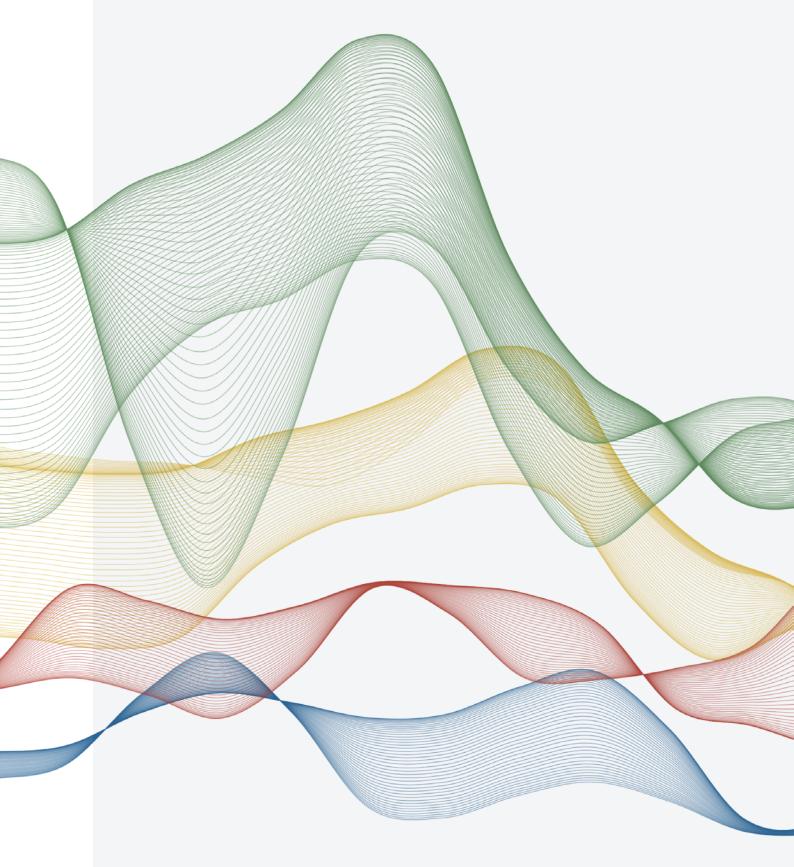




# Global Compact

Communication on Progress Messe Frankfurt 2011/2012





## Our Responsibility

## Preface from the Executive Board



Sustainable thinking and action play a central role at Messe Frankfurt, especially considering that trade fairs are platforms for ideas, new concepts and innovative products. Together with our stakeholders, we act as catalysts to promote new developments through our dedication and convictions. At our events around the globe, we showcase solutions for a sustainable future, such as energy-efficient building technology at Light+Building, sustainably produced fashion at the Ethical Fashion Show and the GREENshowroom or electromobility at Automechanika.

Messe Frankfurt has always attached great value to social responsibility. Sustainability and corporate social responsibility are thus not only key themes at our events but a firmly established element of our business strategy.

We have joined the Global Compact and officially endorse the ten principles of this initiative in the areas of human rights, labour, the environment and anti-corruption. We are committed to upholding these principles and will continue to adhere to them in the future.

In the reporting period, we have taken many small and large steps to expand our CSR activities. For example, we are currently building one of the world's most sustainable conference centres, the new Kap Europa building, we continue to promote sustainability in the fashion industry through our cooperation with Esmod, the International University of Art for Fashion, and our catering services increasingly feature fair trade and regional products.

The following pages tell you more about what we have achieved in the past year and what we have planned for the future.

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Sincerely yours,

Wolfgang Marzin President and Chief Executive Officer (CEO), Messe Frankfurt GmbH

## **About Messe Frankfurt**

## Global partner

Organising trade fairs means more to us than just bringing people together. First and foremost, trade fairs are about innovations, emotions, ideas, contacts – and of course business. The face-to-face conversations that take place during our events build a sense of community and enhance the cohesion of the industry as a whole. Personal relationships foster trust. And this is the best foundation for doing business in the future.

The Messe Frankfurt Group combines all disciplines of the trade fair business: ownership and operation of one of the largest exhibition grounds in the world; trade fair, convention and event organisation at our headquarters and around the world; and extensive services including logistics, stand construction and catering, as well as training and further education opportunities at Akademie Messe Frankfurt. The leading international industry events in the fields of Technology & Production, Consumer Goods &

Leisure, Textiles & Textile Technologies, Mobility & Infrastructure and Media & Creation shape international markets and trends.

Messe Frankfurt plays an important role in the city and the region. In addition to 923 jobs in Frankfurt, the company secures 18,700 jobs indirectly in the region and another 13,800 in Germany. Thanks to its outstanding profitability, Messe Frankfurt distributes annual profits to its shareholders, the city of Frankfurt and the state of Hesse, while generating EUR 2.2 billion in additional sales for local companies.

But our responsibility and influence do not end at our own doorstep. As the largest trade fair organiser in the world with its own exhibition grounds, we are present for our customers in more than 150 countries. We promote sustainability and responsible business wherever we operate in our global network of 28 subsidiaries, five branch offices, 52 international sales partners and 1,769 employees worldwide.

## Catalyst for sustainability

In our core business of trade fairs, we fulfil our role as a catalyst for sustainability in close cooperation with industry communities. Many of our international flagship fairs, both our own and guest events, have areas of emphasis in energy efficiency, recycling, water management, waste disposal or eco-textiles. Special shows, conferences and other formats address sustainability at all our fairs throughout the world.

For instance Messe Frankfurt Hong Kong in cooperation with the Chinese government organises
Water Expo China + Water Membrane China on

the topic of water resource management. The industries' leading fairs ISH and Light+Building point out energy efficiency and renewable energy. In September 2012, Messe Frankfurt will host the 27th European Photovoltaic Solar Energy Conference and Exhibition (EU PVSEC).

The long-term cooperation between Messe Frankfurt and fair organiser UBM Live also takes sustainability goals into consideration. A joint sustainability statement includes an agreement to make events sustainable in the comprehensive sense.

## Corporate Social Responsibility

## Our philosophy

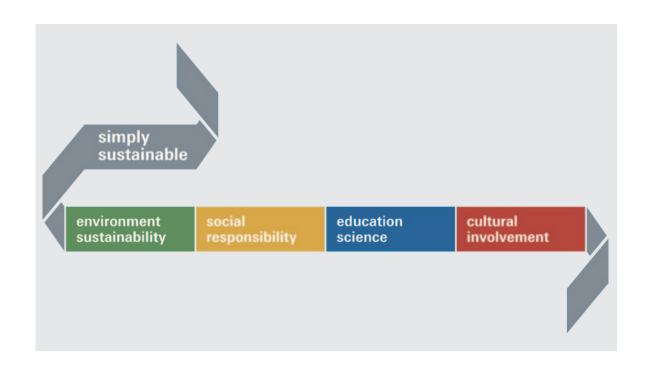
Messe Frankfurt has always set great store by the principles of sustainability. The development of Frankfurt into an international financial service hub would hardly be conceivable had it not been a thriving trade fair centre over the centuries, which gave also rise to the establishment of the Frankfurt stock exchange in 1585.

In other words, our commitment to corporate responsibility and sustainability is not a new concept, but is based on the close relationship forged in the course of more than 800 years of trade fair history between the city of Frankfurt and the state of Hesse, which are also owners of the company today.

Sustainability today means responsible business practices, something that encompasses economic,

ecological and social factors. In this sense, sustainability is a firmly established component of our business philosophy and culture and is reflected in our activities in all parts of the company around the globe. New regulations and activities are decided by a group-wide Advisory Committee. Adjusted to local parameters they are implemented decentrally, which demonstrates our strong local connection not just at our headquarters in Frankfurt but all over the world.

Since 2012, the claim "simply sustainable" along with a logo has been used to designate Messe Frankfurt's diverse CSR activities. The logo is currently available in a German and an Englisch version, and is planned to be translated into other languages for the international subsidiaries.



## Fields of activity

Credibility and lasting impact are the key criteria for selecting and implementing CSR activities which ideally complement Messe Frankfurt's portfolio. Our activities are divided into four fields.

In the field of Environment / Sustainability, we have implemented a number of ecological measures at our exhibition grounds, related for instance to energy efficiency, materials management, logistics and traffic.

Social Responsibility at Messe Frankfurt involves an obligation to our employees, our stakeholders and society in general. Of emphasis here are the above-average working conditions at our sites around the globe and our support for social institutions in the region.

In the area of Education / Science, Messe Frankfurt is systematically involved in the region in the long term. The company is proud to sponsor the Chair of International Economic Policy at Frankfurt University as part of its corporate citizenship. Furthermore, Akademie Messe Frankfurt serves as a comprehensive professional development network offering training and further qualification for employees, stakeholders and communities.

Messe Frankfurt's **Cultural Involvement** includes targeted sponsorship of events and organisations, awarding prizes for outstanding achievements in architecture, design and music, and organising the Luminale festival of lighting held in parallel to Light+Building.

## Activities worldwide

In 2011/2012, Messe Frankfurt increasingly focused on extending its CSR activities internationally. And with great success: through their own initiatives, our subsidiaries and branch offices share our CSR involvement throughout the world.

While Messe Frankfurt promotes a fair work climate by joining the Charter of Diversity in Germany, Messe Frankfurt Hong Kong emphasises its commitment in this area by being a member of the Equal Opportunities Commission (EOC). The aim is to promote diversity and equal opportunities for everyone.

Messe Frankfurt France shows its dedication to culture at the Ethical Fashion Show, where it

sponsors the Prix Ethical Fashion honouring the best sustainable fashion collection from an up-andcoming designer at the Dinard International Festival of Young Fashion Designers.

Mesago Messe Frankfurt in Japan is involved in social projects. Bottle caps are for example collected and donated there as part of the Ecocap Movement. The proceeds subsequently are used to finance lifesaving vaccines for children in developing countries.

## News 2011/2012

## Kap Europa congress building

We set ourselves the goal of creating one of the most standard. It will meet the highest standards for sustainable congress centres in the world. The new Kap Europa centre is currently being built in the immediate vicinity of the exhibition grounds.

In fact, Kap Europa will be the first conference building to be certified according to the recognised DGNB (German Sustainable Building Council)

sustainable construction and operation. On a total of four levels, Kap Europa will feature a large hall for 1,000 people, a smaller room for 600 which can be subdivided, and 12 additional conference rooms.

Construction has already begun, and the building is expected to open for business in summer 2014.



### Fair trade

Messe Frankfurt is pleased to serve exclusively fair trade coffee in its staff restaurants as of December 2011. By making this switch, we communicate our support for fair trade and increase awareness of this issue amongst our employees. Moreover, all employees help to reduce waste in the company: reusable porcelain coffee mugs have been available since late 2011 for coffee to go, instead of disposable cups.



### Zero-emission cars in the fleet of vehicles

Messe Frankfurt has added two zero-emission cars to its fleet of vehicles. The environmentally friendly technology of the new battery-driven E-cell and the hydrogen-powered F-cell vehicles is another contribution to sustainable business. Thus Messe Frankfurt

promotes the spread of innovative and environmental-friendly technologies. The two cars are used primarily on the exhibition grounds and within the city of Frankfurt, making them ideal vehicles for the needs of the company.

## Working conditions

Training and continuing education for our employees is of great importance to Messe Frankfurt. 23 apprentices are currently being trained in Frankfurt as office clerks, event managers, IT specialists and event technicians as part of our apprenticeship programmes and dual courses of study. To further promote training and a successful career start for young people, Messe Frankfurt also takes part in an initiative to help youth find apprenticeships and agrees to provide a long-term training position as part of this programme, which targets young people who would otherwise not find a trainee position on their own.

We offer our employees above-average working conditions at all of our locations including professio-

nal development and continuing education, for instance at Messe Frankfurt Akademie in Frankfurt. Moreover, comprehensive health management services are also available including smoking cessation programmes, sport courses and medical services. One of our highly successful initiatives is Brainfood, a series of courses on nutrition.

Messe Frankfurt conducts regular employee surveys, which are systematically evaluated and if required targeted measures are taken in response. The most recent survey once again indicated exceptionally high values for employee loyalty and satisfaction.

## Anti-corruption

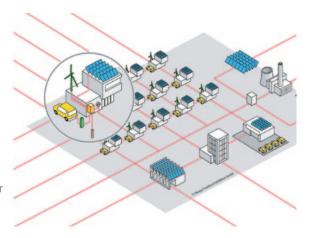
Messe Frankfurt works to prevent corruption amongst all group employees. There are unambiguous, mandatory rules for accepting gifts and favours. The objective is to avoid even the impression of conflicts of interest and illegal practices. If illegal methods are suspected, employees may anonymously contact an external ombudsman.

A new interactive behavioural training programme for preventing corruption increases awareness and provides concrete information and recommendations for behaviour. Information on this topic is summarised on the intranet and is accessible to every employee.

### **Smart Grids**

In 2012, the world's leading trade fair for lighting and building services technology, Light+Building, featured energy efficiency as top subject. An issue that is of vital importance for a sustainable future.

The so-called ,smart grid' is one solution in this context. In the special show "Buildings as power stations in the smart grid" visitors could experience and learn about the future of building technologies. The exhibition showcased the central building block of the smart grid: the networked building as a power station that generates, uses, stores and distributes energy locally.



### **Eco-fashion**

Messe Frankfurt and the International University of Art for Fashion Esmod (École Supérieure des Arts et Techniques de la Mode) have entered into a long-term partnership to jointly promote sustainability in the fashion industry. The aim of the cooperation is to establish environmentally friendly fashion produced in accordance with socially responsible standards amongst designers, producers and users. The issues of eco-fashion and sustainability will be successively integrated into the curriculum.

Messe Frankfurt has many years of experience and an international network in the field of textiles and sustainable fashion. We organise more than 30 international textile fairs every year. Messe Frankfurt already has two specialised events in sustainable fashion in its portfolio, the Ethical Fashion Show in Paris and the GREENshowroom in Berlin. The Ethical Fashion Show presents more than one hundred brands in this area, while the GREENshowroom highlights high-end fashion, accessories and lifestyle products.

Messe Frankfurt and Esmod look forward to developing a viable platform for fashion produced under environmentally friendly and socially responsible conditions and reinforcing the importance of eco-fashion in the long term.





## The UN Global Compacts ten principles

#### Human rights

Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed

human rights; and

Principle 2: make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.

#### Labour

Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition

of the right to collective bargaining;

Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;

Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour; and

Principle 6: the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

#### Environment

Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;

Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and

Principle 9: encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.

#### Anti-corruption

Principle 10: Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.

#### Messe Frankfurt GmbH

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