

Free-of-charge Workshop on “Business and Human Rights: Key to Achieving the SDGs”

Multilateral Diplomacy

Deadline: Closed

Type:	Workshop
Location:	Geneva, Switzerland
Date:	5 Dec 2019 to 6 Dec 2019
Duration of event:	2 Days
Programme Area:	Peace Security and Diplomacy, Multilateral Diplomacy
Specific Target Audience:	No
Website:	https://unitar.org/sustainable-development-goals/multilateral-diplomacy
Price:	No Fee
Event Focal Point Email:	michelle.glazer@unitar.org
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BACKGROUND

Human rights are essential to achieving the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

Paragraph 67 of Agenda 2030 calls on “all businesses to apply their creativity and innovation to solving sustainable development challenges” and for States to “foster a dynamic and well-functioning business sector, while protecting labour rights and environmental and health standards in accordance with relevant international standards and agreements and other ongoing initiatives in this regard, such as the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.”

This workshop aims to help participants gain a thorough understanding of the Business and Human Rights agenda and provide leadership perspectives on the potential and challenges to implement the UN Guiding Principles as an essential means to realize the Agenda 2030.

LEARNING OBJECTIVES

At the end of this training workshop, students should be able to:

- Present the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights as an essential means to meet the SDGs;
- Assess the State duty to protect human rights and its impact for business enterprises (Pillar 1 of the UN Guiding Principles);
- Assess the corporate responsibility to respect human rights, its nature and scope and how it can be operationalized e.g. human rights due diligence (Pillar 2 of the UN Guiding Principles);
- Highlight the respective roles of the States and business to ensure access by victims to effective remedy (Pillar 3 of the UN Guiding Principles).

CONTENT AND STRUCTURE

The course consists of the following sessions:

- **Session 1: Training Workshop on the linkage between Business and Human Rights and Agenda 2030**
- **Session 2: Panel on the potential and challenges to implement the UN Guiding Principles as an essential means to realize the Agenda 2030.** The panellists are:
 - Ms. Anne Kullman, Senior Advisor Business & Human Rights, Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (Sida)
 - Ms. Lene Wendland, Chief, Business and Human Rights Development and Social and Economic Issues Branch Office of the United Nations High Commissioner for Human Rights (OHCHR)
 - Mr. Crispin Conroy, Permanent Observer of the International Chamber of Commerce to the United Nations at Geneva, and ICC Representative Director (Geneva).
 - Mr. Matthias Thorns, Deputy Secretary-General at International Organisation of Employers (IOE)
 - Ms. Kithona Cerri, Director, Social Impact, World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD)

The schedule is:

5 December: 9.30 - 17.00

6 December: 9.30 - 13.00

METHODOLOGY

In order to make this training workshop as interactive as possible, simulation exercises are used and discussed. Participants are asked to describe good practices in the area of business and human rights.

The methodology of this course will include:

- Interactive Presentations
- Group discussions

TARGETED AUDIENCE

This course is open to:

- Members of the private sector,
- Members of Permanent Missions accredited to the United Nations Office in Geneva,
- Delegates of Ministries of Foreign Affairs and other government officials,
- Representatives of international, intergovernmental and non-governmental organizations
- Academia and students interested in the field of business and human rights

Priority will be given to LDCs and SIDS nationals. Please visit the United Nations Office of the High Representative for the Least Developed Countries, Landlocked Developing Countries and Small Island Developing States: <http://unohrrls.org/>

ADDITIONAL INFORMATION

The activity will take place at the United Nations Office at Geneva (UNOG), Palais des Nations, Geneva, Switzerland.

Only accepted students will be able to participate in this training. In case you need a badge to enter UNOG premises please send an email to michelle.glazer@unitar.org

Please keep in mind that places on our courses fill up fast and are allocated on a first-come-first-serve basis. Once all the places are taken, the applications will be closed prior to the deadline.

Only participants who attend all sessions will receive a certificate of participation.

This activity is supported with funding allocated from the Swedish International Development Agency's (Sida) contribution to the UNITAR Strategic Framework Fund. UNITAR is grateful to Sida and other contributors for supporting the SFF. The SFF was established by the UNITAR Board of Trustees in 2018 to support projects and activities that respond to needs of developing countries and in particular the least developed countries, African countries, the small island developing States and countries in and emerging from conflict, in order to strengthen capacities to achieve the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

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