

# Human Rights Working Group

Working to implement the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights across all industries

## OUR MISSION

Create a safe space for a cross-sector group of companies to openly share best practices, challenges, questions, and experiences implementing the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

## Introduction

The UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (“Guiding Principles”) established the global standard for corporate management of human rights risks and impacts. However, the Guiding Principles do not provide detailed guidance on how to implement the principles in practice.

**BSR’s Human Rights Working Group (“HRWG”)** was established in 2012 to address this gap in operational guidance. The group has grown into an international community of company practitioners representing more than 40 global cross-industry companies sharing practical guidance, challenges, and lessons learned from implementing the Guiding Principles across a diverse range of operational environments.

Companies at all points along the human rights implementation journey are welcome to join HRWG. Annual activities include a mix of plenary discussions and breakout focus groups to connect companies working on similar issues during in-person meetings. **The group meets three times per year in three regional locations: the U.S., Europe, and Asia.** All HRWG members are welcome to attend any of the meetings, and are encouraged to have regionally-based colleagues join in different locations. In addition, the group hosts monthly webinars and members receive a monthly newsletter with the latest trends, events, and reports on business and human rights.

# 65%

of practitioners believe human rights is “a significant priority for their company.”

SOURCE  
Source: “BSR/GlobeScan State of Sustainable Business Poll 2013”

## Our Accomplishments

- We tackled a range of human rights issues: human rights risk assessments, training, reporting, grievance mechanisms, remedy and supply chain among others.
- We drove integration, training, funding, and proactive management of human rights issues for our members.

## COMPANIES

AbbVie Inc.  
A.P. Moller–Maersk Group  
AT&T Inc.  
Barrick Gold Corporation  
Bayer AG  
Becton Dickinson  
BP plc  
BT Group plc  
Best Buy Co., Inc.  
Chevron Corporation  
Cisco Systems Inc.  
The Coca-Cola Company  
Dell, Inc.  
The Estée Lauder Companies Inc  
Freeport McMoRan, Inc.  
GlaxoSmithKline plc  
Goldcorp Inc.  
Google LLC  
HERE Technologies  
Hitachi, Ltd.  
Intel Corporation  
InterContinental Hotels Group PLC  
Johnson & Johnson  
JTI - Japan Tobacco International  
Marks and Spencer p.l.c.  
Mars  
McDonald's Corporation  
Microsoft Corporation  
Newmont Mining Corporation  
Nikon Corporation  
Novartis International AG  
Oath Inc.  
Pearson PLC  
PepsiCo, Inc.  
Pfizer Inc.  
Philip Morris International Inc. (PMI)  
Primark  
Recruit Holdings Co., Ltd.  
Qualcomm Inc.  
Rio Tinto plc  
Royal Dutch Shell plc  
Sony Corporation  
Stora Enso Oyi  
Takeda Pharmaceutical Company Ltd  
Target Corporation  
Tiffany & Company  
Toshiba Corporation  
US Foods  
Vattenfall  
Visa Inc.

## Why Join?

- Learn from and collaborate with practitioners across sectors on implementing the Guiding Principles
- Use research and benchmarking on current practices to enhance the company's own human rights policies, management, and reporting
- Build buy-in and internal alignment around the company's human rights efforts

## Our Insights



### BLOG

#### Happy Birthday to Your Human Rights!

As the international human rights system turns 70, we look back on what it has achieved, especially as it relates to business. [Read more](#)



### PRIMER

#### 10 Human Rights Priorities for the Financial Sector

A primer on the most relevant, urgent, and probable human rights impacts for the financial sector and opportunities for positive impact. [Read more](#)



### BLOG

#### The Future of Business and Human Rights

We sat down with our Human Rights lead to discuss innovations, opportunities, and challenges in the field. [Read more](#)

## Contact

**Peter Nestor**  
Director  
[pnestor@bsr.org](mailto:pnestor@bsr.org)

**Salah Hussein**  
Manager  
[shusseini@bsr.org](mailto:shusseini@bsr.org)

## For More Information

[www.bsr.org/hrwg](http://www.bsr.org/hrwg)