



UNITED NATIONS

PRIVATE SECTOR FORUM 2018

24 September | UN Headquarters, New York



Commitments to Action

Constructive multi-stakeholder dialogue and collaboration between Governments, the private sector and civil society is a pre-requisite for the types of comprehensive solutions required to build the foundation for achieving and sustaining peace and attaining the Sustainable Development Goals. Since 2008, the UN Private Sector Forum has provided an annual opportunity for businesses to make commitments to contribute to the global sustainability agenda.

As a core component of this year's event, business participants of the *2018 UN Private Sector Forum: Building and Investing in Peace for All*, are requested to join and commit to at least one of a selection of multi-stakeholder initiatives that are tackling some of the most pressing challenges of our time related to peace.

I. ACTION PLATFORM FOR PEACE, JUSTICE AND STRONG INSTITUTIONS

Background

Peace, justice and strong institutions are core to sustainable business — they are the foundation, not only for business responsibilities, but also business success. However, it can be difficult to understand concretely how these concepts relate to a business' strategies, operations and relationships. Consistent with the spirit of the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the Global Goals — particularly Goal 16 — the *Action Platform for Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions* aims to provide global business standards in understanding, implementing and reporting on businesses' engagement.

Why Participate?

The Action Platform aims to provide a forum for businesses to engage with the UN, Governments, civil society and investors in meaningful public policy dialogue that results in concrete actions towards improving accountability, integrity and transparency within businesses and the countries in which they operate. These efforts serve as a complement to — not substitute for — Government action. Companies joining the Action Platform will support the development of a global framework which seeks to provide businesses guidance on understanding, implementing and reporting on Goal 16 through a bifurcated lens of corporate governance and global governance, and highlight the symbiotic relationship between businesses and Governments to advance peace, justice and strong institutions. It will also seek to engage a broader audience within the business and investor community to raise awareness on the importance of business performance in these areas.

What Does the Commitment Involve?

Businesses that join the Action Platform will commit to:

- Supporting the development of the "understand, implement, report" framework
- Identifying and taking concrete action, internally and externally, including taking bold leadership on emerging themes
- Measuring impact through qualitative and quantitative key performance indicators

What are the Engagement Opportunities?

Businesses that join the Action Platform may engage in:

- Shaping the objectives, outputs and outcomes of the Action Platform over the next 2-3 years
- Providing input to the development of the framework
- Participating in various workshops at the local level to inform, adopt and disseminate the framework
- Taking bold leadership on emerging themes through such activities including roundtables/webinars, executive briefings and calls to action to promote policy dialogue towards concrete action



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Website: Website will launch in September 2018

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II. BUSINESS FOR PEACE (B4P)

Background

Business for Peace (B4P) is a leadership platform designed to catalyze actions for peace by assisting companies in implementing responsible business practices and conflict-sensitive business aligned with the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact in conflict-affected and high-risk areas. Already, well over [100 business leaders](#) from all regions of the world have joined *B4P*. Recognizing that sources of instability vary according to the local context, and that companies have different contributions that advance peace within them, *B4P* has adopted a locally-driven approach in partnership with Global Compact Local Networks in Brazil, Canada, Colombia, Egypt, Germany, India, Indonesia, Iraq, Israel, Mexico, Nigeria, Pakistan, Poland, the Republic of Korea, Sri Lanka, Sudan, Turkey, Uganda, Ukraine, United Arab Emirates and United Kingdom to play a key role in catalyzing action.

Why Participate?

UN Global Compact participating companies are expected to respect and support the Ten Principles wherever they do business. However, for companies of all sizes and sectors, "high-risk", "conflict-affected" and "post-conflict" areas present a special challenge. By joining Business for Peace, companies will be able to:

- Better identify and manage business risks and opportunities while reducing operational costs
- Engage in public-private dialogue to establish local priorities and implement projects
- Align business strategies and operations with good practice from across the globe
- Share best and emerging practices and learn from the experiences of peers
- Demonstrate leadership and receive recognition for advancing practical solutions

What Does the Commitment Involve?

Companies and Global Compact Local Networks can join *B4P* by signing the [Statement of Support](#). Civil society organizations, investors, academics, Governments and other stakeholders are also invited to support the platform.

Any company committed to advancing peace — from large multinationals with operations and supply chains spanning the globe to small and medium-sized enterprises operating in one country — can join *B4P*. To join, a senior-level executive must sign the Statement of Support, agreeing to take action to advance peace in their workplace and local communities by:

- Paying heightened attention to of the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact in conflict-affected and high-risk areas
- Taking action to advance peace, either individually or in collaboration with others
- Annually communicating on progress

Website: <https://www.unglobalcompact.org/take-action/action/peace>

Contact: Leimer Tejeda (Senior Manager, Peace & Humanitarian Affairs, UN Global Compact):
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III. THE CONNECTING BUSINESS INITIATIVE (CBI)

Background

The *Connecting Business initiative (CBI)* — launched at the World Humanitarian Summit (WHS) in May 2016 — seeks to transform the way the private sector engages before, during and after crises. In addition to taking forward the WHS outcomes, *CBI* also contributes to the 2030 Agenda, the Sendai Framework for Disaster Risk



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Reduction and the Sustaining Peace Agenda. **By supporting private sector networks around the world** (currently in Côte d'Ivoire, Fiji, Haiti, Kenya, Madagascar, Mexico, Myanmar, Nigeria, the Pacific, the Philippines, Sri Lanka, Turkey and Vanuatu) with a combined membership of over 500 companies, ***CBI* aims to increase the scale and effectiveness of the business response in a coordinated manner, create more resilient communities, increase local capacity and alleviate human suffering.** The initiative is operated by a Secretariat (jointly managed by OCHA and UNDP) and governed by a multi-stakeholder Executive Committee (currently consisting of the Boston Consulting Group, the Conrad N. Hilton Foundation, the Government of Belgium, the International Federation of Red Cross, the UPS Foundation and the UN Global Compact).

Why Participate?

With the scale of humanitarian needs fast outpacing the ability of traditional actors to respond, local communities, companies and private sector networks can play a pivotal role in supporting disaster risk reduction, emergency preparedness, response and recovery. *CBI* provides an entry point and easy navigation for the private sector to collectively contribute to national, regional and international disaster management mechanisms. By joining *CBI*, companies take part in coordinated and collaborative engagement to help:

- Provide a stronger, collective voice for companies and a seat at the table to connect the private sector to disaster management coordination structures
- Provide access to the most up-to-date information about emergencies, needs and ongoing response efforts
- Reduce the risk of duplication of effort or gaps in coverage
- Leverage other partners resources, and aggregate and scale up individual company contributions
- Encourage the use of local assets and resources instead of imported aid, increasing cost-efficiency and a path to fast-track economic recovery
- Help improve the humanitarian response time and stabilize markets
- Build resilience and reinforce business continuity to strengthen operations

What Does the Commitment Involve?

Companies working with *CBI* can play a critical role in ensuring that individuals and communities are resilient and able to recover from shocks. They can provide financial and in-kind contributions (skills, expertise, experience, technology, connections) to strengthen emergency preparedness, response and recovery in local markets and communities worldwide. Companies can also provide commercial solutions (products and services), support advocacy efforts and strengthen the resilience of their value chains.

What are the Engagement Opportunities?

- Join a *CBI* Member Network or support the expansion of *CBI* into new countries
- Contribute to the development of new *CBI* workstreams on complex emergencies, impact measurement and/or innovations
- Become a global Resource Partner

Website: <https://www.connectingbusiness.org/>

Contact: Tiina Mylly (*CBI* Secretariat): tiina.mylly@undp.org or Karen Smith (OCHA): smith3@un.org

IV. GENERATION UNLIMITED

Background

Initiated by UNICEF, the *Generation Unlimited* is a multi-stakeholder partnership aiming to find new ways to ensure that every young person is in school, learning, training or employment by 2030 — with a focus on those in the greatest danger of being left behind, including girls, the poorest, those with disabilities, young people on the move and those affected by conflict and natural disasters.

Why Participate?



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The second decade of life is a time of tremendous opportunity — and for far too many adolescents it is also a time of great risk and increasing challenges. Poverty, conflict and disadvantage continue to limit the lives of millions of adolescents. Today, more than 60 per cent of the world's 1.2 billion adolescents live in low- and low-middle income countries. Many do not enter, transition to or complete secondary education and are not acquiring the skills they need to secure jobs — and thus, brighter futures for themselves and their families.

Maximizing the potential of the UN system, Governments, civil society organizations, the private sector and, most importantly, young people — and in line with the Global Goals and the UN Youth Strategy — UNICEF and a group of partners are developing a new global partnership dedicated to expanding opportunity for young people from ages 10 to 24. By joining the *Generation Unlimited*, companies will be part of a partnership that, with a collective effort, will co-create, resource and scale up solutions in closely interlinked thematic areas including: secondary-age education, skills for learning, employability and decent work, and empowerment with a focus on girls.

What Does the Commitment Involve?

The business model is built on five strands of co-creation: solutions, partnership, participation of young people, brokerage and support, and results at scale. In committing to the *Generation Unlimited*, companies will be engaged in bringing together public and private partners and young people to identify and scale effective and innovative solutions that address critical issues for the world's most disadvantaged, including: secondary-age education, skills for learning, employability and decent work and empowerment of young people, particularly girls. Political, financial and technical support will be brokered and mobilized, and a system will be put in place with support from partners.

Website: Website will launch in September 2018

Contact: Dale Rutstein (Chief, Communications, UNICEF): drutstein@unicef.org

V. INNOVATION IN PARTNERSHIPS: MAKING A BUSINESS CASE FOR PEACE

Background

There is an urgency to engage the private sector in countries under stress, including in conflict-affected situations. In order to leave no one behind, opportunities need to be developed in those countries that need it the most yet which are often perceived as too risky. *Innovation in Partnerships: Making a Business Case for Peace* is providing a space for the start of meaningful partnerships by creating an on-going platform where the private sector, Governments, UN Agencies and other stakeholders can engage with countries in conflict-affected situations.

Why Participate?

By joining *Innovation in Partnerships*, companies can join an iterative workshop series to design strategies and facilitate partnerships between the private sector, countries, UN entities and civil society to advance new and existing peace initiatives aimed at sustaining peace and achieving the 2030 Agenda. These unique workshops will lay the groundwork for forming mutually beneficial partnerships between Member States, the private sector, the UN and civil society organizations and provide a platform for catalyzing action, propelling partnerships from "what we want to do" to "how we are going to do it". The workshops will build mutual understanding as well as present a non-threatening arena to discuss possibilities, challenges, opportunities and how to move forward these types of partnerships.

Private sector companies and civil society organizations aligned with the 2030 Agenda — from all sectors — are welcome to participate. To maximize impact, the workshops are limited to 30 participants who are each vetted for specific potential partnerships, including:

- Facilitating knowledge transfer among Governments, the private sector and civil society
- Providing a platform for engagement between Governments, the private sector and civil society to catalyze partnerships



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- Providing support to follow the process of forming the new partnerships to advance from words to action
- Identifying public policy obstacles and key factors needed to ensure an enabling environment
- In the long-term: tracking, measuring and reporting SDG progress from these emerging partnerships by following up on the activities/partnerships that continue after the workshop

What Does the Commitment Involve?

This is an open invitation to join the *Innovation in Partnerships* platform. The initiative is looking to identify private sector companies and civil society organizations that are interested in developing partnerships in countries with fragile contexts or conflict-affected countries to promote peace and sustainable development. In particular, *Innovation in Partnerships* is looking for partners that are interested in creating value at the local level to increase the quality of life of people and communities. The initiative will identify the country representative and civil society or UN Agency that will attend the workshops with your company to help discuss potential partnerships. There is no formal agreement established before or during the event, however the aim of the initiative is to look at the long-term opportunities to create partnerships that can be monitored and measured to sustain peace and achieve the 2030 Agenda.

Contact: Ms. Maureen Connolly (One Earth Future): mconnolly@oneearthfuture.org

VI. SUPPORT FOR THE UNIVERSAL DECLARATION ON HUMAN RIGHTS (UDHR)

Background

Born out of two World Wars, the Universal Declaration of Human Rights (UDHR) is just as powerfully relevant today as it was 70 years ago at the time of its adoption. The Declaration sets out universal values and a common standard of achievement for all peoples and all nations. It establishes the equal dignity and worth of every person. To highlight what this milestone document means for people in their everyday lives, the UN Human Rights Office (OHCHR) has launched a campaign that will culminate in the actual anniversary of the UDHR on 10 December 2018.

Why Participate?

Human rights are everybody's business. Without respect for human rights, economic and political stability are threatened and diminished. At times, this has devastating effects on the environment in which companies operate. Human rights offer guidance for the implementation of the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development. Better protection and enhanced respect for human rights lead to more stability, which in turn fosters prosperity. Over the coming years, we will be working towards the realization of the Global Goals but the UN and civil society cannot do it alone. **The business sector is a powerful force for their achievement so let's stand up for rights together and create an enabling environment for development that leaves no one behind.**

What Does the Commitment Involve?

As set out in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, a high-level business commitment to respect human rights is the first step to take. Companies are encouraged to express their commitment to meet their human rights responsibilities, including in conflict-affected and fragile contexts, through a public statement of policy. Standing up for human rights calls for a number of concrete steps, including with suppliers and sub-contractors, customers and workers. It involves learning about international standards, embedding these into the company's policy and day-to-day operations, conducting human rights due diligence to prevent, mitigate and account for adverse human rights impacts, and raising your voice to advocate respect for human rights. During the UN Private Sector Forum, business leaders are also encouraged to stand up for rights by reaffirming their commitment to the values of the UDHR and by making one or several of the practical engagements suggested below.

What are the Engagement Opportunities?



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- On the occasion of the 70th anniversary of the Universal Declaration of human rights, commit to engage your workforce, suppliers and or customers to reflect on and promote the principles of the Universal Declaration;
- Make a public commitment to fully embed the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in your business policies and operations;
- Express public support for the Standards of Conduct for Business on Tackling Discrimination against LGBTI people.

Website: www.standup4humanrights.org

Contact: Laurent Sauveur (Chief of External Outreach): lsauveur@ohchr.org

VII. WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES (WEPs)

Background

Recognizing gender equality as a critical predictor of stability, economic growth and security, the UN Global Compact and UN Women launched the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) in 2010 to guide business everywhere on empowering women in the workplace, marketplace and community.

Why Participate?

The impact of violent crime and conflict on society and human capital is often long-lasting and seldom gender neutral. Any investments, interventions and infrastructure, including in fragile conflict and high-risk areas, must therefore be designed with a view to addressing the needs of women and girls.

However, ensuring the inclusion of women's talents, skills, experience and energies requires intentional actions and deliberate policies. The seven WEPs offer a holistic framework based on real-life practices that business can use in any operational context to advance gender equality and women's empowerment around the world. As well as being a useful guide for business, the Principles seek to inform other stakeholders, including Governments, in their engagement with business.

In addition, beyond positive impacts for the business' direct operations, implementing the WEPs also contributes to a range of targets under the Global Goals, including Goal 16 (Peace, Justice and Strong Institutions). To date, over 1,900 CEOs from around the world have signed the CEO Statement of Support and have committed to continuous leadership and improvement on gender equality and women's empowerment.

What Does the Commitment Involve?

Business can show support for the WEPs by signing the CEO Statement of Support and leading by example on advancing gender equality and women's empowerment, particularly in fragile conflict and high risk areas.

What are the Engagement Opportunities?

- Sign the CEO Statement of Support and join a community of business leaders working together to drive gender equality and the Global Goals
- Use the WEPs Gender Gap Analysis Tool to take a free, user-friendly and confidential self-assessment of your corporate performance on women's empowerment and gender equality, and gain access to thematic resources and good practices to guide you on next steps
- Engage and collaborate with over 70 Global Compact Local Networks and UN Women country offices around the world to drive programming on the WEPs and gender equality
- Join and participate in WEPs events organized globally to promote women's empowerment and gender equality, including the Annual WEPs Forum held during the regular session of the Commission on Status of Women at the UN in New York every year

Website: <http://weprinciples.org/>

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VIII. 20-20-20

Background

Insurance is a critical and important tool for development, not only by providing the peace of mind of having lives, livelihoods, assets and products protected, but also because it frees people to be more entrepreneurial knowing they have a safety net. Micro-insurance is particularly critical for those who are the poorest and most vulnerable. The 20-20-20 is a major initiative that focuses on partnership between industry and development actors to deliver the necessary transformation of lives through micro-insurance:

- **Development through Insurance:** 20-20-20 is a groundbreaking new initiative that focuses on the nexus of development and resilience through inclusive insurance that targets beneficiaries at the community level.
- **Ambition:** 20-20-20 is especially designed to assist in delivering on the 100 million benefitting from climate risk insurance by 2020, a G20 target.
- **Targeting Vulnerability:** The initiative will focus on beneficiaries defined as vulnerable and poor, with willingness and ability to pay for market-based insurance products structured appropriately for their financial capacity.
- **From Environment to Programming:** The initiative will cover scoping and feasibility, to market assessments and creating enabling environments, implementing baseline and monitoring frameworks, measuring and reporting the impact.
- **Graduation:** A mechanism will be built to support capacity building (or other knowledge transfer), to enable countries or communities at the brink of eligibility to be included in the future.
- **The Vision:** Communities, families and small businesses can take measured risks to increase their wellbeing, while they are protected against the most adverse of events.

Why Participate?

In joining 20-20-20, companies will have the opportunity to increase the outreach of insurance and micro-insurance as a way of improving the resilience of poor people, helping ensure that any gains towards poverty reduction are not reversed. A holistic approach is clearly required, one where the use of advocacy and technology is increasingly critical. Companies will support 20-20-20 in reaching its objectives of achieving tangible progress towards the Global Goals, contributing to InsuResilience's 100 million beneficiaries and enabling financially sustainable models for the long-term. By doing so, we are building an insurable population, and in the process, seeking to empower, educate, enable, and engage those in climate affected areas.

What Does the Commitment Involve?

There are various opportunities to commit, based on the stages mentioned below. Assessing all the risks a community is facing and identifying measures that can build resilience, one of which may be insurance, requires in-depth engagement. This is a medium to long-term approach and will evolve over time as new risks materialize, and new products and innovations come onto the market. Taking the learnings from previous approaches, the partners in this initiative can build on the evidence to support inclusive and sustainable insurance markets that promote the resilience of vulnerable individuals. A commitment to 20-20-20 involves giving time, expertise and both financial and non-financial resources depending on your profile. Recognizing that significant support is required for effective programming to support advocacy, capacity, demand generation and risk mitigation during products' rollout to ensure the highest likelihood of successful uptake and coverage, 20-20-20 is looking to benefit from the insurance community's learnings from previous models and approaches in order to innovate and, most importantly, not repeat mistakes.

What are the Engagement Opportunities?

20-20-20 is actively looking for implementation partners, as well as investors and donors to support the staging of work namely:

1. Scoping and feasibility of the initiative to a full proposal stage
2. Country diagnosis and market assessment of the micro-insurance environment in 20 countries



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3. Creating an enabling environment that can promote and advocate for legislative change in 20 countries and, where necessary, a supportive regulatory framework based on the International Association of Insurance Supervisors MICO best practice guideline
4. Baseline and monitoring framework built ex-ante, beginning with longitudinal surveys
5. Implementation of scalable micro-insurance projects to reach the 100 million people target in 20 countries; this will further build on the development of a variety of business models in addition to the mutual model
6. Building a graduation mechanism to help countries reach a level for being able to get support from the initiative's programming

Website: Read more on the Insurance for Development Forum's Micro-insurance Working Group where this initiative was born: <https://www.icmif.org/news/registration-opens-first-idf-microinsurance-working-group-seminar-%E2%80%93-16-october-2017-london-uk>

Contact: Tenke Andrea Zoltani (UNDP): tenke.andrea.zoltani@undp.org (please email for the full concept note and specific opportunities)