

Annual Report, 2007 for GC Armenia Network



Global Compact Armenia office was established in July 2006 to promote the “Ten principles of the UN Global Compact“ and call companies to join forces to identify and develop innovative solutions to challenges.

During this short period of time, twenty-seven companies and organizations joined to the Global Compact Armenia Network.

Currently, private sector 18 companies, public sector 8 organizations and 1 university represent the network. The private sector members list consists of multinational companies-44%, local big companies-23% and local small and medium enterprises-33%.

Global Compact Armenia office is promoting the local Network as an important resource for the government of Armenia to communicate with in a search of solutions to issues related to the “Ten principles of the UN Global Compact“ and the concept of corporate social responsibility as a whole.

For this purpose, Global Compact Armenia in cooperation with International Center for Human Development (ICHD), Global Compact Armenia Network member, is organizing series of events with the private, public and government sectors involvement. These events are simultaneous interactive discussions around “Ten principles of the UN Global Compact“, where about 100 representatives from various spheres are discussing issues concerning:

1. Armenian private companies and Human rights
2. Armenian private companies and labor force
3. Armenian private companies and environment
4. Armenian private companies and corruption

The results of discussions are summarized and distributed to the government for further actions.

Due to the short existence, the Network is considered to be on its “intermediate” stage and the best mechanisms for the network management are in the process of discussion with the Network member companies and organizations.

The proposed regulations of the National Steering Committee were introduced to the members. It was agreed that the members would look into the details of the suggested regulations and think about nominations for the Steering Committee in the future. In addition, members requested Global Compact Armenia office to think about the pilot Charter for the National Steering Committee.

In addition, it was decided that, Global Compact Armenia office will act as a Network secretariat til the management model to be identified.

Global Compact Armenia office focal points are:

- Armen Matosyan-Senior Broker
- Arman Valesyan-Broker

To promote the concept of Global Compact several publications were localized and distributed to the Network members and interested parties. A multifunctional web site www.gc.am was developed and launched. Moreover, several presentations and face to face consultations were made to present materials, tools and methodologies to better utilize “The 10 Principles” by companies.

The network has already started number of joint partnership project - Armenian Open Programming Contest, Arts and Crafts Training and Production Center for Disabled Children, Community Milk Collection Stations, Youth Career Trail, etc. Number of Memorandums of Understandings were signed between UNDP and network members to conduct number of joint events to within the spheres of Global Compact 10 principles.

Partnership Projects

Arts and Crafts Center for Disabled. “Art and Crafts Production Center for the Disabled” will be established in cooperation with Armenian Association for the Disabled “Pyunic” and VivaCell. The Centers will be created in the premises provided by Pyunic in Yerevan and Gyumri, where disabled people can learn different arts and crafts disciplines: ceramics, embroidery, stone carving, etc. Under the supervision of professional trainers disabled people will be making their own artworks and souvenirs, which later can be sold at different benevolent events. The Centers will also have a distributor who will take care of distributing souvenir and artworks created at the Centers to retail souvenir shops throughout Armenia, thus creating new income generating scheme.

Status. Construction of the Yerevan Center has been finished. Currently GC is furnishing the centers and hiring staff to start full operations. The centers are expected to start operations by the end of October.

Milk Collection Stations. GC Armenia connected its member, Ashtarak Kat CJSC with Performance Budgeting at Community Level Project of UNDP. According to this cost-sharing project the project and the company will invest in purchase and installation of a community-owned milk collection and cooling station in one of the northern regions in Armenia. The milk collection station will allow the farmers from the nearby 4-5 villages to sell their milk to the station to be later collected either by the Ashtarak Kat or any other dairy producer. Worthwhile to mention that the farmers of those villages currently have no way of selling their milk, because of the distance and road conditions.

Status. GC Armenia and its partners are in the process of purchasing trucks, milk tanks and equipping the site.

Youth Career Trail Project. An objective of the “Youth Career Trail” project is to facilitate the transition of unemployed Armenian youth into the workforce by the provision of direct employment opportunities through internships at UN agencies, private sector and community-based organizations whose employment vacancies best matched the youths’ skills sets.

The project provided [over 50 unemployed](#) graduates between 19 and 25 years of age with the valuable first work experience in their relevant education field within the period of six months and contribute to their direct employment history or improve their employable skills for the future career development.

Status. All 50 project participants have already started working in [over 25 companies](#). GC Armenia is preparing for the second stage of the project.

10 Best Classroom Projects. GC Armenia came up to agreement with Rusal-Armenal on allocation of around \$50,000 by the company to implement “10 Best Classroom Projects” Program in Armenia in cooperation with Armenal, Ministry of Education and other interested partners. While the project documentation is being still developed, the idea is to encourage schoolchildren to present projects not exceeding \$5,000 aimed at improvement of their learning environment and classroom conditions, as well as other creative ideas targeted at better education.

Status. The MoU between UNDP and Rusal will be signed by the end of September. The project itself will be started in mid-October.

Attachment: Network Fact Sheet for 200_:

Network Management								
Annual Network Meeting (yes/no)	COP facilitation (yes/no)	Helped to facilitate other integrity measures (e.g. complaint mechanism) (yes/no)	Website (if yes, URL)	Name Focal Point	Steering Committee (yes/no)	Steering Committee has non-business participants (yes/no)	Secretariat hosted by	Member fees (if yes, amount for Company/ SME/ other)
Yes	Yes	Yes	www.gc.am	Armen Matosyan Arman Valesyan	No		Global Compact UNDP Armenia	No

Number Local Network Participants										Government participation in Network
TOTAL	MNCs	SMEs	Micro-enterprises (<10 employees)	Business Organization	CSR Organization	Labour Organization	Civil Society organizations	Academic Institution	Other Stakeholders	Yes/ no
27	8	10		18			8	1		No

Number of Activities					
Outreach Events	Learning Events	Policy Dialogues	Partnership projects	Cooperation with other Local Networks	Other activities
4	4-5	4	6		

