



Global Compact Network Sweden: Work Plan 2023

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 UN Global Compact but adjusted based on local priorities and needs. The activities range from 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 advance the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and to anchor the initiative in various national contexts, as well as promote broader goals of UN Global Compact, such as the SDGs.

Global Compact Network Sweden's main stakeholders are our participants 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. As the largest network for corporate sustainability in Sweden, with more than 520 member organisations, we are the natural meeting space for companies and organisations to learn and collaborate on strategic corporate sustainability. As part of a global organisation, members of Global Compact Network Sweden also get access to a global network of peers for cooperation, learning and exchanging experiences.



Work Plan 2023

The Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact are our constant foundation for sustainable business. As we enter 2023, this year will constitute the hallway mark to 2030 when the SDGs must be achieved. Focus is on how companies can use a *principle-based approach* as foundation to practically address challenges and opportunities in achieving the SDGs. This will be done by providing our members with access to insights from leading theme experts, tools to accelerate progress and opportunities to exchange best practices with peers.

Strategic priorities for 2023

According to our updated strategy, our overall goal is that we shall be the leading network that contributes to sustainable development for and through companies based on the UN Global Compact's Ten Principles and the Global Goals.

We aspire to achieve this strategic goal by:

1. Providing knowledge and motivation for implementation based on the needs of our members
2. Bringing our members together and creating conditions for collaborations
3. Growing a representative base of ambitious and committed members
4. Having a strong and significant voice for sustainability in business

We aim to deliver progress on these aspirations through activities grouped within the following set of objectives:

- Satisfied and engaged members
- Guide our members through updates from UN Global Compact
- Increase our digital impact
- Equip the secretariat

Satisfied and engaged members

We want our members to be satisfied with their membership and to be active in our network. To do this we are during the year going to focus on:

- Increasing event participation and satisfaction.
- Increase membership satisfaction and perceived impact of membership.
- Increase use of the Academy platform.

We will achieve this by focusing on creating events that are topical and highly requested. We will also increase the number of physical events to enable more networking.



Guide our members through updates from UN Global Compact

During 2022 and 2023, UN Global Compact have been working on the implementation of a new value proposition, a new Communication on Progress (CoP) as well as revising the engagement tiers and the levels of the annual contribution fee. To secure that our members are aware of these updates, we will focus on the following:

- Provide activities that will support our members to successfully complete the new CoP and navigating the various updates

To this end, we will focus on supporting activities that will walk through and deep dive into the new CoP and provide a forum for members to ask questions. We will also have a special focus on providing information and enabling dialogues with members.

Increase our digital impact

Our communication should ultimately ensure that the members of the Swedish network are aware of what value their membership contributes with and the possibilities the membership offer; the events, programmes, tools, and resources we provide. Furthermore, the communication should contribute to an increased awareness about the UN Global Compact and the Swedish network among non-members and motivate all to accelerate their progress on sustainability.

To improve the digital impact of our communication, we aim to:

- Further improve our official emails
- Grow the number of followers on our LinkedIn page
- Improve our website

To achieve this, we will make investments to update our website, our official emails as well as increase the quality, relevance and usage of digital resources and sponsored material on LinkedIn.

Equip the secretariat

To deliver on these objectives and priorities and ensure the necessary long-term capacity to deliver on our strategy, we will continue to make investments to grow and professionalise the secretariat further.



Planned activities for the year

During the year we will continue to provide activities that will support the sustainability work of our members. All activities will be based on the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact with the aim of accelerating progress towards the SDGs.

Global Compact Network Sweden has the following planned activities:

- Offer engagement opportunities within relevant Accelerator programmes from UN Global Compact, with the aim to enable measurable company-specific outcomes in sustainability topics, such as Climate Ambition Accelerator, SDG Ambition, Business and Human Rights and Target Gender Equality. Peer-learning on Climate is also a part of these activity objectives.
- Arrange recurring, overarching events, such as:
 - Introductory events about UN Global Compact and the Swedish network for new members
 - Introductory events about the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact and how to implement the principles in practice, with examples from members
 - Introductory events that aim to provide guidance on how businesses can contribute to the SDGs
- Arrange Deep-dive events within the thematic areas of the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact, through:
 - A webinar series on the new CoP
 - Thematic event series with the aim to provide a sustainability journey within topics such as biodiversity and reporting.
 - Events on topics related to current trends and relevant issues
 - Events on relevant regulatory updates and tools and frameworks
- Further develop and arrange events together with other local networks
- Co-host events with relevant partner organisations and other networks

Furthermore, we will continue to further develop our activity concepts to improve the value from our activities and standardized event formats for members to learn, share experiences and cooperate with each other.