GLOBAL NETWORK
2016 snapshot of key activities and contributions to WBCSD work program
What is the Global Network?

The WBCSD’s Global Network is an alliance of more than 60 CEO-led business organizations worldwide. The Network, encompassing some 5,000 companies, is united by a shared commitment to provide business leadership for sustainable development in their respective countries and regions.

While WBCSD works at the global level toward accelerating the transition to a sustainable world by making more sustainable business more successful, the members of the Global Network, through their local and regional initiatives and activities, help to promote sustainable development at the local and regional levels. Together, WBCSD and its Global Network partners create the global-local linkages necessary to promote business solutions for a sustainable world.
How does the Global Network enhance WBCSD's global outreach?

The Global Network strengthens WBCSD's legitimacy as a truly global organization. By disseminating messages to a wide range of players, the Network supports global advocacy efforts and helps to position WBCSD as a preferred partner for governments and international organizations. Importantly, the partners add breadth to the Council's work program by providing local and regional perspectives, validating results, disseminating information and implementing pilot projects.

How does the Global Network foster synergies with WBCSD member companies?

The Global Network adds value to WBCSD member companies themselves, mostly multinationals with global operations. Through their advocacy activities, partner organizations contribute to securing the business license to operate, innovate and grow in their respective countries and regions. They provide an additional channel for implementing local and tangible sustainability initiatives and for reaching out to business leaders and opinion shapers. They also play an important role in addressing supply chain issues and connecting WBCSD members with small and medium enterprises. Consequently, a growing number of WBCSD members are now part of both the global and local organizations.

How does WBCSD strengthen its Global Network partners' local and regional activities?

As many Global Network partners share similar socio-economic and cultural characteristics, hence similar sustainability challenges, they benefit from cooperating with each other. This mutual exchange enables them to gain firsthand experiences from their peers, discuss challenges and find joint solutions.

Through WBCSD, Global Network partners can connect with leading global corporations and benefit from cutting-edge thinking and best practices on sustainability management. They also gain access to key global players and platforms concerned with business and sustainable development. Moreover, the Global Network enables partners to enrich their own work activities by participating in WBCSD’s “learning by sharing” opportunities, tools, and capacity building material.
Global Network contributions to WBCSD – a snapshot for 2016

This document features some of the most important contributions of Global Network partners to WBCSD’s work programs and projects throughout 2016.

We have categorized the contributions into 5 specific areas:

1. Implementation
2. Local expertise and connections
3. Communication
4. Events and workshops
5. Member engagement and recruitment
Climate & Energy
Sustainable Business Australia is currently in the process of replicating the LCTPi model nationally for a number of business solutions.

Climate Smart Agriculture
Partner organizations in the Global Network have been an essential asset for the Climate Smart Agriculture (CSA) work program in 2016. The project selected five regions globally to road test climate smart agriculture solutions at scale. In two of these regions, Latin America and ASEAN, the CSA team relied on support from BCSD Brazil (CEBDS), Singapore BCSD, Vietnam BCSD, Indonesia BCSD, and Philippine Business for the Environment. In addition to local business outreach, partners provided insights to the global working group on their regions’ specific challenges in the agricultural sector and what role CSA could play.

Energy Efficiency in Buildings
The Global Network has been of value for EEB 2.0 engagements in Houston, Shanghai and Singapore, arranging logistics, ensuring attendance of key figures at dedicated labs, and conducting pre-engagement market research.

Global Network partners in Argentina, Brazil, and the Philippines have been vital in securing political support for the EEB scale-up at a national level, and a great asset for a recent funding proposal to the German Ministry for the Environment.

The forthcoming EEB scale-up strategy envisions Global Network partners as key implementation partners, involved in identifying locations for EEB engagements, coordinating Lab preparations, reporting, and establishing the local EEB Platform.

Reporting Exchange
The Global Network has been actively involved in the Reporting Exchange project from its launch to members in Montreux 2015. Foretica Spain, BCSD Brazil (CEBDS), Peru2021, and Czech BCSD have joined the working group. Partners engaged with their member companies in view of ensuring the Reporting Exchange platform reaches well beyond traditional WBCSD audiences. The National Business Initiative in South Africa and US BCSD were also able to assist with specific reporting related complexities in their region.

Partners in Philippines, Hong Kong, China, Chile, Indonesia, Malaysia, Columbia, Vietnam, Mexico, and Argentina are actively involved in the project by conducting research on behalf of WBCSD into the state of sustainability reporting requirements and resources.

Moving forward, WBCSD wishes to see that Global Network partners feel ownership of the Reporting Exchange by continuing to contribute to the platform – most notably as it provides a valuable tool for their members.
Reporting matters
Numerous Global Network partners have now replicated WBCSD’s Reporting matters locally. By doing so, they have been essential in promoting WBCSD’s work on reporting across various channels and audiences, and helped providing insights into local reporting issues. Moreover, their relationship with stock exchanges, standard-setters and institutions are beneficial for WBCSD when establishing further external contacts in the future.

A training on the Reporting matters methodology was organized for GN partners from Singapore, Philippines, Vietnam, Hong Kong, and Taiwan in June 2016. These former are now considering what are the best ways for scaling up the RM initiative in their respective organizations.

Social Impact
In February, the Social Impact Cluster published an issue brief titled “Delivering on the Sustainable Development Goals: The Inclusive Business Approach”. Global Network partners in Latin America proactively translated the document by April, to be able to more easily share it within their region. Partners worked closely together with WBCSD in formulating a joint vision, which was ultimately added to the Spanish version of the issue brief and signed by the Chairmen and Chairwomen of 13 partners.

Sustainable Mobility Project
Global Network partners of the Philippines, Australia, and Saudi Arabia have been key players enabling SMP scale up. Supported by WBCSD’s main office, they have led the engagement of the metropolitan areas of Manila, Sydney, and Riyadh, and constituted multi-stakeholder teams to design urban sustainable mobility plans. The partners have also leveraged funding from local transport authorities and NGOs to support the development of this project.

Water
Indonesia BCSD has supported WBCSD in the promotion of the WASH Pledge. As a result of their advocacy, one of their members, Sintesa Group, has signed the Pledge. WBCSD continues to closely collaborate with IBCSD, who have recently included TSB, an Indonesian NGO working on water issues, in this work to support the outreach and implementation of the WASH Pledge in local companies.
2 Local expertise and connection building

Cement Sustainability Initiative & Tire Industry Project

Over the past months, China BCSD has been of great help for the CSI and TIP projects, opening doors and establishing contacts with the National Development and Reform Commission (NRDC) for CSI, and the China Tire Retreading Association (CTRA) for TIP. The China BCSD team has also supported by organizing meetings and coordinating with local stakeholders, thus being a real asset to both projects.

Climate & Energy

The Global Network is actively engaging in WBCSD’s Climate Policy work by spreading key messages about COP22 and the LCTPI to their respective networks and governments. A strategy is also being put in place for involving the GN in supporting national governments with NDC formulation and implementation.

BCSD Brazil (CEBDS) supported WBCSD in the below50 campaign by distributing key messages to its members and partners, promoting local connection building, and providing featuring opportunities at its annual event. A future below50 event will also be organized with WBCSD’s GN partner in Australia.

Cement Sustainability Initiative

In India, the CII Green Business Centre in Hyderabad is a technical partner to CSI for resource efficiency studies conducted in member company plants as part of Phase 2 of the Low Carbon Technology Roadmap for Indian cement industry. IFC partly funds this project.

Natural Capital Protocol

In Spring 2016, twenty-one of WBCSD’s Global Network partners contributed to the Natural Capital Protocol process by participating in the official consultation, through a series of webinars. This was an outstanding coverage, and all input was submitted back to the Natural Capital Coalition for consideration. The final version of the Protocol is now available online. Partners from Australia, New Zealand, Germany, and United Kingdom are currently actively engaged in the Advisory Group for WBCSD’s follow-up project, the Natural Capital Protocol Toolkit.
Social Capital Protocol
Global Network Partners in Brazil, Germany, and Portugal participated in the pilot of the Social Capital Protocol this year, convening their member companies to test the Protocol within their own organizations, join a series of exchanges together with 25 WBCSD member companies, and provide consolidated feedback to shape the final Protocol.

Sustainable Cities
The Cities team have worked closely with UK BCSD this year on the Zero Emissions Cities (ZEC) project in Birmingham. UK BCSD actively supported the ZEC work, and brought insights as a member of the city Green Commission. Their input and understanding of the government direction and milestones have been of great guidance for WBCSD to understand issues, various stakeholders involved, and to deliver on time in line with key city decisions. They have also helped WBCSD in highlighting important challenges and concerns raised by the city that the ZEC project may otherwise not have fully captured.

Sustainable Materials
Global Network partners have been greatly helpful in providing information for the WBCSD Marketplace Hub on any local, secondary materials marketplaces that they were familiar with in their respective countries or regions. This information is now featured on the Marketplace Hub online.

WBCSD is working with the Global Network to detail how the engagement model will function for the Roadmap on curbing Ocean Waste project going forward. So far, there has been a consistent level of enthusiasm for the topic among GN partners.

Water
In India, CII-CESD and the CII-Triveni Water Institute have been technical partners to WBCSD for the India Water Tool project since January 2014. In this role, they have been providing critical advice on datasets and their representation for the development of the tool.

Sustainable Mobility Project
BCSD Brazil (CEBDS) has supported the organization of Stakeholder Dialogues in Campinas, which corresponds to one of the five steps recommended by SMP. This has been extremely helpful to overcome challenges of opening a dialogue with such a wide and varied group of local stakeholders.

WBCSD Leadership Program
WBCSD’s Dutch partner De Groene Zaak has been a major contributor in making the second week of the WBCSD Leadership Program, held in the Netherlands, a success. The team provided valuable support in identifying and inviting speakers for the week, proven by the very positive feedback on the outcomes provided by participants.
Communication

Communications
Global Network partners frequently support WBCSD’s Communication team by sharing key communication messages (e.g. for COP22 and similar global events) and newsletters (e.g. Sustain and the President’s Letter) to their respective memberships and external contacts. By doing so, they reach approximately 5000 local companies, and a large number of governmental and non-governmental organization, making the Global Network a critical agent in scaling up the Council’s scope and impact globally.

Sustainable Materials
The Global Network has supported the Business Case for Life Cycle Indicators in Buildings by participating in a survey created for the benefit of the project. Thereby, WBCSD could get the survey disseminated through multiple GN partners via newsletter, email, and other communication platforms.

Water
BCSD El Salvador is currently translating WBCSD’s Business Guide to Water Valuation into Spanish. This will subsequently be used to organize local member trainings on the tool.
Cement Sustainability Initiative

In India, CII-CESD, partnered with WBCSD India and CSI for the Safe in India Seminar earlier this year, a multi sectoral seminar focusing on contractor and logistics safety.

Ecosystems & Landscape Management

Global Network partners have helped leveraging WBCSD’s Business & Ecosystems Training (BET) material by organizing training sessions at local and regional levels.

A number of Global Network partners joined the Natural Infrastructure for Business (NI4Biz) training organized in Montreux 2016, including BCSD Portugal, BCSD Singapore, BCSD Turkey, Business in the Community Ireland, Philippine Business for the Environment, Sustainable Business Australia, and Tamkeen Saudi Arabia.

Global Network partners have been supporting WBCSD with increasing business participation at key global conferences such as the UNCCD COP, CBD COP, and the IUCN Congress.

Cities

BCSD Ecuador (CEMDES) has been highly supportive in mobilizing local business engagement in support of the events organized by the WBCSD during the Habitat III Conference in Quito. Ms. Ines Manzano, the Chairman of CEMDES, Mr. Nick Traber, CEO of Holcim Ecuador and Mr. Christian Jan Bakker, Vice President of Sustainability Pronaca have taken on speaking roles at the Business Assembly, a high-level event part of the official conference program which brought together leaders from national and local governments, business, academia, NGOs and civil society. CEMDES also coordinated the delivery of the invitation to the Mayor of Quito. BCSD Brazil (CEBDS) has also encouraged conference participation by Brazilian companies.

Human Rights

WBCSD, BCSD Argentina (CEADS) and CentraRSE Guatemala have convened a Latin America focused working lunch during the UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva on 16 November.

Water

The National Business Initiative, WBCSD’s South African GN partner, and WBCSD’s Water Cluster have successfully organized a series of workshops in three cities in South Africa on corporate water stewardship in March 2016. Workshops were well attended by business and provided valuable feedback for the future development of the Water Cluster work program.

WBCSD North America

The Mexican partner CESPEDES is supporting the organization of WBCSD’s Council Meeting in Mexico City in 2017.

In Canada, the Excel Partnership invited WBCSD to its annual meeting in Vancouver in March to present the Council and its work linked to the Sustainable Materials Cluster.
Member engagement and recruitment

Membership

Forética Spain invited Peter Bakker to attend their annual conference in Madrid in September as a key note speaker. As part of this trip, Forética supported WBCSD by hosting a CEO dinner which gathered key Spanish and Portuguese companies with WBCSD recruitment potential.

In Italy, CSR Manager Network is assisting with connection building and recruitment of major Italian companies, especially with a link to the food and beverage sector. As part of these efforts, a joint event was organized with WBCSD in Milan on 1 December.

Most, if not all, WBCSD members are also members of Global Network partner organizations. A list of the top 20 WBCSD members engaged across the Global Network is included below.

Joint WBCSD and Global Network partner member companies - top 20 list

- KPMG
- The Coca-Cola Company (Coke)
- LafargeHolcim
- PricewaterhouseCoopers
- Unilever
- Deloitte Touche Tohmatsu Limited
- Nestlé S.A.
- BASF SE
- Siemens AG
- Bayer A.G.
- DNV GL
- Royal Dutch Shell plc.
- Accenture Plc
- ABB Asea Brown Boveri Ltd.
- Heineken N.V.
- L’Oréal
- Monsanto Company
- Schneider Electric
- Solvay S.A.
- Wal-Mart Stores Inc.
The road ahead for the Global Network

The Global Network will continue to enhance the Council’s global outreach and foster synergies with WBCSD member companies. Several activities are underway to strengthen the value proposition, effectiveness and impact of the Global Network. This includes a consolidation of the number of partners across the globe; featuring of the Global Network online and in social media; translation of key WBCSD documents and publications; and targeted engagement in national roll-out strategies of WBCSD projects.

A recently launched internal collaboration platform on Yammer will be scaled up throughout the Global Network. The core objective of this intranet is to facilitate knowledge and best practice sharing among GN partners, expand the reach of their respective communication messages, as well as strengthen regional and cross-regional collaboration around projects and events.

As an important catalyst for local business action at scale, the Global Network will continue to feed into WBCSD’s work on the SDGs.

The Network will support WBCSD in scaling up the use of the SDG Compass across their respective constituencies, help WBCSD deepening the understanding of the evolving SDG landscape globally, as well as engage local business and policy actors to boost SDG implementation on the ground.

The Council Meeting in Mexico City will provide a suitable platform to showcase leading sustainable business practices across the Americas, leveraging the presence of Global Network partners in almost each of the continent’s countries.

As an important catalyst for local business action at scale, the Global Network will continue to feed into WBCSD’s work on the SDGs.
For more information

The Global Network webpage features key information of all our partners, as well as Global Network related news and publications:
http://www.wbcsd.org/Overview/Global-Network

The Global Network partner platform allows for a more profound insight into the priority areas and work programs of each partner organization:
http://globalnetwork.wbcsd.org/

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