



Global Compact Network  
Germany

# Local Networks as a Platform of Learning: The German Network

Constanze Helmchen and Jörg Hartmann

GTZ

Focal Point of the German Network



## Global Compact Network Germany

### The German Context

- High awareness concerning environmental issues
- Traditionally strong position of trade unions, well established social dialogue throughout the country
- Business community well organised

### USP for the Global Compact in Germany:

- Focus on the impact of globalisation on developing countries and countries in transition
- Multistakeholder ownership by corporations, the government and civil society (challenge: labour)
- United Nations involved



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### The German Network

#### Size and Structure

- 150 participants
- Focus on large companies, all industry sectors
- Civil society representation, academic institutions, federal ministries

#### Governance

- Multistakeholder steering committee
- Governmental funding, corporate funding increasing
- Foundation currently being created



## Global Compact Network Germany

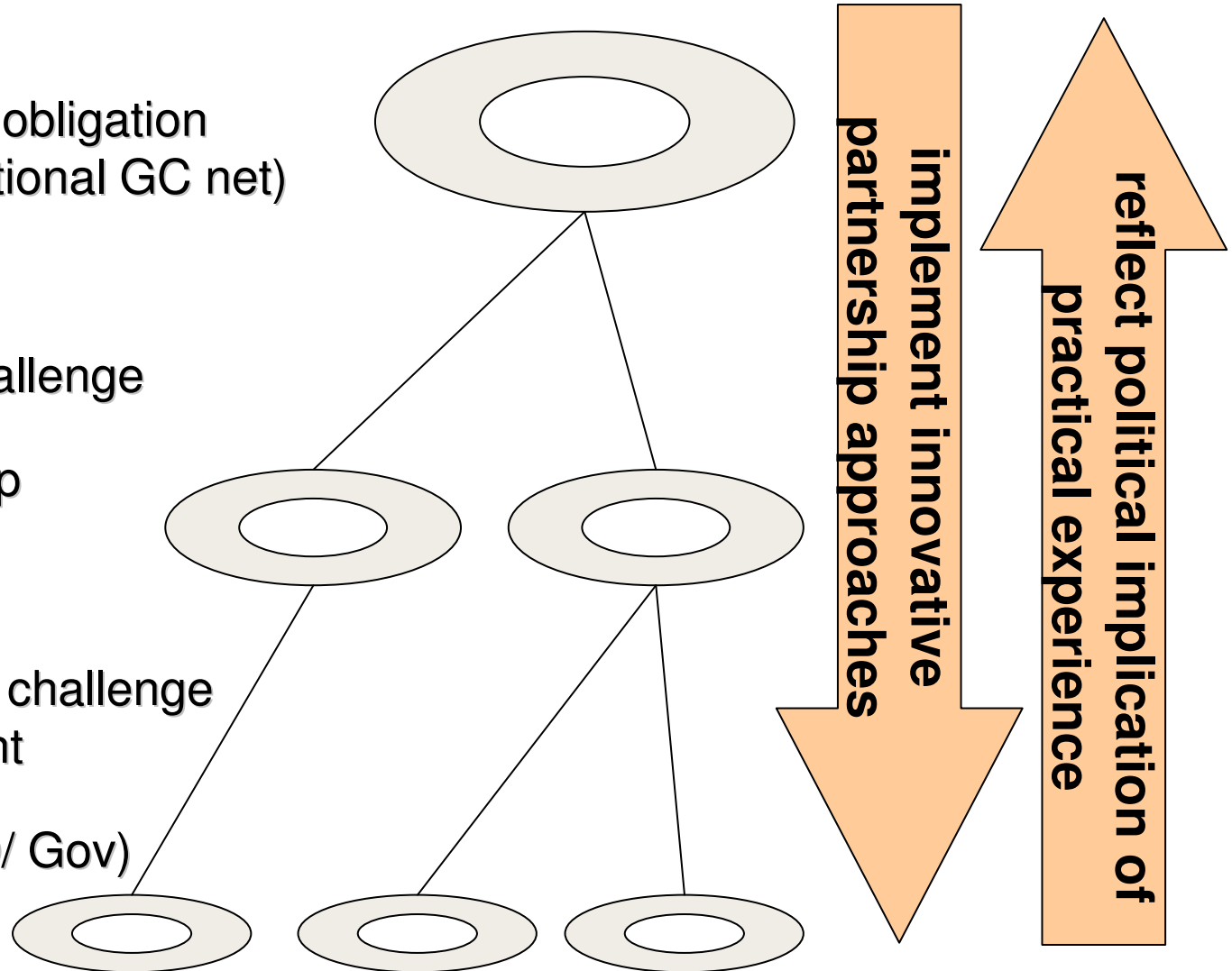
### Formats of German Network Activities

- 3-4 meetings annually with in-depth working groups, 70-90 participants from all sectors, 50% business
- Two annual focal topics in 2008:
  - Sustainable Consumption and Production:  
*Publication “Partnerships for Sustainable Consumption” (Mar 2009)*
  - Business and Human Rights:  
*Business Coaching on HR (Dec 2008)*
- Global Compact Yearbook
- [www.globalcompact.de](http://www.globalcompact.de)



## Levels of engagement

- many issues
- low commitment/ obligation
- „marketplace“ (national GC net)
- policy dialogue
  
- focus on a key challenge or key sector
- stable membership
- „club“
- learn
  
- focus on concrete challenge
- strong commitment (resources)
- „project“ (VW/ ILO/ Gov)
- change





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