

Sedex UNGC

Communication on Engagement (COE) 2016

Statement from the CEO



Dear Mr. Secretary General,

I am pleased to confirm Sedex's continued support for the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles.

Sedex is a global collaborative platform for its members to share ethical supply chain data. This includes areas of Human Rights, Labour, Environment and Anti-Corruption.

Sedex is dedicated to driving improvements in responsible and ethical business practices in global supply chains of its members.

We recognise the vital role that the UNGC plays in advancing sustainable development across the global business community.

As a non-business signatory we will continue to promote the values of the UNGC with our members and stakeholders.

The Communication of Engagement (COE) below, outlines the actions and outcomes that our organization has taken over the last two years to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles.

We welcome any feedback.

Yours sincerely,

Jonathan Ivelaw-Chapman

Chief Executive Officer, SEDEX.



PART 1

Attract new participants to the UN Global Compact through their outreach efforts and awareness raising



ACTION (BY SEDEX)

The Global Compact has been exposed via the following high profile Sedex and partner events:

Sedex China Conference 2016 | In June 2016, Sedex China Conference brought together hundreds of leaders in responsible sourcing for discussion, insight, networking and practical advice – all under the theme of sustainable supply chains and collaboration. UNGC played a key role, with guest speaker Guowei Zhao, Global Compact Network China. Zhao spoke on the Global Compact's work in China and shared case studies from its members who are developing sustainable supply chains. The event was attended by over 250 participants, including international brands and buyers, traders, suppliers, audit organisations, consulting firms, industry associations and standard organisations. Participants included local companies and organisations from China, and also those from Japan, India, UK, France, US and Chile [view here](#).

Sedex Global Conference 2016 | In March 2016 Sedex brought over 700 leaders in responsible sourcing together for two days of discussion, insight, networking and practical advice at the Barbican Centre in London. Attendees from over 40 countries joined the event both in person and online to hear from experts on a range of key topics around the theme of “simplifying supply chain sustainability”. The conference agenda covered key sustainability areas raising awareness of the 10 principles of the UNGC with members and attendees alike.

Topics covered [the future of auditing, to modern slavery legislation](#), to [simplifying responsible business practices](#) and collaboration, to [best practice in carbon and agricultural sustainability measurement](#).

Sedex Global Responsible Sourcing Conference 2015: Supplying The Future: Supply Chains & The Post-2015 Development Agenda | In March 2015 the Sedex Global Responsible Sourcing Conference saw more than 650 participants – plus an online audience of over 250 people, doubling the attendees from the previous year. The theme of the conference was the post-2015 development agenda and panelists discussed various aspects of the Sustainable Development Goals. Attendees represented over 45 countries and world-leading brands such as Nestlé, Bacardi, Marks & Spencer, Tesco, SAB Miller, Procter & Gamble, BBC Worldwide and Sky gathered for the cutting edge debate and discussion.

The **Executive Director, UN Global Compact, Georg Kell** provided the day's key note speech, which has also received over 450 hits on YouTube since the event. The Key note speeches and panel debates can be viewed [here](#) and [here](#).

Sedex & UNGC-U.S. Network Webinar: Introducing The Principles of Responsible Supply Chain Management | In October 2014 Sedex U.S. delivered a free webinar combining the collective expertise of Sedex and the U.S. Network, which brings business,



The Sustainable Development Goals: a
global call to action



UN agencies, civil society and governments together to advance the UNGC 10 universal principles in the areas of human rights, labor, environment and anti-corruption. Attendees heard practical advice for managing ethical standards in their supply chain, as speakers drew from case studies and their experience of working with organisations both in the U.S. and around the world. Since then this event has received over 240 views on YouTube [view here](#).

Over the last two years Sedex has held a number of smaller outreach events in the UK, as well as two Sedex launch events in Peru and Australia. – These events have provided a platform for members and non members to gather and share in more detail the principles of responsible sourcing and discuss innovative ways to improve ethical standards. Directly and indirectly this has provided a platform to highlight the UNGC 10 key principles and share Sedex's commitment to these.

- [Sedex Global Auditing Conference 2015: Innovative Practices to Improve Ethical Standards and Responsible Sourcing](#)
- [Sedex Lima, Peru: Business Development Workshop, April 2015](#)
- [Sedex Australia: Sustainable Supply Chain and Ethical Sourcing Symposium, October 2014](#)

Since the launch of the partnership between GCLN-UK and Sedex in June 2013, Sedex has continued to develop joint webinars and events – Over the last four years this partnership has built a more formal and visible output with the UNGC, raising awareness and profile for the UNGC and Sedex in its role as non-business signatory. The partnership provides UNGC greater exposure amongst Sedex's community of 38,000+ buyers and suppliers, along with additional engagement and membership recruitment opportunities. Benefits are mutual to Sedex members as the partnership allows both organisations to scale up their events programme to offer regular supply chain specific events; facilitating opportunities for dialogue and engagement with Sedex stakeholders, providing UNGC with a forum to engage the Sedex membership.

Over the last two years Sedex has also provided exposure, outreach and support for the Global Compact in external events attended by Sedex – From October 2014 to September 2016 key Sedex personnel were asked to represent and speak at the following industry events alongside leading multinationals, suppliers, trade bodies, NGOs and other experts. These events covered topics relevant to the UNGC and as active members of UNGC and GCLN-UK, Sedex used these opportunities to promote its membership and to raise awareness of the UNGC 10 principles.



BanKi Moon honours Georg Kell for his contribution and service to [@globalcompact](#) [#GlobalCompact15](#)



Global Compact +15 Europe: The Future of Corporate Sustainability and The UN Global Compact in Europe

Sedex Speaker Jo Webb, Head of Stakeholder Relations
– October 2015

Trade for Sustainable Development Forum 2015

Sedex Speaker Jo Webb, Head of Stakeholder Relations
– October 2015

DQS Sustainability Conference

Stephan Croset, Sedex's Senior Sales & Project Coordinator attended and Sedex exhibited at this event
– September 2015

British Safety Annual Conference

Sedex speaker Oliver Jackson, Stakeholder Manager –
September 2015

Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR)

Sedex Speaker Jo Webb, Head of Stakeholder Relations
– September 2015

Bloomberg Intelligence Analyst Briefing: ESG Investment Implications in the Supply Chain

Sedex speaker Mark Robertson, Head of Communications, Sedex Global – February 2015

Trade for Sustainable Development Forum

Speaker Tom Smith, Head of Insight and Planning at Sedex – October 2014

MEASUREMENT/OUTCOME

Participation in Sedex events are proving a successful channel for exposure of the UNGC and the 10 principles. Sedex's role as a non-business signatory allows UNGC to reach new industries and stakeholders in Sedex's network [view here.](#)

- Over the past two years Sedex and the Global Compact have successfully co-hosted five webinars and three in-person events. In addition, representatives from the Global Compact have spoken at, or chaired, at least two global high profile Sedex events.
- Events have covered a wide range of issues - including human trafficking, corruption, worker well being, climate change, water scarcity, and cross-cutting themes – including innovation and sustainable change, responsible supply chain management, organisational structure for sustainability and many more. Events have attracted over 2500 participants.
- Films, webinars and videos –recordings from these events and the GCLN and Sedex webinar series published via [Sedex's YouTube Channel](#) have received over 41,000 views since Sedex established the channel in 2011, and almost 11,000 views over the last two years.
- Regular exposure of the Global Compact to Sedex's community of 38,000 buyer and supplier members via news releases and stories published on the Sedex website (320,000+ visits per year) and UNGC repeatedly profiled via the Sedex members' quarterly newsletter – published in Chinese, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish - and sent to over 115,000 corporate sustainability contacts around the world.
- Regular UNGC promotion via Sedex social media channels (to 5,000+ Twitter, 3,000+ LinkedIn and hundreds of Facebook followers), and over the last two years there have been over 150 Sedex tweets referencing the UNGC.

PART 2

Organise learning and dialogue events, workshops and training for their members on the UNGC and specific topics relevant to the corporate sustainability

ACTION (BY SEDEX)

Over the past two years of the membership with UNGC, Sedex has developed a number of key supply chain specific events and webinars to raise awareness of the 10 principles of the UNGC in relation to the supply chain, as well as educate members on the wider issues around corporate responsibility and sustainability. Over the last two years eight events have been produced jointly with UNGC Local Networks and 14 additional events have been produced by Sedex itself.

Past joint events, GCLN & Sedex:

GCLN-UK & Sedex: Dialogue On Refugees in Supply Chains

Held: 30th June 2016 – Roundtable

GCLN-UK & Sedex: The Impacts of Climate Change in Humanity and Supply Chains, and What Companies Can Do About It

Held: 24th November 2015 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

GCLN-UK & Sedex: Harnessing Supply Chain Data for Innovation and Sustainable Change

Held: 15th September 2015 – Event

[Click here for more information](#)

GCLN-UK & Sedex: Improving Worker Well-Being in The Workplace

Held: 22nd April 2015 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex & UNGC-U.S.: The Impact of Corruption On the Supply Chain

Held: 3rd December 2014 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

GCLN-UK & Sedex: Water Scarcity, A Threat to Business as Usual

Held: 11th November 2014 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

GCLN-UK & Sedex: Supply Chain Forum, Managing for Supply Chain Sustainability

Held: 15th October 2014 – Event

[Click here for more information](#)

GCLN-U.S. Network & Sedex: Introducing The Principles of Responsible Supply Chain Management

Held: 1st October 2014 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex 2016年中国负责任供应链会议

Sedex 2016 China Responsible Supply Chain Conference



Past Sedex events relevant to corporate sustainability:

Tackling Forced Labor in Supply Chains

Held: 27th May and 2nd June 2016 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex Resources: What to Expect from a Social Audit

Held: 2nd and 9th February 2016 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex Resources: So You Have Had a Social Audit, What's Next?

Held: 8th and 15th December 2015 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex Resources: Preparing for SMETA

Held: 14th October 2015 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex Resources Webinar

Held 28th July and 5th August 2015 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex Business Development Workshop, Lima Peru

Held: 23rd April 2015 – In person

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex and CRT Japan Event: Bringing Transparency to Multi-Tier Supply Chains

Held: 21st and 22nd April 2015 – In person

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex: Introduction to Responsible Sourcing

Held: 18th November 2014 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex: Webinar for US Brands and Retailer SMETA Users

Held: 10th Oct 2014 – Webinar

[Click here for more information](#)

Sedex Australia: Sustainable Supply Chain and Ethical Sourcing Symposium

Held: 8th and 9th October 2014 – In Person

[Click here for more information](#)

See more at:

www.sedexglobal.com/sedex-ungc-uk-events/



MEASUREMENT/OUTCOME

The Sedex and GCLN events partnership over the last two years has continued to prove incredibly popular, attracting greater interest year on year.

Key achievements since October 2014:

- A total of eight events have been co-hosted with Sedex and UNGC over the last two years: five webinars and three in-person events.
- 14 additional events have been hosted by Sedex during this time to educate members and others on corporate sustainability issues.
- UNGC events and webinars over the last two years have been attended by thousands of people. On average, webinars have attracted over 100 attendees per session and our most popular webinar to date “Tackling forced labor in supply chains” attracted 225 and 177 participants on the two dates it was offered.
- Through the webinars Sedex attracted an average of 50-60% Sedex members and 40-50% non-Sedex members – making it evident that the webinars are an effective forum for both member and non-member engagement.
- Over the last two years the events have achieved representation from a wide range of organisations, which includes retailers/brands, NGOs, suppliers, media and other (academia, consultants and the auditing community).
- GCLN-U.S. and Sedex delivered two introductory webinars in the U.S. over the last two years. Both events proved successful attracting good attendance and receiving over 500 hits on YouTube since they were uploaded in December 2014. No doubt the exposure of the series with other Global Compact networks has helped to establish a positive reception in the U.S.
- Apart from the main events in the UK and U.S. Sedex has also held awareness raising events in Japan, Peru and Australia to expand the network and to provide a platform to discuss key corporate sustainability issues.
- Most Sedex events are posted on YouTube so members and interested parties can continue to gain access to this information. Over the last two years Sedex videos on YouTube have received almost 11,000 new hits, and a total of 41,000 views since 2013.

Provide their expertise and/or the voice of their members to Global Compact working groups and specific initiatives



ACTION (BY SEDEX)

Sedex has been an active participant in Global Compact working groups, events and activities; regularly contributing expertise on supply chain and responsible sourcing issues. Highlights include:

- Jo Webb, Head of Stakeholder Relations at Sedex sat on the GCLN-UK Board of Directors from June 2014 – November 2015. A role that supports and provides guidance to the Network Secretariat to meet all statutory obligations.
- Jo Webb, Head of Stakeholder Relations at Sedex provided the key note speech for the first Global Compact Leaders Summit in Berlin in October 2015.

Sedex has continued to be a formal member of the UNGC Supply Chain Sustainability Advisory Group

- Sedex regularly attends in person meetings and webinars of the advisory group contributing business and supply chain expertise into that forum.
- Sedex gathered member perspectives to contribute to the working group. Presenting buyers, suppliers, and auditor views and their specific challenges was appreciated as a counter balance to a purely corporate view.
- Sedex also actively contributed to the update of the Supply Chain Sustainability: Guide to Continuous Improvement publication, which includes Sedex references and accreditation.

This has also become the Global Compact's most downloaded publication [view here](#).

- Sedex also contributed to the Supply Chain Sustainability task forces, including Traceability and Supporting your SME suppliers.

Sedex sat on the Anti-Corruption Working Group from 2012 until November 2015

- Sedex regularly attended in person meetings and webinars of the advisory group contributing business and supply chain expertise from their members into that forum.

Sedex actively attends UN and Global Compact events including:

UNGC-UK Event: Dialogue on Refugees in Supply Chains.

Justin Betty represented Sedex at this event on 30th June 2016

UNGC-UK Event: Advancing Responsible Business Practices in Land, Construction and Real Estate Use and Investment.

Kerry-Ann Francis represented Sedex at this event on 1st February 2016

Global Compact +15 Europe: The Future of Corporate Sustainability and The UN Global Compact in Europe.

Jo Webb, Head of Stakeholder Relations, was the key note speaker at this event in October 2015

Global Compact +15 New York: Business as A Force for Good, UNGC Leaders Summit.

Jo Webb, Head of Stakeholder Relations, attended this event in June 2015

UNGC-UK Event: Empowering Women Across the Business

Oliver Jackson represented Sedex at this event on 14th May 2015

Sedex supported UN organisations on small and medium enterprises (SMEs) consultations for the post-2015 development agenda. In 2015 Sedex worked with UNGC and UNIDO on gathering SMEs input for the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), expanding on the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs). In drawing up a new plan for the SDGs Sedex were delighted to reach out to its membership (with 70% of members having less than 250 employees) to provide input via the UK network to help shape these new global priorities [view here](#).

A copy of the UNGC and UNIDO concluding report on the SME consultations is available [here](#).

MEASUREMENT/OUTCOME

Sedex has continued to contribute to the outputs of GCLN-UK Board of Directors, the Supply Chain Sustainability Advisory Group, task forces, and a number of UNGC events over the last two years.

- The UNGC benefits from Sedex's involvement in the UNGC activity via regular exposure to Sedex's community of 38,000 buyer and supplier members and wider network of over 100,000 corporate sustainability contacts around the world.
- Sedex news releases and stories are published on the Sedex website (320,000 visits per year) and UNGC is repeatedly profiled via the Sedex members' quarterly newsletter – published in Chinese, English, French, Portuguese and Spanish - and sent to over 115,000 corporate sustainability contacts.
- Regular UNGC promotion via Sedex social media channels (to 5,000+ Twitter, 3,000 LinkedIn and hundreds of Facebook followers), and over the last two years there have been over 150 Sedex tweets referencing the UNGC.



About Sedex's COE Report:

Report covers Sedex's entire period as a Non-Business Signatory, from October 2014 until October 2016

About Sedex

Sedex Global (sedexglobal.com)

Our mission is to drive collaboration, increase transparency and build the capacity that's needed to raise standards across all tiers of the supply chain. We offer the world's largest collaborative platform for managing and sharing ethical supply chain data, along with leading edge services which multi-national companies use to understand, monitor and manage supply chains risks and improve standards.

Sedex works to drive engagement up and down the supply chain, encouraging follow up corrective actions on audits and facilitating dialogue to address challenges 'on the ground'. We collaborate with a range of stakeholders to share insights and promote best practice on responsible supply chain issues.

Sedex offers a range of services to enable effective responsible supply chain management. See: www.sedexglobal.com/member-services

Europe

Sedex Information Exchange,
5th Floor,
24 Southwark Bridge Road,
London
SE1 9HF
+44 (0)20 7902 2320

North America

Sedex Information Exchange,
26th Floor
405 Lexington Avenue, New York City,
New York
10174
+1 888 487 6146

China

Sedex Information Exchange,
Apollo Building
1440 Yan An Road (Central),
Shanghai
200041
+86 (0)21 6103 1622