The UN Global Compact: Business and Peace

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**“Business and Peace”**

### “The Role of the Private Sector in Zones of Conflict” a Policy Dialogue launched in 2001

To mitigate the negative impacts & enhance the capacity of companies to contribute to development & peace

Policy papers, tools and resources to develop a “conflict-sensitive” approach

Unique multistakeholder platform for sharing good practice

Sectoral work: extractives; financial sector

### At the country level - Global Compact Local Networks (Colombia, Sudan)
Three Levels of Strategies for Managing Conflict Risks

Proactively contribute to peace-building

Be aware of their real and potential impacts and their ability to create or exacerbate violent conflict.

The Very minimum requirement

Peace-building

e.g. Active engagement in innovative social investment, stakeholder consultation, policy dialogue, advocacy, civic institution building, public-private partnerships and collective action

‘Do No Harm’

e.g. Development and implementation of policies and procedures to minimize any damage

Compliance

e.g. Compliance with national regulations and internationally agreed laws, conventions and standards

Opportunities for Engagement

- **Events and awareness-raising activities:**
  - “Peace through Commerce” (Notre Dame 2006; George Washington 2008)
  - “Responsibility to the Future: business, peace, sustainability” 2008 (Strategic Foresight Group and University of Mumbai)

- **Publications:** “Peace through Commerce: Responsible Corporate Citizenship and the Ideals of the United Nations Global Compact” Edited by Oliver F. Williams, C.S.C.

- **Research and Case Study Development:**
  - Recent survey of GC participants in collaboration with the Kogod Business School, American University and International Alert
In 2009…

- **Good Practice Guide** of short case studies on innovative business practices that promote peace and development in challenging operating environments. Creation of a review committee.

- “**Doing Business in a Multicultural Environment: Good Practices and Lessons Learned**” (April ‘09 in collaboration with UN Alliance of Civilizations) Aims to inspire business to proactively engage in the promotion of tolerance & inter-cultural understanding.

- **Policy Paper on Business Engagement in Weak Governance Zones** to identify practical options/guidance for companies and investors to make a positive contribution in conflict-prone states.
THANK YOU

www.unglobalcompact.org

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