

Futureye

Global Compact Communication on Progress

Overview

Futureye is a strategy and communications house that develops solutions for organisations to meet the challenges of sustainable development.

By the nature of our work our commitment to the principles of the global compact are integral. We understand the emerging gap between community expectations and corporate behaviour and we share our wisdom with others. We help organisations get their head around sustainability and corporate responsibility. We also teach organisations how transparency can improve their reputation and lead to greater longevity.

The Futureye global compact commitment addresses each of the three broad global compact areas: human rights, labour and environment with a greater emphasis on those principles that relate more directly to our business.

We will develop policies and procedures that cover all areas of our business including:

- Internal operations
- External operations
- Community engagement

Internal Operations

Human Rights

Objective: To minimise and eliminate support to companies that practice or condone human rights abuses

Aim: To develop purchasing policies and procedures supporting those companies with an adequate human rights record

Actions:

- Audit current purchasing behaviour
- Develop policies and procedures
- Implement policies and procedures

Labour

Objective: To create a working environment that supports the principles related to labour

Aim: To ensure staff and contractors are aware of their rights and have freedom to use them

Actions:

- Audit policies, contracts and procedures to identify gaps and then develop appropriate policies and procedures
- Promote labour rights in advertising for new employees
- Maintain and support diversity in the workforce
- Continue to enhance opportunities for a flexible working environment that enables staff to achieve work life balance

In Progress: Futureye is currently a small diverse team. It provides part-time work and flexible working conditions for staff.

Environment

Objective: To minimise environmental impact of our business operations to zero

Aim: To develop policies and procedures that minimise environmental impact and develop opportunities to mitigate impact

Action:

- Audit current practices including purchasing behaviour, paper usage, energy use, greenhouse gas emissions and waste.
- Identify major issues and develop improvement and mitigation programs eg explore the development of a program to mitigate Co2 from travel km's via a tree planting project together with clients

In Progress:

- Recycle printer cartridges
- Recycle and re-use office paper
- Support staff working from home
- Eliminate correspondence by fax through preferring e-mail

External Operations

General

Futureye frequently works with organisations that have come to the realisation that they must change their behaviour if they are to achieve a license to operate. The frameworks we support a sustainability model and the principles of the global compact. In analysing an organisations 'risk' of outrage we are privy to information regarding the organisations human rights, labour and environmental performance. We shall support the organisation if it is willing to change, however must develop a process that enables us to step-down from the partnership if we feel there is no willingness to change. This is the greatest impact we can have in support of the global compact.

Human Rights

Objective: To minimise direct and indirect support of human rights abuses

Aim: To develop policies and procedures that minimise the potential for our organisation to support human rights abuses.

Actions:

- Develop a client rating system / questionnaire that would help establish the performance of organisations that wish to engage us
- Refuse to work with organisations that knowingly participate in or condone human rights abuses and are unwillingly to acknowledge or change their behaviour

Labour Rights

Objective: To ensure the organisations we work with comply to labour rights principles

Aim: To develop policies and systems that ensure we do not work with organisation with questionable labour rights behaviour

Actions: To develop a client rating system / questionnaire that would help establish the performance of organisations who wish to engage us

Environment

Objective: To minimise our impact on the environment and to ensure the organisations we work with support and contribute to this objective

Aim: To develop policies and processes that measure and track our environmental performance and develop targets to improve our performance

Actions:

- Audit current practices including purchasing behaviour, paper usage, energy use, greenhouse gas emissions and waste.
- Identify major issues and develop improvement and mitigation programs.

Community Engagement

Part of the vision for Futureye is to engender the understanding of sustainability with those people we work and network with. We want more people to support sustainable development. As part of our commitment to the global compact we will continue to use our membership and client base to communicate and educate about the benefits of sustainable and the value of tools such as the global compact. We will actively advocate for its principles and its practice.

Advocacy

Objective: To advocate for the principle and practice of the Global Compact

Aim: Encourage more organisations to adopt Global Compact Principles

Actions:

- Use Futureye membership forums and newsletter to highlight the benefits of Global Compact
- Educate our clients about the value of the global compact where appropriate
- Use the global compact as part of our evaluation tools

In progress:

- Recent Futureye newsletter included an article on GRI referring also to the Global Compact
- Futureye is engaged in an Australian Research Council project with the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law and other industry partners in a project to examine the legal responsibilities of corporations, particular multinational corporations, in relation to human rights.

Pro-bono

Objective: To contribute to the community through pro-bono work

Aim: To develop ways for Futureye to be involved with the community as part of their paid and unpaid hours

Actions:

- Evaluate the contribution Futureye, as a team or staff, as individuals participate in the development of social capital
- Encourage staff to participate in the community through pro-bono work

In Progress:

- Katherine Teh-White –
 - Committee Member Victorian Statewide Committee on Violence Against Women in the Workplace
 - Convenor WASH
- Vickie Burkinshaw
 - Chair – Young Women’s Housing Shopfront
 - Committee Member – Foundation for Young Australians Capacity Building