

Co-operation aimed at socially-responsible development



In essence a mutual and co-operative bank, Crédit Mutuel aims to provide all customers with the best service at the best price: members being at the heart of its development. Its strategy places values such as accountability, solidarity and social involvement on a par with competitive service.

Accountability is found at the level of the local Caisse, which is closest to the members and their needs, through the non remunerated directors elected by them.

Crédit Mutuel's co-operative status guarantees independence and openness: the group belongs only to its shareholding members, who are shareholders as well as clients.

The reserves are the foundation of the associated entities' joint responsibility, for the protection of savings and for financing continuous development.

More than a mere economic player, Crédit Mutuel considers itself accountable towards its clients and the environment at large.

The group provides practical solutions for present-day economic issues:

- by playing an active role in the community to prevent social exclusion, helping young people, training them for the banking profession, advising them on finance management so as to avoid over-extended credit.
- by promoting social insertion through involvement in job creation, finding employment for people in difficult situations, reassuring them, and providing support for socially aware businesses that are recruiting staff.

Crédit Mutuel has also played a distinctive role in the fields of social integration, entrepreneurship and co-operation for many years. It has further developed an original sponsorship formula on the theme of reading. Crédit Mutuel is committed to the service of socially responsible development.

As a result, Crédit Mutuel is a signatory to the Global Compact, a United Nations initiative, promoting corporate responsibility in the field of human rights, labour standards, and the environment.



The 10 Global Compact Principles

HUMAN RIGHTS

- 1 Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally human rights within their sphere of influence.
- 2 Businesses should make sure their own corporations are not complicit in human rights abuses.

LABOUR STANDARDS

- 3 Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition to collective bargaining.
- 4 Businesses should uphold the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour.
- 5 Businesses should uphold the effective elimination of child labour.
- 6 Businesses should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

THE ENVIRONMENT

- 7 Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.
- 8 Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibilities.
- 9 Business should encourage the development and diffusion of environmental friendly technologies.

ANTI-CORRUPTION

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