



UN Global Compact Platform for Swiss Companies

Fact Sheet

Background

Swiss enterprises active in transitioning or developing countries are increasingly operating in contexts of political instability or environmental change. Inefficient governments, corruption, human rights abuses or shortage of natural resources are only some of the new challenges that arise and company stakeholders expect that these issues be addressed in a timely and responsible manner. In order to maintain their competitiveness, companies of all sizes and in all industries increasingly invest in the identification and perception of their corporate responsibility (CR). The UN Global Compact (UNGC) is currently the most integrative voluntary initiative for businesses to contribute to a more sustainable and equal global economy (www.unglobalcompact.org).¹

Objective

The *UNGC Platform for Swiss Companies* aims at strengthening corporate responsibility in the areas arising from the ten principles of the UN Global Compact. It wants to foster exchange and provide useful and praxis-oriented knowledge in order to help enterprises identify factors of success and potential risks when integrating CR-principles into their business practice.

Target group

The *UNGC Platform for Swiss Companies* is designed for Swiss companies, especially small and medium-sized enterprises, with business activities in transitioning or developing countries.

Offer

The *UNGC Platform for Swiss Companies* organises three to four seminars per year on important topics of corporate responsibility. Business representatives and experts present focussed case studies und lessons learned that are then discussed by all participants. To foster open exchange, the discussions are confidential and the number of participants is limited. The key aspects of the seminars are summarised in a short report and distributed among participants.

In the years 2007/2008 the following seminars took place:

- „Fighting Corruption in SMEs: Challenges, Solutions and Good Practice“
- „Codes of Conduct: How to Turn Mere Provisions into Responsible Corporate Practice “
- „Swiss SMEs in China: How to Implement the Human Rights Agenda“
- „South Africa’s Black Economic Empowerment: Administrative Burden or Investment in Equal Prosperity?“

Contact

Pascal Lüthi and Nils Rosemann are looking forward to your questions and suggestions:

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¹ The UNGC has currently more signatories than any other CR initiative in the world and its comprehensive principles cover the areas of human rights, labour norms, environmental protection and anti-corruption.