



Schweizerische Eidgenossenschaft
Confédération suisse
Confederazione Svizzera
Confederaziun svizra

Eidgenössisches Departement für auswärtige Angelegenheiten EDA

Politische Direktion PD

Abteilung Menschliche Sicherheit:

Frieden, Menschenrechte, Humanitäre Politik, Migration

Role of Business in developing and implementing National Action Plan in Switzerland – sharing experiences and good practices

Round Table on Business & Human Rights, Perm,
24 June 2019



Responsibility of businesses and corporate sustainability

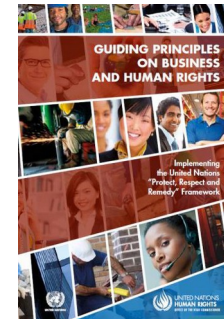
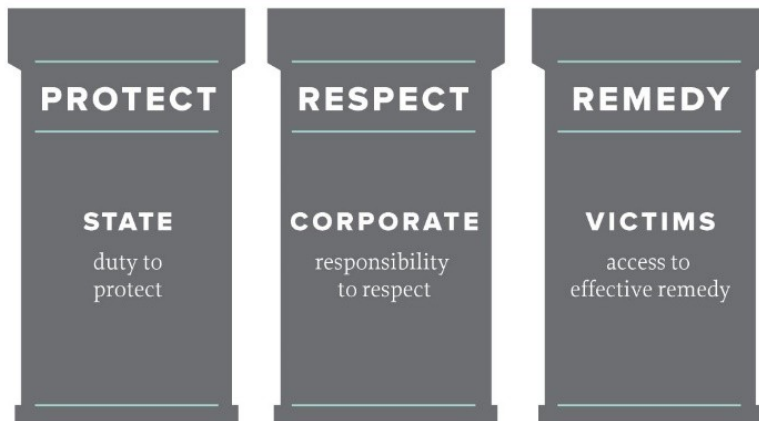
- Working conditions, human rights, environment, corruption prevention, fair competition, consumer interests, taxation, transparency
- Corporate responsibility for society and the environment
- Contribution of companies to sustainable development
- Benefits for companies and contribution to solving societal challenges
- Refers to the entire entrepreneurial activity at home and abroad



UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

THREE PILLARS of the UN GUIDING PRINCIPLES

HUMAN RIGHTS



National Action Plan on Business and Human Rights



Swiss national action plan on business and human rights

- Result of a multi-stakeholder dialogue (business, government, civil society)
- Adopted in December 2016
- Contains 50 Political instruments to:
 - Promote **human rights due diligence** by businesses
 - Promote accountability and transparency
 - Improve access to remedy
 - Reinforce expertise of Swiss representations abroad
- Smart mix of non-legally binding measures and statutory requirements where necessary
- Currently revised in view of new NAP 2020-2023



Expectations of the Federal Council

„ Business enterprises that are based and/or operating in Switzerland should duly fulfil their **duty to uphold human rights.**“

„ In compliance with Pillar 2 of the UNGP and the 'Human Rights' chapter of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises, business enterprises that are based and/or operate in Switzerland **should respect human rights in all of their business activities, wherever they operate.**“

“Business enterprises that are exposed to particularly high human rights risks should develop internal policies and procedures for their **human rights due diligence** for the business activities concerned”



UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

- 1. Business enterprises may abuse human rights through their own activities.
- 2. Business enterprises may contribute to abuses of human rights through their activities.
- 3. Business enterprises may be involved in abuses of human rights via their business relationships, without contributing to those impacts themselves.



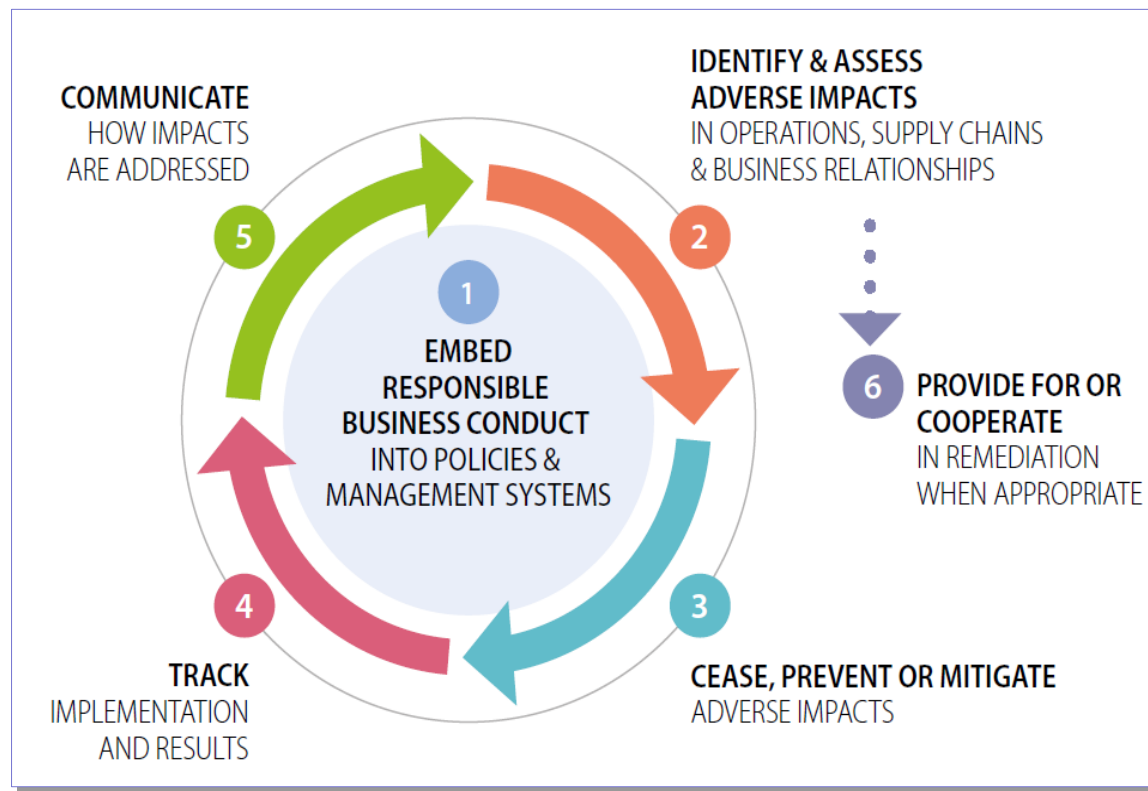
Human Rights due diligence(UNGP 17)

- Process through which companies manage human rights risks in order to prevent them.
- Aims at evaluating real and potential human rights impacts, collect findings, establish follow-up measures and remedies and communicate about them.
- Has to be put in place at the earliest time possible as soon as a new activity or business relationship starts.
- Should be carried out in permanence.



Due diligence

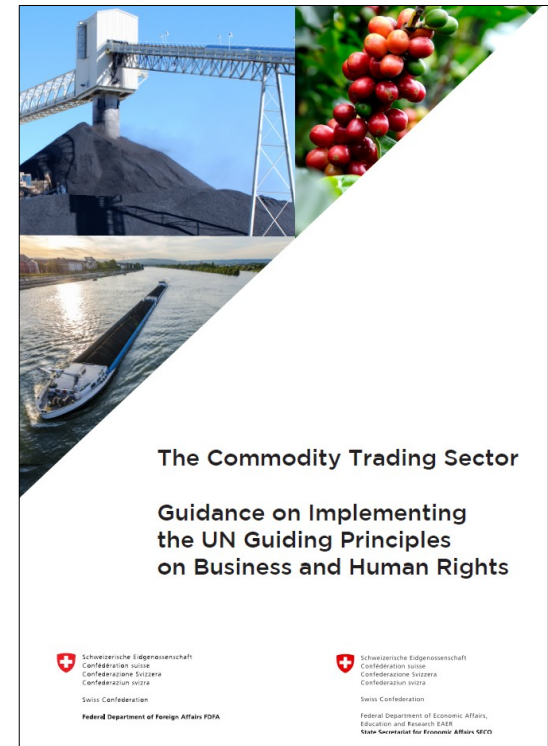
In order to identify, prevent, mitigate and account for how they address their adverse impacts, business enterprises should carry out due diligence.





Guidance on Implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights

- Best practice guide for the commodity trading sector
- Result of a public consultation with NGOs, the private sector and the Geneva cantonal authorities
- First document of its kind worldwide
- Promotion (training course, diffusion, pilot project), including in Asia (Singapore)



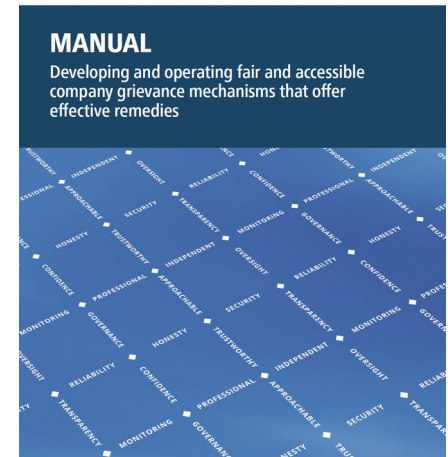
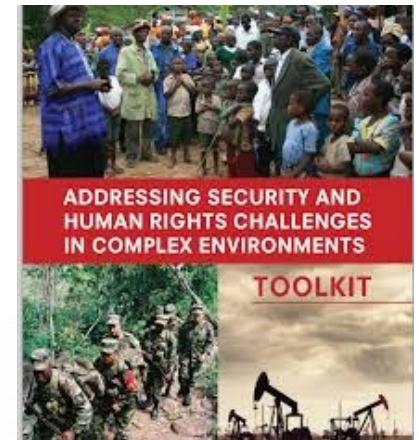
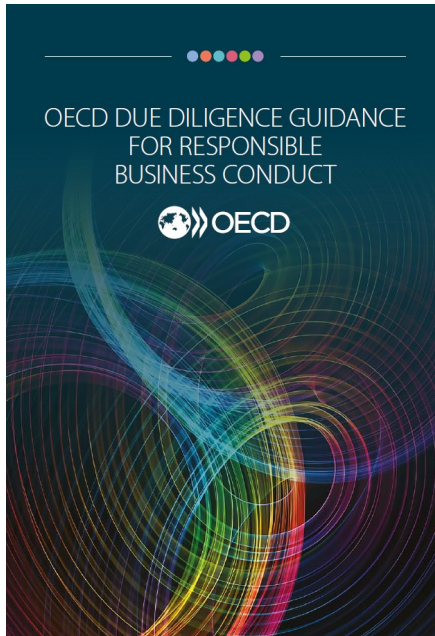


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Step by step towards implementation



www.csr.admin.ch

www.nap-bhr.admin.ch



It is in your interest

- It wards off potential risks to your reputation

“Louis Dreyfus SA and Reinhart AG must:

- *publicly oppose child labor in their supply chain.*
- *reveal how they are fulfilling their responsibilities for defending human rights in Burkina Faso.*
- *present a Human Rights Policy for their company.*
- *define procedures for implementing their duty of care and make them public.*
- *use their influence with stakeholders and communicate the results.”*

- Solidar Suisse





It is in your interest

- It improves market positioning and competitiveness
- It boosts productivity and product quality
- It increases your attractiveness as an employer

“three-quarters of young workers see multinational corporations as having the potential to help solve society’s economic, environmental and social challenges”

- Deloitte Millennial Survey 2018





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We thank you for your attention!

Questions?