

Sources of further information to prepare for the Forum

Business and human rights is an evolving field, with an ever-increasing number of international standards, mechanisms, tools and guidance. To assist participants with their preparation for the 2013 Forum, and to enhance their engagement on business and human rights in the future, there are various initiatives related to the United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other complementary initiatives supporting the business and human rights agenda, which participants may wish to consult. It should be noted that this is a non-exhaustive list of tools and guidance documents and there are myriad other initiatives, projects and activities, as well as innovative research that may surface in the discussions during the Forum.

The inclusion of any tool or guidance in this annex does not constitute an endorsement by the United Nations or the Working Group. It is provided purely to support participants in their preparations for the annual Forum and to contribute to enhancing the capacity of Forum participants on business and human rights.

Participants may wish to:

Human Rights Council and related mechanisms

1. Read United Nations Human Rights Council resolution 17/4 endorsing the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework, and creating the United Nations Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises and the annual United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights.

<http://daccess-dds-ny.un.org/doc/RESOLUTION/GEN/G11/144/71/PDF/G1114471.pdf?OpenElement>

2. Examine the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights: Implementing the United Nations “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework, available in the six official languages of the United Nations.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/PublicationsResources/Pages/ReferenceMaterial.aspx>

3. See additional reports providing background to the development of the United Nations Guiding Principles by the Special Representative of the United Nations Secretary-General on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises and Working Group reports on the uptake of the Principles.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Business/Pages/Reports.aspx>

4. Read about the mandate, activities and work of the United Nations Working Group on the issue of human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises, consisting of five independent experts.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Business/Pages/WGHRandtransnationalcorporationsandotherbusiness.aspx>

5. Watch the webcasts of sessions and read the official documents from the 2012 Forum.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Business/Forum/Pages/2012ForumonBusinessandHumanRights.aspx>

United Nations Human Rights office

6. See the United Nations Human Rights office link to tools on business and human rights, including the publication containing the text of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and “The Corporate Responsibility to Respect Human Rights: An Interpretive Guide,” available in the six official languages of the United Nations.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/Issues/Business/Pages/Tools.aspx>

7. Explore the United Nations Human Rights office *Handbook for Civil Society* and read how to engage with the Office and the United Nations Human Rights Bodies, including the mechanisms of the Human Rights Council.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/AboutUs/CivilSociety/Pages/Handbook.aspx>

8. Familiarize yourself with the core international human rights treaties.

<http://www.ohchr.org/EN/ProfessionalInterest/Pages/InternationalLaw.aspx>

Other United Nations mechanisms and initiatives relevant to business and human rights

9. Explore the normative and legal international labour standards and view the agenda of the International Labour Conference of the International Labour Organization and opportunities for engagement.

<http://www.ilo.org/global/standards/lang--en/index.htm>

<http://www.ilo.org/ilc/ILCSessions/102/lang--en/index.htm>

10. Familiarize yourself with the United Nations Global Compact, the platform of the United Nations for engaging the business sector, and how to participate.

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org>

<http://www.unglobalcompact.org/HowToParticipate/index.html>

11. Consult the Global Compact tools and resources page for information on the areas covered in the 10 Principles (human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption) and on: business and peace; business for development; financial markets; UN-business partnerships; supply chain sustainability; corporate governance; higher education institutions and principles for responsible management; education; agriculture and food; and resources released at the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum.

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/AboutTheGC/tools_resources/index.html

12. Read and contribute to the Global Compact Business Reference Guide on Indigenous Peoples’ Rights (Exposure Draft and call for case studies).

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/Issues/human_rights/indigenous_peoples_rights.html

13. Consult the Children’s Rights and Business Principles produced by the Global Compact, together with the United Nations Children’s Fund (UNICEF) and Save the Children.

http://www.unglobalcompact.org/Issues/human_rights/childrens_principles.html

14. Review the United Nations Environment Programme Finance Initiative's work stream on human rights.

http://www.unepfi.org/work_streams/human_rights/index.html

15. Consult the Food and Agriculture Organization's Voluntary Guidelines on the Responsible Governance of Tenure of Land, Fisheries and Forests in the Context of National Food Security of the Committee on World Food Security.

<http://www.fao.org/nr/tenure/voluntary-guidelines/en/>

16. Review the International Finance Corporation revised Sustainability Framework (2012).

http://www.ifc.org/wps/wcm/connect/Topics_Ext_Content/IFC_External_Corporate_site/IFC+Sustainability+Sustainability+Framework

National Human Rights Institutions (NHRI)

17. Review the complete list of accredited National Human Rights Institutions around the world for those existing in countries where you work, or where a business enterprise is domiciled, and review their jurisdiction and cases examined.

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/Countries/NHRI/Chart_Status_NIs.pdf

18. View the webpage of the International Coordinating Committee of NHRIs (ICC) for activities related to the promotion of business and rights of the ICC Working Group on Business and Human Rights (ICCWG).

<http://nhri.ohchr.org>

19. See the 2010 Edinburgh Declaration devoted to the role of NHRIs in addressing business and human rights.

http://www.ohchr.org/Documents/AboutUs/NHRI/Edinburgh_Declaration_en.pdf

Other inter-governmental mechanisms, tools and guidance

20. Familiarize yourself with the Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development (OECD) Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises (revised 2011).

<http://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/mne/>

21. Review the modalities of the OECD National Contact Point mechanism, national agencies established to promote and implement the Guidelines. See the list of National Contact Points for those existing in countries where you work, or where a business enterprise is domiciled. Browse the list of statements regarding specific instances taken up by the OECD National Contact Points.

<http://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/mne/ncps.htm>

<http://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/mne/2013NCPCContactDetails.pdf>

<http://www.oecd.org/daf/inv/mne/ncpstatements.htm>

22. Examine the European Commission guide to human rights for small and medium-sized enterprises, “My business and human rights.”

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sustainable-business/files/csr-sme/human-rights-sme-guide-final_en.pdf

23. See the European Policy on CSR (2011).

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sustainable-business/corporate-social-responsibility/index_en.htm

24. Consult the European Commission sector guides on business and human rights on: employment and recruitment agencies; information and communication technology; and oil and gas.

http://ec.europa.eu/enterprise/policies/sustainable-business/corporate-social-responsibility/human-rights/index_en.htm EU Sector guides

Some non-governmental mechanisms, tools and guidance

25. View the website of the Business and Human Rights Resource Centre, including portals on the United Nations Guiding Principles and on the Working Group.

<http://www.business-humanrights.org>

<http://www.business-humanrights.org/UNGuidingPrinciplesPortal/Home>

26. Explore dispute resolution options on Baseswiki: business and society exploring solutions.

<http://www.baseswiki.org/En>

27. View the Center for Research on Multinational Corporations (SOMO)/Center for Human Rights and Environment (CEDHA) and Cividep guide for civil society organizations “United Nations Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in company research and advocacy.”

http://somo.nl/publications-en/Publication_3899

28. Read the International Federation for Human Rights (FIDH) “Updated version: Corporate Accountability for Human Rights Abuses: A Guide for Victims and NGOs on Recourse Mechanisms.”

<http://www.fidh.org/Updated-version-Corporate-8258>

29. Consult the Institute for Human Rights and Business (IHRB) “Investing the Rights Way: A Guide for Investors on Business and Human Rights ” produced in collaboration with Calvert Investments and the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility.

<http://www.ihrb.org/publications/reports/investing-the-rights-way.html>

30. Explore CSR Europe’s Management of Complaints Assessment (MOC-A) service and draft report on Company Mechanisms for Addressing Human Rights Complaints

<http://www.csreurope.org/management-complaints-assessment-service-available-all-members>
http://www.csreurope.org/company_mechanisms_for_addressing_human_rights_complaints.html

31. See the list of guides produced by Oxfam on corporate accountability, including on free, prior and informed consent (FPIC).

<https://www.oxfam.org.au/explore/corporate-accountability/>

32. Explore the Business and Human Rights Documentation Project (B-HRD), a joint initiative of the International Network on Economic, Social and Cultural Rights (ESCR-Net) and the Center for Human Rights and Global Justice (CHRGJ) at New York University School of Law,
<http://www.bhrd.org/fe/index.php>

33. See the Global Business Initiative (GBI) business relationships project

<http://www.global-business-initiative.org/work/business-relationships-project/>

34. Consult the resource library of Shift

<http://www.shiftproject.org/resources>

Some multi-stakeholder and industry tools and guidance

35. Review the International Standardization Organization 26000 guidance on social responsibility for public and private organizations.

<http://www.iso.org/iso/home/standards/iso26000.htm>

36. Read the Equator Principles, a risk management framework, adopted by financial institutions, for determining, assessing and managing environmental and social risk in projects.

<http://www.equator-principles.com/index.php/about-ep/about-ep>

37. Consult the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights.

<http://www.voluntaryprinciples.org/>

38. See the International Code of Conduct for Private Security Service Providers.

<http://www.icoc-ppsp.org/>

39. Familiarize yourself with the Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative and how to join.

<http://eiti.org/>

40. Read about the activities and mandate of the Kimberley Process Certification Scheme.

<http://www.kimberleyprocess.com/>

41. Consult information related to the International Council on Mining and Metals.

<http://www.icmm.com/>

42. Read about the Forestry Stewardship Council.

<https://ic.fsc.org/>

43. Examine the Ethical Trading Initiative.

<http://www.ethicaltrade.org/>

44. Consult the work of the Fair Labor Association.

<http://www.fairlabor.org/>

45. Learn about Social Accountability International and Social Accountability Accreditation Services.

<http://www.sa-intl.org/>

<http://www.saasaccreditation.org/>

46. Consult the Global Network Initiative on freedom of expression and privacy in information and communication technologies.

<http://www.globalnetworkinitiative.org/>

47. Read the Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition Code of Conduct on worker safety and fairness, environmental responsibility, and business efficiency.

http://www.eicc.info/eicc_code.shtml

48. Learn about the Global Oil and Gas Industry Association for Oil and Gas Issues (IPIECA) Business and Human Rights Project.

<http://www.ipieca.org/topic/human-rights/business-and-human-rights-project>