



BUSINESS & HUMAN RIGHTS ACCELERATOR



FROM COMMITMENT TO ACTION ON BUSINESS AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Mitigate human rights risks, build competitive advantage and become a powerful force for good with the Business & Human Rights Accelerator.



PROGRAMME OVERVIEW

The Business & Human Rights Accelerator is a three-month programme designed to help companies turn their commitment to human rights and labour rights into action. Through global workshops, regional and in-country peer learning, on-demand resources and guidance from Global Compact Country Networks, participants apply human rights due diligence to their own business context.

The Accelerator helps companies scope their value chain, identify and prioritize their most salient human rights and labour rights risks and define actions to address them in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other international standards.

By the end of the programme, companies will have a practical Action Plan to take forward within their business – moving from understanding and commitment to concrete action.

PROGRAMME BENEFITS

- Develop a practical Action Plan to address your company's most salient human rights and labour rights risks and define clear next steps for action.
- Put human rights due diligence into practice with expert guidance grounded in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and other international standards.
- Apply practical tools and resources to scope your value chain, assess and prioritize risks, engage stakeholders, strengthen remedy and track progress.
- Learn from peers and leading experts through global workshops, regional and in-country peer learning, and exchange with companies facing similar challenges.
- Strengthen your readiness for evolving requirements by aligning your approach with international standards and emerging human rights due diligence expectations.
- Receive a certificate recognizing successful completion of the Business & Human Rights Accelerator.

YOUR ACCELERATOR JOURNEY

Stage 1: Build your foundation and assess your starting point

- Global opening and introduction to the UN Guiding Principles: Participants are introduced to the Business & Human rights Accelerator programme.
- On-demand course completion: Participants gain foundational understanding of the UN Guiding Principles and the human rights due diligence process.
- Local welcome session: Participants attend a virtual/ in-person localized session facilitated by UN Global Compact Country Networks

Stage 2: Focus risks, prioritization and taking action

There will be three global virtual workshops, during which participants will:

- Scope the company value chain, identify potential risks, prioritize salient human rights impacts and understand their involvement with those impacts
- Start developing specific actions and related metrics based on salient human rights risks prioritized
- Understand how to effectively engage affected stakeholders and communicate their impacts

Stage 3: Regional and in-country peer-learning

Participants will have the opportunity to attend a regional peer-learning session that covers key regional priorities as well as the important aspects of remedy and grievance mechanisms.

Stage 4: Complete your Action Plan and prepare to implement

Participants will be engaged in at least one closing local session, however Country Networks may extend this phase of the Accelerator. More details to be provided by relevant Country Network as to the number and frequency of engagements.

WHO CAN PARTICIPATE

The Accelerator is designed for companies with a foundational understanding of human rights and labour rights that are ready to put this knowledge into practice. It supports companies in turning existing commitments into a practical plan of action and taking the next step in advancing human rights due diligence.

To take part in this programme, companies are required to be participants of the UN Global Compact or willing to join. Your company should also be:

- Currently engaged with a Global Compact Country Network in your region or willing to join
- Willing to identify its human rights risks and impacts and scope a core area of your value chain for further focus
- Committed to developing and submitting an Action Plan to help address the human rights risks identified and prioritized
- Committed to completing all of the mandatory programme requirements
- Able to appoint two working-level representatives to attend sessions and participate in Accelerator activities and an additional executive-level representative to follow programme developments, provide support and participate in high-level events
- Commit to applying the programme outcomes across the company's strategy and operations.

TIMELINE

- Applications Open: 8 September 2026
- Application Deadline: 30 November 2026
- Accelerator Begins: February 2027 (Please check exact dates with your Global Compact Country Network)

READY TO JOIN?

To apply, visit unglobalcompact.org/bhr-accelerator or contact the Global Compact Country Network.

In collaboration with:

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