SAVE THE DATE!

Project launch: Business and human rights – towards a decade of global implementation

Virtual launch event - 7 July 2020 from 15:00-18:00 CEST

Convened by the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights in cooperation with the German Federal Foreign Office (co-host)

As countries globally confront the challenges of the COVID-19 crisis and its economic, social and human impacts, the UN Working Group on Business and Human Rights is launching a new project to chart a course for a decade of action on business and human rights. The starting point is the forthcoming 10th anniversary in June 2021 of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the UN “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework (UNGPs), the global standard for governments and businesses for preventing and addressing business-related human rights abuses.

This global 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 UNGPs (“UNGPs10+”) 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, also within the framework of its 2020 Presidency of the Council of the European Union, as well as by other partners, the project and the launch event will bring together a range of actors – governments, business, civil society, UN and others – to help shape transformational change in all regions of the world.

Aims and objectives of the 7 July launch

• Serve as the first presentation of the year-long project “UNGPs10+”.
• Offer a virtual global multi-stakeholder platform to present and discuss cornerstones, motivation and expectations for the roadmap and the consultation process, bringing together key agents, partners and stakeholders.
• Touch on the importance of the UNGPs and their potential to improve responses to the ongoing COVID-19 crisis as well as longer-term threats to sustainable development, including the climate emergency.

Speakers

• Speakers include German Minister for Foreign Affairs Heiko Maas, UN High Commissioner for Human Rights Michelle Bachelet and former Special Representative of the Secretary-General on Business and Human Rights John Ruggie, alongside UN Working Group Chair Anita Ramasastry and Vice Chair Dante Pesce. A range of speakers from government, business and civil society will reflect on the project and the road ahead, including Mthunzi Mdwaba (International Organisation of Employers) and Sharan Burrow (International Trade Union Confederation).

Information on access to the event and the dedicated event website will be distributed soon.

Project website: www.ohchr.org/UNGPsBizHRsnext10 - Follow: @WGBizHRs
Email: wg-business@ohchr.org
Social media: #UNGPs@10 #UNGPstowards2030 #bizhumanrights