

EU GUIDANCE FOR 3 SECTORS ON THE UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES ON BUSINESS & HUMAN RIGHTS

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The EU Sector Guidance Project Partners

DG ENTERPRISE, EUROPEAN COMMISSION

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INSTITUTE FOR HUMAN RIGHTS AND BUSINESS

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SHIFT

Where to Find Info & Updates – www.IHRB.org



The screenshot shows the IHRB website homepage with a navigation menu (ABOUT IHRB, NEWS, PROGRAMS, PUBLICATIONS, SUPPORT US, TOP 10 ISSUES, CONTACT US) and several news items. Key items include:

- Draft Guidance Consultation (Dec 2012 - Feb 2013)**: A consultation period for the EU guidance on human rights and business.
- Final Report of the Working Group**: A report from the IHRB Working Group on the EU guidance.
- Download the EU Guidance**: A link to download the final guidance document.

EU Sector Guidance Project

• EU CSR Communication 2011

- EU commitment to developing guidance on the UN Guiding Principles (UN GPs) for:
 - 3 sectors
 - SMEs
- EU strong signal of support to UN Guiding Principles
 - Possible to develop practical, sector specific guidance
 - Global approach - not contributing to a fracturing of implementation by developing regional-specific standards
 - In close contact with UN Working Group

The 3 Sectors

• 3 Sectors:

- Oil & Gas
- Information & Communications Technology
- Employment & Recruitment Agencies



Focus of the Guidance

• Focus: Company Implementation of UN GPs

- Pillar II - Responsibility to Respect (RtR)
- Not Pillar I - State Duty to Protect
- Not Pillar III – Access to Remedy (except that will look at operational level grievance mechanisms)

• Essential idea:

- Go through each part of RtR
 1. Developing a Human Rights Policy Commitment & Embedding Human Rights in company management
 2. Human Rights Due Diligence
 3. Operational Level Grievance Mechanisms

Focus of the Guidance II

- Focus of Guidance (con't)

- In each step:
 - Explain key concepts
 - Explain key considerations
 - Give possible approaches – based on company experience, existing guidance, team expertise
 - Key questions
- Idea:
 - Be practical & accessible
 - Use existing company systems and experiences
 - Highlight important concepts
 - Spark reflections & innovation!

Project Timeframe

January 2012	Start of project and sector selection
April – Aug 2012	Consultation phase: research interviews, field visits, stakeholder meetings
May 2012	Roundtable 1 in Brussels
Sept- Dec 2012	Drafting Guidance
Dec 2012 – Jan 2013	Public Consultation on drafts of Guidance documents
Jan 2013	Roundtable 2 in Brussels
Feb-March 2013	Finalising Guidance
April /May 2013	Guidance issued by EU

Stakeholder Engagement

- Avenues to Provide Input:

1. Through Expert Advisory Committee
2. Participate in public consultation by providing written comments
3. Roundtables in Brussels
4. Meetings – like this one

Project Governance



- Led by European Commission – DG Enterprise
- Expert Advisory Committee
 - Multistakeholder – includes UN Working Group on Business & Human Rights, International Organisation of Employers, Trade Unions...
- Sector Advisory Group
 - 1 for each sector - multistakeholder
