incorporating human rights into business strategy and impact assessments as well as adopting new breakthrough business models for the achievement of the SDGs.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**3**  
CAPACITY BUILDING  
ACTIVITIES

**172**  
COMPANIES  
ENGAGED

**CHILE**Established **2007**+ **65** Companies

### Building Capacity on Migrant Integration

In the past year, Global Compact Network Chile has engaged 25 companies and other stakeholders in various training workshops and events to advance the Sustainable Development Goals, with a special focus on gender equality and human rights. In light of the increasing number of migrants in the country, the network has also organized a series of workshops specifically focused on migrant employment — coinciding with recent migration reforms implemented by the Chilean Government.

In 2018, Network Chile partnered with the Immigration Department of the Chilean Ministry of Interior and Public Security and the International Organization for Migration to raise awareness on the migratory situation in Chile and to train human

resources officers to prevent and eradicate discrimination against migrants in the workplace. The workshops covered the various important roles that the private sector can play to support the integration of migrants into the Chilean society. They provided companies with detailed information on the new migration laws, including on the different types of visas and work permits that are available for migrants.

After each activity, Network Chile has followed up with the participating companies and organizations to collect feedback and to identify topics of interest that will help design new initiatives on migration issues. The network has also supported joint initiatives between companies, providing them with advice together with the partner organizations.

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY  
SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 25

CAPACITY BUILDING  
ACTIVITIES

# 36

COMPANIES  
ENGAGED

**INDIA**Established **2001**+ **136** Companies

### Building Capacity on SDG Implementation

In December 2017, a total of 60 teams representing companies, business schools and other organizations were convened to participate in the first-ever Sustainability Quiz series of events in India held in both New Delhi and Mumbai. This new initiative offers an opportunity for stakeholders to showcase their ability to design and deliver innovative solutions to accelerate the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). At the same time, it allows for Network India to assess stakeholders' current awareness and understanding of the SDGs and further build their capacity to contribute to their implementation.

Parallel to the rollout of the Sustainability Quiz, Global Compact Network India has developed a two-day capacity building workshop module on gender equality in the workplace. Organized as part of the program entitled Developing Women Leadership, over 40 women executives have so far



attended these workshops that focus on essential leadership skills and best practices adopted by women executives in managing change. The workshops provide women leaders with advice on tackling systemic issues in the workplace and in their own behaviour that can hinder their career progression. The goal of the programme aims to empower women by ensuring equal opportunities for leadership at all levels of decision-making in the corporate and public life.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 15

CAPACITY BUILDING  
ACTIVITIES

# 125

COMPANIES  
ENGAGED



## UNITED STATES OF AMERICA

Established **2007**

+ **342** Companies

### Advancing Human Rights in Corporate Supply Chains in the United States

Global Compact Network USA has developed various programmes to support the advancement of human rights in global supply chains in support of Sustainable Development Goal 8, Decent Work and Economic Growth. As part of that programming, Network USA hosted a half-day regional peer-learning event in advance of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights and its impacts on corporate supply chains.

At Baker McKenzie's offices in Chicago, over 50 representatives from UN Global Compact participating companies joined Kevin Cassidy, Director of the US office of the International Labour Organization (ILO), to discuss root causes of human rights violations and decent work deficits in global supply chains. Supply chains are a key opportunity for business to improve the lives of millions of people, with an estimated 80 per cent of global trade passing through them annually. Cassidy emphasized modern slavery, ethical recruitment

and women's rights as priorities for the ILO and areas where business can play a unique role in supporting.

Civil society representatives, including WE Charity and Glasswing International, joined the conversation to share insights on innovative corporate partnerships and cross-cutting solutions to accelerate the rights of workers, their families and their communities.

The convening closed with a powerful discussion between representatives from SAP Ariba and ArcelorMittal, both participants of the UN Global Compact. As representatives of one of the world's largest analytics firms and the world's largest steel producer, respectively, the two offered an honest look at the challenges companies face when prioritizing supply chain sustainability. They noted that "co-opetition" within industries is key to addressing human rights issues; and with more and more customers asking tough questions, it is critical that companies have the right answers.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)





## GERMANY

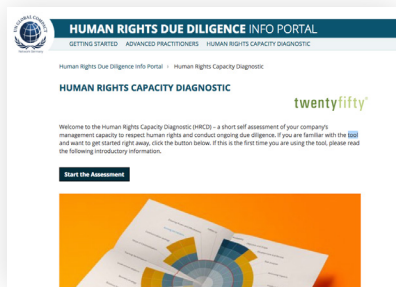
 Established **2004** + **404** Companies

### A Diagnostic Tool for Tailoring Human Rights Due Diligence Trainings

Global Compact Network Germany regularly holds trainings, webinars and events to strengthen the capacity of German companies on the Ten Principles and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In just one year, more than 1,000 individuals attended trainings on issues across the areas of climate, human rights, anti-corruption and reporting.

On human rights alone, Network Germany has been running a combination of webinars, one or two-day training sessions, peer learning groups and multi-stakeholder dialogues as well as a Business & Human Rights Qualification Programme to help companies fulfil the requirements of the German National Action Plan.

Uniquely, the Network has developed a Human Rights Capacity Diagnostic tool that enables companies to run a self-assessment on their capacity to implement human rights due diligence. The tool consists of 26 questions related to the scope of business, policy commitments, human rights risks and impact, respect, performance, grievance and remedy.



After completing the self-assessment questionnaire, companies receive an evaluation with results ranging between "non-responsive" and "demonstrating leadership." The Diagnostic tool also makes suggestions for next steps using both the test results and stated aspirations of the company and it can in this way help make businesses rethink or update their commitment to human rights due diligence.

Companies that participate in the Human Rights Due Diligence Trainings offered by Network Germany use the Diagnostic tool prior to training, which helps shape the session based on the level and needs of a company. As such, the Tool provides an opportunity for developing tailored trainings to participating companies with more advanced practitioners, for example offering an option to take a deep dive into different elements of due diligence.

To expand the use of the tool, Network Germany is currently working on developing a version tailored specifically to small and medium-size enterprises (SMEs).

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 29

CAPACITY BUILDING  
ACTIVITIES

# 475

COMPANIES  
ENGAGED

## SINGAPORE

 Established **2005** + **57** Companies

### Training Companies to Report on SDGs

In an effort to advance the implementation of the 2030 Agenda, Global Compact Network Singapore recently conducted 24 workshops, training over 400 representatives of more than 240 companies on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. Recognizing the network's efforts, Singapore Exchange appointed Network Singapore as the go-to organization to train its publicly listed companies on sustainability reporting.

As part of the training workshops, the business representatives learned about embedding sustainability practices into businesses opera-

tions. The workshops covered an introduction to the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact, and the importance of sustainability reporting. In addition, representatives of 45 companies attended a specialized training session on sustainability reporting organized by Network Singapore in collaboration with the Global Reporting Initiative (GRI).

Network Singapore also recently launched the innovative Sustainability Internship and Sustainability Professionals Programmes to train young and more seasoned professionals on sustainability issues and to help build a new generation of skilled sustainability experts.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 25

CAPACITY BUILDING  
ACTIVITIES

# 240+

COMPANIES  
ENGAGED

# 3. RECOGNIZING LEADERSHIP: PROVIDING INSPIRATION THROUGH GOOD BUSINESS PRACTICES

More than anything, companies look to leaders within their country and industry for inspiration on where to take their business next. Recognizing and promoting good sustainability practices is thus a key strategy for mobilizing companies that are not yet fully committed to the SDGs and for accelerating the corporate sustainability movement.

## Five leadership attributes

*The Blueprint for Business Leadership on the SDGs* is a new resource launched by the UN Global Compact in 2016 aiming to inspire all businesses to take leading action in support of the achievement of the SDGs. The Blueprint identifies five essential leadership attributes that should be recognized and promoted:

1. **Intentionality:** SDG action is an integral and deliberate part of a company's strategy
2. **Ambition:** Covering the whole value chain, leading companies exceed prevailing levels of ambition and focus on long-term outcomes
3. **Consistency:** SDGs are embedded across organizational functions and the company's public voice is aligned with its actions
4. **Collaboration:** The business works in partnership with Government, civil society and other actors
5. **Accountability:** Managing risks, being transparent and accountable for its impacts

## SDG Pioneers

A key initiative aimed at showcasing leading sustainability practices among companies around the world is the UN Global Compact SDG Pioneers programme. As part of the Making Global Goals Local Business campaign, each year, the UN Global Compact celebrates a group of SDG Pioneers —

business leaders who are doing an exceptional job of advancing the Global Goals through a principles-based approach. These individuals demonstrate how the Global Goals can enable business to unlock economic, social and environmental gains for the world. Showcasing the pioneering actions and progress of these leaders will help mobilize others in this exciting movement.

**2,000±**  
INSPIRING PRACTICES  
SHOWCASED BY LOCAL  
NETWORKS OVER THE  
PAST YEAR

Many Global Compact Local Networks also recognize good practices that contribute to the achievement of the SDGs, helping to shine a light on the efforts made by entrepreneurs and companies alike. This includes developing and promoting case studies and business solutions through publications, newsletters, websites, panels, documentaries and other media. Over the past year, Local Networks have collectively showcased inspiring practices from nearly 2000 companies, contributing to a rich database of local learnings on sustainability.

**CHINA**

Established **2011** + **241** Companies

**SDG China Summit Unveils the Business for 2030 — China Initiative**

Since 2016, Global Compact Network China has convened an annual flagship event to raise awareness on the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) among the Chinese business community. Supported by the National Development and Reform Commission, China Enterprise Confederation and the office of the UN Resident Coordinator in China, the SDG China Summit convenes over 400 participants from Government, companies, financial institutions, academia and other non-business organizations. Network China aims to use the Summit to encourage Chinese companies to take action in support of the SDGs and other national development priorities.

At the 2017 Summit, Global Compact Network China, in collaboration with other UN agencies, launched the Business for 2030 China Initiative, calling for more companies to integrate the SDGs into their business strategies. The Summit provides Chinese companies an opportunity to showcase best practices in implementing the SDGs, which Network China has also compiled into a report of case studies. Widely covered in the national media, the Summit serves as a country-wide platform for businesses to exchange experiences on the implementation of the SDGs, helping highlight the critical role that the private sector can play in advancing the Global Goals. As result of the Summit and its impact, a number of the largest Chinese companies are recruited to join the UN Global Compact to further advance their sustainability strategy and actions.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)



**CZECH REPUBLIC**

Established **2015** + **20** Organizations

**Celebrating Best Practices at the Annual Czech SDG Awards**

12 June 2018 marked the second annual SDG Awards Ceremony organized by the Czech Association of Social Responsibility and Global Compact Network Czechia. The Ceremony was also held in cooperation with the Czech Development Agency, Ministry of Industry and Trade, Ministry of Foreign Affairs, and the Ministry of Environment from the Czech Republic and under the auspices of the UN Information Centre of Prague. Approximately 170 attendees (including regional CEOs from Unilever and Siemens as well as the Minister of Regional Development of the Czech Republic and the Minister of Finance of the Kingdom of Denmark) gathered at the Czernin Palace at the Ministry of Foreign Affairs in Prague for the event.

specific sustainability challenge and a measurable impact. Selection of good practices among business entailed an online campaign opened to public voting, which attracted 3.5 million views. In addition, recognition specifically aimed at showcasing notable practices for SDG reporting involved an expert panel of diverse stakeholders, including Government and civil society.

Following the campaign and the event, a good practice publication will be issued featuring the most inspiring projects aimed at developing SDG solutions. In addition, Network Czechia is partnering with the Czech Association of Social Responsibility to host a knowledge-sharing event together in September 2018. In cooperation with the Ministry of Foreign Affairs and the Ministry of Environment, stakeholders from all organizations that submitted applications for the SDG Awards will share experiences and best practices for SDG implementation and impact measurement.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)



The award scheme, aimed at recognizing the most notable business contributions to the SDGs in the Czech Republic, received over 150 submissions. Ultimately, six organizations were selected to be honoured with an SDG Award, drawing attention from many local news organizations.

Projects were assessed based on whether they had a clear SDG focus, mechanisms in place to tackle a



**NETHERLANDS** Established 2007 + 115 Companies

**Promoting Leadership Practices: Global Challenges, Dutch Solutions**

Global Compact Network Netherlands is shining the light on the companies and individuals behind successful business solutions to support the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The Network has been advancing the idea locally that the SDGs can be seen as the greatest piece of marketing research ever conducted. By addressing the world's biggest challenges, the SDGs outline future growth markets for companies to develop the right technologies and solutions.

Through the release of the *Global Challenges, Dutch Solutions* publication, the Network highlighted examples from leading companies and sectors as well as interviews with inspiring business leaders from the Netherlands. The publication underscored the dire need of innovative business solutions, and how business leaders are



being called upon around the world to reorient their future strategies with the SDGs.

Network Netherlands launched the publication in collaboration with the main employers' organizations in the country during a SDG celebration day on 25 September 2017. To inspire and engage companies from other parts of the world, the solutions have been published in an international version of the report, available on the Network website at [www.gcnetherlands.nl](http://www.gcnetherlands.nl).

Recognizing that next generation of solutions will need to come from youth, Global Compact Network Netherlands also recently launched the "Young Professionals Programme" where future potential leaders from Dutch companies are actively developing campaigns and tools to raise awareness about the SDGs and how companies can contribute to their delivery by 2030.

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT (PAST 12 MONTHS)

COLLECTED BEST PRACTICES FROM

**50**  
COMPANIES

**SWITZERLAND** Established 2011 + 121 Companies

**A Journey through Sustainable Swiss Business: The Movie**

In 2018, Global Compact Network Switzerland launched a roadshow entitled "Tour de Suisse on Responsible Business and the SDGs," aimed at mobilizing the private sector in Switzerland in support of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). In tandem with this, the Network unveiled an inspirational and informative documentary video demonstrating how the SDGs can be made concrete and tangible through storytelling. Called "A Journey through Sustainable Swiss Business," the documentary takes viewers along as the host visits four participants of the UN Global Compact, including Firmenich, Caran d'Ache, Bank J. Safra Sarasin and Henniez-Nestlé Waters. Representatives from each company discussed how it strives to put sustainability at the heart of operations and enact responsible business practices. The video documents different innovative solutions to complex challenges, including providing access to clean toilets in India (Firmenich), sourcing locally certified high-quality wood to produce pencils (Caran D'Ache), driving sustainable investments for SMEs (Bank J. Safras Sarasin) and developing social and environmental standards for water sources (Henniez-Nestlé Waters).

The documentary continues to be promoted at Tour de Suisse events to showcase best practices and is also utilized by the participating companies themselves. Future plans for promotion across a broader community involve contacting local governments, schools and universities, civil society and media outlets. The Network is currently inviting other Swiss companies to be featured in another documentary.



To view the documentary, please visit: [www.globalcompact.ch](http://www.globalcompact.ch)

LOCAL NETWORK ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT (PAST 12 MONTHS)

**80**  
COMPANIES ENGAGED



## PHILIPPINES

Established **2016** + **14** Companies

### Finding Inspiration through the CEO SDG Circle Forum



In June 2018, Global Compact Network Philippines brought together SDG Pioneers and CEOs from diverse industries to share best practices on the implementation of the 2030 Agenda. The conversation at the CEO SDG Circle Forum was led by 2017 SDG Pioneer Jaime Augusto Zobel de Ayala, Chairman and CEO of the Ayala Corporation, who spoke about the important role CEOs play in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Network Philippines organized the forum to mobilize local executives to align their business goals with the country's national development priorities. The dialogue focused especially on ways to transform a business and consider the needs of low-income groups. UN Resident Coordinator Ola Almgren — who recently joined the advisory board of Network Philippines — participated in the conversation to present on the UN country team's efforts to advance the SDGs on the ground. The network will continue its close collaboration with the UN country team in order to support Philippines' national development priorities.

Global Compact Network Philippines plans to continue organizing the CEO SDG Circle Forum on an annual basis, with leading CEOs showcasing best practices in SDG implementation and driving a critical mass of small and medium enterprises to join the effort.



LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**400**  
COMPANIES  
REACHED

## 4. POLICY-DIALOGUE: ENGAGING RESPONSIBLE BUSINESS ON NATIONAL SDG ACTION PLANS AND POLICIES

Robust SDG national action plans and policies are key instruments to advance the 2030 Agenda and they can be very effective in strengthening the business case for corporate sustainability. National action plans can include a host of different elements — including, for example, national goals and targets, new regulation, retooling of procurement policies, new pricing mechanisms or taxes on environmental or social capital — that increase the incentives for companies to engage on sustainable development.

The development and implementation of effective national action plans relies primarily on Governments, but in order to pursue transformative goals, we need collective, coordinated and complementary action from all sectors of society. To this end, institutional arrangements are being established in many countries around the world to engage relevant stakeholders in a dialogue around the development of national action plans and public policies and to accelerate the local implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

### Public-private dialogue

It is fundamental that national dialogues include opportunities for the private sector to participate in. Not only does the private sector have significant financial capacity, companies of all sizes and from all industries have a role to play through developing scalable technologies and solutions. It is often a great advantage that perspectives of the private sector are integrated from the onset into defining national priorities and targets, as companies can be central to identifying the mechanisms that will be most effective in achieving these goals. Notably, this includes the mechanisms necessary to unlock and redirect private capital towards markets aligned with sustainable development priorities.

Public-private dialogues are also how synergies and partnerships will be fostered to pursue shared goals and targets in implementation of the SDG National Plans. Engaging international financial institutions, development finance institutions, foun-

dations, responsible investors and other financial players within these policy dialogues and partnerships is key to developing incentives for capital markets to mobilize private investment for impactful transformation.

### Emphasizing responsible public policy engagement

The UN Global Compact emphasizes that private sector engagement in public policy is based on commitments to the Ten Principles and the SDGs. Companies should align both direct and indirect public policy engagement activities with their sustainability commitments, and be transparent around its interests and positions.

Global Compact Local Networks can play a critical role in providing a platform for principles-based business to engage in public policy and support the development and implementation of national action plans. As such, they can be important partners for Governments in providing an attractive and effective space for multi-stakeholder dialogues, as is already the case in many countries around the world.

Through a variety of formal and informal arrangements, Global Compact Local Networks support national and local governments in bringing the perspectives of relevant private sector players into the national SDG processes. Local Networks typically work within the auspices of the relevant UN Country Teams and in close collaboration with UN Resident Coordinators who are leading and coordinating the multi-dimensional support of the United Nations to Governments on SDG Action Plans. Over the past year, 205 initiatives facilitating policy dialogues were organized by Local Networks engaging over 6,000 companies around the world. 29 Local Networks in 2017 and 2018 made a direct contribution to National Voluntary Review reports presented at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) with 42 Local Networks contributing to the Governmental process for national implementation of the SDGs.

**205**  
initiatives facilitating policy dialogues  
were organized by Local Networks  
engaging over  
**6,000**  
companies around the world

## ARGENTINA

 Established **2004** + **244** Companies

### Effective public-private dialogue facilitated by Global Compact Network Argentina

Throughout 2017, Global Compact Network Argentina engaged in an ongoing dialogue with the Consejo Nacional de Coordinación de Políticas



Sociales, the Governmental coordination office in charge of the implementation of the 2030 Agenda in the country. In April and June 2017, Network Argentina organized two high level sessions with CEOs and Sustainability Officers from Argentinian companies to discuss the Voluntary National Review (VNR) that would go on to be presented at the High-level Political Forum (HLPF) in July of that year.

As a result of this dialogue, Argentina's VNR report included a chapter contributed by the Network on the role of the private sector in advancing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs). The President of the Local Network was also welcomed as part of the official Argentinian delegation to the HLPF.

Global Compact Network Argentina also worked closely with the Ministry of Environment and Sustainable Development, the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) in Argentina and other partners on an initiative called "SDGs and Environment," which aims to improve cooperation between the Government and the private sector on energy, clean water, and responsible production and consumption.

A successful policy dialogue was held between the Government and the private sector, supported by Network Argentina, which was recognized for its efforts by the UN Resident Coordinator at the Sustainable Development Forum convened by ECLAC in April 2017. Such dialogues are instrumental in ensuring that the experience and expertise of business can contribute to developing effective policy instruments. Further, they help facilitate collaboration between public and private sectors that reinforce and complement policies of the country to create positive impacts on shared goals.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 3

POLICY DIALOGUE  
ACTIVITIES

# 400

COMPANIES  
INVOLVED

## COLOMBIA

 Established **2009** + **363** Companies

### Strategic Partnership for National Planning on SDGs

Global Compact Network Colombia has been engaging in a public-private multi-stakeholder policy dialogue with the Department of National Planning and Evaluation and the Secretariat of the High-Level Inter-institutional Commission for the Implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) — a mechanism set by the Government to coordinate the advancement of the SDGs across ministries and to enable a space for dialogue. This collaboration has benefitted from international support — including from the Government of Finland — as well as from the efforts of Network Colombia and the Parliament of Colombia to embed public-private collaboration into legislative processes.

The dialogue between Network Colombia and the Department of National Planning and Evaluation over the past three years resulted in the contribution of valuable business perspectives into the creation of the National Council for Economic and Social Policy on SDGs in March 2018. The ongoing discussions also helped create a roadmap entitled CONPES 2030, which provides guidelines for public policy formulation on the SDGs and establishes tracker goals for each SDG considered a priority by the Government. The document further defines regional targets for each tracker goal in order to specify the efforts needed in each territory.

Network Colombia has raised awareness among businesses to align their strategies with the long-term CONPES 2030 roadmap and to identify partnership opportunities for the accomplishment of the SDGs in Colombia by 2030.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 8

POLICY DIALOGUE  
ACTIVITIES

# 93

COMPANIES  
INVOLVED

## POLAND

 Established **2001**

**+ 60** Companies

### Countering the Shadow Economy through Multi-Stakeholder Cooperation

Global Compact Network Poland continues its efforts to counter corruption and the shadow economy in the country. A study conducted by Ernst and Young in 2015 revealed that the shadow economy made up an estimated 12.4 per cent of Poland's gross domestic product (GDP) — and up to 23 per cent in the most impacted sectors — causing a serious drain on the economy.

In 2014, Network Poland in cooperation with the Ministry of Finance and the Ministry of Investment and Development conceived a programme to create a unique platform for collaboration between the private sector and state institutions to counter the shadow economy, corruption, and tax fraud in industries most exposed to economic crimes. The strategic objectives entailed improving the quality and effectiveness of the public administration, strengthening the enforcement of laws and regulation and promoting the dissemination of responsible corporate practices.

During a 12-month period in 2017–2018, over 70 companies — including state-owned enterprises — participated in various programme events, where representatives of diverse industries showcased best practices and plans for cooperation with the Government to prevent corruption and tax fraud. Stakeholders also contributed relevant data and insight into risky practices. Since the programme's launch in 2014, Network Poland has organized a total of over

40 events, including expert and sectoral debates, thematic conferences, press conferences, consultations and discussion panels.

On an annual basis, the programme has published an analytical report highlighting the scale of the shadow economy in Poland, risk areas by sector, system malfunctions, and owners of the problem.



The reports have provided policy recommendations for the Ministries of Finance and Justice as well as suggested operational practices to be adopted by the District Attorney, the Central Anti-Corruption Bureau and the Central Bureau of Investigation. In addition, they have included specific recommendations for the corporate sector. In 2018 and beyond, the activities of the initiative will focus on necessary regulatory adjustments to stop illegal practices from transferring to other sectors not yet addressed. New efforts will also be made to enhance cross-border cooperation with country governments and Local Networks seeking good practices in managing corruption and tax transparency.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**17**

POLICY DIALOGUE  
ACTIVITIES

**70**

COMPANIES  
INVOLVED

## AUSTRALIA

 Established **2009**

**+ 104** Companies

### Supporting National Priorities: Australia SDGs

Global Compact Network Australia led the successful development of the Australian Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) website that was launched in June 2018. The website features over 100 case studies of actions that companies, Government institutions, businesses, civil society organizations and representatives of academia have taken to advance the 2030 Agenda in Australia. Launched at a Banksia Foundation event, Network Australia developed the website with support from the Australian Department of Foreign Affairs and Trade.

Network Australia also helped collect businesses' inputs into the Australian Voluntary National Review (VNR) on the SDGs by facilitating a round of consultations. On behalf of its participants, the Network made a submission to the Australian Government's VNR and Senate Inquiry, suggesting that the Government could establish a strategic national plan for the implementation of the SDGs. The Network also called for the SDGs to be embedded into all levels of Government and recommended that a central hub be established for collaboration and information on all SDG-related activities in Australia.

Visit the Australian SDGs website at [www.sdgs.org.au](http://www.sdgs.org.au).

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**7**

POLICY DIALOGUE  
ACTIVITIES

**150**

COMPANIES  
INVOLVED





## SPAIN

Established **2004****+ 1,187** Companies

### Advancing the 2030 Agenda in Spain

In September 2016, the Spanish Government created the High-Level Group for Agenda 2030 as the primary institutional mechanism to coordinate the Spanish position and actions necessary for the achievement of Agenda 2030. The Embassy on the Special Mission to the 2030 Agenda was created to deliver on this mandate, and Global Compact Network Spain was identified as a key partner.

The role of Network Spain is to help facilitate dialogue with the private sector as part of the National Voluntary Review of Spain in 2018 and to contribute to the Action Plan for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda across the country.

To deliver on both of these priorities, the Network has established a group of the most significant organizations for business and sustainability in the country. It is also leading a public consultation aimed at facilitating a supportive starting point for the implementation

of Agenda 2030 within Spanish companies. As part of the consultation, a survey was distributed together with SDG awareness-raising material among more than 450,000 companies with 1400 companies participating in the survey supplying good practices from over 50 companies. A roadmap for advancing best practices in engaging the private sector in dialogue and collaboration with the Government has been proposed, including an overview of commitments, challenges, best practices and potential partnerships.

As a result of the strong commitment of the Spanish Government to engage with the private sector as well as the convening efforts of Network Spain, defined mechanisms for engaging responsible companies in the 2030 Agenda have been developed over a short period of time. This has resulted in substantial recommendations for the General State Administration on for example legal frameworks and sustainability criteria for public procurement.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)**5**POLICY DIALOGUE  
ACTIVITIES**1,400**COMPANIES  
INVOLVED

## TUNISIA

Established **2015****+ 37** Companies

### Advocacy for CSR Legislation in Tunisia

Global Compact Network Tunisia has been a vocal advocate in the country, calling for the establishment of a national strategy around sustainability and corporate social responsibility (CSR) with particular incentives for business to adopt responsible and principled practices. Since February 2018, the Network has been part of a multi-stakeholder study on CSR through the Parliament of Tunisia as part of a proposed legislation to institutionalize CSR in the country.



During the study consultations, speakers stressed the importance of sustainable development highlighting the fact that the new legislation had the potential to democratize the engagement of non-state actors in human rights policies, anti-corruption efforts, preserving the environment and supporting local associations. For business, the legislation has the potential to contribute to enhancing the competitiveness of companies, improving productivity and stabilizing the social environment.

As part of their contributions to the consultation and to advocate for legislation, Global Compact Network Tunisia shared examples and good practices from corporate participants of the Network. These examples illustrated how Tunisian companies are already incorporating the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into strategies and operations.

In May 2018, the assembly of people's representatives overwhelmingly approved and adopted the proposed

CSR legislation. A committee responsible for monitoring CSR programmes in the country will be established to ensure that they comply with the principles of good governance and sustainable development. Progress on efforts will be tracked and evaluated through an annual report that will be submitted to the three presidencies of the Republic, the Government and the National Assembly in the country, ensuring high-level accountability.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)**2**POLICY DIALOGUE  
ACTIVITIES**80**COMPANIES  
INVOLVED

# 5. MULTI-STAKEHOLDER PARTNERSHIPS: FACILITATING COLLABORATION AND COLLECTIVE ACTION

Facilitating public-private dialogues around the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) is not only important to the development of effective national goals, plans and policies. Ongoing engagement also makes it possible for public and private sector organizations to find new ways to pursue shared objectives and explore innovative models for multi-stakeholder partnerships.

The UN Global Compact-Accenture Strategy CEO Study — the world's largest programme of CEO research on sustainability — has documented a growing awareness of and commitment to sustainable development priorities among business. This points to an increasing convergence of interests between the private and public sectors that is fundamental to the prospects for achieving the SDGs by 2030. However the search is still on for the most effective models of collaboration that can deliver innovation and impact at scale.

This is not least the case at the national and local levels where the majority of partnerships ultimately must be implemented. An important aspiration of the UN Global Compact is therefore to support national SDG implementation by facilitating more strategic and effective collaboration between businesses, the UN, Government and other stakeholders through its Local Networks.

## Building more strategic partnerships

According to the special edition of the UN Global Compact-Accenture Strategy CEO Study, "Transforming Partnerships for the SDGs," a majority of United Nations leaders see a need to move towards more strategic partnerships that are informed and driven by a clear value proposition for all partners. This means looking beyond partnerships that simply aim to mobilize financial and non-financial contributions to the UN. Instead, efforts should increasingly focus on combining the expertise of the UN and business to develop innovative technologies and approaches that can deliver improvements to communities that are targeted by the UN.

**4,000 ±**  
companies engaged in one or more  
partnerships facilitated by a  
Local Network

Global Compact Local Networks are well positioned to support the United Nations in this transition to deeper and more long-term partnerships with the private sector. In several countries in the Global South, Local Networks are already supporting UN Country Teams in finding business partners with relevant expertise. Local Networks also support through brokering partnerships that address local implementation challenges while building on the experiences from public-private partnerships around the world. For some Local Networks, collaboration with the UN system has only very recently become a priority, providing a huge potential to scale these efforts up in the years to come.

Of course, SDG implementation in any national context will involve collaboration with many other types of partners. The inherent multi-stakeholder nature of the UN Global Compact and its networks provide opportunities for extending partnership-building efforts to also include Government agencies, civil society organizations, investors and academia.

There are examples from around the world of Global Compact Local Networks supporting collaboration and partnerships in many different shapes and forms. From online platforms and events that help match partnerships needs and interests to ongoing initiatives to facilitate collective action, Local Networks are stepping up to address challenges across the sustainability spectrum, including corruption, gender inequality and unemployment. Throughout the past year, close to 4,000 companies have been engaged in one or more partnership facilitated by a Global Compact Local Network. Finally, Local Networks are increasingly fostering collaboration among participants across countries, setting the stage for new opportunities for regional cooperation among businesses looking for new markets connected to the SDGs.

## **INDONESIA** Established **2006** + **43** Companies

### **Connecting Women Entrepreneurs to the Global Market**

To tackle women's unemployment and under-employment and increase their opportunities as entrepreneurs, Global Compact Network Indonesia partnered with the International Trade Centre (ITC) to advance gender equality and Goal 5 of the Sustainable Development Goals. Often responsible for unpaid care work at home, Indonesian women have limited opportunities for economic independence. In order to enhance the creation of a women-inclusive business environment, Network Indonesia and ITC engaged national and multinational companies to support the SheTrades initiative. The initiative aims to connect one million women entrepreneurs to the market by 2020 — large businesses are invited to sign a pledge to support women-owned and -led small and medium enterprises (SMEs) and form partnerships with them to help them grow.

A total of 26 companies, groups and business associations signed the pledge at the Women Business Forum organized as part of the Making Global Goals Local Business event in Jakarta, Indonesia in October 2017. In addition, 15 of these corporations participated in the business match-

making session that gave an opportunity for SMEs to learn how to scale up their business by partnering with national companies. The session resulted in five business deals within three months, showcasing the program's potential in the long-term. Attended by over 100 people, the Women Business Forum discussed the Women's Empowerment Principles and Gender Gap Analysis Tool. Speakers included, among others, a representative of local government's Ministry of Cooperative and Small and Medium Enterprises.

To learn more about the SheTrades initiative, visit here: [shetrades.com](http://shetrades.com).



LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 37

COMPANIES INVOLVED IN  
LOCAL NETWORK  
LED PARTNERSHIPS

## **LEBANON** Established **2015** + **91** Companies

### **Unlocking Business Opportunities through Women Entrepreneurship**

Global Compact Network Lebanon has launched an e-commerce platform in advancement of SDG 5 to help women in rural areas create handicraft products for online distribution both locally and around the world. The platform — entitled SheMinLebnen — helps women enhance their existing skills in handicrafts, with the aim of boosting innovation and creativity through women's economic empowerment.

Created in collaboration with the Blessing Foundation and UN Women, the name of the platform is a word play of Arabic and English, meaning "she is from Lebanon" or "something from Lebanon." The platform's opening ceremony in May 2018 was hosted by Lebanon's Prime Minister H.E. Mr. Saad Hariri, with participants including internationally acclaimed Lebanese designers, Global Compact participants, ministers, members of the parlia-

ment, and other representatives of the private sector, civil society, and the United Nations.

By working directly with women from rural areas, SheMinLebnen brings about positive change in communities, championing women's economic independence and challenging stereotypes. Women in rural areas receive a unique opportunity through the mentorship of renowned Lebanese designers to navigate the world of fashion and refine their handcrafting skills. Through the initiative, Network Lebanon hopes to create economic opportunities for women and help them transform their existing skills into small businesses. 100 women are in the process of being selected to join the online platform out of 414 applicants. Candidates not selected will still benefit from an array of business development trainings. UN Global Compact participants have been engaged to support and promote the initiative within their networks of influence.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

# 20

COMPANIES INVOLVED  
IN LOCAL NETWORK  
LED PARTNERSHIPS

# COLLECTIVE ACTION AGAINST CORRUPTION

The Tenth Principle of the UN Global Compact calls upon business to work against corruption in all its forms, including bribery and extortion, by developing policies and concrete programs to address corruption. In addition, Goal 16 of the Sustainable Development Goals — specifically target 16.5 — reinforces this call to Governments and businesses alike.

Since 2016, four Global Compact Local Networks have been actively working with various organizations around the world to promote anti-corruption Collective Action. Local Networks leverage their multi-stakeholder platforms to bring business, Governments and civil society together to level the playing field and raise anti-corruption and compliance standards both within their individual organizations and collectively.

Supported by the Siemens Integrity Initiative Second Funding Round, and in collaboration with the Basel Institute on Governance, the project focused on enhancing the capacity of local actors to promote Collective Action as a tool to generate tangible anti-corruption action by business. Throughout the course of the project, four Global Compact Local Networks engaged a combined 900 participants in various workshops, developing resources to improve anti-corruption compliance among business participants and establishing a strategy — in the form of a Roadmap Report — to ensure ongoing commitment towards anti-corruption Collective Action beyond the life of the project.

## Highlights from the project include:

### Global Compact Network Brazil:

Through this process, the Network identified a collective action opportunity within the construction sector. This sector was recently embroiled in an investigation which exposed the biggest corruption scandal in Brazil and resulted in the prosecution of several public officials and business executives. Global Compact Network Brazil, in partnership with Ethos Institute, successfully engaged the four largest construction companies in dialogue. This resulted in, among other things, the development of a learning tool which provides sector-specific guidance on how to reduce corruption risk. The guide will serve as a critical first step in establishing a principles-based Collective Action initiative for the construction sector.

### Global Compact Network Japan:

Despite ranking among the least corrupt countries in the world, there have been notable corruption and related scandals involving Japanese businesses operating domestically and abroad over the last few years. This has prompted companies to consider strengthening anti-corruption practices individually and collectively. Network Japan ran a diagnosis on the state of corruption in the country, mapping out relevant laws, policies, courts, challenges and opportunities, multi-stakeholder initiatives, and relevant actors and experts to fight corruption. Through a series of consultations, Network Japan, under the auspices of Principles for Responsible Investment (PRI) Japan, launched a principles-based Collective Action initiative entitled the "Tokyo Principles for Strengthening Anti-Corruption Practices" (Tokyo Principles). An anti-bribery assessment tool was also developed with the objective of improving anti-corruption practices and fostering public disclosure of information. Network Japan will continue to engage Japanese companies to commit to and adopt the Tokyo Principles with the aim of fostering accountability and transparency.

### Global Compact Network Kenya:

Corruption continues to be a significant challenge in Kenya. Recently, there have been considerable efforts to address this including the passing of The Bribery Act, 2016 the development of which was spearheaded by the business community with support from the Government of Kenya. Given the importance of SMEs to the Kenyan economy, the project identified a strong need to provide support to this group by developing a self-assessment toolkit for strengthening implementation of the Code of Ethics for Business in Kenya — an existing anti-corruption initiative launched by Network Kenya in 2011 — and compliance with The Bribery Act.

### Global Compact Network Nigeria:

Micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) represent 96 per cent of businesses in Nigeria. Considered the most vulnerable group in terms of greatest risk of exposure, Global Compact Network Nigeria has focused its efforts on MSMEs in the fight against corruption. In partnership with the Convention on Business Integrity (CBI), the Network is developing an anti-corruption toolkit to guide MSMEs on improving anti-corruption compliance practices. Efforts are also ongoing to develop an integrity pact between MSMEs and the finance sector. The integrity pact will seek to incentivize MSMEs that have strong anti-corruption practices by gaining access to finance from banks and other institutions.

**ITALY**

Established **2002** + **189** Companies

**Unchain the Chain: Facilitating Partnerships in Italy**

Global Compact Network Italy is organizing a groundbreaking collective action partnership called “Unchain the Chain” to help Italian companies address and effectively manage shared challenges in their supply chains around the world. While many Italian companies are committed to integrating the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) into their supply chains, there is a significant demand for innovative and sector-specific solutions. Companies are also seeking guidance for managing the risks incurred by suppliers as they receive questionnaires and requests from individual buyers.



For these reasons, “Unchain the Chain” was launched by Global Compact Network Italy, boasting several key components:

- **Measurement:** Through the “TenP Platform,” suppliers complete a unique self-assessment questionnaire covering relevant standards and international conventions
- **Engagement:** Development and use of a “business case” construction methodology to incentivize positive changes among suppliers
- **Training:** Providing easy access to training packages on topics including human rights and anti-corruption
- **Peer learning:** Promotion of good practices on the Network website

So far, approximately 2,000 suppliers from more than 30 different countries are registered to the “TenP Platform,” which then provides business partners with extensive and verified data. Three Italian multinationals have already started to use the digital tool as their sole supply-chain management mechanism. Meanwhile, 15 other organizations, including NGOs, are involved in the “Unchain the Chain” initiative, driving learning, sharing and peer review activities.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**10**  
COMPANIES INVOLVED IN  
LOCAL NETWORK  
LED PARTNERSHIPS

**2,000**  
SUPPLIERS REGISTERED  
“TO TENP PLATFORM”

**TURKEY**

Established **2002** + **145** Companies

**Turkish Declaration on Sustainable Finance**

Facilitated by Global Compact Network Turkey, seven Turkish banks signed a landmark declaration in September 2017, committing to integrating environmental and social considerations into the credit evaluation process. The declaration, entitled Global Compact Network Türkiye Declaration on Sustainable Finance, aims to mobilize financial institutions in Turkey for the achievement of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which is imperative to ensuring that capital is being channeled towards creating a sustainable future.

The seven banks — Akbank, Garanti, ING Bank, Isbank, Şekerbank, TSKB, and Yapı Kredi — are all signatories of the UN Global Compact and represent approximately 72 per cent of the private banking sector in Turkey. The banks are committed

to integrating environmental and social considerations into their management decisions and to implementing an Environmental and Social Risk Management System, including the identification of environmental and social risks related to lending activities.

Network Turkey provided an inclusive and transparent platform for the banks to agree on their collective commitments, which create an impetus for further progress in the banking industry and directly drive capital into sustainable business practices. Speaking at the launch of the Declaration at the V. Sustainable Finance Forum, Turkey’s Deputy Prime Minister Mehmet Şimşek encouraged other banks to join the Declaration.

LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**82**  
COMPANIES INVOLVED IN  
LOCAL NETWORK  
LED PARTNERSHIPS


**PANAMA**
 Established **2002**
**+ 51** Companies

**Eradicating Poverty Through Public-Private Partnerships**

In 2017, Global Compact Network Panama in collaboration with Sumarse launched a public-private alliance focused on poverty eradication. The partnership, entitled Avancemos: the Development of Panama Begins in My Company, is tasked with creating and implementing plans for tackling poverty and improving the quality of life of participating companies' employees and their families.

The multi-stakeholder partnership facilitates collaboration between the private sector, United Nations agencies, civil society, academia and the

Government to advance the 2030 Agenda. To date, over 500 people have directly benefited from the programme. Counting in their family members, the total estimated number of beneficiaries is almost 2,000. Key focus areas of the project include financial literacy, education, security, housing, urban mobility, social assistance, physical and mental health, and the prevention of gender-based violence.

Companies involved in the partnership have seen concrete benefits across their business, including increased employee productivity, increased solidarity between colleagues and managers, and positive changes in human resources policies.

 LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**12**

 COMPANIES INVOLVED IN  
LOCAL NETWORK  
LED PARTNERSHIPS


**DEMOCRATIC REPUBLIC OF CONGO (DRC)**
 Established **2017**
**+ 27** Companies

**Partnerships to Advance Responsible Mining**

Since the Global Compact Network DRC was launched in Kinshasa on 7 September 2017 by the United Nations Global Compact it has engaged more than 100 companies around the SDGs and human rights.

The Network is now engaging in a series of partnerships targeting key sectors and issues related to corporate sustainability in the country. The first with the UN Development Programme (UNDP) country office in the DRC aims to highlight the contributions the private sector can make towards achieving the SDGs and promoting the principles of the UN Global Compact. At its inaugural workshop with UNDP, Global Compact Network DRC convened partners from the United Nations, private sector and the Ministry of Planning in a full day of discussion on mobilizing around the SDG agenda, highlighting the need for a multi-stakeholder approach to localizing the SDGs.

Following that event, Global Compact Network DRC signed a partnership agreement with Sustainable Investments in Katanga (IDAK), a multi-stakeholder public interest platform for sustainable investment and Corporate Social Responsibility of Mining Sector Companies in Katanga region of the country. The partnership is enabling the Network to integrate the Global Compact and its Ten Principles into the mining sector engaging with 50 large international and small domestic artisanal mining companies in the country.

In upcoming activities, Global Compact Network DRC and IDAK will target companies in cobalt production and sales. Cobalt mining is a key industry that faces challenges around human rights and child labour.

 LOCAL NETWORK  
ACTIVITY SNAPSHOT  
(PAST 12 MONTHS)

**100**

 COMPANIES ENGAGED  
ON SDGS

## LATIN AMERICAN REGIONAL PARTNERSHIP TO ERADICATE CHILD LABOUR

Coordinated by the International Labour Organization (ILO), the Alliance 8.7 is a global multi-stakeholder strategic partnership committed to achieving Target 8.7 of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), which is related to the eradication of forced labour, human trafficking, modern slavery and child labour. Under Alliance 8.7, Global Compact Local Networks from 11 countries across Latin America — including Colombia, Mexico, Brazil, Panama, Bolivia, Chile, Costa Rica, Guatemala, Nicaragua, Paraguay, and Uruguay — are engaged specifically in the Latin American and Caribbean Regional Initiative for Child Labour Eradication. This initiative is a public-private partnership coordinated by the ILO Regional Programme for Child Labour Eradication, convening 27 countries, the International Organization of Employers (IOE), Ministries of Labour, business networks against Child Labour and UNICEF.

The initiative directly deals with suppliers and contractors throughout value chains. Global Compact Network Colombia is the catalyzing force behind this initiative in Latin America, entering into an alliance with the Ministry of Labour, ILO, UNICEF, the Colombian Family Welfare Institute, ANDI and Telefónica Movistar and forming

a group composed of suppliers and contractors in the region. It aims to coach companies and organizations on supply chain regulations and guidelines in order to prevent child labour in their operations and communities.

In 2017, more than 800 people were trained in Colombia. The outcomes of this regional partnership were presented by Network Colombia on behalf of all Local Networks involved at the Global Summit for Child Labour Eradication, held in Buenos Aires in November 2017.

With examples from Global Compact Local Networks, the aim of this publication is to illustrate how the UN Global Compact is working to advance the SDGs around the world.

The publication represents an invitation for companies to join in on the action of the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative with a view to accelerate learning and collaboration at the national level. It also shows the commitment of the UN Global Compact to work closely with national governments as well as colleagues across the UN system to jointly engage responsible companies on the 2030 agenda.

Please contact [localnetworks@unglobalcompact.org](mailto:localnetworks@unglobalcompact.org) for more information about the Local Network activities and to get engaged.

# THE TEN PRINCIPLES OF THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT



1. **HUMAN RIGHTS:** 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.



3. **LABOUR:** 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.



7. **ENVIRONMENT:** 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.



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

The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact are derived from: the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the International Labour Organization's Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work, the Rio Declaration on Environment and Development, and the United Nations Convention Against Corruption.

## ABOUT THE UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT

The United Nations Global Compact is a call to companies everywhere to align their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to take action in support of UN goals and issues embodied in the Sustainable Development Goals. The UN Global Compact is a leadership platform for the development, implementation and disclosure of responsible corporate practices. Launched in 2000, it is the largest corporate sustainability initiative in the world, with more than 9,500 companies and 3,000 non-business signatories based in over 160 countries, and nearly 70 Local Networks.

[www.unglobalcompact.org](http://www.unglobalcompact.org)

Find us on social media and join the conversation  
**@globalcompact**



**United Nations  
Global Compact**

© 2018 United Nations Global Compact  
685 Third Avenue New York, NY 10017, USA  
July 2018