



THE GLOBAL
COMPACT



THE PRINCIPLES FOR
RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT
EDUCATION

THE PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

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Global Compact

Launched in 2000, the UN Global Compact is the largest corporate citizenship initiative in the world. As of May 2007 more than 3,000 companies from 100 countries, as well as over 700 hundred civil society, international labor organizations and academic institutions are engaged in the initiative. All are working to promote responsible corporate citizenship, ensuring that business is part of the solution to the challenges of globalization. In this way, the private sector – in partnership with other social actors – can help realize a more sustainable and inclusive global economy.

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CONTENTS

Introduction	3
The Principles for Responsible Management Education	4
Call for Action	5
Contributors	6



INTRODUCTION

In a churning global marketplace, understanding the fundamental connections between business, the environment, and society has become essential. The roles and responsibilities of business as a global force are becoming more urgent and complex, and concepts related to societal responsibility and sustainability are gaining recognition as essential elements in business management.

Increasing complexity and interdependence require new approaches. Companies need integrative management tools that help embed environmental, social, and governance concerns into their strategic thinking and daily operations. They need support as they internalize and integrate these issues into the core of businesses, engage in dialogue with stakeholders, and report their conduct. They require talented and ethical leaders who can not only advance organizational goals and fulfill legal and fiduciary obligations to shareholders, but who are also prepared to deal with the broader impact and potential of business as a positive global force in society.

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Any meaningful and lasting change in the conduct of corporations toward societal responsibility and sustainability must involve the institutions that most directly act as drivers of business behavior, especially academia. Academic institutions help shape the attitudes and behavior of business leaders through business education, research, management development programs, training, and other pervasive, but less tangible, activities, such as the spread and advocacy of new values and ideas. Through these means, academic institutions have the potential to generate a wave of positive change, thereby helping to ensure a world where both enterprises and societies can flourish.

Principle 1

Purpose: We will develop the capabilities of students to be future generators of sustainable value for business and society at large and to work for an inclusive and sustainable global economy.

THE PRINCIPLES FOR RESPONSIBLE MANAGEMENT EDUCATION

As institutions of higher learning involved in the education of current and future managers we are voluntarily committed to engaging in a continuous process of improvement of the following Principles and their application, reporting on progress to all our stakeholders and exchanging effective practices with other academic institutions:

Principle 1

Purpose: We will develop the capabilities of students to be future generators of sustainable value for business and society at large and to work for an inclusive and sustainable global economy.

Principle 2

Values: We will incorporate into our academic activities and curricula the values of global social responsibility as portrayed in international initiatives such as the United Nations Global Compact.

Principle 3

Method: We will create educational frameworks, materials, processes and environments that enable effective learning experiences for responsible leadership.

Principle 4

Research: We will engage in conceptual and empirical research that advances our understanding about the role, dynamics, and impact of corporations in the creation of sustainable social, environmental and economic value.

Principle 5

Partnership: We will interact with managers of business corporations to extend our knowledge of their challenges in meeting social and environmental responsibilities and to explore jointly effective approaches to meeting these challenges.

Principle 6

Dialogue: We will facilitate and support dialogue and debate among educators, business, government, consumers, media, civil society organizations and other interested groups and stakeholders on critical issues related to global social responsibility and sustainability.

We understand that our own organizational practices should serve as example of the values and attitudes we convey to our students.

Principle 2

Values:

We will incorporate
into our academic activities
and curricula
the values of global
social responsibility
as portrayed in
international initiatives
such as the
United Nations
Global Compact.

CALL FOR ACTION

Global responsibility is a process from emerging awareness to action. It is based on the richness, diversity and varying contexts of our world, and it is a process of participation and involvement of the main change agents.

The United Nations Global Compact hereby calls all institutions and associations of higher learning dedicated to the education of business leaders to endorse this process and to participate actively in a global platform for responsible management education.

The role of the platform will be to advocate responsible management education and coordinate efforts to further develop these Principles by the agents that can generate change: management-related academic institutions and their associations.

To that effect a world gathering of management educators including professors, deans and associations involved in the advancement of management education will be convened.

To advance this effort, all business schools whose representatives have participated in the drafting of these Principles are invited to consider the adoption of the Principles.

The United Nations
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Principle 3

Method:

We will create
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Principle 5

Partnership:

We will interact with managers of business corporations to extend our knowledge of their challenges in meeting social and environmental responsibilities and to explore jointly effective approaches to meeting these challenges.

Principle 6

Dialogue:

We will facilitate and support dialogue and debate among educators, business, government, consumers, media, civil society organizations and other interested groups and stakeholders on critical issues related to global social responsibility and sustainability.

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GLOBAL COMPACT PRINCIPLES

The United Nations Global Compact asks companies to embrace, support and enact, within their sphere of influence, a set of core values in the areas of human rights, labour standards, the environment and anti-corruption. The principles are as follows:

Human Rights

- Principle 1 Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and
- Principle 2 make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

Labour

- Principle 3 Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;
- Principle 4 the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;
- Principle 5 the effective abolition of child labour; and
- Principle 6 the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Environment

- Principle 7 Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;
- Principle 8 undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and
- Principle 9 encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

Anti-Corruption

- Principle 10 Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.



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