



GLOBAL COMPACT LOCAL NETWORKS

Global Compact Local Networks (GCLNs)

are organized by participants who come together voluntarily to advance the UN Global Compact and its principles at the local level. There are over 97 established and emerging GCLNs. While retaining diverse operations, all GCLNs operate with the mission to advance the UN Global Compact principles in business.

GCLNs serve an essential role in rooting the UN Global Compact within different national contexts – and their distinct economic, cultural and linguistic needs. Participation in a GCLN provides companies the opportunity to engage with a variety of stakeholders, including other businesses and representatives from civil society, government, academia, business associations and investors.

GCLNs provide an important base for jump-starting business action and awareness on the ground. All UN Global Compact companies are encouraged to participate in their Local Network, and, where relevant, to facilitate engagement by their subsidiaries in networks as well. For all companies, the Local Networks are the perfect conduit for thinking globally and acting locally.



Local Network Activities

Because GCLNs are established and sustained by local interest and enthusiasm, activities are based on local priorities and needs. Following are examples of the types of activities undertaken by GCLNs:

Collective Action

GCLNs often provide a unique convening platform, helping to identify opportunities and engage relevant actors in concrete projects where their strengths are leveraged. These projects often address global development challenges, such as poverty, hunger, disease eradication and environmental degradation.

Awareness-raising and outreach events

Spreading the word about corporate responsibility and the UN Global Compact among companies and non-business actors in a country is a critical function of a GCLN. Typically conferences and media campaigns are organized to initiate discussion on how global responsibility trends can be applied within a country, and consequently what value the GCLN can bring to companies and the society. GCLNs often continually conduct outreach and awareness-raising activities for recruitment and profiling purposes.

Support with Implementation and Disclosure

Learning activities – Workshops, training and study tours provide valuable learning platforms for UN Global Compact stakeholders to gain a better understanding of the ten principles and corporate responsibility, more generally. Learning platforms also provide a method for stakeholders to share experiences and lessons learned.

Communication on Progress (COP) facilitation – GCLNs frequently offer training and awareness-raising events to support company efforts to fulfil the annual disclosure requirement of the UN Global Compact. In addition, many GCLNs have processes such as mentoring, peer-review or social vetting to guide corporate disclosure efforts. + other supportive functions including translations.

Policy Dialogue

Increasingly political and public issues are seen by the business community as relevant to their commercial future – for example, in areas related to improving the business climate, such as anti-corruption, as well as the role of the private sector in supporting development. GCLNs convene multi-stakeholder events to discuss these challenges and opportunities.



Local, Regional and Global Networking

GCLNs offer unique opportunities for participants to network with companies and other stakeholders at the country level -- often sharing experiences and challenges related to advancing their work on Global Compact issues. In addition, Local Networks are the gateway for companies to engage with other Global Compact participants on a regional basis, as well as globally at the Annual Local Networks Forum.

Recognition

Many GCLNs take steps to provide recognition to participants that are working to advance the Global Compact in their operations -- including through featuring participants in publications and on the GCLN website, as well as through awards.

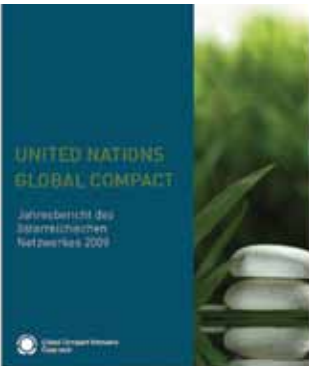
Sharing Local Network Experiences

Annual Local Network Forum

Since 2003, an annual meeting of Local Networks has been convened to bring network representatives together to share experiences, learn from each other and make connections. This annual meeting also provides the opportunity to seek the input of networks on key governance issues relating to Local Networks and the UN Global Compact initiative as a whole.

Regional Meetings for Network Representatives and Contact Persons

Since 2006, Regional Meetings for Local Networks have been convened to provide an opportunity to learn from and share network experiences within a regional context. These meetings provide opportunities to discuss challenges and opportunities as well as to identify potential approaches and joint-activities.



How to Participate in a Local Network

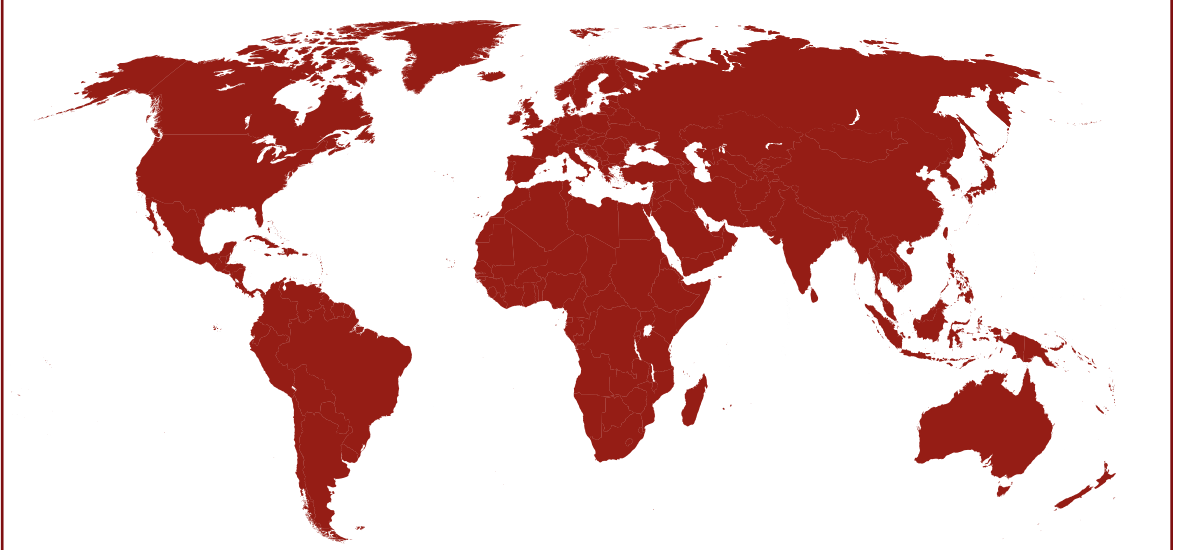
To participate in a Local Network an organization must contact the Network contact person in their country. Details for all Network contact persons, as well as specific information on the activities of each Local Network, can be found on the Global Compact website:

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/NetworksAroundTheWorld/index.html>

“Local Networks are the perfect conduit for thinking globally and acting locally.”



List of Global Compact Local Networks



AFRICA

Cameroon
Cote d'Ivoire
Equatorial Guinea
Ghana
Kenya
Madagascar*
Malawi
Mauritius*
Mozambique*
Namibia
Nigeria
Senegal*
South Africa
Sudan
Uganda
Zambia
Zimbabwe*

AMERICAS

Argentina
Bolivia
Brazil
Canada*
Chile
Colombia
Costa Rica*
Dominican Republic
Ecuador
El Salvador*
Jamaica*
Mexico
Panama
Paraguay
Peru
Trinidad and Tobago
Uruguay

USA

Venezuela*

ASIA/ OCEANIA

Australia
Bangladesh
China
India
Indonesia
Japan
Korea, Republic of
Malaysia
Maldives*
Mongolia
Nepal
Pakistan
Philippines*
Singapore

Sri Lanka

Thailand*

Viet Nam

EUROPE/ CIS

Albania
Armenia
Austria
Azerbaijan*
Belarus
Belgium
Bosnia and Herzegovina
Bulgaria
Croatia
Cyprus
Estonia*
France
Georgia

Germany

Greece

Hungary

Italy

Kazakhstan*

Kosovo*

Latvia

Lithuania

Macedonia

Moldova

Montenegro*

Netherlands

Nordic

Poland

Portugal

Russia

Serbia

Slovakia

Slovenia

Spain

Switzerland

Turkey

UK

Ukraine

MENA

Egypt
Gulf States
Iraq
Israel*
Jordan*
Lebanon*
Morocco
Sudan
Syria
Tunisia*

*Emerging Networks

The Ten Principles of the United Nations Global Compact

HUMAN RIGHTS

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

LABOUR

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

ENVIRONMENT

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

ANTI-CORRUPTION

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

