



Factsheet

Participants

- The network consists of around 150 participants – primarily companies among them 20 of DAX 30 – and civil society organizations, the public sector and academia.
- The network's business participants, which amount to over 100 in total, are characterized by its wide variety in terms of size and sector. German companies belong to the first Global Compact signatories. You find more detailed information on the UN GC Website where the decisive [list of participants](#) is available.

Governance Structure

- The governance structure is threefold: In 2007 a **steering committee** was established which is convening approximately three times a year. This is the central decision-making body of the network, acting in accordance with the multistakeholder approach and receiving support from the Focal Point.
- The **Focal Point** coordinates the network's activities in cooperation with the Foreign Ministry and the International Chamber of Commerce. It is financed by the German Federal Ministry of Economic Cooperation and Development and set up within the structure of the German Technical Cooperation's Public Private Partnership Office.
- During 2009 a **foundation** will be established to encourage business participants to financially support the German Global Compact Network's activities.
- In addition a memorandum of understanding with the National Contact Point for the OECD Guidelines which offers its arbitration mechanism in case of non-compliance with the ten GC principles was developed.

Activities

- Characteristic for the DGCCN are the **network "working conferences"** organized three times a year. The network meetings focus on dialogue and learning, allow a concrete exchange of information in a confidential atmosphere and put an emphasis on the local implementation of the GC principles.
- Issues were among others: Human rights risk assessment ([June 2008](#)), Sustainable Consumption ([February 2008](#), [June 2008](#), [October 2008](#)), Climate Change ([February 2009](#), [June 2009](#), October 2009), Business and Biodiversity ([October 2007](#)), The GC role in facilitating and fostering CSR in policy and practice in different regions ([October 2007](#)), Investing in Africa: Do German companies miss their chance? (March 2007), Business against corruption (June 2006)
- In 2008 the German Global Compact Network started to identify yearly **focus areas to be dealt with extensively throughout the year**. In 2008 these topics were 1) business and human rights and 2) sustainable consumption. In 2009 the focus lies on 1) new risks resulting from climate change, 2) results of the financial crisis for companies' sustainability policy and 3) focusing the topic business and human rights on water issues.
- Furthermore the network deepens dialogue, learning and outreach through different means: **background papers** ([background paper on human rights and water](#) (0.5 MB PDF, German), [background paper on climate change](#) (0.5 MB PDF, German)) of about ten pages allow a first insight into the focus topics. e.g. this **website**, **company coaching** on business and human rights as well as adaptation to climate change offer in-depth learning in small groups and a **lecture series** on business and human rights in 2008 ([lecture series documentation](#) (1.7 MB PDF, German), [company coaching documentation](#) (2.5 MB PDF, English)) facilitated exchange with a broad range of actors.
- The Focal Point developed translations of GC **publications** to offer guidance for new GC members. Furthermore, best practices are collected (partly in English) in the "[GC year book](#)" and a thematically focused [publication on sustainable consumption](#) (1.63 MB PDF, German).

Contact

- Focal Point of the Global Compact Network Germany
Constanze Helmchen
globalcompact@gtz.de