



Annual Report 2008

Network objectives and priorities

It was defined as the primary aim of the network with beginning of 2006 when respACT became the official Focal Point to increase the awareness of the UNGC and its 10 principles in Austria, as well as the connected Millennium Development Goals.

At the beginning of 2008 the GCLN Austria counted 19 corporate participants. After the first half of the year, respACT decided to invest more Human resources in the GLCN Austria provided that the financial resources were guaranteed. With the participation of the Austrian Development Agency (ADA) a strong partner within the network was found that also assured a financial funding for the upcoming year. With the support of ADA, respACT developed a year plan for 2009 based on three main goals to be achieved as well as a plan for activities and funding. The main objectives defined for 2009 are:

- 1, Enlarging the network (increasing the number of participants by 50%)
- 2, Increasing the awareness of the UN Global Compact in Austria
- 3, Encouraging active participation (by encouraging the exchange of experience among participants as well as the implementation of the 10 principles)

Additionally to these 3 goals, every year is supposed to focus on a specific topic starting with Human Rights in 2009.

Organisation

The Focal Point is situated at the office of respACT – austrian business council for sustainable development, a membership association currently. The organisation was founded as Austrian Business Council for Sustainable Development in 1997 and in 2007 joined forces with respACT austria to create a new powerful platform for the promotion of sustainability and CSR. Currently there are about 140 members.¹

In 2008 decisions were made that until the beginning of 2009 a steering committee should be established comprised of respACT as the Focal Point and active participants, among which companies and other organisations.

Participation

As already mentioned, one of the three main goals defined in 2008 was the increment of participants. As many of the current Austrian UNGC participants are big companies, the

¹ An English overview can be found on our Webseite: <http://www.respact.at/content/respact/plattform/en/index.html>



focus in 2008 was set on the acquisition of SMEs. By the end of 2008, four SMEs and one MNE had joined the GCLN Austria.

On the other hand, an important aim defined in 2008 was to strengthen the network as a multistakeholder platform. As a consequence, the dialogue with NGOs and other non corporate entities was enforced and the first NGO joined in October 2008. The Austrian Development Agency, an organisation with strong relationships to the Austrian ministry of external affairs not only joined the GCLN Austria in 2008 but also communicated its strong commitment to contribute to the development of the network in the future. It is planned for 2009 to start a cooperation with other government organisations in order to identify possible forms of integration into the GCLN Austria.

Please see the chart and list at the end of this document, for members and their structure regarding size.

Activities

The activities to achieve the goals set for 2009 were already started in 2008. Hence, respACT started a communication initiative in order to inform its 140 members of the advantages of a UNGC participation. Information was provided by the website and the newsletter that reaches all respACT members.

- **General Meeting 2008**

The General Meeting for 2008 was held in September 2008 at Oesterreichische Kontrollbank. Not only UNGC participants but also selected respACT members were invited in order to enforce the exchange of experience among participants and non participants. 13 Austrian companies participated; the topic of the meeting was: "Objectives and advantages of the UN Global Compact - Sharing experiences among Austrian participants". The meeting was lead by respACT, 3 Austrian companies presented their UNGC approach and their Communication on progress.

- **CSR Day 2008**

In order to increase the awareness of the UNGC in Austria, the initiative was presented at the official CSR day in May 2008 in Vienna with over 400 participants. In different workshops participants had the possibility to discuss specific issues related to the ten principles of the UNGC like environment or Human Rights.

- **Website**

After the General Meeting in September 2008 respACT and other participants decided to establish an independent website for GCLN Austria to provide the Austrian participants with relevant information and to give the network a virtual platform. The realization which also needed a funding was set for 2009, the start was already done in 2008 by safing a domaine: www.unglobalcompact.at which until now leads to a sub section of the respACT website.

Apart from that the Focal Point is the link between New York and Austrian participants and communicates with participants on a regular basis and keeps them updated on all UNGC initiatives.



- **Cooperation with other Local Networks**

In September 2008 the Slovakian GCLN was launched. respACT was invited to officially present the Austrian network and to share experiences with Slovakian participants. RespACT used the opportunity to deepen the relationships with the Slovakian network.

Austrian UNGC Participants by June 2009

Adecco Austria
Austrian Development Agency
Austrian Post
BAWAG P.S.K.
Conness Energieberatungs-Planungs- und Betriebs GMBH
EVN AG
Hauska and Partner International Communications
HUMANA People to People - Association for Development Cooperation
ICEP
ikp - Kommunikationsplanung und Öffentlichkeitsarbeit GmbH
IMS Incoming Marketing Services
Ludwig Boltzmann Institute of Human Rights
Mona Naturprodukte GmbH
Oesterreichische Entwicklungsbank AG
Oesterreichische Kontrollbank AG
OMV Aktiengesellschaft
Ovothem International Handels GmbH
Pfizer Corporation Austria GmbH
PwC PricewaterhouseCoopers GmbH
ImPart Handles GmbH
Regional Centre of Expertise on Education for Sustainable Development Graz-Styria
Rollenbau GmbH
software-systems.at
Teak Holz International AG
The CSR Company Ges.m.b.H
Thomas Ebner, Personal Productivity Solutions & Professional Learning Experiences
Vision Card GmbH
Wiener Stadtwerke Holding AG
Wienerberger AG



Network Fact Sheet

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	no	no	yes	respACT	yes	yes	respACT	Yes for respect members, no for UNGC participants	

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
29	8	9	7	0	1	0	2	2	0	Yes (ADA)

Number of Activities					
Outreach Events	Learning Events	Policy Dialogues	Partnership projects	Cooperation with other Local Networks	Other activities
2	2	0	0	1	Regular Website update and Newsletter