



GLOBAL COMPACT ANNUAL COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS

Company Name	Australian Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility	Date	10 th October 2008
Address	Suite 605, 10 Yarra Street South Yarra VIC 3141	Membership date	January 2007
Country	Australia	Number of employees	7
Contact name Contact Position Contact telephone no.	Leeora Black Managing Director +61 3 9826 1767	Sector	Consulting and Training

The nature of our business

The Australian Centre for Corporate Social Responsibility (ACCSR) is a specialist corporate social responsibility services provider. We provide advisory, research and training services in corporate social responsibility to a wide range of clients in the public, private and government sectors.

Our advisory services cover the complete range of corporate social responsibility issues including CSR change management sustainability reporting, strategy development, stakeholder engagement and CSR measurement.


Adopting a capacity building approach, ACCSR helps organisations to identify and understand their social responsibilities, capacity and impact and develop strategies and tactics to reduce social risks and improve both performance and social responsiveness.

ACCSR's approach is grounded in the disciplines of strategic management and organisational change management, applied to the field of organisation-stakeholder relations.

Our statement of continued support for the UNGC

ACCSR is committed to upholding the ten principles of the UN Global Compact on human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption. Whilst we are a small business, with under ten employees, we recognise that we can play a significant role in supporting the principles, both within our own organisation and through the advice and training we provide to clients.

In February 2008, for example, we organised our annual conference, 'Raising the Bar' around the four key themes of the UN Global Compact with the aim of raising awareness of the Compact in Australia. We have been a signatory of the UN Global Compact for nearly two years.

Signature		Position	Managing Director
------------------	---	-----------------	--------------------------

Human rights (UNGC Principles 1-2)

Our Commitment or Policy

ACCSR does not discriminate against any person, regardless of race, sex or religion. We comply with all Australian laws relating to human rights and are committed to providing a safe and healthy workplace.

Where possible, we try to source products from local businesses. A list of our key suppliers can be found in our 2007 Sustainability Report, see www.accsr.com.au/sustreport.htm.

ACCSR carries out pro bono work in the form of public speaking, participation in policy inquiries into CSR, and mentoring of students of CSR. This allows us to extend our corporate social responsibility expertise to the public, and for the public good.

A brief description of our Processes or Systems

Our pro bono work includes policy inquiries and speaking at public events including:

- Presentation on “CSR Implications of Financial Abuse of Elders”, Banking Industry Round-Table organised by Office of Senior Victorians, Department of Victorian Communities, November 2006.
- Sustainable Living Festival in February 2007: Speaking event. The Sustainable Living Festival showcases a range of exhibitors, talks, workshops, art, films and performances celebrating sustainable communities.
- Leadership Plus in March 2007: Workshop on CSR. Leadership Plus is a Victorian community organisation, which promotes people with disabilities as leaders. Its focus is on civic participation and inclusion as citizens in Australian society.
- Health Communicators Network in March 2007: Workshop on CSR.
- Queensland University of Technology September 2008.
- Judge, Department of Corrections Partnership Awards, September 2008.
- Judge, City of Brisbane CSR Awards October 2008.
- A total of 25 hours was devoted to student mentoring in the year to September 2008.

Actions implemented in the last year / planned for next year

We have participated in policy inquiries into CSR including:

- Australian Securities Exchange Corporate Governance Council review of the Corporate Governance Principles (2007) and
- Victorian Parliament Family and Community Development Committee inquiry into the involvement of SME business in corporate social responsibility (2007)

We have also produced three position papers further elaborating key issues.

Measurable Results or Outcomes

There have been no reports of discrimination in the workplace.

Labour (UNGC Principles 3-6)

Our Commitment or Policy

ACCSR is committed to:

- Upholding the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.
- Supporting the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour together with the abolition of child labour.
- Supporting the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

Our goal is to attract and develop the highest quality employees, provide a satisfying work experience and a pleasant work environment.

A brief description of our Processes or Systems

ACCSR complies with statutory obligations regarding superannuation. Our default superannuation fund is VicSuper.

All staff receives semi-annual performance appraisals.

ACCSR also has an employee volunteering policy, permitting each employee one-day a year for voluntary work with a social or environmental organisation of their choice.

Actions implemented in the last year / planned for next year

All staff complete an average of 50 hours per annum in training and professional development.

Measurable Results or Outcomes
ACCSR has recorded no workplace injuries, lost days due to injury or work-related fatalities and there have been no incidents of discrimination, either with staff or with external stakeholders.

Environment (UNGC Principles 7-9)
Our Commitment or Policy
ACCSR is committed to minimising our direct environmental impact and supports a preventative approach to environmental challenges.
A brief description of our Processes or Systems
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ We reduce the amount of office materials going to waste through office recycling systems. ▪ Printers are default set to double-sided printing. ▪ Our preferred choices for office supplies are either recycled, recyclable or have low-embodied energy content. ▪ We minimise energy consumption of office equipment by switching off appliances and utilities when not in use. This includes air conditioning and lighting. ▪ All materials used in the office fit out and construction in 2007 were selected on the basis that they are either recyclable or have low embodied energy.
Actions implemented in the last year / planned for next year
We have submitted our GreenStar application to the Green Building Council of Australia for our green office fit-out.
Measurable Results or Outcomes
<p>Some of the features of ACCSR's green office include:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Materials selection, such as paints, carpets, adhesives, sealants and composite wood products, based on achieving low VOC (volatile organic compounds) and formaldehyde content, and low-embodied energy; ▪ A sustainable procurement policy for the selection of all office related materials and furniture including workstations and storage units, flooring, chairs and tables; ▪ Equipment (including lighting for daylight dimming and motion detection; and air conditioning with zero ozone depletion potential and an energy reclaim heat exchanger), requiring less energy input whilst also promoting improved OH&S outcomes; ▪ Installation of a dedicated exhaust system to minimise harmful emissions (VOCs, ozone and particulates) from the use of printing and copying equipment; ▪ Creation of a dedicated in-office waste collection area for the proper recycling of office waste, and management procedures for the disposal of that waste; ▪ An office layout which maximises outside ventilation rates (150% above the minimum outside air rates set by the Building Code of Australia) and superior infiltration of natural light to 100% of workstations; ▪ Sited close to public transport (rail and tram), and includes bicycling facilities for staff; ▪ Incorporates indoor plants to improve internal air quality and aesthetics; ▪ Uses LCD screens and laptops to reduce the tenancy's IT-related energy usage; ▪ Incorporates separate light and power metering to ensure adequate monitoring of energy use, thereby promoting early intervention to reduce consumption (if the need exists), and, ▪ Is managed in a way that assists in the ongoing capture, control and minimisation of environmental impacts.

Anti-Corruption (UNGC Principle 10)
Our Commitment or Policy
We are a strong supporter of ethical business principles and aim to meet rigorous ethical, professional and legal standards. We require all employees to behave in a professional and ethical manner, whether dealing with colleagues, clients or any other external organisation or individual.
A brief description of our Processes or Systems
Our research practices adhere to ethical guidelines published by the Australian Council for Research.
Actions implemented in the last year / planned for next year
None.
Measurable Results or Outcomes
There have been no incidents of corruption.

Making this COP available to stakeholders
This COP is available on our website: www.accsr.com.au and on www.unglobalcompact.org