

Press Release

The Role of the Private Sector Associations, Civil Society Organizations and Media in Sustainable Development in Tanzania

Half day workshop organised by Global Compact Local Network Tanzania, with support from UNDP on February 28th, 2018 at Ramada Encore Hotel addressed 'The role of Private, Sector Associations, Civil society organizations and Media engagement for Sustainable Development Goals implementation in Tanzania: opportunity for shared value'. Discussion at the Meeting covered engaging the private sector associations, Civil society organisations and Media in shaping Tanzania's development agenda, improving the business environment; and the private sector's associations, Civil society organizations, and media role in implementing the SDGs.

Speaking at the event Ernest Salla - UNDP, Program Specialist & Head of Inclusive Growth and Sustainable Livelihood Pillar said "The SDGs is an ambitious agenda. It calls for a renewed partnership to address urgent global sustainable development challenges such as ending poverty, tackling inequality, protecting the planet and women and girls' empowerment. Because no single actor can realize ambitious SDGs alone, the 2030 Agenda emphasizes the active engagement of all key players on issues of common importance".

Mr. Salla highlighted that "The practical means of integrating sustainable development priorities into business strategies and day-to-day operations can be a daunting task. These challenges are especially pronounced for small and medium-sized enterprises. That is why it is important to work in partnership with business and industry associations, civil society organisations, academia and media to accelerate corporate engagement in the sustainable development agenda. With their extensive networks and sector-specific expertise, these entities can serve as key platforms for sharing knowledge and know-how on integrating sustainable development measures into corporate management by fostering partnerships, building capacity, setting technical standards, and diffusing best practices.,".

Speaking at the event Fitsum G. Abraha – UNDP Economic Advisor “Achieving the SDGs requires the partnership of governments, private sector, civil society, media and citizens alike to make sure we leave a better planet for future generations. UNDP provides support to governments to integrate the SDGs into their national development plans and policies”.

UNGCNT and UNDP subsequently agreed that, while the workshop provided momentum to the private sector associations, Civil society organizations and media to discuss and learn their major roles in implementing the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), but opened further opportunities for collaboration with PSOs, CSOs and Media. Through their extensive networks, PSOs, CSOs and Media they serve as key platforms for sharing knowledge and know-how on integrating sustainability measures into company operations.

*Speaking at the event UNGCNT National Coordinator Mr. Emmanuel Nnko said “We are going **Scaling Up Sustainability Collaboration** through showcases the contributions that business associations, industry associations, civil society organizations and media have made to shape a more sustainable economy and highlights the benefits that these groups can bring to companies’ sustainability work in the country. This will inspire business associations, civil society and media around the country to further strengthen their efforts in this area, and inform their members, supporters and other stakeholders of their critical contribution to scaling up business-led sustainable development partnerships and collaboration”.*

From the private sector

Representatives of private sector associations, civil society presented concrete examples of their organization’s contribution to advance different areas of sustainable development, from providing a platform for discussing sustainability challenges and identifying best practices, to developing technical guidelines and providing trainings, and engaging in policy advocacy.

UNGCNT and UNDP in Tanzania: Private sector development and economic growth

UNGCNT works on engaging the private sector's resources and expertise in boosting economic development. Its Inclusive Business Solution initiative invites private sector to channel their resources allocated under Corporate Social Responsibility to development projects for impact on shared economic growth.

Under the UNDP Country Programme Document for Tanzania 2017 - 2020, UNDP is supporting the establishment and consolidation of UN Global Compact Network Tanzania. One of the outcomes is that the economy is increasingly transformed for greater pro-poor inclusiveness, competitiveness and increased opportunities for decent and productive employment.

For more information, please contact;

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About Global Compact Network Tanzania (GCNT)

The Global Compact Network Tanzania (GCNT) is the local network chapter of the United Nations Global Compact, which supports Tanzanian signatories (both Tanzanian firms and subsidiaries of global signatories) in the implementation of the Ten Principles, while facilitating and creating opportunities for multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder collaboration. The Global Compact Network Tanzania acts in accordance with the UN Global Compact's principles and objectives. The GCNT holds a Memorandum of Understanding with the UN Global Compact and reports regularly on its objectives, activities and initiatives. The GCNT is incorporated as not-for-profit organization. It is self-governing with a Board of Directors, and a Steering Committee.