



Global Compact
Network Netherlands

GLOBAL COMPACT
NETWORK NETHERLANDS
HIGHLIGHTS
ANNUAL REPORT
2018



1 INTRODUCTION

‘The influence we have on the future of our planet is enormous. The decisions we make today will play a crucial role in determining what the world of tomorrow looks like. In reaching decisions, we must set ourselves goals. By arriving at a consensus on what we want to achieve, we will succeed in laying out and indeed following a course that leads to the fulfilment of those goals.’

These words can be found in the executive summary of the [SDG progress report Global Compact Network Netherlands \(GCNL\)](#) published in November 2018 and launched during our event on the 30th of November at the Rotterdam School of Management (RSM)/ Erasmus University in Rotterdam. The CEO of UN Global Compact Lise Kingo received the first copy of the SDG progress report during the event. We are proud that GCNL is the first local network of the more than 70 local networks within UN Global Compact, that has conducted this local research and has published such a report with many interviews and best practices to assess and strengthen the SDG impact we are making.

On twitter CEO Lise Kingo of UN Global Compact wrote on the 30th of November:

Honoured to have joined @GlobalCompactNL today for the launch of its report “Companies on their way to 2030” – showcasing how #biz in the Netherlands are advancing the #GlobalGoals on the ground. Read the report: [@globalcompact #SDGimpact](http://gcnetherlands.nl/nieuws/@HvMeijfeldt)



Chairman Jan-Willem Scheijgrond of GCNL hands over the SDG progress report of GCNL to CEO of UN Global Compact Lise Kingo during our event at the Erasmus University on the 30th of November 2018.

2 2018: A SPECIAL YEAR FOR GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK NETHERLANDS



A NEW CHAIRMAN

Jan-Willem Scheijgrond of Philips started as our new chairman of GCNL and we said goodbye to André van Heemstra, who had been our chairman for so many years and also our 'founding father' of Global Compact Network in the Netherlands.



GCNL PUBLISHES SDG PROGRESS REPORT

GCNL, as the first local network within the UN Global Compact published the SDG Progress report 'Companies on their way to 2030'. Research was conducted by RSM Master student, Florentin Ngabitsinze, who joined the Global Compact Network as an intern and analysed the Communication on Progress reports of our members. The publication reveals that more and more companies are advancing the SDGs and publish about it.



GCNL YPP GOES DUBROVNIK

The SDG Young Professional Program that we started in our network is embraced by UN Global Compact worldwide – now titled SDG Young Innovators Program – as we promoted the program during the Annual Local Network Meeting in Dubrovnik.



GCNL STARTS ALLIANCE WITH RSM

GCNL and Rotterdam School of Management, Erasmus University, closed an alliance to help business impact SDGs. Chairman GCNL Jan-Willem Scheijgrond, and Dean Rotterdam School of Management / Erasmus University Steef van der Velde signed an alliance on the 30th of November during the annual event of GCNL.



NEW BOARD MEMBERS.

New in the board (as of the assembly in June 2018) are Coralie Bos (Elsevier) and Babs Dijkshoorn (NN group).



SDG IMPLEMENTATION

We launched together with VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland the ['edition 2018 of Global Challenges, Dutch Solutions, how enterprises are advancing the Sustainable Development Goals'](#) in December. Besides, we published a ['stappenplan'](#) containing 10 steps to help companies to implement the SDGs in their strategy.

3 STRUCTURE AND STRATEGY OF OUR NETWORK

Our Global Compact Network Netherlands consists of 138 active members: companies, SME's with participants and signatories, who either signed in the Netherlands or signed abroad and have a subsidiary here. You will also find representatives of CSO's, knowledge institutes and cities in our network (24).

[A full list of our members can be found here.](#)

To contribute to the realisation of the SDGs that must be finished in 2030, the need to step up with UN Global Compact and the local networks is enormous. Thereafter, as of 2018, the business model and strategy of the UN Global Compact and GCNL has changed to help members in a more sophisticated way.

UN Global Compact has strengthened and tailored their opportunities for businesses and asked all members to choose between two distinct tiers of engagement to suit a company's needs: **PARTICIPANT** or **SIGNATORY**.



BENEFITS		SIGNATORY	PARTICIPANT
Access to Global Compact Local Networks in 60+ Countries		✓	✓
1. BUILD TRUST & TRANSPARENCY			
Visibility & Recognition	Speaking opportunities at UN Global Compact flagship events & conferences	✓	✓
	SDG Pioneer recognition eligibility	✓	✓
	Participant success stories		✓
Online Profile	Enhanced company profile on UN Global Compact website		✓
Media Toolkit	Toolkit to communicate your engagement in the UN Global Compact		✓
Logo	Access to UN Global Compact endorser logo	✓	✓
2. ACHIEVE YOUR SUSTAINABILITY OBJECTIVES			
Practical Guidance & Tools	Access to the UN Global Compact library of world-class sustainability guidance	✓	✓
	Access to online tools in the areas of Gender, Climate, Anti- Corruption, Labour & Human Rights	✓	✓
	Self assessment & benchmarking	✓	✓
Global Impact Initiatives	Participation in Global Impact Initiatives to drive action	✓	✓
Support	Access to UN Global Compact helpdesk	✓	✓
	Dedicated Participant Engagement Manager		✓
Training	Access to the UN Global Compact Academy Learning Platform		✓
3. SHAPE THE CORPORATE SUSTAINABILITY AGENDA			
Partnerships	Guidance on multi-stakeholder partnerships with the UN and other participating companies	✓	✓
Action Platforms	Ability to join UN Global Compact Action Platforms		✓
	Eligibility for Global Compact LEAD recognition (available to companies participating in two or more Action Platforms)		✓
Global Leadership Programs	Invitation to join the Expert Network and CFO Network		✓
	Exclusive invitations to high-level convenings and policy dialogues, including CEO Roundtables		✓
UN Events	Exclusive invitations to high-level convenings and policy dialogues, including CEO Roundtables		✓

4 LEARNING ACTIVITIES

SDG CAFÉ WITH SMEs

The SDG-Café is an independent informal network, a meeting place for SDG supporters. A place where they share information, research, advice, contacts, motivation, visions, approaches, motivation, energy and solidarity. On the 25th of January, the SDG Café was hosted by the Global Compact Network Netherlands, the employers' organisation VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland. The meeting was for and with entrepreneurs.

[Link to video](#)

SDG REPORT TO DUTCH PARLIAMENT

In May, the government sent their SDG report to the Dutch Parliament. Because the SDGs are asking for the participation of everyone and for partnership, the report is written by representatives of the government, young people (NJR), NGO's, knowledge institutions and cities and municipalities. On behalf of the business, Global Compact Network Netherlands, VNO-NCW and MKB-Nederland worked together to deliver an impression of how companies are working on the SDGs. This report was also based on a publication of the CBS (Centraal Bureau Statistiek), which indicated that most SDG indicators showed positive development. That is good news. Especially the objectives decent (decent) jobs and economic growth (SDG 8), responsible consumption and production (SDG 12) and peace, security, and justice (SDG 16) show positive development. Global Compact Network Netherlands is positive about more data being available to measure the development of the implementation of the SDGs in the Netherlands.

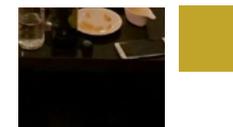
[Link to the SDG report](#)

SDG ACTION DAY: SEPTEMBER

On the 25th of September, the celebration of 3 years SDGs was there. In Amsterdam the SDG action day was organised among others by the SDG Charter. Global Compact Network Netherlands together with the Dutch Sustainable Growth Coalition and the network 'Groene Groeiers' of VNO-NCW organised a workshop 'from action to impact' and representatives of KLM, Croda and Instock shared their experiences.

VISIT FROM TURKISH DELEGATION OF GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK TURKEY

Sustainable Financing. That was the topic where a delegation of members of the Global Compact Network Turkey was interested in. Representatives of different Turkish banks visited our network to learn more about sustainable financing. They visited among others the Rabobank and ABN AMRO. Member of our board Jan van den Herik was also there to inform the delegation about GCNL.



5 ANNUAL CONFERENCES OF THE GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK NETHERLANDS

5.1 ANNUAL MEETING GCNL IN JUNE: 'INNOVATION & SDGS'

On the 19th of June GCNL organised the General Assembly and our event in Utrecht (Winkel van Sinkel). Our new chairman Jan-Willem Scheijgrond (Vice President Global Government and Public affairs Royal Philips) opened the event and welcomed especially our former chairman André van Heemstra. The topic during the event was 'Innovation & SDGs'. Utrecht as Global Goals city welcomed us and shared their experiences with the SDGs. Also, Maarten van Herpen (African Innovation Hub) of Philips was keynote speaker even as Aart Bos of MasterPeace. After the event, there were drinks to thank André van Heemstra for all the work he did for our network.



*André van Heemstra
(chairman GCNL until 2018)
and Jan-Willem Scheijgrond
(chairman GCNL as of 2018)*

5.2 ANNUAL MEETING GCNL IN NOVEMBER: RSM / ERASMUS UNIVERSITY ROTTERDAM

Business & SDGs: From awareness to impact. That was the title of our event on the 30th of November GCNL with CEO of UN Global Compact Lise Kingo as our keynote speaker. We organised the event together with the network of employers' organisation VNO-NCW called 'Groene Groeiers'. The Dean of Rotterdam School of Business (RSM) Steef van de Velde welcomed us in Rotterdam and our moderator was Esther van Rijswijk.



Keynote speaker CEO of UN Global Compact Lise Kingo during the event of GCNL on the 30th of November, RSM/Erasmus Rotterdam



From left to right: Babs Dijkshoorn, NN Group, Mark Didden, AkzoNobel and Brechtje Spoorenberg KPN.

We started with a [video](#) in which various companies, amongst others Philips and VolkerWessels, showed their experiences with the implementation of the SDGs.

We also launched our first SDG progress report and we had different panel discussions. Among others with Hugo von Meijenfelt (SDG-coordinator Dutch Government), Linda Midgley (Senior Manager, Sustainability & Responsible Governance, PwC), Rob van Tulder (Professor International Business-Society Management, RSM), Carolien de Bruin (Founder & CEO, C-Change) and Gerbrand Haverkamp (Executive director World Benchmark Alliance (WBA)).



A second panel discussed the business case of the SDGs and how to scale up solutions in relation to the challenges we face in the world with Brechtje Spoorenberg (Manager CSR, KPN), Babs Dijkshoorn (Manager Sustainability, NN Group), Mark Didden (Sustainability Manager, AkzoNobel) and Yousef Yousef (CEO, LG Sonic and chairman VNO-NCW Network 'Groene Groeiers').

Furthermore, our Young Professionals shared their experiences with developing an SDG game to enlarge the awareness in companies regarding the SDGs and Lise Kingo, CEO of UN Global Compact embraced the proposal to scale up our Young Professional Program from GCNL to UN Global Compact.

6 YOUNG PROFESSIONALS PROGRAM

The 2030 Agenda of UN Global Compact highlights the importance of becoming a “translator” of the SDGs for business everywhere. The aim is to create a global movement of business and its stakeholders with the purpose of improving the lives of future generations. Yet, we need leaders to start this movement, to stir up enthusiasm for the SDGs, and to set innovation in motion. Therefore, Global Compact Netherlands took on a leading role and initiated a Young Professional Program, through which it is able to develop the young leaders that will help further build the road towards a more sustainable future. Through this initiative The Netherlands was able to lead by example: it inspired UN Global Compact in New York and several Local Networks around the world to do the same.

In teams, the Young Professionals look into an SDG-related challenge and formulate an impactful solution together. For example, the first group kicked-off with a project focused on reducing food waste. This resulted in the development of two [videos](#), aimed at creating sustainability awareness. The next group invented the SDG Game to spread awareness of the SDGs among businesses. Stay tuned as the SDG Game



will become available in October 2019! Each team consists of young professionals from different member companies and with different educational and professional backgrounds, to enrich the creation of the SDGs projects using multiple perspectives. Moreover, each team is guided by a senior team coach with experience in business, which allows the team to develop concrete action plans that ensure implementation.



The goal of the program is to create additional power for the realization of the SDG's as well as to create awareness among other young employees of the members.

There have already been three teams of Young Professionals in The Netherlands over the last two years. On the 25th of January, 2018, the 3rd team started, guided by team coach and GCNL board member Jan van den Herik. The objective of this team is to scale-up the initiative and to eventually create a global network of future leaders. Under the name 'SDG Young Innovators', this is currently happening in line with the global governance structure(s) of the UN Global Compact.

7 INTERNATIONAL ACTIVITIES UN GLOBAL COMPACT AND THE LOCAL NETWORKS

7.1. ANNUAL LOCAL NETWORK MEETING OF UN GLOBAL COMPACT IN ARGENTINA

Every year there is one meeting of all the networks in the world and at least one meeting in Europe with the networks placed within that continent. This year the worldwide conference took place in Buenos Aires, Argentina.

In April the Executive Director represented GCNL at the Annual Local Network Meeting of UN Global Compact in Argentina. More or less all the local networks (70 in total) were represented.

7.2 LEADERS SUMMIT NEW YORK

Lise Kingo, CEO of UNGC, launched the worldwide SDG progress report of UN Global Compact during the Leaders Summit in September 2018. Throughout that summit, our chairman Jan-Willem Scheijgrond participated in the program and had a meeting with different representatives of UN Global Compact to share the activities and insights of GCNL.

Jan Willem-Scheijgrond shared his experience in a blog:

[‘A week at the UN General Assembly: healthcare, better business, and the President’](#)

7.3. EUROPEAN ANNUAL LOCAL NETWORK MEETING IN DUBROVNIK WITH YOUNG PROFESSIONALS

In October, the Executive Director of GCNL accompanied by 6 Young Professionals from our program represented our network in Dubrovnik at the European Annual Local Network Meeting. Among others, the Young Professional pitched the SDG game and proposed to roll out the SDG Young Professionals Program on the level of UN Global Compact and promoted that idea to the staff of UN Global Compact and the European Networks who participated in the conference. A lot of enthusiasm was there and several local networks were interested to start an SDG Young Professional Program too.





COMMUNICATION WITH OUR MEMBERS:

It is important to actively communicate with our members and stakeholders; in 2018 we expanded our social media activities. Not only do we communicate on Twitter, but we also started with Instagram, LinkedIn, and Facebook. Julie Hoff is facilitating us for those activities.



Besides that, we use our website (www.gcnetherland.nl) and sent several newsletters with information, news about publications, tools from the UN Global Compact and invitations for conferences and meetings.

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