

New UN Working Group project: Business and human rights – towards a decade of global implementation

As countries globally confront the challenges of the Covid-19 crisis and its economic and social impacts, the <u>UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights</u> (a group of five independent experts, of balanced geographical representation) is initiating a new project starting on July 1, which aims to chart a course for a decade of action on business and human rights.

The starting point for the project is the forthcoming 10th anniversary in June 2021 of the <u>Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the UN</u> <u>"Protect, Respect and Remedy" Framework</u>, the global standard for governments and businesses for preventing and addressing business-related human rights abuses.

This effort, informed by wide-ranging stakeholder consultations, will take stock of achievements to date, and assess existing gaps and challenges. Most importantly, it will develop an ambitious vision and roadmap for implementing the Guiding Principles more widely and more broadly in the next ten years – and beyond – to drive better government and business practice based on respect for human rights, with tangible results for affected individuals and communities.

Supported by the German Government, including in the framework of its 2020 presidency of the Council of the European Union, among other partners, the project will bring together a range of actors – governments, business, civil society, UN and others to help to shape transformational change in all regions of the world. The official launch event (virtual) will take place on 7 July.

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