

GC Annual Report 2007

Georgia



Reporting period: December 2006-September 2007

Network objectives and priorities

- To launch Global Compact network in Georgia and build capacity of the local network;
- To raise awareness about Global Compact initiative and about Corporate Social Responsibility among business community and society at large;

Organization

- Nino Tavadze and Irakli Chkonia, brokers at UNDP Georgia; from the network, Lela Khoperia, CSR Project coordinator at Center of Strategic Research and Development of Georgia (CSRDG)
- No formal steering committee has been formed yet, rather companies are meeting for knowledge and experience sharing purposes;

Participation

- The Network unites 4 companies where MNCs have full or part of the shares, one Global signatory company (PA Government Services Inc.), 4 large domestic companies, 15 SMEs, 3 academic institutions, one business association, one CSO working on CSR issues and three additional CSOs - 32 members in total
- The government representative (from president's administration) has attended a workshop on Global Compact – Business Perspective. Vice Prime Minister of Georgia has confirmed participation at the Business Forum on Corporate Social Responsibility to be held on October 23, 2007 – further relationship will be built on;

Activities

- The network has been set up and running for nine months and has hosted/conducted 5 meetings for GC members and 2 meetings for media representatives highlighting business issues;
- The network is getting prepared for Business Forum on Corporate Social Responsibility for October 23, 2007 – which will outreach to all large successful member and non-member companies as well as other stakeholders engaged in CSR in Georgia.
- GC in partnership with its member CSRDG has conducted a study on Public Perception and Attitudes towards CSR in Georgia – the results to be presented at the business forum and through media sources.
- The local website was launched in September 2007;

- A brochure on Global Compact has been published in Georgian and English and has been used as a basic promotion tool among business community and other stakeholders;
- Training on “Communications on Progress” has been planned for November 2007, where members will have a thorough overview of GC guidelines and different reporting tools; guidebook will be published in English and Georgian languages; Two of the members have already developed sustainability/CSR reports, uploaded on GC local website; as a result of consultations with Global Compact team, Peoples Bank is the first Georgian company developing a Social Resport (to be uploaded on the website shortly); CSRDG has committed to working with companies and provide technical assistance for developing non-financial reports;
- In addition to other stakeholders, the network unites 22 companies who became members during the reporting period as a result of aggressive outreach to potential companies by GC focal points;

Progress

- UNDP has hosted one kick-off meeting with the participation of UN Resident Coordinator in Georgia, CEOs of the companies and other stakeholders in December 2006; 4 GC member companies have hosted four meetings:
 - Caucasus Financial Services: “Sharing best practices of Responsible Businesses in Georgia” – January 2007,
 - Peoples Bank – Meeting with Company CEOs and UNDP DRR to discuss prospects of GC development in Georgia – February, 2007,
 - Bank Republic – workshop on Global Compact – Business Perspective – February 2007;
 - Madneuli – “First Meeting of GC Environment Working Group” – June, 2007, where GC member organization CSRDG conducted a workshop on Environment Management Systems for companies around the world;
 - Next meeting of Environment WG is planned to be conducted by BP regarding re-cultivation and re-instatement of the land plots in November, 2007;
- Two meetings have been conducted for media representatives; as a result 10 articles/pieces were published by 4 newspapers and one information agency, and information has been broadcasted on one TV channel; FINANCIAL – weekly English newspaper in Georgia is publishing a special edition on CSR for October 22, 2007; GBC – Georgian Business Week is organizing a media forum on CSR in November 2007; two newspapers from Georgia participated in Ukraine in Media Forum on CSR;
- Two members of GC Network in Georgia – Medi Club Georgia and Pfizer, have planned a partnership project on introducing a voluntary new standards for medication chain management for pharmaceutical companies and hospitals in Georgia that has a potential of being adopted as a government policy on medication chain management;
- Major challenge still remains the lack of knowledge about CSR and fragmented, spontaneous approach to CSR by local companies; this will require further work

on increasing awareness about CSR among business community as well as transfer specific knowledge to companies through experience and knowledge sharing events. In particular, public awareness/information campaign is the tool for increasing awareness about CSR in Georgia. GC Georgia team prepared the ground for launching such campaign (through conducting CSR Study, active work with major media outlets, active initial outreach to the companies, etc.).

Attachment: Network Fact Sheet for 2007:

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	Planned for November 2007	NO	YES www.globalcompact.ge	Nino Tavadze, Irakli Chkonia – UNDP; Lela Khoperia -CSR DG	Not Yet	N/A	UNDP and CSR DG	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
32	5 foreign + 4 local large companies = 9	15	1	1	1	0	2	3	0	NO

Number of Activities					
Outreach Events	Learning Events	Policy Dialogues	Partnership projects	Cooperation with other Local Networks	Other activities
2	3	0	1 (implemented by GC members)	0	2