



Collaboration with UN Global Compact Network Germany on Stakeholder Engagement

In June 2018, CLI successfully organized and facilitated its first workshop in collaboration with the UN Global Compact Network Germany.

The <u>United Nations Global Compact</u> provides a universal language for corporate responsibility and a framework to guide all businesses regardless of size, complexity or location. By signing the UN Global Compact, companies commit to respect its ten principles and to promote sustainable development at home and around the world. The ten principles cover human and labour rights, environmental, anti-corruption, and other SDG-related issues to assure a strategic anchoring of sustainability along the entire value and supply chains of the signatories.

The <u>German Global Compact Network (DGCN)</u> was created in the year 2000 on the initiative of German companies as one of the first national sustainability platforms. The number of German signatories of the UN Global Compact is increasing: currently the total number lies at 350 companies, ranging from DAX enterprises and SMEs to very small specialist companies, plus more than 50 organisations from civil society, academia, and the public sector. In the Network, members have access to information about all the topics concerning corporate responsibility, the sharing of ideas, and cooperation on practice-oriented solutions.

The partnership with the Collective Leadership Institute (CLI) is rooted in CLI's expertise in the field of stakeholder engagement and collaboration skills, which are at the core of the implementation of the SDGs and the ten principles of the UN Global Compact. The Network aims at broadening its product portfolio for signatories to include exclusive discounts on courses they offer in collaboration with training partners, like CLI.

During the two-day-training participants from big to medium-sized companies and associations were introduced to the <u>Dialogic Change Model (DCM)</u>, CLI's core methodology for designing and implementing strong stakeholder collaboration processes and activities. Pre-interviews had shown that the private sector representatives were facing challenges addressing relevant stakeholders, as well as on how to build, formalize, and sustain lasting networks with them.



Some impressions from the Stakeholder Engagement Course in collaboration with the UN Global Compact Network Germany





(https://sustainabledevelopment.un.org/sdgs)



By working on their own organization-specific cases, the adaptation and application of the methodology enabled participants to gain new insights and perspectives on their contexts and issues. They were able to develop a roadmap with concrete next steps on how to integrate the work with the DCM into their areas of work. The idea of building "containers for change", the necessity to start with a small, engaged, and enthusiastic group of people and build the change network from there, was pointed out by many participants as an important and eye-opening insight for them. This course provided real tools that private sector companies can use to advance sustainability and corporate and social responsibility both within their organizations and with external partners and stakeholders.



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