Global – Local Linkages: Global Commitment and Local Action!
The Foundation for the Global Compact will send out its annual outreach to participants while underscoring the importance of support for both the global and local operations. Funding for the activities in these spheres is critical to the overall success of the initiative and we have come up with a description of why BOTH Global and Local support is important. The draft outreach letter which will be sent to all participants in a fortnight and the description of linkages which underscore the importance of both the global commitment and local action can be found here: GC Foundation Outreach Letter and Global Local Linkages.

Global Compact Office Narrative for Rio+20
Further to our latest Rio+20 Update sent on 13 October, please find attached for your information the UN Global Compact Office's input to the compilation document of the Rio+20 Conference (the basis for the outcome document).
Under the headline "Corporate Sustainability Leadership: A Framework for Action at Rio+20 and beyond”, the GCO argues that with the right incentives, enabling environments and means of implementation, the private sector can make significant contributions to the sustainable development agenda. Moreover, the GCO suggests a number of actions that Governments can take to help increase the scale and quality of corporate sustainability. One of these suggestions is directly related to the Local Networks.
Governments are encouraged to support and partner with Global Compact Local Networks, which can be transformed into national sustainability hubs and used to reach companies that have yet to embrace sustainability. Moreover, these national sustainability hubs can facilitate collective action and policy dialogue towards development priorities at the country level.” The detailed narrative can be found at this link: Global Compact Office Rio+20 Narrative

Call for Case Stories for Local Network Publication to be launched at Rio+20 - How Local Networks Facilitates Collective Action and Policy Dialogue
The GCO is preparing a publication that will feature how Local Networks are facilitating 1) collective action as a coordinated and sustained process of collaboration among businesses, who invest resources to achievement of a common goal; 2) policy dialogue that stresses the importance of dialogue between the public and private sectors and aims at influencing policy development and implementation. Moreover, the publication will provide guidance for Local Networks who wish to initiate the facilitation of such actions. The publication will be launched next year at Rio+20 to demonstrate how Local Networks can function as implementation modalities for policy recommendations on sustainable development. For a preliminary draft of the publication, please click here.
Since the early years of the Global Compact, the Local Networks have shaped the corporate sustainability agenda by engaging in outreach and facilitating learning among companies at the country level. Today, the structure is in place for a transition from outreach and learning to action on the ground. By leveraging the role to facilitate business action and encourage government action, Local Networks can be transformed into Sustainability Hubs and become significant catalysts for a new level of corporate performance. Grounded in local cultures and communities, Local Networks have the unique potential to bring the sweeping global discussions on the proper role of business in society to the local level and spark collaboration and collective action among relevant actors. Local Networks also have the capacity to ensure that these discussions are taken into the public domain through policy dialogues between businesses and governments.
A number of Local Networks have already played key roles in facilitating collective action and policy dialogue and we kindly ask you to send your case story and lessons learned to Laura Nielsen (nielsen1@un.org) by 15 November. The following questions may serve as inspiration for the case story:
Why was collective action/policy dialogue promoted by the Local Network? What was the goal? What concrete results were the participants trying to achieve? What were the actual outcomes? What was the role of the Local Network in the process? What concrete steps were taken by the network to act as facilitator? What are the lessons learned? What are your advices to other Local Networks, who wish to facilitate collective action and policy dialogue?

Annual Local Network Report 2012
We kindly ask you to update the Knowledge Sharing System (KSS), with your Local Network information and activities. Your sharing of experiences and activities through the KSS is necessary to feature in the Annual Local Networks Report 2012 which will be launched during the ALNF at the Rio+20 events next year. It is also important for other networks to learn from.
As was showcased in last year’s report, the main theme of the report will be local network best practices and achievements for the year 2011. Please note that those stories will only be featured based on the events and activities that you have shared in the KSS.
Kindly contact your regional network manager if you have any questions: Africa (Nike Olaniyan: olaniyan@un.org), MENA/Europe (Walid Nagi: Nagi@un.org), Americas (Javier Bolanos: bolanos@unglobalcompact.net), Asia/Oceania (Yukako Hashida: hashida@unglobalcompact.org)

Local Network Events at Rio+20 - Room Reservation
We encourage the Local Networks to organize Local Network Events during the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum individually or in collaboration with stakeholders (other local networks, businesses, governments etc) to showcase business solution to sustainable development challenges, national/regional investment opportunities, corporate recommendations for government actions etc. The Local Networks are requested to apply for meeting room reservation indicating preferred time and date, number of expected participants, title of the event, event description (3-4 sentences), co-organizers name and contact details by email to Mr. Javier Bolanos Munoz at bolanos@unglobalcompact.net by 30 November.
The United Nations Global Compact will organize the Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum: Innovation & Collaboration for the Future We Want from 28 May - 2 June 2012 in Rio de Janeiro – held in cooperation with the Rio+20 Secretariat, the UN System and the Global Compact Local Network Brazil. The objective of the week-long forum is to strengthen the business contribution to sustainable development globally – seeking to bring greater scale and quality to implementation of corporate sustainability practices, innovation and collaboration. The Rio+20 Corporate Sustainability Forum will provide a venue for business, industry and investors to meet with Governments, local authorities, civil society and UN entities – with over 2,000 participants expected. The week-long Forum will consist of dozens of highly focused workshops and thematic sessions linked to the Rio+20 agenda.
Get the Latest LEAD Updates and Overview

To challenge and support leading companies in reaching higher levels of corporate sustainability performance, Global Compact LEAD was launched in January 2011. LEAD is designed for companies with a strong history of engagement with the UN Global Compact and has been built around a commitment by participating companies to move forward with implementation of the Blueprint for Corporate Sustainability Leadership. To see the overview and activity updates of LEAD companies, click here: GC LEAD Overview and Activity Update October 2011

To read the latest LEAD-Local Network update, please click on the link: GC LEAD Local Networks Update. Of particular importance on the update is the LEAD webinars for Global Compact Local Networks. This is a follow up to the suggestion from the LEAD-Local Networks Meeting in Copenhagen last May.

The first webinar will take place on November 15, 2011 at 10pm (EST) – convenient for Networks in Asia

The second webinar will take place on November 17, 2011 at 9am (EST) – convenient for Networks in Europe, Americas, Africa and the Middle East.

The local engagement of Multinational Companies and their subsidiaries with Global Compact Local Networks around the globe is a priority issue and part of the LEAD commitment. The updated Global Compact Board Subsidiary Engagement Policy can be found here: Subsidiary Engagement in the UN Global Compact