



# 2024

# Federation of Industrial Associations (SEDEFED) UN Global Compact Communication of Engagement



# 10 Principles of Global Compact

#### 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.

# Message from the President of the Board



The Federation of Sectoral Associations, which was founded 20 years ago as a need during the harmonization process of our country with the European Union and consists of 48 associations operating in different sectors, constitutes an important unity and diversity for our business world.

We attach great importance to the value created by our sectors, member associations and organizations that are the wheels of the economy, and their contribution to our society and people. We contribute to the technical and commercial development of our members through cooperation with our national and international stakeholders.

Our member associations represent 12000 business people in our business world. Our associations, which operate in many different fields, give strength to SEDEFED and increase our contribution to our country. The biggest strength of SEDEFED is our confederation TÜRKONFED, our founding member TÜSİAD and other member associations. I am pleased to confirm that Federation of Industrial Associations supports the ten principles of the UN Global Compact with respect to human rights, labour, environment, and anti-corruption. We reaffirm our intent to advance these principles within our sphere of influence, and will make a clear statement of this commitment to our stakeholders and the general public.

Emine ERDEM
President of the Board of Directors

## About SEDEFED

Established in 2004, SEDEFED (Federation of Industrial Associations) currently represents 48 sectoral associations and over 12000 businesspeople. From machine manufacturing to plastics and chemical industries, we represent the strongest sectors in Turkey, create added value to the competitiveness of our sectors and economy, carry out advocacy activities, and create content to public policy-making processes through our publications, e- bulletins, sector-specific round-table meetings, and other activities.

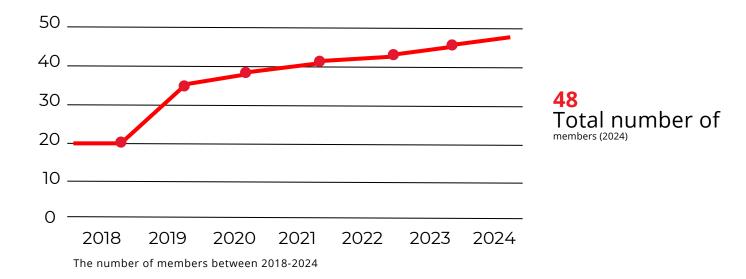
SEDEFED also organizes the annual Competitiveness Congress which has become its trademark. The 15th Competitiveness Congress was held on the 28th of November 2024 with a focus on the "Sectors of the Second Century".

As a member of Turkish Enterprise and Business Confederation (TÜRKONFED), SEDEFED is part of the Collective Wisdom Platform. SEDEFED is also a member of SMEUnited through its membership to TÜRKONFED. For more information, please check our website: http://sedefed.org/



# Federation Activities (2018-2024)

Since 2018, SEDEFED extended its outreach by admitting 28 new members. These new members representing different sectors and companies brought SEDEFED's representative number of 12.000 companies and individuals.



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Increase in the number of members in 6 years

#### Competitiveness Congress

SEDEFED also organizes the annual Competitiveness Congress which has become its trademark. The15th Competitiveness Congress was held on the 28th of November 2024 with a focus on the "Sectors of the Second Century". The 14th Competitiveness Congress was held on the 9th of November 2023 with a focus on the "Digital and Green transitioning Sectors" The congress is held on annually by SEDEFED.

#### 14th Competitiveness Congress







# 15th Competitiveness Congress











### Policy Making, Advocacy and Raising Awareness

SEDEFED still in collaboration with Ernst&Young Turkey and the "Incentives and Customs E-Bulletin" which is shared with our database of over 5000 receivers. SEDEFED also issues a "Tax E-Bulletin" in collaboration with PwC Turkey.

Construction Sector and Automotive Industry indices, which are members of SEDEFED, continue to be published monthly as online reports. Furthermore, The 14th Competition Congress Report and the 15th Competition Congress Report have been published.

'Risk, Crisis, Communication Management in Natural Disasters Publication', which is about managing the crisis environment experienced during disaster periods and what institutional structures can do in these periods, was published in cooperation with TÜHİD. The academic study, which serves as a source for universities, was published on the website and published as a hard copy.

















#### **Projects**

#### Golden Compass Public Relations Awards

In order to promote and encourage successful public relations, the "Golden Compass Public Relations Awards" have been presented by the Turkish Public Relations Association since 1999. We have been presenting awards in association status in the 'SEDEFED Special Award' category in cooperation with TÜHİD for 3 years.





18.10.2023 - Golden Compass Awards - İSTANBUL

#### Human Rights Due Diligence Training

Human Rights Due Diligence Training was held hosted by SEDEFED. It was created to support the Human Rights Due Diligence training hosted by the Federation of Sectoral Associations (SEDEFED) within the scope of the "Business and Human Rights Project" carried out in partnership with the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) and the Government of Japan and in the implementing partnership of the Turkish Business Confederation (TÜRKONFED). The project was developed with global partnership. The scope of the project aims to support companies to respect human rights in their global supply chains and to ensure more widespread use of the UN Business and Human Rights Guiding Principles, increased awareness and institutional capacity development for a fair recovery. With the Awareness Raising Training, a one-day training was provided to increase the level of knowledge and awareness of companies in the field of business world and human rights, and to identify areas of need in this field.





15.05.2023- BHR Trainig - İSTANBUL

#### **Economy & Finance Meetings**

Economy & Finance Meetings: Investment Alternatives and Risk Management Event Economy & Finance Meetings: Investment Alternatives and Risk Management event, hosted by the Federation of Sectoral Associations (SEDEFED), with the cooperation and contributions of the Turkish Business Confederation (TÜRKONFED), Integral Investment, 30 May 2023 It was held at Hilton Istanbul Bomonti Hotel.



30.05.2023 - Economy & Finance Meetings - İSTANBUL

#### Green Transition Event for SMEs

Green Transition Event for SMEs, hosted by SEDEFED, in cooperation with TÜRKONFED and KAS Turkey, under the theme of Green Transition Project for SMEs - My Companion, which was implemented to raise the awareness of business people in Anatolia about green transformation; It held the second event of its 3rd term in Istanbul on June 15, 2023.





15.06.2023 - Green Transition Event for SMEs - İSTANBUL

#### The Container City Project -KASABA

The Container City Project (KASABA), which consists of three parts in total, including approximately 300 containers with a total capacity of 1,500 people, in Hatay Samandağ, with SEDEFED, TÜRKONFED and Habitat Association, was completed in October 2023. Three regions, formed under the umbrella of the Joint Cooperation Platform, were created with the contributions of Philips Turkey and Borusan Holding.In addition to the shelter areas, the prepared towns also include areas such as psychosocial support, a library, a coding class and a wood painting workshop.

In addition to just meeting the shelter needs of the region, it will offer advantages such as priority support, commission discounts and advertising support to SMEs and tradesmen operating in the earthquake zone, in cooperation with Hepsiburada, in terms of developing economic activities and establishing business areas.







05.11.2023 - KASABA Project - Samandağ/HATAY

#### **Brussel Visitations**

Brussels Visits held together with TÜRKONFED have been completed. TÜRKONFED-SEDEFED Delegation held a series of meetings with official representatives of the Republic of Turkey, senior officials of the EU Commission and managers of organizations representing the business world, including the European SME Association. In Turkey-EU relations, the integration process, updating the Customs Union, energy, trade, EU funds, green and digital transformation, visa issue and refugee issues were included.



25/28.06.2023 - Brussel Visits



29/03/2024

SDF/B\$K/09/1/002

To our stakeholders,

I am pleased to confirm that SEDEFED reaffirms its support to the United Nations Global Compact and its Ten Principles in the areas of Human Rights, Labor, Environment and Anti-Corruption. This is our Communication on Engagement with the United Nations Global Compact. We welcome feedback on its contents.

In this Communication of Engagement, we describe the actions that our organization has taken to support the UN Global Compact and its Principles. We also commit to sharing this information with our stakeholders using our primary channels of communication.

Sincerely yours,

**Emine Erdem** 

President

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