



United Nations Global Compact

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# FOOD AND AGRICULTURE BUSINESS PRINCIPLES

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## **AIM FOR FOOD SECURITY, HEALTH AND NUTRITION**

Businesses should support food and agriculture systems that optimize production and minimize wastage, to provide nutrition and promote health for every person on the planet.



## **BE ENVIRONMENTALLY RESPONSIBLE**

Businesses should support sustainable intensification of food systems to meet global needs by managing agriculture, livestock, fisheries and forestry responsibly. They should protect and enhance the environment and use natural resources efficiently and optimally.



## **ENSURE ECONOMIC VIABILITY AND SHARE VALUE**

Businesses should create, deliver and share value across the entire food and agriculture chain from farmers to consumers.



## **RESPECT HUMAN RIGHTS, CREATE DECENT WORK AND HELP COMMUNITIES TO THRIVE**

Businesses should respect the rights of farmers, workers and consumers. They should improve livelihoods, promote and provide equal opportunities, so communities are attractive to live, work and invest in.



## **ENCOURAGE GOOD GOVERNANCE AND ACCOUNTABILITY**

Businesses should behave legally and responsibly by respecting land and natural resource rights, avoiding corruption, being transparent about activities and recognizing their impacts.



## **PROMOTE ACCESS AND TRANSFER OF KNOWLEDGE, SKILLS AND TECHNOLOGY**

Businesses should promote access to information, knowledge and skills for more sustainable food and agricultural systems. They should invest in developing capacities of smallholders and small- and medium-sized enterprises (SMEs), as well as more effective practices and new technologies.

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## ABOUT THE FOOD AND AGRICULTURE BUSINESS PRINCIPLES

Business is a critical partner for governments and other stakeholders in designing and delivering effective, scalable and practical solutions to make food systems secure and agriculture sustainable. To advance the positive impact that business can have in this space, the United Nations Global Compact has facilitated the development of voluntary Food and Agriculture Business Principles (FAB Principles) to serve as a framework for principle-based collaboration of companies with the UN, governments, civil society and other stakeholders.

With the goal of advancing sustainable development, the FAB Principles offer a frame of desired outcomes and actions that companies can take to align with the goals of UN as articulated in the Rio+20 outcome document, The Future We Want, and the forthcoming post-2015 development agenda.

The FAB Principles are the outcome of a broad and inclusive multi-stakeholder process comprising 16 consultations globally and including over 1,000 businesses, UN agencies and civil society organizations involved in agriculture, nutrition and food systems.

### HOW CAN COMPANIES USE THE FAB PRINCIPLES?

UN Global Compact companies in the food and agriculture sector are invited to commit to the FAB Principles by reporting on progress against them through their annual Communication on the Progress (COP).

Companies and other stakeholders are not required to sign on to the FAB Principles. Reporting through the COP will demonstrate how an organization has aligned policies and practices with the FAB Principles as well as its activities and achievements that contribute to meeting the global challenges of food security and sustainable agriculture.

