

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](#)

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www.bsr.org/hrwg



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