



United Nations Global Compact

Food and Agriculture Business Principles

(Formerly known as 'Sustainable Agriculture Business Principles')

Draft for consultation

*** This document is a working document and provides the basis for the second (final) round of stakeholder consultation from January to March 2014.

January 2014
UN Global Compact

Introduction

The UN Global Compact (UNGC) is facilitating the development of voluntary Food and Agriculture Business Principles (FAB Principles) for companies and the United Nations (UN) to realize the sustainable development goals articulated in the Rio+20 outcome document *The Future We Want*. The FAB Principles aim to offer a framework for principle-based partnerships for companies and the UN and its agencies to effectively work together in pursuit of common outcomes for sustainable agriculture and food security.

The *White Paper* collating information and views from three meetings convened by the UNGC between January and May 2013, served as the basis for stakeholder consultation conducted through in-person meetings and an online survey between September and November 2013. The outcomes of this first round of stakeholder consultation, synthesized in the *Moving towards Sustainable Agriculture Business Principles* report, have informed the development of the present draft of the FAB Principles principles.

The second (final) round of stakeholder consultation will be conducted through in-person meetings and an online survey and will run from January to end of March 2014. The present draft of the FAB Principles serves as the basis for stakeholder feedback during this final consultation round.

The main conclusion of the first round of stakeholder consultation is that there is general support for the frames articulated in the White Paper.

The draft FAB Principles have been developed using stakeholder feedback received during the first round of consultation. This second (final) round of consultations aims to validate the outcomes of the first round of consultation.

Important information about the FAB Principles:

- The FAB Principles are numbered only for convenience. There is **no hierarchy** in the FAB Principles.
- Each principle is equally important. The FAB Principles should be **read as a whole**, single set. The FAB Principles acknowledge that **trade-offs** may be required between them depending on context and circumstance.
- The FAB Principles are designed as a **reference framework** for use by individual businesses and in partnerships.
- Upon conclusion of the second round of stakeholder consultation (March 2014), the FAB Principles will be finalized by the UNGC and companies will be invited to **commit to report** against them.
- The FAB Principles are intended to **complement existing multi-stakeholder initiatives** aimed at advancing sustainability in the food and agriculture space.

Draft UNGC Food & Agriculture Business Principles (FAB Principles)

The draft FAB Principles have been developed based on the stakeholder feedback received between September and November 2013. They have been listed below for validation in the second (final) round of stakeholder consultation and serve as basis for stakeholder feedback between January and March 2014.

1. Aim for Food Security, Health and Nutrition

Businesses should build, support and operate agriculture systems that provide enough food and proper nutrition for every person on the planet.

2. Be Environmentally Responsible

Businesses should build, support and operate agriculture systems that deliver sustainable intensification to meet global needs, while ensuring environmental protection, restoration and enhancement and improved resource efficiency.

3. Ensure Economic Viability and Share Value

Businesses should ensure that agriculture systems are economically viable and share value across the entire value chain from farmers to consumers.

4. Respect Human Rights, Create Decent Work and Help Rural Communities to Thrive

Businesses should improve the lives of workers and farmers, respect the rights of all people, and provide equal opportunities that result in communities that are attractive to work, live and invest in.

5. Encourage Good Governance and Accountability

Businesses should avoid corruption, respect the law, recognize natural resource and land rights and use and be transparent regarding their activities.

6. Promote Access and Transfer of Knowledge, Skills and Technology

Businesses should promote access to information, knowledge and skills, adopt effective approaches and invest in new technologies for better agricultural systems.

Food & Agriculture Business Principles with CFS Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment

Draft UNGC FAB Principles Principles	Draft CFS-PRAI (Zero draft)
<p>1. Aim for Food Security, Health and Nutrition Businesses should build, support and operate agriculture systems that provide enough food and proper nutrition for every person on the planet.</p> <p>2. Be Environmentally Responsible Businesses should build, support and operate agriculture systems that deliver sustainable intensification to meet global needs, while ensuring environmental protection, restoration and enhancement and improved resource efficiency.</p> <p>3. Ensure Economic Viability and Share Value Businesses should ensure that agriculture systems are economically viable and share value across the entire value chain from farmers to consumers.</p> <p>4. Respect Human Rights, Create Decent Work and Help Rural Communities to Thrive Businesses should improve the lives of workers and farmers, respect the rights of all people, and provide equal opportunities that result in communities that are attractive to work, live and invest in.</p> <p>5. Encourage Good Governance and Accountability Businesses should avoid corruption, respect the law, recognize natural resource and land rights and use and be transparent regarding their activities.</p> <p>6. Promote Access and Transfer of Knowledge, Skills and Technology Businesses should promote access to information, knowledge and skills, adopt effective approaches and invest in new technologies for better agricultural systems.</p>	<p>1. Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems: enhance people's food security and nutrition, and contribute to the progressive realization of the right to adequate food in the context of national food security.</p> <p>2. Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems: generate positive socio-economic impacts for all, women and men; respect international core labour standards as well as, when applicable, obligations related to standards of the International Labour Organization (ILO); and apply, as appropriate, the voluntary guidelines on the responsible governance of tenure of land fisheries and forests in the context of national food security (VGGT).</p> <p>3. Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems: use, develop and regenerate natural resources sustainably; and contribute to climate change mitigation and adaptation.</p> <p>4. Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems: respect cultural heritage and landscapes and traditional knowledge consistent with international agreements; and are considered legitimate by local and other relevant stakeholders.</p> <p>5. Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems are supported by policies, laws and regulations which: are consistent with each other; and address all aspects of responsible investments as described in this document.</p> <p>6. Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems are: supported by good governance, and implemented with meaningful consultation and participation of affected communities and free, prior and informed consent of indigenous peoples.</p> <p>7. Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems are strengthened by: non-discriminatory access to justice grievance mechanisms, and fair, effective and timely mediation, administrative or judicial remedies.</p> <p>8. Responsible investments in agriculture and food systems are based on independent, transparent and participatory assessment of their potential impacts on food security and nutrition, societies, economies, tenure rights, environments and culture before, during and after each investment, with mechanisms for regular review. All actors involved in investments in agriculture and food systems are accountable for their decisions, actions and the impacts thereof.</p>