

COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS 2009

UN GLOBAL COMPACT

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CONTINUED SUPPORT FOR THE UN GLOBAL COMPACT

Ramboll is a leading engineering, design and consultancy company founded in Denmark in 1945 employing more than 8,000 ambitious experts with a significant presence in Northern Europe, India, Russia and the Middle East.

At Ramboll we constantly strive to achieve inspiring and exacting solutions that make a genuine difference to our customers, the end-users and society as a whole. We do that by balancing our views which means considering the impact and usability of our work including the long-lasting sustainable benefits to our customers and the local communities we operate in.

One of the founding fathers B.J. Rambøll has from the very beginning instilled Ramboll's strong ethical and human belief. This belief is the foundation for Ramboll's fundamentals – and e.g. reflected in our vision:

Ramboll is committed to helping create inspirational and long-standing solutions that allow people and nature to flourish

Based on Ramboll's fundamentals, Ramboll has for many years acknowledged and accepted responsibility as an international provider of knowledge services. Such responsibility applies towards employees, customers, shareholders and other business partners. But such responsibility does also mean that Ramboll must strive to ensure that our services contribute to sustainable development that benefits people and society around the world.

In natural continuation of Ramboll's fundamentals, our commitment to providing sustainable solutions to people and society, and the increased need for common Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) goals and procedures within Ramboll, we joined the UN Global Compact in January 2007. The UN Global Compact provides Ramboll with a platform for commitment to CSR and enables Ramboll to adopt an established and globally recognised policy framework

for the development, implementation, and disclosure of environmental, social, and governance policies and practices. The UN Global Compact also enables Ramboll to increase our CSR activities and advance focus and information on all current CSR activities for the benefit of our stakeholders. As participant of the UN Global Compact, Ramboll will make continuous and comprehensive efforts to advance the Global Compact Principle ten throughout Ramboll's operations – and work towards a globally approach to CSR.

In 2008 specific attention has been given to Ramboll's fundamentals through a brand development process finalised and introduced to all employees in November 2008, and also through a new set of Ramboll Governance Principles. Secondly, Ramboll has prioritised Principle ten in 2008 by aligning and implementing Business Integrity Management System (BIMS) into the Quality Management systems in all Ramboll Principal Business Units (PBUs). Further, specific focus has been to establish a common understanding and definition of CSR across all PBUs e.g. through senior management commitment and workshops with CSR representatives from the PBUs.

The alignment of the internal CSR understanding has been an important prerequisite for establishing a CSR Strategy for 2009 anchored in all PBUs. The Ramboll CSR Strategy 2009 was finalised and approved by the Group Executive Board and the PBU Managing Directors in December 2008. The implementation of the CSR strategy and the reporting hereof will be in strong focus in 2009.

Flemming Bligaard Pedersen
Group Chief Executive Officer
Ramboll Group

ENGAGEMENT IN GLOBAL COMPACT ACTIVITIES

In 2008 Ramboll has engaged in the UN Global Compact initiative – ‘BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES – Danish Architects and Engineers for the Global Compact’. Through showcasing the work of 21 companies the exhibition shows how architects and engineers take part in the creation of dignified and sustainable living conditions for human beings around the world. The Exhibition is shown at the Danish Architecture Centre in Copenhagen as the first stop on a worldwide tour.

BUILDING SUSTAINABLE COMMUNITIES

Danish Architects and Engineers for the Global Compact

Ramboll features the exhibition with the World Trade Centre in Bahrain. Three wind turbines, produced by Ramboll and Norwin, now sit as the first built in wind turbines ever as an integrated part of the new World Trade Centre in Bahrain. Together they contribute 11-15% of the total energy consumption of the building. The two towers – each 240 metres tall and including 50 floors of office space, hotel and shopping malls – function as flow channels that secure maximum wind for the turbines. The Building, designed by Atkins Architects, has received several awards for sustainability, among them the LEAF prize for ‘best use of large format technology’ in 2006.



BUSINESS INTEGRITY

The primary focus for Ramboll in 2008 has been the implementation and incorporation of a Business Integrity Management System into the established Quality Management Systems across all PBUs. The focus has very much been on aligning the organisation to be on the same level. Six out of nine PBUs have reached the target of BIMS implementation to be finalised in 2008, the remaining three PBUs will have BIMS implemented in 2009. Ramboll BIMS is based on the International Federation of Consulting Engineers' (FIDIC) BIMS guidelines, and the backbone is the Ramboll Code of Conduct and Code of Practice which reflect what have been Ramboll's fundamental values and business practices for many years.

Important aspects of Ramboll BIMS are for instance training of employees, especially new employees, on business integrity policies, E-learning, case stories/dilemmas etc. Critical projects must go through a detailed BIMS screening and hereafter the individual project is evaluated and necessary measures are taken. Moreover, Ramboll BIMS includes a Whistleblower function being monitored by the PBU Executive Management. In order to provide all employees with the opportunity to report on possible illegal acts and unethical occurrences related to the company's business practices, a common Whistleblower function has also been established in 2008.

At present the Whistleblower function is a direct link to Group CEO, Flemming Bligaard Pedersen.

Also in relation to society Ramboll has had focus on Business Integrity in 2008 as Ramboll helps governments, donor organisations and companies optimise their efforts to prevent corruption. Our services aim to strengthen national anti-corruption strategies, developing the institutions fighting corruption, engaging civil society and the general public in the fight against corruption, and helping companies avoid paying bribes. →

DESIGNING DONOR POLICIES BY STUDYING THE DYNAMICS OF CORRUPTION

Albania

Albania has had a reputation for pervasive corruption. As one of the lead international donors in that country working in a wide range of areas, The Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency (SIDA) decided to gain a better understanding of the nature of corruption in a few key sectors, namely the health sector, the judiciary and the public administration.

Insight into the nature of corruption

Ramboll conducted an in-country field study, desk research and consulted key experts to assess the problem of corruption in Albania. The study focused extensively on the dynamics and nature of corruption, including the severity of the problem, actors involved, transaction mechanisms and causes and consequences of the particular types of corruption studied.

By focusing on the problem (corruption) rather than the institutional set-up to fight it (anti-corruption), the study provides useful guidelines for mainstreaming anti-corruption in existing programmes and designing new ones.

FURTHER ENHANCEMENT OF ANTI-CORRUPTION EFFORTS

Lithuania

In connection with Lithuania's membership of the European Union there has been an intensified focus on a transparent and accountable public sector. The project was a continuation of previous efforts to build the capacity of the Lithuanian Special Investigation Service (STT) in order to enable them to strengthen their anti-corruption engagement.

Improving the fight against corruption

Ramboll managed the project and presented a team of core international and Lithuanian experts. The project overall focused on prevention of corruption, strengthening the enforcement capacities and raising anti-corruption awareness in Lithuania.

More specifically the project contributed to an improvement of the existing legislation on corruption by integrating Lithuanian best practice and international expertise. In addition, the project facilitated a better response and cooperation among law enforcement institutions by setting up an intelligence model and providing recommendations on future efforts. Finally, the project strengthened education and awareness on the area of anti-corruption in the country by targeting valuable information and knowledge to relevant stakeholders within the civil society, e.g. potential whistleblowers.

ENVIRONMENTALLY FRIENDLY TECHNOLOGIES

As Ramboll continuously strive to provide sustainable solutions to people and society focus has been on developing sustainable technologies that can decrease pollution e.g. in relation to CO2 emissions, water contamination and air pollution.

THE HOMES OF TOMORROW

A new type of houses is emerging in the wake of the focus on climate change and energy costs. These so called passive houses are seen as the solution to the challenging task to drastically reducing energy consumption in buildings.

In passive houses energy consumption for heating is minimal and the contribution to CO2 emissions is modest. The low heat consumption in these energy efficient homes is achieved by e.g. extra insulation, highly efficient windows, ventilation with efficient heat recovery and utilisation of passive solar heat. This means that the layout of the building has to be carefully thought through. Ramboll has designed passive houses in Denmark, Greenland, Sweden, Norway and the United Kingdom, and our experience within this field will be utilised in future building projects.

Sustainable one-family homes

In Skibet, Denmark, Ramboll is part of the design and construction process of the KOMFORT houses. These are an example of how one-family homes can become sustainable by ensuring minimal energy consumption without having to sacrifice architectural details or comfort. The aim is to unify Danish architecture with good indoor climate and low energy consumption.

Award-winning housing development

In Upton, the United Kingdom, we provided structural engineering, building services engineering and sustainability services on an award-winning scheme for a new housing development where high architectural standards are combined

with a strong sustainability agenda.

The project comprises 165 residences, which is a mix of houses and flats. Here, features such as solar panels, solar hot water, green roofs and facilities that reduce utilisation of energy and water ensure low energy consumption.

Low energy housing in an extreme climate

We have also provided full consultancy on an energy efficient house in Sisimiut, Greenland, just 50 km north of the Arctic Circle. The aim was to build a house that would consume half as much energy as prescribed by the building code. Due to the extreme climatic conditions with winter temperatures as low as -35°C , areas with permafrost, strong winds and very few solar hours during winter it was a particular challenge to reduce the heat consumption in the house. The results collected from this house will be used during a renovation of existing housing in Greenland, as well as future construction projects. →



SECURING SAFE DRINKING WATER

Finding sustainable water supplies

In Bangladesh, naturally occurring high levels of arsenic found in groundwater have undermined the decade long success of supplying 97% of its population with safe drinking water. As a consequence, the safe water coverage has dropped drastically and an estimated 30-70 million people are at risk. The harmful effects of arsenic poisoning surface decades after the actual poisoning occurs. High arsenic levels result in, among other things, pigmentation changes, cancer, tumours, liver damage and diabetes.

There is an urgent need to find practical solutions to obtain safe and clean drinking

water. In some parts of Bangladesh, local drillers are now targeting presumed safe groundwater on the basis of the local colour of the sediments and its texture. It seems that red sediments are low in arsenic and may function as a natural arsenic filter due to high contents of iron-oxyhydroxides (rust) that can adsorb mobilised arsenic. It has been scientifically verified as a viable solution and the objective of the research project is to validate if this method is sustainable in the long run. In time, there could be a risk that the clean water from the red sediments will be contaminated with arsenic if water from the above layers flows downwards.

Predictive groundwater simulations

The study area, located 60 km south east of Dhaka, is one of the most arsenic affected districts in the world. By using data from ongoing field and laboratory research Ramboll are running predictive groundwater simulations in order to ascertain whether or not the targeted groundwater bearing sediments are sustainable. By cooperating with Bangladeshi organisations the outcome can be implemented in Water Safety Plans by local authorities.

The project runs simultaneously and in close collaboration with a MISTRA funded project managed by KTH, Stockholm, Dhaka University and NGO Forum for Drinking Water and Sanitation, Bangladesh. →



SMOKELESS FLARE, QATAR

Stopping air pollution

Ramboll was given the task of remodelling and enlarging an existing old flare system at the Dukhan oil field on the west coast of Qatar. In addition, we were to find a method for reclaiming some of the gas that would otherwise be burnt in the tower. At last, we were to implement improved combustion technology to obtain what is known as a “smokeless flare” – which means a flame without smoke.

For many years, the Dukhan oil field has suffered from highly polluting smoke from the flares. Especially during wind still periods, there has been a heavy cloud of smog over the area. With the new technology, compressed air is pumped into the flame and burning gas, using a special nozzle system, whereby an improved and smokeless combustion is achieved.

New combustion technology

Ramboll introduced new technology to prevent the polluting and unhealthy smog from the flare tower on the oil

and gas system. The flare system on oil and gas installations is used to collect and burn gas from the installation. It is used for example when it is required to relieve the installation from too high gas pressure or when it is required to empty and close down the installation. The gas is led to the flare tower, where an eternal small flame is burning – which then ignites evacuated gas and burns it off.

A couple of years ago, Ramboll performed a similar project for RasGas (a big Liquefied Natural Gas company in Qatar). Here, there were also problems with a highly polluting flare, and we designed an improved system with a very good effect on the combustion.



COMMUNITY INTERACTIONS

It is important for Ramboll to have close relations with the end-users of our consultancy services and also with the society within we operate as Ramboll has a deeply ingrained 'people first' view of the world. This view will always be maintained in Ramboll as the Ramboll Group's majority shareholder, the Ramboll Foundation, at all times must endeavour to ensure that the company maintains its basic values; high ethical standards, a sense of responsibility, and an awareness of its obligations to society.

Apart from the primary role above, the Ramboll Foundation is also granting financial support in three areas:

- Financial support for innovative research, studies, and education
- Financial support to former and present employees in difficult situations
- Financial support for charity and purposes of public utility

The Ramboll Foundation has made a number of donations to charity in the Nordic countries and the United Kingdom. In 2007 and 2008 together, the Ramboll Foundation donated more than DKK 500,000 to charity projects.

FOCUS AREAS IN 2009

Ramboll has in its CSR strategy for 2009 prioritised a continued strong focus on Principle ten of the Global Compact; Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery. Secondly, labour standards will be in strong focus as Ramboll will take a closer look at what measures can be taken within Principle three; Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; Principle five; the effective abolition of child labour; and; Principle six; the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation. Further, Ramboll will expand its environmental focus by prioritising Principle seven; Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges. In 2009 specific attention will also be given to measurement of outcomes to be included in Ramboll's holistic reporting.

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