

# Annual Report 2007



## GC Network in FYR Macedonia

### Network objectives and priorities in 2007

- Further assist members in understanding of the business case for CSR concept and how it would be applied to their business operations.
- Increase awareness and preparation of “Communication on Progress” report.

### Organization

- Network focal point: Zlatka Stamboliska-Popovska, Project Manager (until May 2007), from June 2007: from UNDP: Thuy Ha Bui, Programme Officer/JPO, from the Network: Goran Lazarevski (voluntary member, “EuroComputer Sytem” company)
- The Advisory Board of the Network established in Oct 2006, the second meeting was on 4<sup>th</sup> Sept 2007 (planned to meet more frequent 2-3 times per year).

### Participation

- Network participants: 52 (mostly SMEs from a wide range of sectors – services, manufacturing, chemicals, oil and gas - with 2 are subsidiaries of MNCs, and two NGOs);
- Relationship between the network and the government: Although high level government representatives addressed the launch of the Global Compact in Macedonia in December 2004, there hasn't been further development of a more structured relationship. Recently the Ministry of Economy pushed forward an initiative to create a coordinative body on CSR within the Economic and Social Council of the Government. The proposed structure of the body includes one representative of the Global Compact network in Macedonia, through which the network could engage in consultations, policy dialogue and joint activities aimed at promoting CSR.

### Activities

- Promoter and outreach: The Network promotes the CSR concept with contribution to the survey and findings of the CSR Baseline Study, dissemination of the business case for CSR with other business;
- Learning and dialogue: Outreach and The Network members actively participate in the discussion on CSR at the National Multi-stakeholder Forum on CSR in Skopje (21 September 2007), and at the Regional Forum on CSR in Brussels (26 June 2007) – where three members attend; one GC member (Stopanska bank) participated the Leader Summit in Vienna (July 2007);
- Policy dialogue: Representative of the Network participates in the CSR Coordinating Body (the Body is being established in cooperation with the

- government) to advocate for enabling policies and regulations for corporate social responsibility of companies;
- Partnership events: the Network member participated and contribute to the discussion at one event organized by the American Chamber of Commerce in Macedonia which discuss on socially responsible practices of business (April 2007);
  - Implementation of COP: The meeting of the Advisory Board in 2007 (September) concludes actions to further encourage the “Communication on Progress”: appraising companies submitted COP in network communications, initiative of member-assist-member in preparing COP: members to volunteer to organize small-group workshops to discuss the preparation of COP ( “EuroComputer System” company organizes the first sub-group workshop in October 2007).
  - Promoting partnership project: members of the Advisory Board recently made some initial proposals for joint actions –September 2007 (including: members assisting youth employment via internship scheme; joint work by banks in producing free financial education material; the very first initial idea of setting up bicycle rental services; volunteer to undertake the anti-corruption methodology in their companies; members to make presentations at Chambers’ events). However, not yet clear response from the members.
  - The network engaged three new members of GC in 2007.

*Activities planed for the next coming year:*

- The Advisory Board to meet more frequent and communicate with other members on their initiatives;
- Extend the initiative: member-assist-member in preparing COP;
- The Advisory Board to discuss the integrity measures;

**Progress**

- The Network has some progress in learning and the awareness of members on the GC principles. On particular achievement is the active contribution and discussion of some lead members. However the Networks needs to improve its internal communications and interactions between members towards concrete actions.
- Example of best practices: “EuroComputer System” company voluntarily organizes the first sub-group workshop and assist other members in preparing COP in October 2007.
- Challenges: sustained communications and interaction among members, and realization of initiatives into collective actions.

## 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 (wider participants but core are GC network) | Yes                       | No  | Yes                   | UNDP: <i>Thuy Ha Bui</i> ,<br>GC network:<br><i>Goran Lazarevski</i> | Yes                         | Yes   | UNDP                  | 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                             |
| 52                                | 2    | ~ 48 | ~ 20                              | 0                     | 0                | 0                   | 2                           | 1 (private - SME)    |                    | No                                  |

| Number of Activities |                 |                  |                      |                                       |                  |
|----------------------|-----------------|------------------|----------------------|---------------------------------------|------------------|
| Outreach Events      | Learning Events | Policy Dialogues | Partnership projects | Cooperation with other Local Networks | Other activities |
| 2                    | 1               | 1                | 0                    | 0                                     | 1                |