



Global Compact Network Sweden Work plan 2021

Background

About the United Nations Global Compact (UN Global Compact)

As a special initiative of the UN Secretary-General, the UN Global Compact is a call to companies everywhere to align their operations and strategies with ten universally accepted principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to act in support of the 17 Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

About the Global Compact Local Networks

The Global Compact Local Networks support both local companies, organisations and subsidiaries of multinational corporations in implementing the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact. The networks help companies to identify sustainability challenges and opportunities; provide practical guidance for action; and promote action in support of broader UN goals. Local Network activities are aligned with the strategy of the global organisation but adjusted based on local priorities and needs. They range from corporate sustainability seminars, theme-specific workshops, partnerships, networking events, and engaging with communities and networks that encourage, facilitate, and support collective action on the Ten Principles and the SDGs.

Purpose of Global Compact Network Sweden

Global Compact Network Sweden constitutes the Global Compact Local Network for Sweden and was established in year 2018 with a Board of Directors elected by the members. Since 2019, the network is led by an Executive Director. The purpose of the network is to act on a national level to support our members in their implementation and progress of the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact on human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption, and to anchor the initiative in various national contexts.

Global Compact Network Sweden's main stakeholders are our members and the UN Global Compact Office. The objectives of the network are based on the interests and expectations from our members and direction from UN Global Compact Office. We gather opinions from our members, have a continuous dialogue with UN Global Compact Office in New York and engage closely with other Global Compact Local Networks, as we seek to fulfil our purpose.

As many different networks exist within the field of sustainable business, Global Compact Network Sweden differentiates from other networks by grounding its membership offers and activities in the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the SDGs.



Work Plan 2021

The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact are our constant foundation for sustainable business. Focus is on how companies can use a *principle-based approach* as foundation to practically address challenges and opportunities in achieving the Sustainable Development Goals. This will be done by providing our members with access to insights from world leading experts, tools to accelerate progress and opportunities to exchange best practices with peers.

Strategic priorities for 2021

According to our newly developed strategy for 2021-2023 our overarching goal is to be a strategic partner to our members and create value by offering knowledge, collaborations and inspiration that strengthen the ability of our members to accelerate their sustainability work.

We aspire to achieve this strategic goal by:

1. Providing our members with valuable content in relevant formats with the aim of helping them to accelerate their sustainability work
2. Sharpening and differentiating our value proposition
3. Strengthening the relationship with our members
4. Raising awareness about UN Global Compact and the Swedish network
5. Expanding the network and increasing the number of members

We aim to realise these aspirations through activities grouped within the following set of objectives: member activity objectives, networking objectives and communication objectives. These will be explained below.

Additionally, In the beginning of 2021, the UN Global Compact Office launched a new strategy for the global initiative for 2021-2023. Therefore, an additional priority for the local network for 2021 will be to ensure that the strategy and activities of the Swedish network align with the global strategy.

Member activity objectives

All activities will be based on the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact with the aim of accelerating progress towards the SDGs and will support the ambition of being a strategic partner to our members.

- Participation in relevant Global Impact Initiatives (GIIs) from UNGC, that aim to drive specific and measurable company-specific outcomes in sustainability topics.
- Recurring introductory events about UN Global Compact and the Swedish network for new members
- Recurring event introducing the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and how to implement the principles in practice, with examples from members.



- Events that aim to provide guidance on how businesses can contribute to the SDGs.
- Events on topics related to current trends
- Co-host events with relevant partner organisations and other networks

Furthermore, a clear objective is to further develop activity concepts to improve the value from our activities and standardized event formats for members to learn, share experiences and cooperate with each other.

Networking objectives

The network will engage in networking activities that will strengthen the implementation of the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the advancement of the SDGs in the Swedish business community.

- Growing the network and strengthening cooperation between companies in Sweden
- Intensifying and deepening the contact with our members to gain insight into their needs to further develop the membership offer over time
- Engage and cooperate with actors and other networks that encourage, facilitate and support collective action on the Ten Principles and the SDGs.
- Participation in annual Nordic networks event
- Strengthen cooperation with Local Global Compact networks in the Nordics and other countries/regions
- Strengthen cooperation with the Global Compact Office (New York)

Communication objectives

The overarching communication goal is to raise awareness about the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact to facilitate their implementation within the national context. This will be supported by raising awareness about the UN Global Compact and the Swedish network as well as facilitate access to relevant tools and resources that can accelerate the sustainability work of our members.

Global Compact Network Sweden has the following communication objectives:

- Develop and provide materials that our members can use to communicate internally around UN Global Compact, the Sweden network, the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and the SDGs
- Present already existing tools for members with the purpose of supporting their sustainability agenda
- Send out regular newsletters from the local network and disseminate information from the UN Global Compact Office via newsletters and our website
- Develop a long-term communication strategy and sharpen our digital channels and formats to clearly communicate the value that our members receive