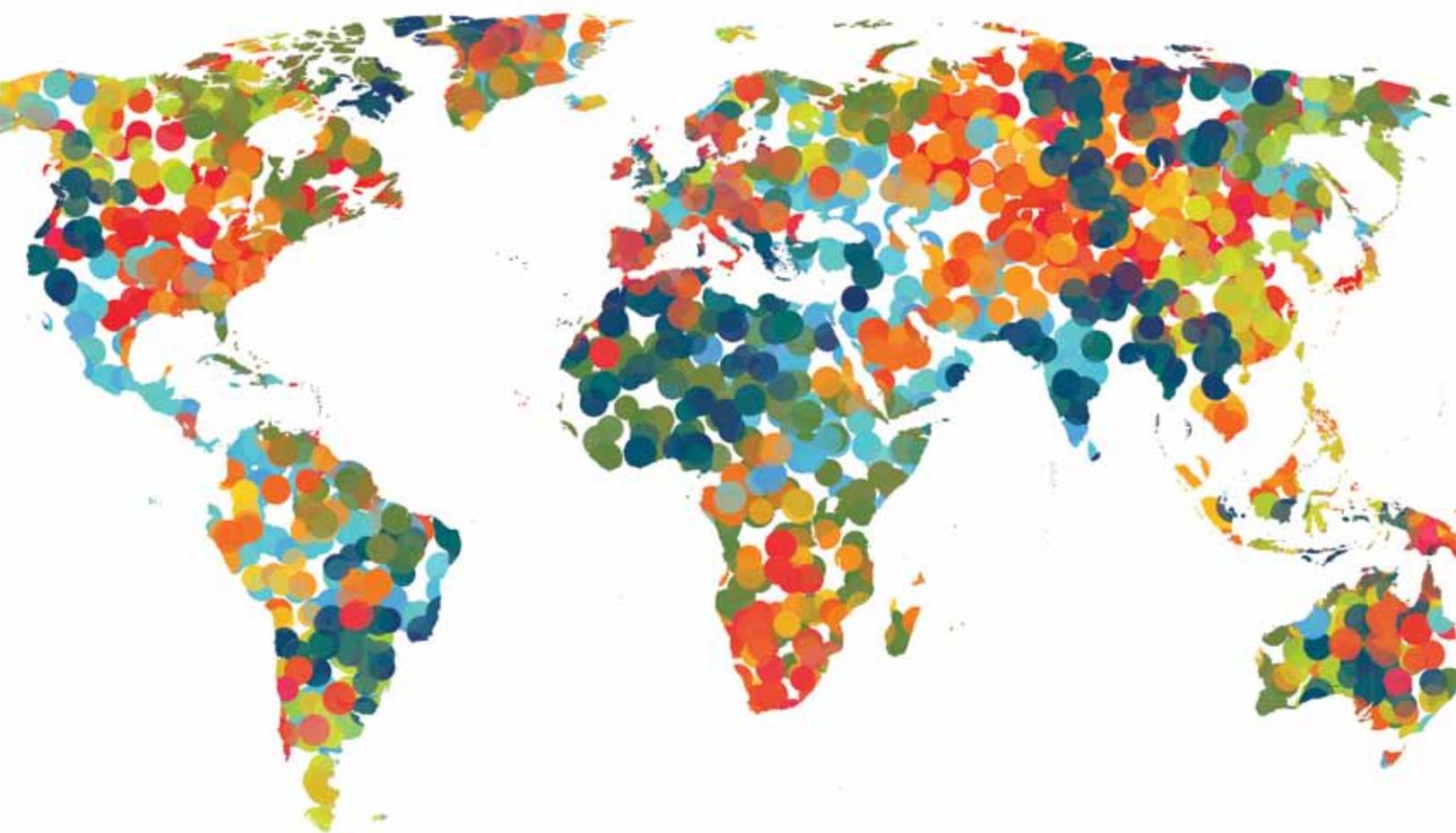


UNITED NATIONS GLOBAL COMPACT
**LOCAL NETWORK
REPORT 2012**



United Nations Global Compact

Global Compact Local Network Report 2012 April 2013

The information and data in this report are based on the Global Compact Local Networks' activities during 2012 and on information placed in the Knowledge Sharing System.

About the United Nations Global Compact

Launched in 2000, the United Nations Global Compact is a call to companies around the world to align their strategies and operations with ten universal principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to take action in support of broader UN goals. Through the development, implementation, and disclosure of responsible corporate policies and practices, business can help ensure that markets advance in ways that benefit economies and societies everywhere. With more than 10,000 signatories in over 135 countries, it is the world's largest corporate responsibility initiative.

Visit www.unglobalcompact.org

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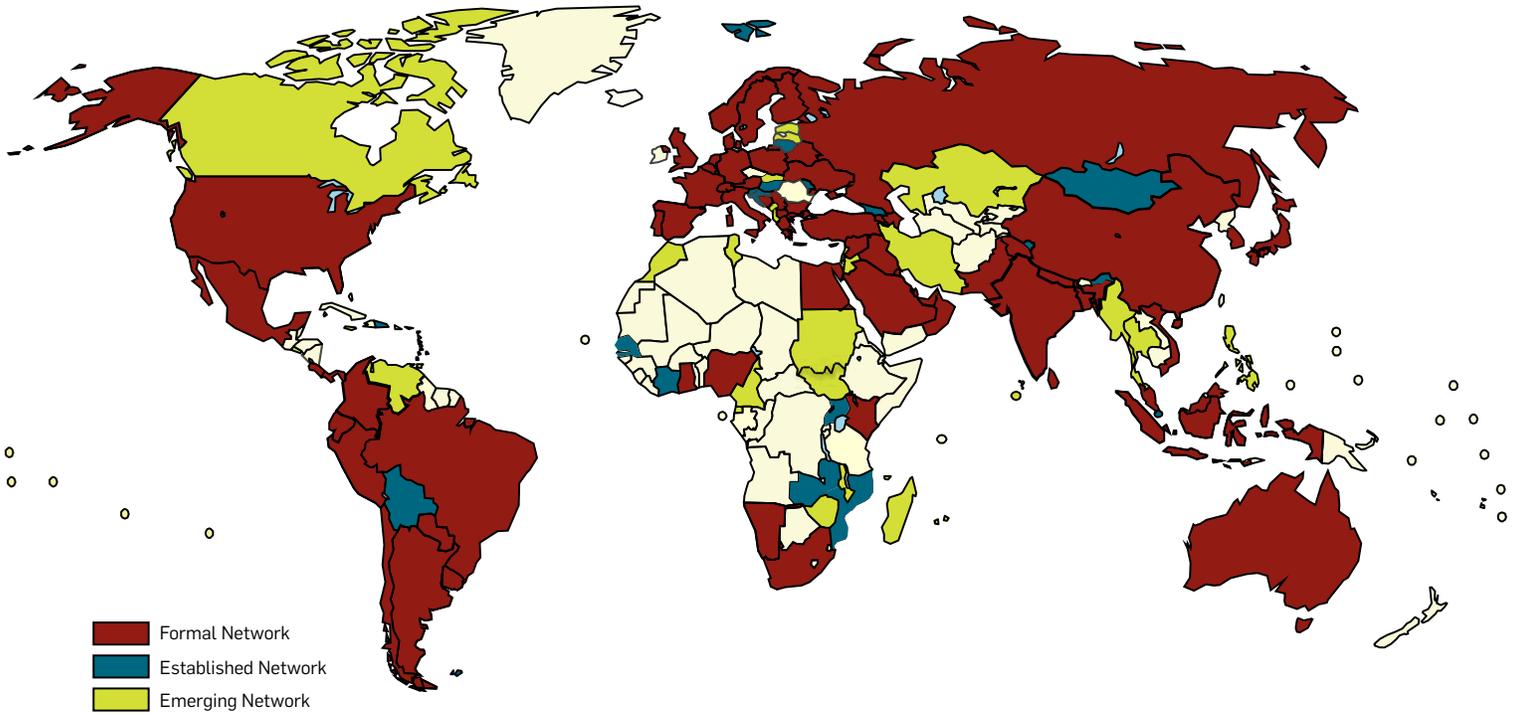
This publication is intended strictly for learning purposes. The inclusion of company names and/or examples does not constitute an endorsement of the individual companies by the United Nations Global Compact Office. The material in this publication may be quoted and used provided there is proper attribution.

Contributing Local Networks

The Global Compact Office wishes to thank the Local Networks that uploaded their reports, events, and activities onto the Knowledge Sharing System in 2012, thereby contributing to the production of this report.

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OVERVIEW

For the 101 Local Networks operating around the world, 2012 proved to be a very productive year. Working with participating companies and non-business stakeholders, Local Networks helped strengthen connections, and advance the Global Compact and its principles at the local level. Local Networks have furthered the corporate sustainability agenda through learning exchanges, information sharing, working groups, and by facilitating partnerships and dialogues that tackle issues specific to local contexts. Most notably, networks continued to expand their internetwork collaboration in 2012, convening meetings and events which opened discussions towards shared opportunities and common solutions. As a result of ambitious recruitment efforts, Global Compact participation increased this year, with the total number approaching 11,000. Complementing this growing membership base has been continued engagement by a diverse group of stakeholders, including academic institutions, SMEs, businesses, NGOs and government entities.

The 2012 Global Compact Local Network report continues to showcase the incredible work of Local Networks from around the world but with a new approach – by presenting an analysis of milestones and activities along themes and issue areas. Through this lens, the report provides a holistic view of Local Network activities as they relate to the overall goals of the Global Compact – namely, aligning business operations and strategies to the ten principles of the Global Compact in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption, and to catalyze action in support of broader UN goals and issues. The report is not an exhaustive list of achievements from the year, but is rather meant to highlight just some of the exciting work being done by Local Networks around the world as shared in the Knowledge Sharing System (KSS).

X Annual Local Network Forum 2012 15 June 2012, Brazil

As part of the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum, the X Annual Local Network Forum (ALNF) took place with more than 100 representatives and contact persons from over 40 Local Networks. Participants discussed events from the past year, provided updates on various working groups, shared best practices and discussed key issues related to Local Network governance. Georg Kell, Executive Director of the Global Compact, welcomed participants to the meeting and spoke about the important role Local Networks play in bringing corporate sustainability to scale.

The meeting began with a presentation by the Governance, Funding and Functions Working Group in which they reported on outcomes from the past year, including recommendations for improving Local Networks' support of the Global Compact mission. The recommendations focused on improved communication between Local Networks and the Global Compact Office in New York, and a larger role for Local Networks in the decision-making process related to network issues.

In addition, a session was devoted to the role of Local Networks in the Global Compact governance framework, as well as a discussion of successful network outreach activities. Several networks were recognized for their outstanding accomplishments during the year, receiving awards based on a survey of the Local Network participants.



Regional Meetings

Europe Regional Meeting

18-19 October 2012, Serbia

Global Compact Networks in Europe met over two-days for their annual regional meeting hosted by the Serbia Network. The meeting welcomed 140 Global Compact corporate participants representing 20 European Local Networks including Belgium, Bulgaria, France, Germany, Italy, Serbia, Spain, and the United Kingdom, among others. Key topics included outcomes from the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum; the launch of a consultation process to engage Local Networks from Europe to contribute to the post-2015 development agenda; and the introduction of the UN Secretary-General's "Education First" initiative to encourage businesses to support global education goals. Participants also held discussions on anti-corruption activities and the role of both the financial sector and Local Networks in achieving sustainability in the region.

Americas Regional Meeting

7-8 November 2012, Peru

Global Compact Local Networks in the Americas and the Caribbean convened in

Lima for their VII Regional Meeting hosted by the Global Compact Network Peru. More than 20 representatives attended the meeting, including those from the Regional Centre for the Support of the Global Compact in Latin America and the Caribbean. Participants from 12 Local Networks were also in attendance, including those from Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Mexico, Panama, Paraguay, Peru, Uruguay and the United States.

The meeting began with two training sessions: 1) how Local Networks can better build partnerships to advance UN goals, and 2) on the Global Compact Management Model and the environment. Global Compact LEAD, a platform for advanced corporate sustainability practices, organized a joint session for business participants and Local Networks to share perspectives on the mutual benefits of engagement with Latin American Networks. Three sessions were also offered on the following thematic areas: socioeconomics and labour, facilitated by the ILO; an introduction to the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights; and the launch

2012 EXCHANGE PROGRAMME

In the days leading up to the Asia & Oceania Regional Meeting, the Global Compact Network Ceylon hosted the third Local Network Exchange Programme. The Exchange Programme was organized by the Global Compact Office and is aimed at fostering collaboration among Local Networks by providing an opportunity to share experiences and identify best practices across regional borders. It also trains Local Network contact persons on network management and operations. This year's Exchange Programme included delegations from Bangladesh, Egypt, India, Indonesia and Sri Lanka. As part of the two-day Programme, participants conducted site visits of companies in the Local Network Ceylon to understand how the ten principles have been integrated within the companies' strategies and practices.

Over 100 participants from the Regional Meeting and the Exchange Programme met with Sri Lankan businesses and other stakeholders to discuss how Local Networks are making an impact on issues such as water management, anti-corruption and youth engagement. Participants explored ways of establishing effective partnerships between business, Local Networks and other stakeholders, including the UN.



of a consultation process to engage Local Networks from the Americas to contribute to the post-2015 development agenda. Local Networks also had the opportunity to present their achievements during the year and share experiences with one another.

Asia & Oceania Regional Meeting 23-24 November 2012, Sri Lanka

Global Compact Networks from Australia, Bangladesh, India, Indonesia, Malaysia, Mongolia, Pakistan, Republic of Korea, Singapore, Sri Lanka and Viet Nam participated in the Asia and Oceania Regional Meeting hosted by the Global Compact Network Ceylon (Sri Lanka). Three main sessions were held over the two-day meeting: 1) the launch of the consultation process to engage Local Networks in the post-2015 development agenda process; 2) the role of Local Networks in promoting responsible business in high-risk and conflict-affected areas; and 3) a capacity building workshop for Local Networks.

MENA & Africa Regional Meeting 11-13 February 2013, Kenya

While the annual meeting of the MENA and Africa regions was originally scheduled to take place in Egypt in December 2012, the meeting was postponed for various reasons. The three-day meeting was rescheduled for early 2013 in Nairobi, Kenya, and included a consultation with Kenyan businesses on the post-2015 development agenda. The consultation included contributions by over 100 business and non-business participants, as well as representatives from Middle East Local Networks. Sessions were also held on building better partnerships for advancing UN goals; business engagement opportunities for the Women's Empowerment Principles and Children's Rights; and examples of responsible business activities in conflict-affected areas. Following the event, Local Networks from Kenya, Nigeria, South Africa, Sudan, Uganda and the Gulf States explored how they can better support participants from their countries to implement the Global Compact's ten principles.

Secretary-General Visits

Republic of Korea

Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon attended a breakfast meeting on 14 August hosted by the Global Compact Korea. In his opening remarks, the Secretary-General praised the network's commitment to sustainability, specifically noting its valuable contributions to the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum. The Secretary-General highlighted the great potential of the network to increase both the scale and quality of corporate sustainability practices, particularly with its ambitious target of recruiting 1,000 participants by 2015. The representative of the Korean Network also spoke about the first youth corporate responsibility conference launched this year, which was aimed at teaching young people about sustainability and entrepreneurship. Additional participants at the event included Former Prime Minister Han Seung-soo; President of the Korea Chamber of Commerce and Industry Choi Jong Taw; Chairperson of the Economic and Social Development Commission Park In Joo; Director of the Korean Presidential Residence Social Integration Division Yang Soo Gil; Chairperson of the Green Growth Foundation; senior level officials; UN agency representatives; and 150 Global Compact CEOs.

Myanmar

On 1 May, the Secretary-General chaired the launch of the Global Compact in Myanmar. More than 200 participants attended the ceremony in Yangon, including nearly 50 representatives from the international community and foreign investors. "In order to deliver prosperity and opportunity widely, Myanmar needs strong and inclusive markets," the Secretary-General said in his keynote address. He went on to add, "Business has to be the backbone of growth. However,

investment and business activity must be sustainable and responsible — upholding the highest standards of business ethics." At the event, 14 companies and the Myanmar Chamber of Commerce formally joined the Global Compact in a signing ceremony. Further evolution of the Global Compact, including the establishment of a Global Compact Local Network, will be steered in a collaborative effort between signatories, the Myanmar Chamber of Commerce and the Office of the UN Resident Coordinator in Myanmar.

MYANMAR LAUNCH

The launch of the Global Compact in Myanmar was an important step towards realizing the full potential of this evolving economy, and helped set a precedent for embedding universal values and responsible practices in the private sector in Myanmar. Following the official launch ceremony on 1 May, the Global Compact, with the support of the Office of the Resident & Humanitarian Coordinator and the Peacebuilding Support Office, organized a discussion around "Promoting Responsible Business in Times of Transition – Towards Inclusive Job Creation and Sustainable Development." The meeting consisted of a high-level session followed by a series of working-level roundtable discussions that brought together national and multinational companies.



Regional Center for the Support of the Global Compact in Latin America and the Caribbean

The Regional Center works to further the mission of the Global Compact within the Latin American and Caribbean contexts. In a continuous effort to support the work of Local Networks in the LAC Region, the Regional Center undertook several activities in 2012:

PUBLICATIONS

Principles of Social Investment: Experiences from Global Compact Participants in Latin America and the Caribbean. Over 100 representatives from the private sector attended the launch of this report in Colombia. This publication includes examples of social investment from 32 businesses in the region. Case studies were selected based on their impact and financial sustainability, and represent a sample of Global Compact participants in LAC implementing programmes that contribute to social development.

Guidance on Responsible Business in Conflict-Affected & High-Risk Areas: A Resource for Companies & Investors (Spanish Translation). In an effort to provide participants with the most current resources available, the Regional Center translated this publication to assist companies in implementing responsible business practices in conflict-affected and high-risk areas. Over 200 people, including representatives from the private sector, the Global Compact, inves-

tors, academia and leaders of civil society attended an event in Colombia to launch this publication. An online platform was also installed with more than 100 viewers from countries such as Chile, Colombia, Costa Rica, Spain, Mexico, Panama and Peru.

EVENTS

II Business Forum: Global Compact in Latin America and the Caribbean. Organized by the Regional Center, and with support from the Peruvian Network and the National Confederation of Private Business Associations (CONFIEP), the second edition of this forum focused on issues related to the environment and anti-corruption. Case studies on sustainable development and anti-corruption efforts were presented by participating business partners.

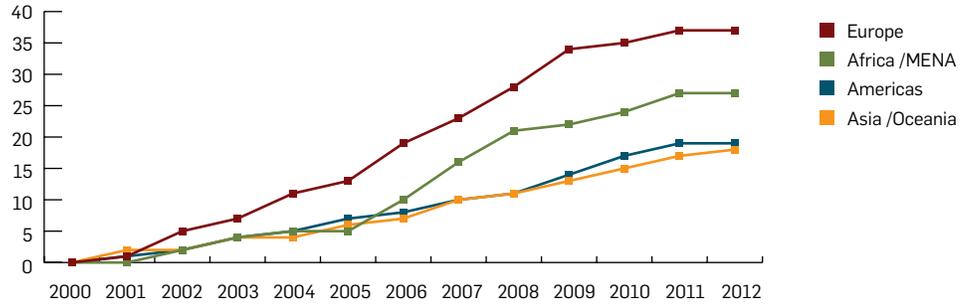
Partnership between the UN Economic Commission for Latin America, the Organization of American States and YBT. The Regional Center invited Local Networks to support research being developed on corporate responsibility in Latin America. The objective of the study is to develop a document on corporate responsibility in small firms in Latin America.



Local Networks: A Statistical Overview

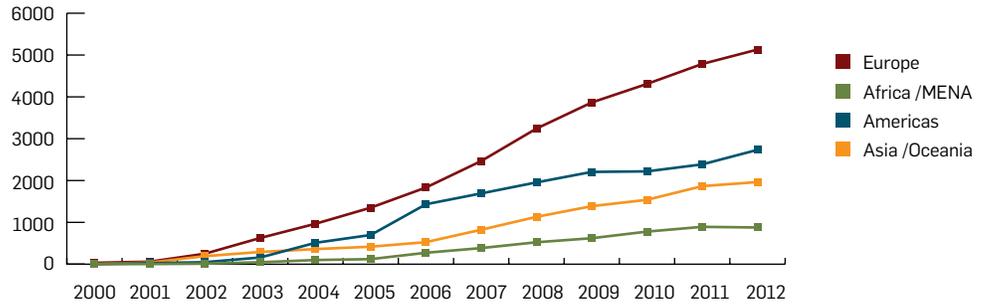
Number of Networks By Region

With the launch of a network in Myanmar, the number of Local Networks increased to 101 in 2012.



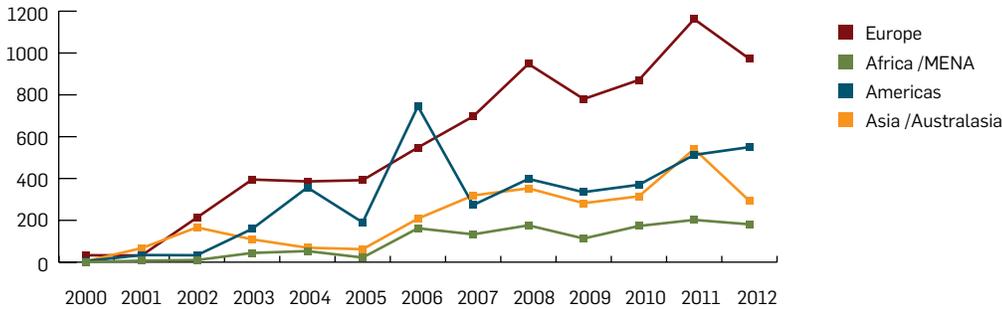
Number of Global Compact Participants

In 2012, the Global Compact reached 10,704 participants worldwide, excluding those that were delisted.



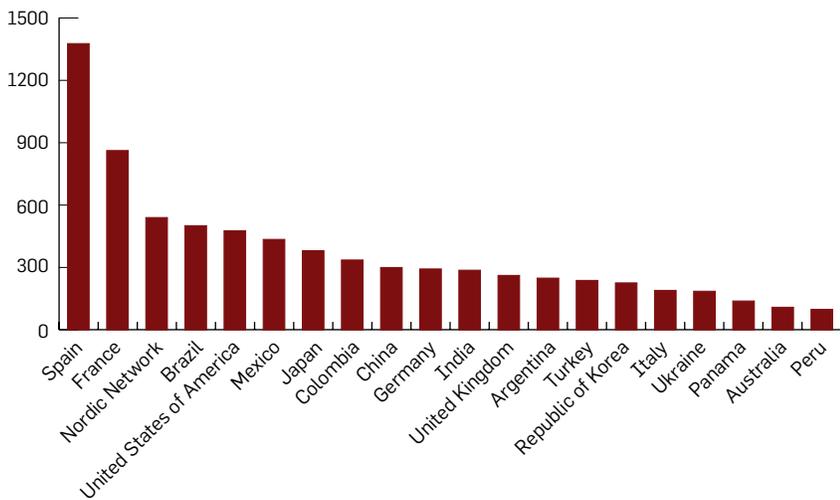
Number of New Participants By Region

The number of participants grew globally, particularly in Europe which accounted for 48% of the total growth, followed by the Americas which accounted for nearly 28% of total growth.



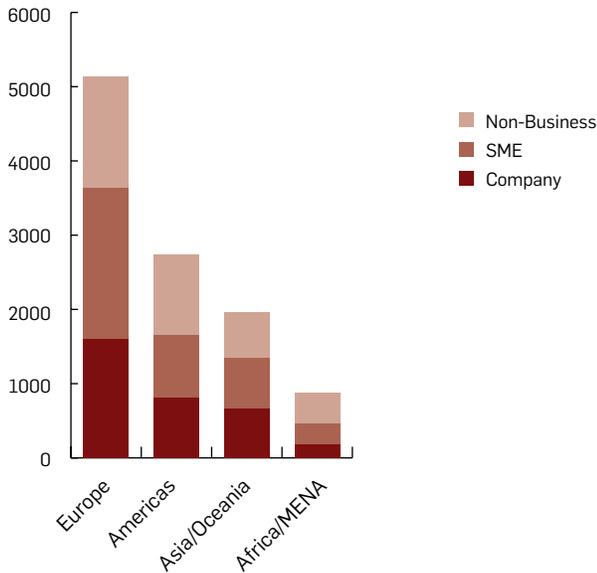
Top 20 Countries with Local Networks By Number of Participants

The number of Global Compact participants has been steadily increasing across all regions. Spain has the largest number of participants with 1,377, followed by France with 863 and the Nordic Network with 541. Of the top 20 Local Networks represented in the chart below, eight are from Europe, seven from the Americas and five from Asia/Oceania. The majority of Local Networks in the countries listed are Formal and were established before 2005, with the exception of the Republic of Korea, Australia and the United States of America.

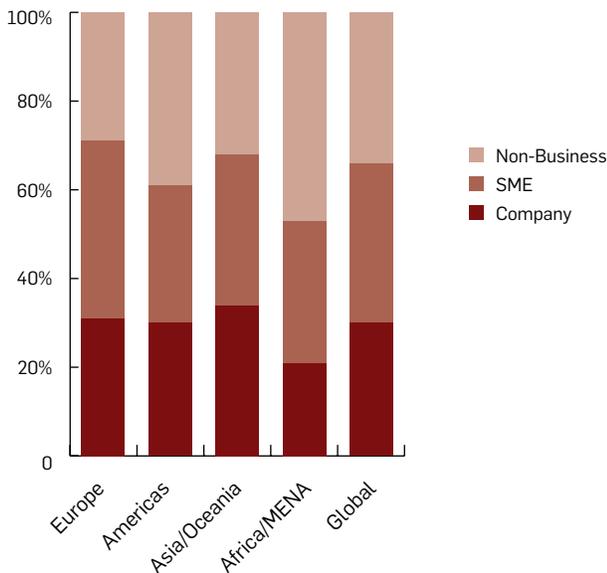


OVERVIEW

DISTRIBUTION OF GLOBAL COMPACT PARTICIPANTS



DISTRIBUTION OF GLOBAL COMPACT PARTICIPANTS (BY PERCENTAGE)



Who are the Participants?

This year, SMEs became the largest group of participants globally, with an increase of 1% from 2011. Of the 10,704 Global Compact participants, 3,829 were SMEs, accounting for 36% of total participants. Combined, SMEs and businesses accounted for 66% of total participants.

Non-Business represented the second largest group of participants in 2012, accounting for 34%, an increase of 2% from 2011. Companies now account for approximately 30% of all the participants globally. Of the total 3,262 businesses engaged in the Global Compact, 49% were from Europe (1,597 participants), 25% were the Americas (815 participants), 20% were from Asia/Oceania (668 participants), and 6% were from Africa/MENA (182 participants).

Africa/MENA

There was active involvement from non-business organizations in the Africa/MENA region, showing a 1.2% increase from the previous year. Engagement by non-business organizations was the highest among the regions at 47%. However, engagement by companies and SMEs fell short in comparison to the previous year, resulting in a decrease from 206 business participants to 182, and from 331 SMEs to 282 in 2012.

Americas

The Americas continued to grow in 2012 with 372 new participants. Among the total number, an additional 89 businesses joined the Local Networks, which was the largest among all regions.

Asia/Oceania

In Asia/Oceania, all stakeholders were well represented in Local Networks. There was a significant increase in business and non-business organizations, with 32 companies and 93 non-business organizations participating in 2012. Among the regions, Asia/Oceania had the highest level of representation from companies which accounted for 34% of participants.

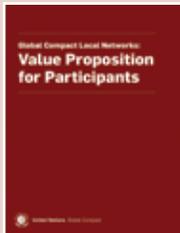
Europe

Europe also experienced an increase in participants this year, particularly among SMEs and non-business organizations. Overall, Europe saw the most significant growth in the number of new participants, with a total of 4,671 in 2011 to 5,131 in 2012. There were 68 new business organization participants, 186 new SMEs, and an additional 206 non-business organizations.

NEW RESOURCES FOR LOCAL NETWORKS



A Strategy for the Commons: Business-driven Networks for Collective Action and Policy Dialogue. This publication features the Global Compact as a platform for addressing global sustainability challenges, particularly through the collective action and policy dialogue activities of Local Networks. The report includes 36 case studies from networks around the world. *(Global Compact and Bertelsmann Stiftung)*

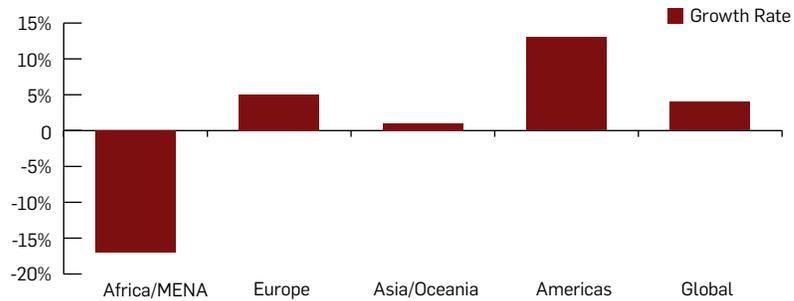


Global Compact Local Networks: Value Proposition for Participants. This publication outlines engagement opportunities from selected Local Networks and provides organizations with the necessary information for getting involved in their country. Each featured Local Network provides information about the history of the network, benefits of participation and contact information. *(Global Compact)*

OVERVIEW

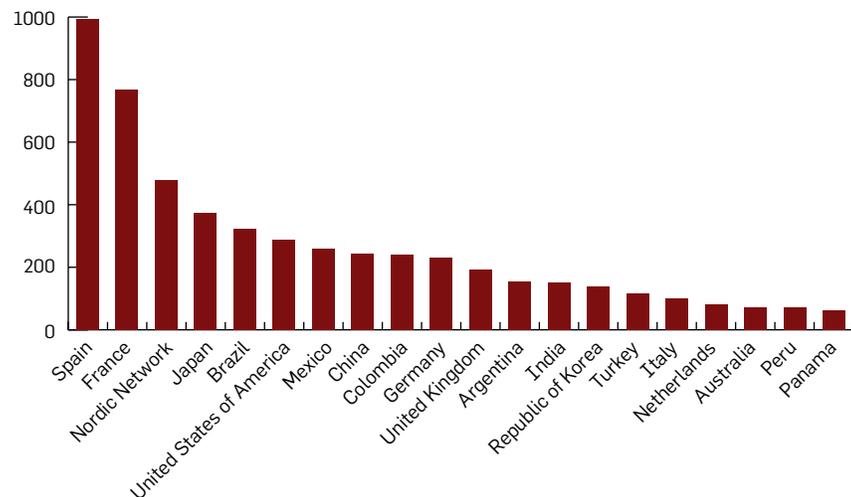
Growth Among Business Participants (January 2012 - December 2012)

In 2012, the total number of business participants grew by 4%. Every region reported an increase in business participants, with the exception of the Africa/MENA region where business participants decreased by 17%. The Americas reported the highest rate of growth, with a 17% increase in business participants.



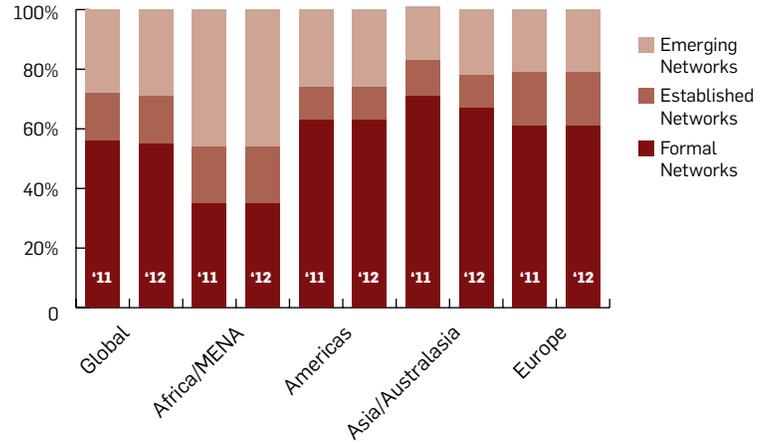
Top 20 Countries with Local Networks By Number of Business Participants

The number of business participants has been steadily increasing in all regions. Spain (992), France (767) and the Nordic Network (477) had the greatest number of business participants in their Local Networks.



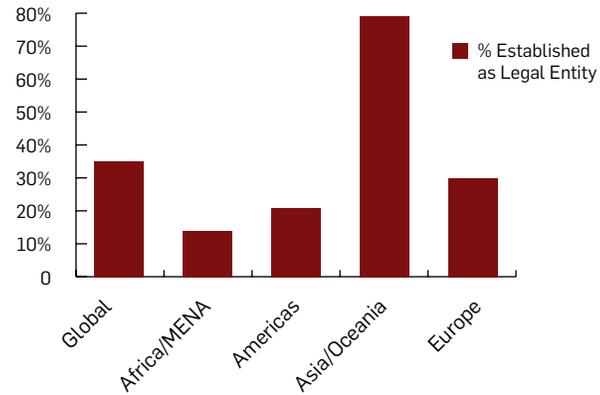
Local Networks by Category (Established, Emerging, and Formal)

In 2012, 55% of all Local Networks were Formal, 16% were Established and 29% were Emerging. From those, 41% of the Formal Networks were from Europe, and 41% of the Emerging Networks were from Africa/MENA. From 2011 to 2012, the overall percentage of Formal, Established and Emerging Networks remained relatively unchanged. The only significant development was the launch of a Local Network in Myanmar, the newest Emerging Network.



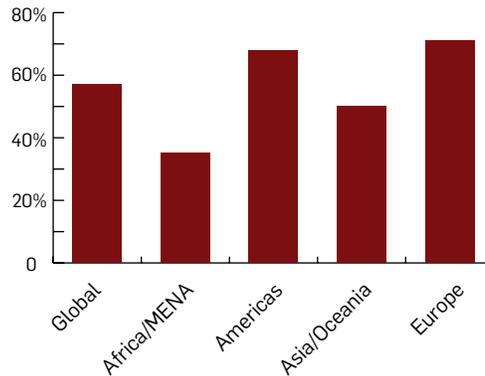
Established and Formal Networks Set Up As Legal Entities (By Region)

In 2012, 35% of Established and Formal Networks were set up as legal entities. In Asia/Oceania, legal entities accounted for 79% of these networks, the largest for any region. Europe was the second largest region, reporting 30% as legal entities, followed by 21% in the Americas and 14% in Africa/MENA.



Websites

Websites remained a common vehicle for disseminating information, with 57% of networks reporting their use in 2012, an increase of 3% from the year before. Europe had the largest percentage, reporting 71% usage. They were closely followed by the Americas with 68% usage, while Asia/Oceania reported website usage at 50%, and Africa/MENA at 35%.



OVERVIEW

Issues and Types of Activities Covered at Events

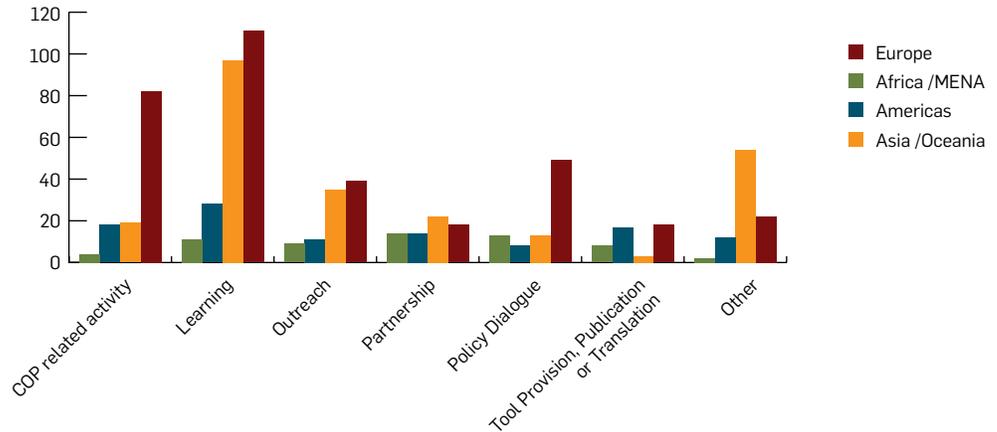
Africa/MENA: In Africa/MENA, 23% of the region’s activities focused on partnerships, closely followed by policy dialogue which accounted for 21%. Learning activities (18%) also accounted for a large portion of regional activities.

Americas: In the Americas, there was a focus on learning activities, accounting for 26% of all activities. COP related activities accounted for 17%, while tool provisions, publications and translations were the focus of 15% of activities.

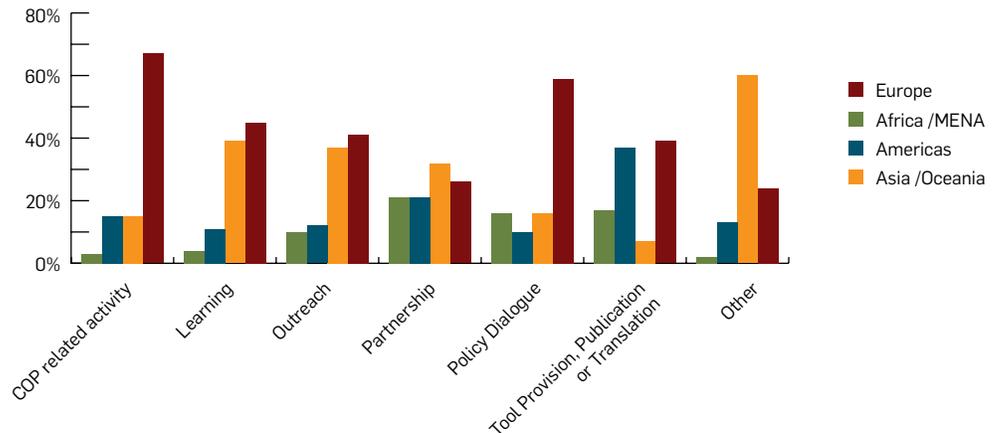
Asia/Oceania: In Asia/Oceania, partnership-related activities were reported more than in any other region, accounting for 32% of total activities. Learning activities were held more frequently than any other, with 96 activities reported over the course of 2012.

Europe: In Europe, COP-related activities as well as policy dialogues were held more frequently than in any other region, accounting for 67% and 59%, respectively. In addition, Europe hosted and organized learning activities more than any other activity in the region, with 111 learning activities over the course of 2012.

ISSUES AND TYPES OF ACTIVITIES



ISSUES AND TYPES OF ACTIVITIES BY PERCENTAGE OF TOTAL ACTIVITIES





“The initiatives and contributions of Local Networks are making significant inroads toward the implementation of the ten principles of the Global Compact, and provide an **important base to jump-start action and awareness on the ground.**”

—Georg Kell
Executive Director, UN Global Compact

ACHIEVEMENTS

The information and data in this report are based on the Global Compact Local Networks' activities during 2012 and information placed in the Knowledge Sharing System (KSS). The report is not an exhaustive list of achievements from the year, but is rather meant to highlight just some of the work being done by Local Networks around the world.

RIO+20 CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY FORUM 15-18 JUNE 2012



One of the most significant contributions made by Local Networks this year was their engagement in the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum (CSF), which convened over 2,700 participants in the days leading up to the UN Conference on Sustainable Development. Local Networks took a leading role in the preparation, organization and facilitation of the CSF, organizing 20 of the 120 sessions held at the conference and launching hundreds of new activities, resources and commitments:

- **Global Compact Network Australia** committed to: 1) increase awareness and engagement on indigenous peoples; 2) continue the work of its Leadership Groups for Human Rights and Anti-Corruption through meetings and guidance materials; 3) create an Environment Leadership Group to foster knowledge-sharing and peer-learning; and 4) promote gender equality through events and by recruiting at least five new signatories to the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) each year.
- **Global Compact Network Brazil** mobilized a large-scale commitment, whereby over 200 CEOs of Brazilian companies endorsed Business Contributions to the Promotion of a Green and Inclusive Economy which lays out 10 commitments to be made by the end of 2012. These commitments include: integrating sustainability into the value chain, expanding investment in innovation and technology, and engaging more with key stakeholders while ensuring sustainable economic results. Each organization has committed to define and disclose measurable targets for these commitments.
- **Global Compact Network France** committed to increase its participant base to a total of 1,000 companies; reduce the number of non-communicating companies; improve the quality of Communications on Progress; and to hold two to four thematic conferences, regional events and luncheons per year.
- **Global Compact Network India** committed to work with participants to help them embed sustainability into their operations and strategies. By 2015, the network will undertake training activities to help companies comply with national and global standards in sustainability, and engage with the government to develop enabling policies.

- **Global Compact Network Indonesia** committed to improve access to clean water and sanitation. The network will work to increase the percentage of households that implement community-based sanitation in Cawang and Cilincing, two sections of Jakarta.
- **Global Compact Network Italy** committed to recruit 300 new participants for the Global Compact and 80 for the network by 2015; hit a target of 20 new corporate commitments for the “Sustainable Energy for All” initiative; and develop a new training programme, a COP peer review process and common sustainability criteria for identifying suppliers.
- **Global Compact Network Japan**, by 2020, committed to increase membership to 1,000 participants from across Japan; develop additional tools and resources; strengthen participation in business-led activities; and enhance the network’s overall organizational structure, transparency and sustainability. The network also set a target for Japanese companies to represent 10% of the participants in Global Compact working groups and initiatives.
- **Global Compact Network Nigeria** committed to promote anti-corruption efforts in business and government, and to implement measures that reduce the carbon footprint of companies.
- **Global Compact Network Pakistan** committed to facilitate and promote policy dialogue and collective action related to reducing energy usage and emissions, encouraging the use of cleaner fuels, and supporting poverty alleviation by 2017.
- **Global Compact Network Spain** committed to provide approximately 1,000 SMEs with online tools and training designed to help them measure and report on the implementation of the ten principles. Through this effort, the network hopes to contribute to the Global Compact’s goal of reaching 20,000 signatories by 2020.
- **Global Compact Network Uruguay** committed to double the number of Uruguayan Global Compact participants by June 2014.

In addition to these commitments, several Local Networks held sessions during the CSF on themes related to the Rio+20 agenda. All sessions had a common purpose and design: to spur action and stimulate greater uptake and discussion.

Australia

This session featured case studies from small and large Australian businesses, and provided an overview of the legal framework related to sustainability and climate change affecting the Australian economy and environment. The speakers explored current business efforts towards sustainability challenges, how they report their activities, and the implications the framework has for Local Networks and other corporate responsibility initiatives.

Australia and Germany

The Global Compact Networks Australia and Germany hosted a discussion on advancing the Global Compact human rights principles. The session showcased Local Network activities and initiatives, and highlighted strategies, tools and resources being used by different countries to encourage continued collaboration, cooperation and communication around human rights.

Bangladesh, Pakistan & Viet Nam

The Global Compact Networks Bangladesh, Pakistan and Viet Nam, along with the United Nations Economic and Social Commission for Asia and the Pacific (ESCAP) invited speakers from business and civil society from the Asia-Pacific region to discuss innovative business solutions to address social and environmental challenges. Presenters discussed ways of creating an enabling environment for corporate sustainability, the motivation and challenges that come with innovation, and the role of SMEs, government, NGOs and consumers in promoting responsible business.

Brazil, China & India

The Global Compact teamed up with the Local Networks in Brazil, China and India to discuss innovations, approaches and perspectives on corporate sustainability in emerging economies. The session presented outcomes from a workshop convened by Global Compact LEAD and Global Compact Local Networks in the spring of 2012. The session also explored the unique role businesses play in emerging markets to drive innovation and forge sustainable development partnerships.

Bulgaria & United Kingdom

This session explored business-led Local Networks from the perspectives of both an emerging and an established democracy. Speakers also presented on Sustainability Hubs as management models that provide an enabling environment and enhance companies' collaboration, communication and interaction on sustainable development issues.

Costa Rica

The Costa Rican Network's Eco-Efficiency Working Group – a public-private partnership of 44 companies launched in 2011 – held a session on how Costa Rican businesses have organized to contribute to the 2021 National Carbon Neutral goal. As part of its mandate, the Working Group provides companies with ongoing advice and tools to evaluate environmental impacts and measure returns on investments as they relate to reduction, mitigation and compensation efforts. The session included an overview of the Costa Rican Carbon Neutral Policy as well as presentations by participating companies.

Egypt

During this session, businesses discussed best practices and showcased sustainability initiatives implemented by Local Network participants. Companies ranging in size, type and industry presented case studies and success stories. Each presentation focused on the implementation of one Global Compact issue area and the company's sustainability approaches since joining the Global Compact.

European Networks

In preparation for the CSF, the European Global Compact Local Networks produced a collection of best practices and case studies on sustainable development programmes being carried out by European companies. The publication entitled *The European UN Global Compact Companies Towards Rio+20 and Beyond: A Best Practices Collection* contains approximately 100 case studies from more than 20 European countries and was shared widely with participants of the CSF. The examples illustrate business models that can address sustainability challenges and advance promising practices within the European operating context. The publication is a powerful knowledge-sharing tool for companies and highlights the increasingly successful collaboration between the European Local Networks.

France

The Global Compact Network France brought together Chairpersons and CEOs from leading companies to debate strategic issues with experts from civil society. The panelists shared their experiences partnering with NGOs and social entrepreneurs, and explored the conditions that are necessary to implement shared value creation.

Indonesia

The Global Compact Network Indonesia held a session on addressing water scarcity. Best practices were presented on water conservation initiatives implemented by Indonesian and international corporations, NGOs and other organizations. The session highlighted partnership dynamics and the roles of various stakeholders.

Italy

The Global Compact Network Italy held a workshop to share innovative strategies implemented by Italian companies related to processes, products, organizational structures and market engagement. The session also included governmental recommendations on how to best facilitate these efforts.

Japan

The Global Compact Network Japan gathered executives from leading local businesses to discuss methods of addressing global sustainable development challenges. Representing the finance, food and ICT sectors, each presenter highlighted forward-looking approaches and collaborative action required for increased sustainability in the region.

Malaysia

The Global Compact Network Malaysia organized a panel on Responsible Sourcing Guidelines (RSGs) developed for sustainable agriculture. The guidelines deliver supply-chain visibility to buyers based on company reputation, resource mapping and logistics between producers and markets. The RSGs compliment the certification-based systems that have proven successful for major transnational companies, but are too costly for smallholders and other players that form the bulk of production systems.

Malaysia & Sri Lanka

The Local Networks from Malaysia and Sri Lanka organized a session to share travel and tourism sustainability perspectives. Presentations included key challenges and progress, as well as industry-wide steps that need to be taken. Speakers discussed the business case for sustainability, potential for innovation and community engagement, and examples of policy initiatives with environmental, social and economic impacts.

Nigeria

The Global Compact Network Nigeria held a session covering efforts made by companies and partners in Nigeria to increase access to clean and renewable energy resources in rural settings.

Nordic Network

The Nordic Network hosted a session to explore the results of the Copenhagen Fashion Summit that focused on sustainable fashion initiatives. The presentations also discussed policy recommendations from the Nordic Initiative Clean and Ethical (NICE) Consumer project and how the *NICE Code of Conduct and Manual for the Fashion and Textile Industry* will influence the global fashion industry.

Republic of Korea

This session included presentations on long-term strategies that Korean companies are taking – in cooperation with the government, suppliers and other stakeholders – to address environmental and social challenges. Presenters discussed case studies that focused on social enterprises to create employment; innovative technology to enable corporate sustainability; and collective action by Korean companies to support the Millennium Development Goals.

Spain

The Global Compact Network Spain convened private sector companies to present on projects that incorporate new technologies to solve urban water challenges. The event highlighted the work of companies across Spain to establish Smart Cities – a mutually beneficial global energy model in which communities and businesses both benefit environmentally and economically from renewable energy production.

South Africa

The Global Compact Network South Africa provided an overview of programmes throughout Southern Africa aimed at establishing a green economy. Presentations explored synergies and areas for regional cooperation, and the potential opportunities created by these initiatives in areas such as enterprise development to job creation, and the renewal of commercial and residential environments.

Turkey & Uganda

The Turkey and Uganda Networks partnered with European government representatives and donor agencies to host a session on biodiversity and ecosystem services. The session was as an example of South-South cooperation whereby participants engaged in discussions on how businesses are mitigating and offsetting their biodiversity impacts. Models of innovative public-private partnerships were shared, and ways in which they can contribute to conservation efforts and thrive in competitive markets.

Ukraine

The Ukrainian Network provided an overview of the multi-stakeholder process used to develop a national sustainability strategy. The process was a successful demonstration of a bottom-up approach to create a vision for the future of Ukrainian enterprise and address Ukraine's social and economic development.

United Kingdom

Partnering with the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC) the Global Compact Network United Kingdom hosted a session on integrated reporting as a means to transform the way companies understand, manage and report on their strategy and performance. Presentations discussed benefits from integrated reporting, with practical insights from leading companies and investors that are incorporating this information into their investment decisions.



INTERNETWORK COLLABORATION

Internetwork collaboration allows Local Networks with similar goals to come together to discuss opportunities and solutions to common issues. The following are highlights from several of these meetings that took place in 2012.

Chile & Mexico

The representative from the Global Compact Network Mexico and a participant company, visited the offices of the Chilean Network to learn about their management model and to share experiences. The visit promoted closer communication between the two networks and synergies between development efforts and strategies.

China, Japan & the Republic of Korea

The fourth annual Global Compact China-Japan-Korea Roundtable Conference took place in 2012, with approximately 150 business executives, academics, government officials and civil society leaders attending the two-day meeting. The conference focused on Local Network support for participating companies around value chain management, collective action and partnerships, and sustainable development. Executive Director Georg Kell opened the conference with a message of support for these trilateral events to inspire regional cooperation, emphasizing the role that the private sector has in shaping the post-2015 development agenda. The meeting facilitated deeper understanding of corporate sustainability practices being implemented across countries, and encouraged growth through experience and knowledge exchanges. A day before the conference, the Global Compact China-Japan-Korea Researchers' Meeting took place. This event provided a platform for formal learning and collaboration among the three networks through research and dialogue.

Iraq & Turkey

With Iraq in the process of forming a national private sector development strategy, the networks in Iraq and Turkey gathered to learn from Turkey's experiences on inclusive business and corporate responsibility. The three-day workshop was co-hosted by UNDP's Istanbul International Center for Private Sector in Development. The Global Compact Network Turkey discussed the evolution of corporate responsibility and the ten principles within the country, and highlighted how this model could be adopted for the Iraqi context. Presenters provided lessons learned and case studies on topics such as corporate ethics and governance, inclusive markets, private sector-led vocational training models and social enterprise.

Portugal & Spain

The Global Compact Network Spain encouraged its members to participate in an online survey conducted by the Global Compact Network Portugal. The survey covered companies' experiences with the International Organization for Standardization standards for social responsibility (ISO 26000), which provides guidance on how businesses and organizations can operate in a socially responsible way. The online survey was open to European Networks, with the objective of determining to what degree European companies are integrating the ISO 26000 standards, the challenges and opportunities that companies face in the process, and how companies communicate this process to stakeholders.



South-East Europe

The Global Compact Network Hellas (Greece) hosted the first regional South-East Europe Global Compact Local Networks Forum. Participants from eight networks including Bulgaria, Croatia, Greece, Kosovo, Macedonia, Romania, Serbia and Turkey came together to share knowledge and experiences between networks, explore ways to improve communication and cooperation, and to identify common challenges and potential solutions. Companies from the region presented promising practices, and discussed the social and environmental challenges facing Local Networks in the region. The meeting produced several outcomes, including a resolution to formally exchange experiences on corporate responsibility; to share membership information in order to identify common members and explore joint activities in the region; to conduct regular webinars on current issues and developments; and to hold an annual meeting rotating the host country each year.

NETWORK SUPPORT TO PARTICIPANTS



Each year, Local Networks develop a broad agenda of events and activities to help companies fulfill their commitments to corporate sustainability and deepen their engagement in the Global Compact. In an effort to develop an enabling environment that nurtures corporate responsibility and sustainability, businesses often engage in dialogue, advocacy and debate with key stakeholders at national and global levels. Local Networks are key facilitators of these exchanges, coordinating discussions that have the ability to influence change and open pathways for improved policy making. Networks also lend critical support to participants to fulfill their commitment to the Global Compact, and broaden business action and capacity within their local contexts.

POLICY DIALOGUE

Belarus

A roundtable event on “Creating Favorable Conditions for CSR Development” was held this year with representatives from business, government, NGOs and the media. A presentation on the findings and recommendations from a 2011 corporate sustainability study was the centerpiece of the event. The study indicated a positive trend toward increased adoption of corporate sustainability policies in Belarus over the past several years. At the same time, speakers discussed the complexities of current Belarusian legislation and advocated for the government to revise policies and improve legal frameworks that would encourage greater corporate sustainability.

Syria

Former UN Secretary-General Kofi Annan, in his capacity as UN Arab League envoy to Syria, visited the Global Compact Council in Syria to discuss the private sector’s role in resolving the ongoing crisis in the country. These initial discussions have prompted additional correspondence, with the business community looking to move forward with possible solutions.

Ukraine

In response to the need for a national corporate sustainability policy, the Global Compact Network Ukraine organized the “National Policies on Corporate Social

Responsibility as an Effective Tool for Government, Business and Society” conference. The meeting, held in collaboration with the Ukrainian Union of Industrialists and Entrepreneurs, and the Center for CSR Development, encouraged government to take a more active role in encouraging wider adoption of corporate sustainability standards.

Prior to the conference, local businesses partnered with the Ukrainian Network to draft a National CSR Strategy, which they emphasized would make Ukrainian businesses more attractive to international companies in emerging markets. Relevant ministries and government officials were asked to review and revise the draft strategy and develop a complementary work plan.

COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS

The Communication on Progress (COP), as a key requirement for all business participants of the Global Compact, serves to advance transparency and accountability, as well as drive continued performance improvement among all signatories. Local Networks work closely with companies to support their fulfillment of this obligation by providing assistance on preparation and submission, facilitating peer reviews, and leading workshops to introduce new COP development tools to members. This essential support from Local Networks helps to ensure companies remain in good standing and continue to contribute to a growing repository of responsible business practices.

Several Local Networks provided support to participants on the COP process this year: **Austria, Brazil, Bulgaria, Costa Rica, Ecuador, Egypt, France, Germany, Gulf States, Macedonia, Netherlands, Nordic Network, the Republic of Korea and Singapore.**

COMPANY COACHING

As part of its services to participants, Local Networks may offer coaching to local companies. These are individual meetings with company representatives that last approximately one hour, and provide companies with direct support on any number of issues. This can include guidance on the COP process or implementing the ten principles, how to increase engagement with the Global Compact, as well as potential partnership opportunities in the region. These meetings not only provide a benefit for companies, but also give networks a better understanding of the needs of their participants. Both **France** and **Spain** held over 50 coaching sessions throughout 2012.

SMALL- AND MEDIUM-SIZED ENTERPRISES

Small- and Medium-Sized Enterprises (SMEs) make up more than 50% of the Global Compact participant base. Local Networks are making efforts to encourage growth among SMEs and increase their capacity. To better support and promote responsible management within SMEs, the **Spanish Network** continued its work with their corporate responsibility SME initiative. Since its launch in December 2011, this initiative has engaged Local Network SMEs with conceptual training on issue areas and corporate responsibility. To date, 27 webinars have been conducted, introducing participants to reporting and COPs through management-tool software developed by the network.

HUMAN RIGHTS

HUMAN RIGHTS PRINCIPLES

Principle 1: Business should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human right; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

The first two principles of the UN Global Compact are derived from the Universal Declaration of Human Rights. Companies have increasingly come to understand the legal, moral, and commercial imperative of addressing human rights issues within their operations and activities. Businesses have a corporate responsibility to respect human rights and are urged to take additional voluntary actions to support these efforts. However, companies are often confronted with challenges in adopting these principles and struggle to fully comprehend their role and responsibilities. It is in this setting that Local Networks are working to guide companies through the complexities of integrating human rights principles into their business practices, and helping to advance their understanding of business involvement in human rights issues. Through the development of tools, events and knowledge exchanges, Local Networks are providing direction to companies in a local context. The contributions made by the following Local Networks are a few examples of what is being done at the country level to advance human rights:

Australia

A member of the Global Compact Network Australia hosted a briefing on human rights in the supply chain that covered topics such as risk management, improving working conditions and cost minimization. Many retailers and brands face challenges with their long supply chains in emerging countries; therefore the aim of the briefing was to provide participants with ways to address such concerns and challenges. Speakers discussed tools developed by the Global Social Compliance Programme (GSCP) of the Consumer Goods Forum to help affected companies monitor and manage these practices.

Germany

Global Compact Network Germany emphasized business and human rights as part of its agenda for 2012, organizing a range of events and preparing tools to improve the capacity of its participants to address this issue:

- Teaming up with TwentyFive Ltd., the Germany Network developed two separate tools in 2012. The first, produced in collaboration with the German Institute for Human Rights, was an introduction to human rights using case studies to highlight issues most relevant to business. The Organisational Capacity Assessment Instrument (OCAI) was also produced and is a tool for companies to assess and improve their capacity to manage human rights impacts. The OCAI consists of a self-assessment questionnaire with 22 questions centred around major elements of corporate responsibility to respect human rights, as outlined by the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Regardless of their size, the tool can help companies gain greater understanding of their current human rights practices, provide guidance on how to improve their policies and systems, as well as set targets that are appropriate for their industry and company size. This will allow businesses to design an overall roadmap to achieve ongoing human rights due diligence.



- A German translation of the Global Compact publication, *How to Develop a Human Rights Policy*, was produced for local companies to access and utilize. Dissemination of this tool and announcement of its translation was communicated to Local Network participants.
- The German Network held its fifth company coaching on business and human rights. Since 2008, the German Network has provided a series of coaching programmes for relevant company representatives on how to incorporate human rights into their business practices. The coaching programme is an intensive, two-day workshop that utilizes presentations, group discussions, individual reflection exercises, role-playing and case studies to help participants identify and address human rights risks. Companies have regularly adopted strategies and tools learned from these workshops, encouraging participants to develop company-wide human rights policies, integrate human rights into their sustainability management systems, redefine and reprioritize audits, and develop strategies for mitigating the human rights impacts of resource acquisition.
- A meeting of the Human Rights Peer Learning Group was held in 2012. The Peer Learning Forums are a key element of the German Network's business and human rights work. The agenda included discussions around recent developments in the field of business and human rights, progress updates from Learning Group participants, proposed work plans to better integrate business and human rights principles within the German Network in 2013, as well as presentations from NGO representatives sharing their perspectives on priorities they considered relevant for business.

India

The "India CEO Forum on Business and Human Rights" held its first working group meeting this year. Representatives from 15 major Indian corporations were in attendance to mark the start of this two-year initiative to advance human rights among Indian industry and abroad. As part of its goals, the Forum also aims to create Indian enterprises and markets that are based firmly on respect and dignity for all. The opening meeting covered three themes: (1) the intersection between human rights and business; (2) the importance of audits for human rights due diligence; and (3) steps to handle company and stakeholder disputes. Meetings of the CEO Forum will continue in 2013, building on the progress established by these initial discussions.

Japan

The Japan Network's Human Rights Working Group met four times over the course of the year. As part of its agenda, the Working Group hosted guest lectures from academia and NGOs, and established a tool that companies can use to integrate and understand human rights principles. The Japanese Network also hosted a conference on human rights and global supply chain management. Invited speakers included Global Compact representatives, academics and leading scholars presenting on business and human rights considerations.

Kenya

The Global Compact Network Kenya organized a half-day roundtable event to discuss emerging issues on human rights. The event was hosted by a participant of the Local Network and provided a space for companies to engage, discuss and increase their knowledge on the intersection of human rights and business within the Kenyan context. The event successfully brought together participants and introduced them to the Global Compact Human Rights Self Assessment Tool as well as international trends on managing human rights risks. A presentation on the implications of the Kenyan Constitution's Bill of Rights on companies was also introduced. The host company also shared their experiences along these themes, including a best practice case study that other companies could learn from and apply to their own systems and processes.

Poland

The Poland Local Network hosted eight seminars for SMEs and government agencies on employment of persons with disabilities. The series included practical workshops on recruitment procedures, methods and financial considerations to improve workplace facilities for those with disabilities, as well as information on current government regulations. The workshops stressed the benefits of staff diversity and offered interested businesses the opportunity to participate in a project that encourages employment for persons with hearing impairments. The project includes tools for job coaching and how to develop internships that lead to long-term employment.

Republic of Korea

The Global Compact Network Korea recently launched a seminar series on business and human rights, holding two successful sessions on this topic in 2012. The first seminar took place in April and was jointly convened by the Global Compact Korea Network Research Center, the National Human Rights Commission of Korea and the Business Institute for Sustainable Development. A presentation and subsequent panel discussion on "Human Rights Business Management: Trends and Implications," included experts in the field from academia, government and business. The event was an opportunity for participants and the panel to debate next steps to further drive responsibility for human rights among the Korean business community. The second seminar built upon these initial discussions and focused on the outcomes of the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum. A lecture on this topic was also held at a local university allowing students and the business community to jointly engage on the issue of business actions for sustainable development.

Russia

As a follow up to their 2011 conference, the Global Compact Network Russia produced a booklet on "Indigenous Peoples and Industrial Companies: Best Practices of Cooperation in the Russian Federation." The booklet features best practices and mechanisms for improved cooperation between indigenous communities and companies in the Russian Federation. The purpose of the booklet is to teach Russian businesses how to advance new and existing relationships that ensure human rights for indigenous populations are respected and preserved.



CHILDREN'S RIGHTS AND BUSINESS PRINCIPLES

The Children's Rights and Business Principles – a collaborative effort between the UN Global Compact, UNICEF and Save the Children – were officially launched in 2012 with a high-profile event in London and the release of a guidance publication of the same name. Several Local Networks hosted forums and events to mark the launch and promote the new publication. The Children's Principles draw upon existing standards, initiatives and good business practices to create a framework for companies to better understand their impact on children's rights. Companies are asked to implement these principles not only as a way to better support and respect children's rights, but to maximize the positive impact that companies can have on children in their countries of operation. **To support the dissemination of the publication, Local Networks in Bangladesh, Belgium, Costa Rica, Ghana, India, the Netherlands, Nigeria, the Nordic region and Serbia held events to launch the report**, inviting Save the Children and UNICEF representatives to speak and facilitate discussions with representatives from the business community, as well as those from government and civil society.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES

The Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) are a set of Principles for business offering guidance on how to empower women in the workplace, marketplace and community, emphasizing the business case for corporate action.

France

The French Network organized an event to launch the WEPs initiative in France. Local businesses were invited to learn about, and sign onto, the Principles and to engage in discussions about their potential impact.

Germany

Jointly organized with UN Women, the German Network hosted an event to launch the WEPs, including panel discussions on issues addressed by the Principles.

Iraq

The WEPs were launched in Iraq as part of a two-day conference under the theme of "Equality Means Business" hosted by the Global Compact Network Iraq, UNDP and with support from the Iraqi Government. The conference concentrated on identifying key issues impeding women's participation in the Iraqi economy, as well as sustainable and inclusive solutions available through public policies and innovative business models.

Serbia

With the support of UN Women, over 200 local businesses attended the "Women's Empowerment Principles: Equality Means Business – Serbian Companies Leading the Way" conference. The event was aimed at promoting best practices in the Serbian private sector that are in line with the WEPs.

Switzerland

The Swiss Government, Global Compact Network Switzerland and a LEAD company hosted an event to promote the WEPs in Switzerland. The event highlighted links between the Global Compact and the WEPs, as well as the benefits of the Principles for supporting companies.

Turkey

The Turkey Network held its third "Equality Means Business" forum, which included a press conference attended by all WEPs signatories. A draft version of the Turkey WEPs guidance booklet for local businesses was also introduced.

Uganda

A Women's Executive Conference was hosted by the Uganda Network, and coincided with the graduation of nine women enrolled in the Federation of Uganda Employers Female Future Programme – a nine-month executive training programme to elevate women into executive roles in Ugandan corporations.

United Kingdom

The UK Network formed a Working Group on Women's Empowerment in 2012. This group will act as a platform to define and implement programming based on the WEPs.

USA

The USA Network convened a webinar on practical steps to increase women's participation on corporate boards and executive committees. As part of the presentation, participants were given an overview of the WEPs and Global Compact initiatives to empower and invest in women.



LABOUR

LABOUR PRINCIPLES

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.

The four Labour Principles of the Global Compact are derived from the International Labour Organization (ILO) Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work. Local Networks have a critical role to play in helping companies fully implement the labour principles, particularly by raising awareness, promoting learning and dialogue among their participants, and by providing a forum for collective action. The following are examples of how networks are helping to advance this agenda:

Peru

In coordination with the ILO, the Peru Network convened a forum highlighting best practices to combat child labour in the Peruvian business sector. Twenty case studies from various companies, along with a report on the intersection of the Peruvian business sector and child labour, were presented at the event sparking conversation and debate among participants. In addition, companies engaged in a roundtable discussion on challenges faced by programmes that address issues of child labour. One company was recognized at the event for promoting sound practices around child labour. Their initiative was highlighted as an example for other companies to learn from and integrate into their own business practices.

Serbia

The Global Compact Network Serbia established a new working group on labour rights in 2012, putting in place an ambitious agenda, which included regular meetings and several events. Guest speakers were invited to attend meetings and present on topics relevant to participants, which included a speaker on Occupational Safety and Health and another on Social Dialogue and Labour Law. This provided an excellent opportunity to hear from experts in various fields about emerging issues and engage in activities aimed at improving compliance with international labour standards. Members were also invited to participate in a number of other events, such as the Conference on Women's Empowerment Principles, organized by UN Women and the Global Compact in Serbia, as well as the Conference on Youth Employment, organized by ILO and other UN agencies.



ENVIRONMENT

ENVIRONMENT PRINCIPLES

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.

The scale and complexity of environmental issues - be they related to climate change, water, food or other ecological challenges - are growing. While environmental responsibility is increasingly well understood and managed by business, the scope of the issues at hand require increased and concerted efforts by business, governments and civil society. Local Networks around the world play an important role in catalysing private sector action in support of environmental protection. The following are examples of how Local Networks are helping shape these existing and emerging efforts:

Brazil

The Global Compact Network Brazil convened more than 200 Brazilian CEOs to endorse a letter of support promoting a green and inclusive economy. The letter included ten commitments for business to contribute to sustainable development. The companies and organizations signing onto this document pledged to integrate sustainability into their core business strategies, daily operations and business relationships. They also promised to promote innovative solutions that have an impact on the efficient use of natural resources, reduction of carbon emissions and promotion of human rights and social inclusion. With such broad support, the letter serves as a strong example of how collective action can stimulate change and contribute to sustainable development.

Bulgaria

A new environmental education initiative called Ecogeneration 2012, was launched this year by the Global Compact Network Bulgaria. The initiative began as a training project by the Bulgarian Network, and trained more than 100 teachers and nearly 1,050 students across 14 schools on environmentally friendly behaviours. The training took place over 18 days and provided trained teachers with materials to conduct additional activities with the students on this topic.

China

The Local Network in China convened its annual conference with a focus on the environment and sustainable development. The conference, entitled "Leadership and Implementation – Sustainable Development of Chinese Companies in a New Context," brought together 300 attendees which included leaders from both Chinese and international companies, as well as representatives from relevant industrial associations, research institutions, UN agencies and foreign embassies. Participants exchanged best practices, discussed and analyzed trends and challenges, and

explored new strategies for businesses working towards sustainable development. The “2012 Global Compact China Best Practices” document was also released at the event, which includes 30 best practices from 20 member companies covering areas of social responsibility management, compliance, environmental protection and employees’ rights.

Ghana

The Global Compact Network Ghana teamed up with the Ghana Chamber of Mines to organize a two-day residential training seminar under the theme of “Environmental and Social Responsibility: Key to Sustainable Mining.” The seminar covered corporate sustainability guidelines for mining companies in regards to the utilization of mineral royalties and water quality management, as well as proper procedures for mine closures and new regulations that are set to impact companies in this sector. The event successfully created a space for mining companies to discuss issues and ideas with one another and move forward on the environmental agenda.

Gulf States

This year’s COP 18 Conference on Climate Change took place in Doha, Qatar and was chaired by Mr. Achim Steiner, Executive Director of the UN Environmental Programme (UNEP), and featured UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, and Ms. Christiana Figueres, the Executive Secretary of the UN Framework Convention on Climate Change. The representative from the Gulf States took an active role in discussions on behalf of the network, along with other major companies from the region.

Panama

Over the course of the year, the Global Compact Network Panama held seven sessions on the topic of “Business Strategies and Climate Change.” This series of meetings gave companies the opportunity to discuss the impacts of climate change, current environmental considerations for business, methods to integrate climate change into business systems and processes, as well as methods for properly accounting for and analyse a company’s carbon footprint. Discussions also focused on potential strategies for companies to better mitigate and adapt to climate change.

Sri Lanka

The Global Compact Network Ceylon (Sri Lanka) continued its efforts towards sustainable eco-tourism by organizing its quarterly “Sustainability Hub Seminar.” Tourism can pose a potential threat to natural resources and lead to environmental degradation. The seminar proposed new models for tourism that can help mitigate the possible negative impacts from a growing tourism industry. Panel discussions featured prominent representatives from the private sector and government agencies with experience in sustainable tourism.

Viet Nam

In order to explore the role business has in responding to climate change, the Viet Nam Network and the Viet Nam Business Council for Sustainable Development organized a half-day training workshop on “Business and Climate Change.” Noted experts in the field were invited to present and share their expertise with approximately 80 attendees. Topics included the influence of business on climate change, challenges and opportunities, and best practices businesses can apply to decrease their impact on climate change.



WATER

Indonesia

The Global Compact Network Indonesia marked World Water Day and Earth Day with events to promote improved access to clean and safe water. These events also prepared participants for discussions that would be held at the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum. For World Water Day, the Indonesia Network, in collaboration with the UN and the Ministry of Public Works, hosted a seminar entitled “Collaborative Action for Sustainable Water Management in Indonesia,” which was attended by representatives from more than 80 leading companies. Speakers called on the private sector to participate in the “Save Water” campaign and to join the Indonesia Network’s CEO Water Mandate Working Group. The event highlighted the role of business in the provision of clean and safe water, and provided recommendations for harnessing the collective efforts of the Indonesian business community to improve water quality and management.

A seminar on water disclosure was held a month later to celebrate Earth Day, during which a collective action programme called “Urban Community Through Community-Based Total Sanitation,” was launched. This programme is designed to improve the sanitation and hygiene practices of urban communities, as well as enhance disaster preparedness. The programme is set to reach 1,000 households and is being implemented in partnership with an NGO that has expertise in water, sanitation and hygiene issues.

Republic of Korea

The Global Compact Network Korea, in collaboration with the Seoul Research Centre, began its first 5W project in the Solomon Islands this year. The 5W programme was launched in 2011 to address global water challenges by installing rainwater harvesting systems, promoting village forest conservation and restoration, and reducing illiteracy rates through improved access to education. 5W projects will serve as models that can be replicated in other remote locations of Asia and Africa.

Early in the year, installation of a rainwater harvesting system was completed in one Solomon Islands community, providing potable water to the community and school. Rainwater harvesting has been found to be a successful technique in rural areas as it is a simple, low-cost technology that engages the community in its construction and maintenance, encouraging sustainability of the project. In addition to the newly developed water system, the project team implemented educational activities, including literacy classes, for members of the community. In 2013, the 5W project will continue on a remote island in the Philippines where the project is planning to construct a rainwater harvesting system and restore a mangrove forest. Additional project sites will be added as the 5W initiative continues to expand.

ANTI-CORRUPTION

ANTI-CORRUPTION PRINCIPLES

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

The Global Compact Anti-Corruption Principle is based on the UN Convention against Corruption. Corruption is recognized to be one of the world's greatest challenges, limiting sustainable development and disproportionately impacting poor and vulnerable communities. Corruption also has serious implications on the private sector, impeding economic growth, distorting competition and presenting serious legal and reputational risks. Companies are taking measures to battle corruption by putting controls and mechanisms in place to increase transparency and promote a culture of integrity and ethics. They are also sharing their experiences with each other and engaging in collective action to fight corruption. The following are a few examples of how Local Networks are contributing to the objective of the 10th Principle:

Chile

The Global Compact Network Chile held a seminar entitled "The 10th Principle of the Global Compact: Transparency in Large Companies." The event was attended by nearly 100 participants and included a presentation by the Siemens Compliance Manager for the Southern Andean region. Discussions at the meeting revolved around key ethical considerations, the importance of risk mapping to identify potential resource mismanagement, as well as case examples of successful compliance programmes and corporate governance action. Speakers stressed the importance of collective action with other stakeholders and highlighted how promoting transparent and fair business can strengthen a company's reputation.

Greece

The Global Compact Network Hellas (Greece) established a working group this year focused on transparency and governance. The working group is developing a Survival Guide for Businesses, which will cover a range of themes related to anti-corruption including codes of conduct, compliance considerations, principles and values of anti-corruption, and necessary reports and transparency measures. The guide is scheduled to be completed by May 2013, and will be made available online in Greek for local businesses.

India

Launched in 2011, the India-based Anti-Corruption Collective Action Project (CAP) aims to facilitate ongoing dialogue between the private and public sectors on implementing the 10th Principle. India marked a number of CAP achievements in 2012, including the introduction of a seminar entitled "Transparency in Ethical Business for Profitability," organized in partnership with the International Business Leaders Forum. The event, which hosted approximately 45 attendees, advocated for constant collaboration and discussion between stakeholders in government, the private sector and civil society to address corruption-related challenges. Complementing this event, regional and national-level consultations were held during the year on topics related to reducing corruption in India, specifically anti-corruption measures for procurement processes.

Israel

This year Maala, the focal point organization of the Global Compact Network Israel, was awarded a substantial grant by the Siemens Integrity Initiative – a global US\$100 million project which supports organizations and projects that fight corruption and fraud through collective action, education and training. The grant will be used over the next five years to scale up the network’s efforts to encourage companies to voluntarily adopt and strengthen standards of transparency, ethics, corporate governance and prevention of corruption.

Italy

The Italy Network’s Anti-Corruption Working Group met on a regular basis in 2012 to examine methods and tools for addressing corruption. The Working Group emphasized two objectives this year: (1) to create an information-sharing system; and (2) initiate dialogue with public authorities around anti-corruption issues.

Nigeria

As part of its contribution to the Siemens Integrity Initiative, the Nigeria Network hosted a collective action workshop with a focus on “Openness and Transparency: A Stakeholder Commitment against Corruption.” A wide range of participants attended the two-day meeting, including top business executives, government agencies, civil society and media. The workshop was an opportunity to promote dialogue among the various stakeholders using breakout sessions and small group discussions along thematic areas of interest. Nearly 130 people were in attendance, signaling a strong commitment to anti-corruption measures and an interest in sharing and following the strong examples of good corporate business practice.

Pakistan

To increase public awareness and create a movement for change, the Global Compact Network Pakistan participated along with businesses, academic institutions, NGOs, civil society and community members in the Pakistani “Say No to Corruption” walk in March 2012. The event took place in four cities around Pakistan – Karachi, Lahore, Islamabad and Peshawar – to spread the message that corruption is unacceptable and a threat to development efforts. A seminar on anti-corruption measures was held simultaneously in Karachi and participants unanimously adopted approaches to combat corruption.

Serbia

Through its Anti-Corruption Working Group, the Global Compact Network Serbia continued to work with local companies, encouraging them to sign onto the Declaration on Fighting Corruption. The Working Group adopted this Declaration in 2010 as a means to institutionalize positive anti-corruption practices and hold its participants accountable for implementing the 10th Principle.

Spain

In 2011, the Spain Network developed a tool entitled *The Practical Guide on Anti-Corruption*. The response to this publication was extremely positive, and due to demand, the network launched an online version of the guide in 2012. The online guide provides information on anti-corruption standards, identifies risks and provides specific tools for different categories of companies including SMEs, and private and public corporations.

South Africa

The South Africa Network partnered with the National Business Initiative to host a roundtable discussion on anti-corruption collective action measures in the construction sector. Over the course of the discussion, companies learned about current initiatives, explored additional collective measures to address corruption in their sector, and shared best practices from other countries and sectors that could be applied to the construction industry in South Africa. Presentations provided guidance to companies in determining what measures were most suitable for their context, and provided updates on government initiatives and regulations. Participating companies agreed that corruption has become a major issue in South Africa and that business should set positive examples in order to influence change. Participants agreed to several next steps, including pursuing partnerships with existing initiatives, expanding representation of companies in the sector, and continuing conversations and meetings on the issue moving forward.

Viet Nam

A research study to examine corruption within the Vietnamese business community was undertaken this year with support from the Integrity and Transparency in Business Initiative for Viet Nam, the Office for Business Sustainable Development, and the Viet Nam Chamber of Commerce and Industry. The Viet Nam Network presented findings from the study, including proposed recommendations, during a meeting attended by more than 100 participants.



SUPPLY CHAIN

Local Networks work closely with companies to develop more sustainable and responsible supply chain practices that effectively integrate the ten principles and address issues of human rights, environment, labour and anti-corruption. Through capacity building, provision of materials and tools, and experience sharing, Local Networks help to guide and support companies as they engage with their suppliers and embed supply chain sustainability into their existing programmes and operations.

Austria

The Global Compact Network Austria launched a working group on supply chain management, holding three meetings over the course of 2012. The inaugural meeting focused on corporate sustainability as it relates to transport and logistics. Logistics companies with expertise on this topic were invited to speak, and best practices were shared with participants. The two meetings that followed focused on supplier integration, training and evaluation of environmental standards. The Global Compact Quick Self-Assessment and Learning Tool – an online platform developed to help companies evaluate their approach to supply chain sustainability and identify areas for improvement – was also introduced. The tool enables procurement, sourcing and other managers, to quickly and anonymously gauge their company's supply chain sustainability strategy against suggested global guidance.

Italy

This year, the Italy Network's Sustainable Supply Chain Working Group focused on improving mechanisms that ensure sustainability performance of participating companies. Towards this end, the Working Group oversaw two primary activities: 1) agreement on a common definition and set of sustainability criteria that will allow members to pre-select suppliers; and 2) the creation of an online shared database that will include information on these suppliers to help companies easily choose reputable companies.

Japan

The Global Compact Network Japan launched its Supply Chain Working Group in 2010, and since that time the group has been pursuing an agenda of socially responsible procurement. For the past two years, the Working Group has organized three sub-working groups to address specific topics and issues related to supply chain sustainability. They include the Common Vision and Explanatory Meeting Working Group; the Self-Assessment Questionnaire (SAQ) Working Group; and the Audit Working Group.

Singapore

The Singapore Network organized a workshop on "Responsible Procurement and Purchasing of Paper Products in Asia." The meeting targeted companies procuring forestry and paper products in East Asia, providing them with an understanding of new regulations being implemented in the region, particularly in China and Indonesia. To encourage new membership, procurement and sustainability directors from both participant and non-participant companies were invited to the event. The workshop included presentations about the projected impact of the new regulations on Singaporean companies, including the new Chinese certification procedures for environmental sustainability, and the recently introduced Indonesian certification and assurance system requirements. Presentations also discussed steps companies can take for comprehensive procurement decisions, and how to best strengthen environmental protection in East Asia.



Turkey

During its annual meeting, the Turkey Network introduced and distributed a translated version of the Global Compact publication *Supply Chain Sustainability: A Practical Guide for Continuous Improvement*. This practical guide was developed in collaboration with Business for Social Responsibility (BSR). It features examples of corporate best practices to assist companies in developing sustainable supply chain programmes based on the Global Compact principles.

USA

Participants from government, the UN and leading US-based companies attended a symposium hosted by the Global Compact entitled “Sustainability and the Total Value Chain.” The event included roundtable and panel discussions, along with individual presentations from leading experts in the field of supply chain management. The seminar examined the environmental, economic and social impacts at all steps of the supply chain – from raw material sourcing to direct manufacturing, distribution and consumer usage.

ADVANCING UN GOALS AND ISSUES

In addition to internalizing the ten principles in business operations, Global Compact signatories are asked to undertake more outward-oriented actions by supporting broader UN goals and issues. Companies are taking actions along these lines, both individually and in partnership with other organizations. Local Networks are an ideal platform to help facilitate these partnerships and leverage the strengths and capacities of various actors for greater impact.

PARTNERSHIPS

Bangladesh

The Bangladesh Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) Centre partnered with an international non-profit to conduct a research study titled “Challenges in Sustainability and Corporate Social Responsibility: The Sugar Industry in Bangladesh.” The CSR Centre acts as a focal point for the Global Compact Network Bangladesh and functions as a hub for information, resources and advisory services on corporate sustainability. The study was commissioned by an international non-governmental organization and identifies sustainability challenges in the Bangladesh sugar industry and opportunities for further engagement.

Colombia

The Global Compact Network Colombia organized an event entitled “Transformational Partnerships,” which explored a variety of partnership models and social movements, and their ability to influence stakeholder engagement. Invited speakers included network participants, UN agencies and government representatives. Participants discussed how partnerships can leverage an organization’s core competencies, and as a result, generate transformational impact across various sectors and geographies. Through changes in policies, market structures and social norms, these partnerships have the ability to achieve both public and private objectives.

Egypt

A new course, “Egypt: Corporate Responsibility and Social Entrepreneurship,” was developed in collaboration between the Egypt Network, universities and local Egyptian organizations for American and Egyptian universities to increase capacity building efforts in the Middle East and North Africa (MENA) region. The course was introduced in three universities in the US and Egypt and was comprised of a series of lectures for post-graduate students by experts in the field, followed by a series of site visits with private and public Egyptian organizations involved with corporate sustainability or social entrepreneurship in the MENA region. The objective of the site-visits was to give students a macro-level view of the corporate sustainability landscape and the role that each sector plays in the facilitation of sustainability. Participants also met with Egyptian Local Network participants, as well civil society organizations and will write case studies based on these meetings to showcase best practices.

Israel

The Global Compact Network Israel created a joint venture between their focal point organization, Maala, and a non-profit think-tank focused on sustainable leadership. The partnership will lead the Appropriate Growth Initiative (App-Growth) project devoted to sustainable solutions for developing countries. The initiative was launched at Maala’s annual conference to increase awareness of the project and garner additional support from Local Network companies.

Kenya

The Global Compact Network Kenya held an event with leading companies in banking, manufacturing, media, telecommunications and hospitality to announce the Code of Ethics for Business in Kenya, an initiative of the Kenyan business community to promote and enhance ethical business practices and conduct. Inspired by the Global Compact's ten principles, the Code of Ethics was developed through a series of consultations between Kenyan companies and the Ethics Institute of South Africa. The Code of Ethics encourages business to play a greater role in advancing self-regulation and championing ethical conduct. Companies that sign on agree to uphold certain principles and reporting requirements, and recognize the consequences for non-compliance. A month following the launch, a training course was offered to company representatives on creating policies and structures for implementing the Code of Ethics in the workplace.

Republic of Korea

In August 2012, the Global Compact Network Korea facilitated the creation of the Development Alliance Korea, a unique public-private partnership that brings together government, corporations, universities, civil society and multinational agencies to strengthen Korean development assistance. This Alliance comes at a time when the Korean government is working to streamline its development projects. As part of this effort, they are working to encourage more collaboration between public and private institutions in order to achieve more sustainable and successful programmes.

In addition to the Development Alliance, the Korean Network supported a seminar on corporate sustainability and public-private partnerships hosted by the Korea International Cooperation Agency, and the US Agency for International Development. Over 350 attendees, representing the private sector, academic institutions and NGOs participated in the seminar, which included case studies and presentations exploring methods for increasing public-private collaboration. Speakers emphasized the effectiveness of this model in development, possible implications and challenges with this approach, and ways to ensure transparency and equity between NGOs, business and government stakeholders during the process.

Syria

The Syria Network secured a partnership with a local NGO comprised of more than 300 SMEs. The network will leverage this partnership to produce a summary paper on challenges to private sector growth in the country and how private investment can contribute to inclusive economic development. The paper will outline recommendations for government agencies on trade legislation reform, commercial regulations and public sector practices.

Ukraine

Energy companies from the Ukrainian Network partnered with UNDP on a project to assess and improve health and safety for miners in three Ukrainian cities. The selected cities have some of the worst mining-related accidents and health indicators in the country and require a concerted effort to improve standards. The first phase of the project will be an assessment of the health and safety needs of miners through surveys, community-led workshops and discussions with key stakeholders. The results of this assessment will then be incorporated into action plans for each mining community. The second phase will involve implementing these action plans and initiating activities to alleviate the most pressing needs.



EDUCATION

Argentina

The Global Compact Network Argentina, in partnership with UNDP, launched the seventh edition of the “Global Compact Course on Corporate Social Responsibility and Sustainability.” This two-month course enrolls managers from local companies, leaders from social and environmental organizations, government officials, teachers, researchers and university students. The course aims to increase understanding and inspire broader implementation of the Global Compact principles, and to foster reflection and discussion that will increase engagement in corporate sustainability activities. Participants meet on a weekly basis over a two-month period, concentrating on a new issue area each week. Faculty members come from a range of organizations and institutions, giving participants a unique opportunity to engage with experts from a diverse range of backgrounds.

Australia

The representative of the Global Compact Network Australia participated in the fourth event of the Macquarie Graduate School of Management's (MGSM) Leadership Series. MGSM is a signatory of the Principles for Responsible Management Education (PRME). PRME is a growing initiative in the Global Compact that seeks to embed corporate responsibility and sustainability into the mainstream of business-related education by adapting curricula, research, teaching methodologies and institutional strategies. MGSM organizes these events in cooperation with the Youth Business Forum in order to foster understanding of corporate responsibility among management students. This particular seminar focused on the role of business in peace building through wealth and job creation.

Pakistan

The Pakistan Network oversaw a conference on responsible business education, co-organized with the PIQC Institute of Quality and the Employers' Federation of Pakistan. The Secretary of the Pakistan Network took the opportunity to launch the PRME principles and Rio Declaration guidelines, calling upon business and academic institutions to commit to advancing the principles of both PRME and the Global Compact. Attendees, which included leading business and academic professionals, reviewed quality standards for all levels of the Pakistani educational system. The group identified gaps and offered recommendations to better address globalization and inclusive economies.

POST-2015 DEVELOPMENT AGENDA

Republic of Korea

The Global Compact Network Korea, together with UNDP, the UN Economic and Social Commission for Asia Pacific, and Korea University, co-hosted three days of debates and consultations on the "Northeast Asian Youth Vision for Post-2015." The event was attended by a diverse group of fifty-one young people from Korea, China, Japan and Mongolia representing a broad range of demographics including ethnic minorities, refugees, orphans, rural youth, migrant workers, persons with disabilities and graduate students from major universities. As a result of discussions, the group adopted a declaration on future global development entitled "The World We Want: A North-East Asian Youth Vision." Diminishing job opportunities, rising inequalities, climate change, gender inequality, and peace and security were key priorities addressed in the declaration agenda, as was universal access to quality education. The declaration was prepared as formal input for the UN Secretary-General's High-Level Panel on the Post-2015 Development Agenda. Youth participants noted that the meeting provided a unique opportunity to influence policy and pledged to continue discussions on these issues once they returned to their respective countries.

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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.

