



SDG Briefing

May 2018



INTRODUCTION

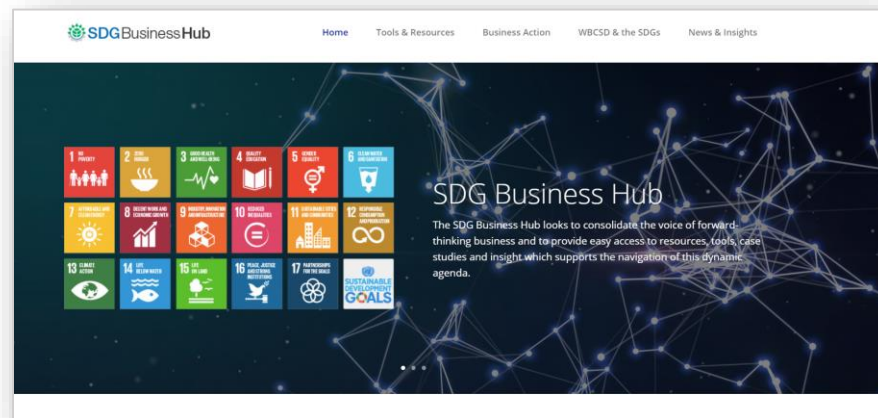
ABOUT THIS BRIEFING

Advancing the conversation around business and the Sustainable Development Goals.

Through its SDG program area, WBCSD seeks to advance the conversation around the role of business in realizing the SDG agenda.

This bimonthly briefing aims to source and package latest insight, key developments and emerging trends in an easily digestible format and seeks to provide inspiration and guidance to help you navigate this dynamic landscape.

For more details on these developments and resources, visit our [SDG Business Hub](#).



SDG BRIEFING

INSIGHT, DEVELOPMENTS, TRENDS & EVENTS



Contents

Latest Developments
pp. 4-8

New Resources
pp. 9-12

WBCSD Activities
pp. 13-16

Key Events
pp. 17-20

Contact Details
pp. 22

A vibrant cityscape featuring modern skyscrapers and a large teal circle containing the text 'Latest Developments'. The scene is bathed in warm, golden light, suggesting a sunset or sunrise. In the foreground, there are green plants and a row of parked motorcycles. The background shows a dense urban skyline with various architectural styles.

Latest Developments

KEY DEVELOPMENTS

LAUNCH OF SDG SECTOR ROADMAP GUIDELINES

Leveraging the power of collaboration to drive SDG impact

At WBCSD's Liaison Delegate Meeting in Montreux, we released a set of guidelines relating to the development of [SDG Sector Roadmaps](#). This resource lays out a step-by-step process that companies from the same sector can follow as they come together to explore, articulate and realize a common vision for how their industry can contribute to the realization of the SDGs.

The Business & Sustainable Development Commission's [Better Business Better World](#) report made a compelling case for companies to come together with peers at the sector level to develop SDG roadmaps as a means of guiding their industry's

shift to sustainable development in line with the SDGs. Against this backdrop, WBCSD, in collaboration with ERM, has developed these guidelines which provide a structured framework and approach that companies can follow as they embark upon SDG road-mapping for their sector.

This framework leads companies through a process of establishing their sector's current level of interaction with the SDGs throughout the value chain; identifying the sector's most significant opportunities for impact; and establishing key action items and monitoring systems in order to chart a course towards the sector's 2030 vision.



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

BLENDED FINANCE TASKFORCE - NEW ACTION PLAN

A roadmap for mainstreaming private investment in the SDGs through blended finance

In April, the [Blended Finance Taskforce](#) - an initiative emerging from the Business & Sustainable Development Commission - released an ambitious new [plan of action](#) to increase mainstream private investment for the SDGs.

The plan lays out a series of eight key initiatives to help accelerate access to the necessary financing needed to achieve the SDGs, most notably in the field of infrastructure. The initiatives are drawn from recommendations made in the [Better Finance, Better World](#) report.

Each of the initiatives has key targeted outputs with deadlines in the next 6 -18 months and identifies a key team of champions who will work to drive each initiative forward.

Champions of the initiative include leaders from across the investment and development finance community including JPMorgan Chase, HSBC, Credit Suisse, Aviva, Investec, Allianz, EBRD, the IFC and the Rockefeller Foundation.

Read a more in-depth analysis of the action plan [here](#).



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

UN-LEVEL DIALOGUE ON THE ROLE OF SDG REPORTING

Corporate reporting has a critical role to play in communicating performance against the SDGs

In April, the United Nations Conference on Trade and Development (UNCTAD), the International Integrated Reporting Council (IIRC), the World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD), and the Royal Netherlands Professional Association of Accountants (NBA) convened a stakeholder dialogue at the UN Headquarters in New York focused on the topic of measuring private sector contribution to the attainment of the SDGs.

The event affirmed the role of business in helping to achieve the SDGs, and emphasized the

the importance of corporate reporting in providing information for capital markets and national governments with regards to how companies are contributing to the SDGs and integrating them into their business.

In a [joint statement](#), the four organizations encouraged businesses to align their value creation models with the SDGs and use relevant metrics to measure and communicate on SDG performance, both in the short-term and long-term.

The statement also called for collaboration between organizations who are developing and issuing guidance for increasing

the reach of the SDGs to corporate audiences, and put forward the point that it is important to leverage mainstream corporate reporting as a means of communicating SDG integration, rather than having the SDGs become a new layer of reporting that adds to the existing burden.



KEY DEVELOPMENTS

LAUNCH OF *BETTER LEADERSHIP, BETTER WORLD* REPORT

Women's leadership in business critical to the sustainable development agenda

WomenRising2030, an initiative launched by the Business and Sustainable Development Commission, has released a new report titled [Better Leadership, Better World](#) which identifies the key leadership competencies critical to success in developing business opportunities in line with the Global Goals.

In particular it underscores the importance of the following six competencies:

- Long-term thinking
- Innovation
- Collaboration
- Transparency
- Environmental management
- Social inclusiveness

The report also goes on to explore the important part that women in leadership roles have to play with regard to the SDG agenda, presenting research that finds evidence that the six critical competencies are more likely to be prevalent in companies with gender-balanced leadership teams than in companies with male-dominated leadership teams.

The report also highlights a range of actions that businesses can take to build more gender balanced leadership teams, while also exploring case studies of best practice.





New Resources

NEW RESOURCES

SOCIETAL MEGA-TRENDS AND BUSINESS

Operating,
innovating
and growing
in a turbulent
world



WBCSD's [People](#) team has compiled a new briefing which provides an easily accessible narrative around [four key megatrends](#) underscoring some of the pressures and opportunities that individuals, communities and societies are facing in today's world. The briefing highlights how the world in which we are operating is:

A world on the move – with significant shifts in demographics (both young and aging populations), migration between and within countries, shifting centers of economic power from west to east, and the rapid growth of the online world.

A world that is polarizing – where we see large splits between people's access to human rights and basic needs, incomes within and between nations, political and societal participation, and levels of trust in institutions.

A world that wants to work – where we are seeing significant and rapid developments in terms of the quantity and quality of work, the

nature of work, and the very future of work itself.

A world living beyond its means – not just in terms of environmental impact, but in the financial and social costs of our lifestyles, and the impacts this is having on our wellbeing. This is leading to shifts in consumer attitudes as a result.

A slide deck, including notes, highlighting the above in more detail is available [here](#).

For more information, please reach out to [Julian Hill-Landolt](#), WBCSD's Director of Sustainable Lifestyles.

NEW RESOURCES

EMERGING MATERIALS TO SUPPORT SDG INTEGRATION

Title	Who is behind it?	How does it help?
How to report on the SDGs?	KPMG	This extensive report by KPMG seeks to identify some of the key criteria which should accompany best practice reporting on SDG performance, and provides support to companies with regard to how to effectively communicate around the SDG agenda. The report also analyzes SDG reporting trends among the world's 250 largest companies, assessing how well business is currently performing against a series of criteria.
Transforming Partnerships for the SDGs	UN Global Compact and Accenture	This study examines the views of UN leaders about transforming partnerships for the SDGs. As the UN Secretary-General calls for enhanced cooperation between the United Nations and the private sector, the report asks agency heads and partnership practitioners across the UN system: what will it take to scale up partnerships to bring about transformational impact on the SDGs?
A framework for sustainability innovation in agri-business	Earth Security Group	This report, supported by WBCSD and the Global Agri-business Alliance, translates the Principles for Responsible Investment in Agriculture and Food Systems (CFsRAI) and the wider series of SDG targets that are relevant for the agricultural sector into a business implementation framework to help the sector's continuous improvement in impact measurement and strategic cross-sector collaboration.

NEW RESOURCES

EMERGING MATERIALS TO SUPPORT SDG INTEGRATION

Title	Who is behind it?	How does it help?
The Future is Decentralised	UNDP	This white paper provides an introduction to block chains and highlights how the technology behind them can be harnessed to bring new levels of efficiency and effectiveness to the fields of development aid, supply chain management, renewable energy, economic growth, and several others, and ultimately play an important role in the realization of the Sustainable Development Goals.
Human Rights and the 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development	The Danish Institute for Human Rights	This report provides a comprehensive exploration into the links between the SDGs and the human rights space, and extolls the virtues pursuing an integrated approach for both agendas. From a business perspective this can serve as useful background reading to inform efforts around how to approach both the SDGs and human rights due diligence in ways which are mutually reinforcing.



More resources are available on our [SDG BUSINESS HUB!](#)



WBCSD Activities

WBCSD ACTIVITIES

SDG DEEP DIVE WEBINARS

Completed

SDG Specific Deep Dive – SDG 6

In March, we held an SDG Deep Dive webinar, zooming in on business action around '**SDG 6 – Clean water and sanitation**'. You can see the [slides here](#) and access the recordings:

- [Recording 1](#) including presentations from GES International, Aditya Birla Group and EDF.
- [Recording 2](#), including presentations from, Nestlé, P&G and Diageo.

Regional Deep Dive – Latin America

In May many of you joined for a discussion on the **SDGs in the context of Latin America**. UNDP and CEMEX shared their insight and experience in this important region.

Watch the [recording](#) or download the [slides](#).

Upcoming

Topical Deep Dive – Investing and Reporting

On 24 May, we will organize two webinars to explore the topic of **Investing and Reporting on the SDGs**. UN PRI and KPMG will share their insight and recommendations on this fast evolving topic.

[Sign-up here](#) for the session that suits you best.

Still to come.....

We are planning more webinars throughout this year, which will include sessions focused on a range of topics such as: the SDGs & human rights; a deep-dive into SDG 12; SDG benchmarking; and others. Please contact [Uta Jungermann](#) if you have any questions or suggestions for upcoming sessions.

WBCSD ACTIVITIES

MEMBER & GLOBAL NETWORK SURVEY ON THE SDGs

To enhance our understanding of the specific challenges that business is facing with regards to SDG integration and to explore the most relevant and effective solutions, in February this year WBCSD conducted a survey of its members and Global Network partners in collaboration with DNV GL.

We would like to thank the **244 companies** and organizations from **43 countries** across four continents that responded to the survey and shared their insights.

While we are still analyzing the results in more detail, the survey

confirmed that business is engaged and sees the SDGs as a strategic opportunity.

We are now in the process of leveraging this data to develop a comprehensive report and an accompanying power-point resource, and will make this available in the coming months.

Initial results were presented at our WBCSD Liaison Delegate Meeting in Montreux in April, as part of our SDG Latest Trends and Insight session. [Click here](#) to access the slides.



WBCSD ACTIVITIES

TALKING SDGs IN CHILE AND BRAZIL

In late April, WBCSD President & CEO, Peter Bakker, met with top executives of our Chilean and Brazilian member companies (CMPC, Masisa, Natura, Votorantim Cimentos, Vale and, CPFL Energía) during a 4-day visit to Santiago and São Paulo.

A series of closed roundtables and public events organized by WBCSD's Global Network partners [Acción Empresas](#) and [BCSD Brazil](#) (CEBDS), provided opportunities to engage a number of decision-makers across a wide range of industries around the topic of the Sustainable Development Goals

and to highlight WBCSD's work in this field.

It was clear throughout these conversations and engagements that the SDGs play an increasingly important role in business thinking across the region, and there was widespread recognition that the Global Goals will not be achieved without a significant contribution from business, turning challenges into business opportunities for a [more sustainable and inclusive Latin America](#).



Key Events



EVENTS

MONTREUX 2018 - SDG Sector Roadmaps

During WBCSD's Liaison Delegate Meeting in Montreux, we launched a set of [SDG Sector Roadmap Guidelines](#) which provide a step-by-step framework that companies from the same sector can follow as they come together to explore, articulate and realize a common vision for how their sector can contribute to the SDGs.

During a 90 minute session focusing on this new resource, WBCSD members that have played a leading role in developing and piloting the Guidelines shared their insight and experiences about the roadmap development process and the benefits that have been derived from it.

Additionally, members of the Chemical Sector came together for a final workshop to complete the Chemical Sector SDG Roadmap after a year of hard work and discussions. The roadmap will be launched in the coming months.

We also kicked-off the development of a Forest Sector SDG Roadmap, driven by the Forest Solutions Group, which will seek to establish collective pathways to accelerate and optimize the sector's SDG impact on the road to 2030.

The slides from the Roadmap session are available [here](#).



EVENTS

MONTREUX 2018 – SDG TRENDS & INSIGHT

As part of our SDG Trends & Insight session in Montreux, the WBCSD SDG team provided members with a comprehensive overview of some of the latest developments across the business and SDG landscape.

This included a focus on the emerging concept of SDG benchmarking, with a detailed presentation by Gerbrand Haverkamp, Executive Director of the Index Initiative, the organization that is leading a global consultation on this topic on behalf of the [World Benchmarking Alliance](#).

Initial results from a recent WBCSD member survey on the

SDGs were also presented, highlighting specific challenges that businesses are facing with regards to SDG integration and exploring the most relevant and effective solutions.

Finally a panel of leading organizations including econsense, Ikea, ITC, StoraEnso and Vale shared their insights and experiences on the topic of the SDGs as part of an in-depth discussion on SDG integration.

The slides from the session are available [here](#).



UPCOMING EVENTS

2018 HIGH-LEVEL POLITICAL FORUM ON SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT

Registration is now open for a series of business-focused events which WBCSD will be coordinating in New York in July alongside the High-level Political Forum on Sustainable Development (HLPF) - the United Nations' central platform for annual follow-up and review of the implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

To register for either of the events highlighted visit WBCSD's dedicated [HLPF Events page](#). More opportunities and side events will be added in the coming weeks.

SDG Business Forum

Tuesday 17 July 2018

UN Headquarters in New York.

Co-hosted by the International Chamber of Commerce (ICC), the UN Department of Economic and Social Affairs (UNDESA) and the United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) and supported by WBCSD, this event will provide a unique multi-stakeholder platform to highlight business action to achieve the SDGs and to foster public-private collaboration.

A full outline of the program for the 2018 Forum is available [here](#).

Business & the SDGs –

Accelerating Transformation

Wednesday 18 July 2018

UN Headquarters New York

Following on from the SDG Business Forum, WBCSD and UNDESA will convene sustainable business leaders to explore the challenges encountered by the private sector in integrating and advancing the SDG agenda, while also positioning potential solutions for accelerating systems transformation towards a sustainable and inclusive future.

The agenda for the session is available [here](#).



SDGs @ WBCSD

QUESTIONS > COMMENTS > FEEDBACK

James Gomme | Director SDGs
gomme@wbcسد.org

Uta Jungermann | Manager SDGs
jungermann@wbcسد.org

