

# SDG Leadership for U.S. Businesses



**Global Compact**  
Network USA



# Engage locally

Launched in 2007, **Global Compact Network USA (GCNUSA)** is the local network chapter of the **United Nations Global Compact (UNGC)**. Network USA is a non-profit organization that supports U.S.-based entities in:

- Operating in alignment with the **Ten Principles** of the Global Compact
- Engaging with and advancing the **Sustainable Development Goals**
- Leveraging their association with the Global Compact and **United Nations** and its global resource network
- Facilitating and creating opportunities for **multi-sectoral and multi-stakeholder collaboration**

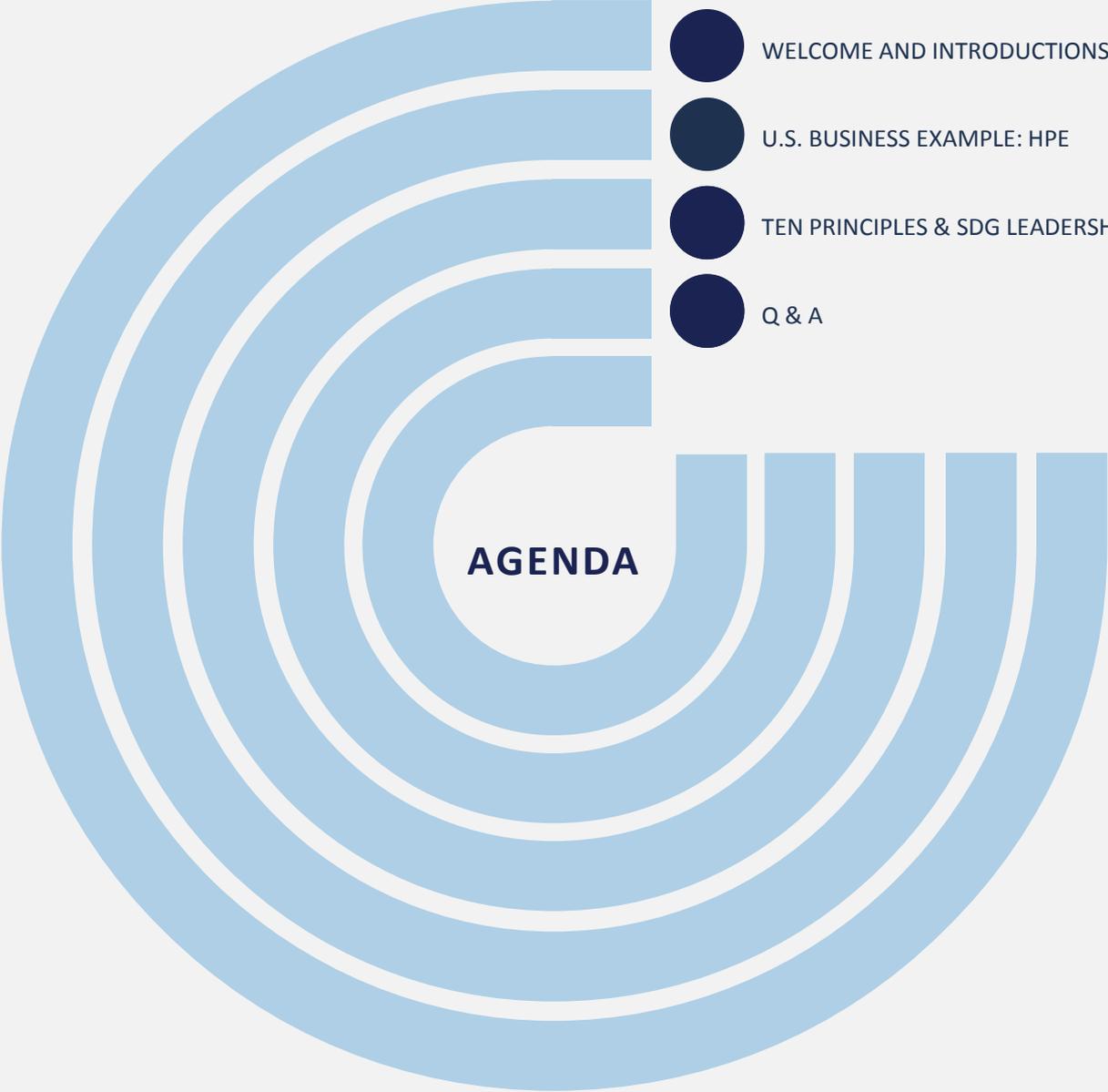


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# Speakers

- **Adam Gordon**, Engagement Director, Global Compact Network USA
- **Monica Batchelder**, Lead for Sustainability, Hewlett Packard Enterprise
- **Caitlin Casey**, Manager, Programmes – Leadership Initiatives, UN Global Compact



**AGENDA**

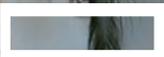
● WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

● U.S. BUSINESS EXAMPLE: HPE

● TEN PRINCIPLES & SDG LEADERSHIP

● Q & A

A photograph of a modern office interior. In the foreground, there is a glass railing with a black metal frame. Behind the railing, several people are visible. One man in a dark suit is standing and talking to another person. A woman in a light-colored top and dark pants is also visible. The office has large windows, potted plants, and modern furniture. The lighting is bright and professional.

  
Hewlett Packard  
Enterprise

# HPE & the UN Global Goals



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## Why the Global Goals for HPE?

- Maintain leadership and relevance in sustainability
- Magnify the impacts of our employees
- Live our values
- Align with global, multisector organizing principles



# Our Process for Developing a Global Goal Strategy

## Step 1:

Map current data available in the LPR to the 17 goals, and 169 targets

### 17 Goals & 169 Targets



## Step 2:

Evaluate where HPE has historic sustainability emphasis (high performance and strong data)

## Step 3:

Map material issues to areas of historic sustainability emphasis

## Step 4:

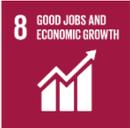
Select goals and targets with strong historic performance, available data, material issues and strategic relevance for HPE

### 4 Goals & 7 Targets



# HPE's Commitment to the UN Sustainable Development Agenda

We are focused on Global Goals that are most material to HPE, build on our sustainability leadership, and honor the unique obligation and capability of a worldwide IT company.

	Our Commitments	Our Actions
	7. Ensure access to affordable, reliable, sustainable and modern energy for all	HPE joined <a href="#">RE100</a> , and will reach 100% renewable energy. Our interim goal is 50% of our total electricity consumption from renewable sources by 2025.
	8. Promote sustained, inclusive and sustainable economic growth, full and productive employment and decent work for all	We recognize the part we can play in tackling the root causes of forced labor and human trafficking in supply chains, worked with suppliers to develop new recruitment policies for foreign migrant workers. Recently honored with <a href="#">Stop Slavery Award</a> .
	9. Build resilient infrastructure, promote inclusive and sustainable industrialization and foster innovation	HPE will increase energy performance of our product portfolio 30x by 2025. Products such as ProLiant, which enables up to 20% energy savings, and HPE's Synergy system, which eliminates idle or underutilized IT assets, help to lower costs, while saving resources and energy.
	13. Take urgent action to combat climate change and its impacts	We publicly support the Paris Climate Agreement and are signatories of Business Backs Low Carbon USA and We Are Still In. Our operations, supply chain, and product portfolio goals have been approved by the Science Based Target Initiative and are in line with climate science to keep global warming below 2°C.

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# Employee Engagement in SDGs

HPE links employee volunteer initiatives to the advancement of the Global Goals.

This alongside our involvement as a collaborating partner with Impact 2030, encourages our employees to make a meaningful difference locally while contributing to the efforts of the global community.



# MAKING THE CONNECTION: THE TEN PRINCIPLES & THE SDGS



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Global Compact

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# AGENDA

1. The Ten Principles and SDGs:  
A Principled Approach to the SDGs
2. SDG Tools & Resources: In practice

# Two Years Into The Global Goals



WE MUST MAKE GROWTH INCLUSIVE

CLOSE THE USD 28 TRILLION GENDER GAP



DECARBONIZE GLOBAL ECONOMY



UNLEASH THE 1.8 BILLION YOUTH DIVIDEND



CONTROL CLIMATE CHANGE

# The SDGs are:

- An ambitious, transformational plan of action for people, planet, and prosperity (and strengthening peace, while relying on partnerships)
- A set of ambitious goals and targets that can be leveraged to track progress, aligned with the global 2030 development agenda
- Primarily the purview of Governments: Used to set agendas and policies through to 2030
- The results of a political process



“No one will be left behind.”

# The SDGs Are Interconnected

Interconnectedness is a key consideration in Prioritization, Action, and Learning

Addressing one issue can generate benefits across several SDGs.....



# Making the Connection:

## Advancing the Ten Principles = Advancing the SDGs



“When companies drive respect for human rights across their own operations and their global value chains, they generate an unprecedented large-scale positive impact on the lives of people who may be most in need of the benefits of sustainable development.”

- John Ruggie, Former UN Special Representative for Business and Human Rights

# FOR A SUSTAINABLE AND INCLUSIVE GLOBAL ECONOMY

Act Responsibly



Find Opportunities



 <b>HUMAN RIGHTS</b>	 <b>ENVIRONMENT</b>
<p>1. Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights; and</p> <p>2. make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.</p>	<p>7. Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;</p> <p>8. undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility; and</p> <p>9. encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.</p>
 <b>LABOUR</b>	 <b>ANTI-CORRUPTION</b>
<p>3. Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;</p> <p>4. the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;</p> <p>5. the effective abolition of child labour; and</p> <p>6. the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.</p>	<p>10. Businesses should work against corruption in all its forms, including extortion and bribery.</p>

# Making the Connection

Ten Principles

How do you operate as a company?



How are you a part of building “the world we want?”

FOR EXAMPLE: Principle 9



Principle 9: Encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies



7.1 By 2030, ensure universal access to affordable, reliable and modern energy services  
7.2 By 2030, increase substantially the share of renewable energy mix

# Principled-Approach in Action

## Risks for “SDG Washing”

One company ran a sophisticated analysis of how they could make the “greatest impact” on the SDGs and came up with “building dams” to support Goals 9 and 13. However, their analysis did not address how dams may have severe impacts on human rights (displaced communities), life below water and life on land.

The indicators for the SDGs were decided through a political process and, for instance, do not mention LGBTI rights. Not a single indicator explicitly addresses race (disaggregation). Yet these remain areas in which businesses can have a significant impact on inclusive development.

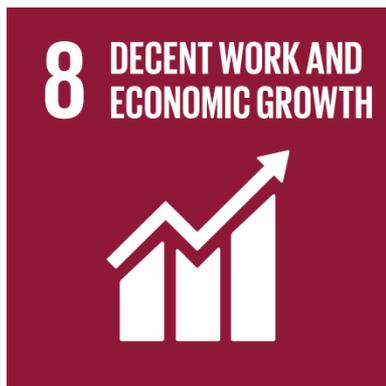
Even companies that have an inherent social purpose (a fashion company that uses recycled materials or a technology company that develops new methods to deliver life-saving medical information) have fundamental responsibilities in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption.

# Principles-based Approach

## Let's see it work...

A textile company that has identified child labour as a salient human rights issue and taken all necessary steps to ensure that its supply chain is free of child labor.

May also find opportunities to work with government and other stakeholders to support access to education, and greater employment opportunities in local communities, understanding that a lack of educational opportunities and family poverty are key barriers to eliminating child labor.



MAKING THE CONNECTION:

THE ONLY WAY TO  
MEANINGFULLY CONTRIBUTE  
TO THE SDGS IS THROUGH A  
PRINCIPLES-BASED  
APPROACH



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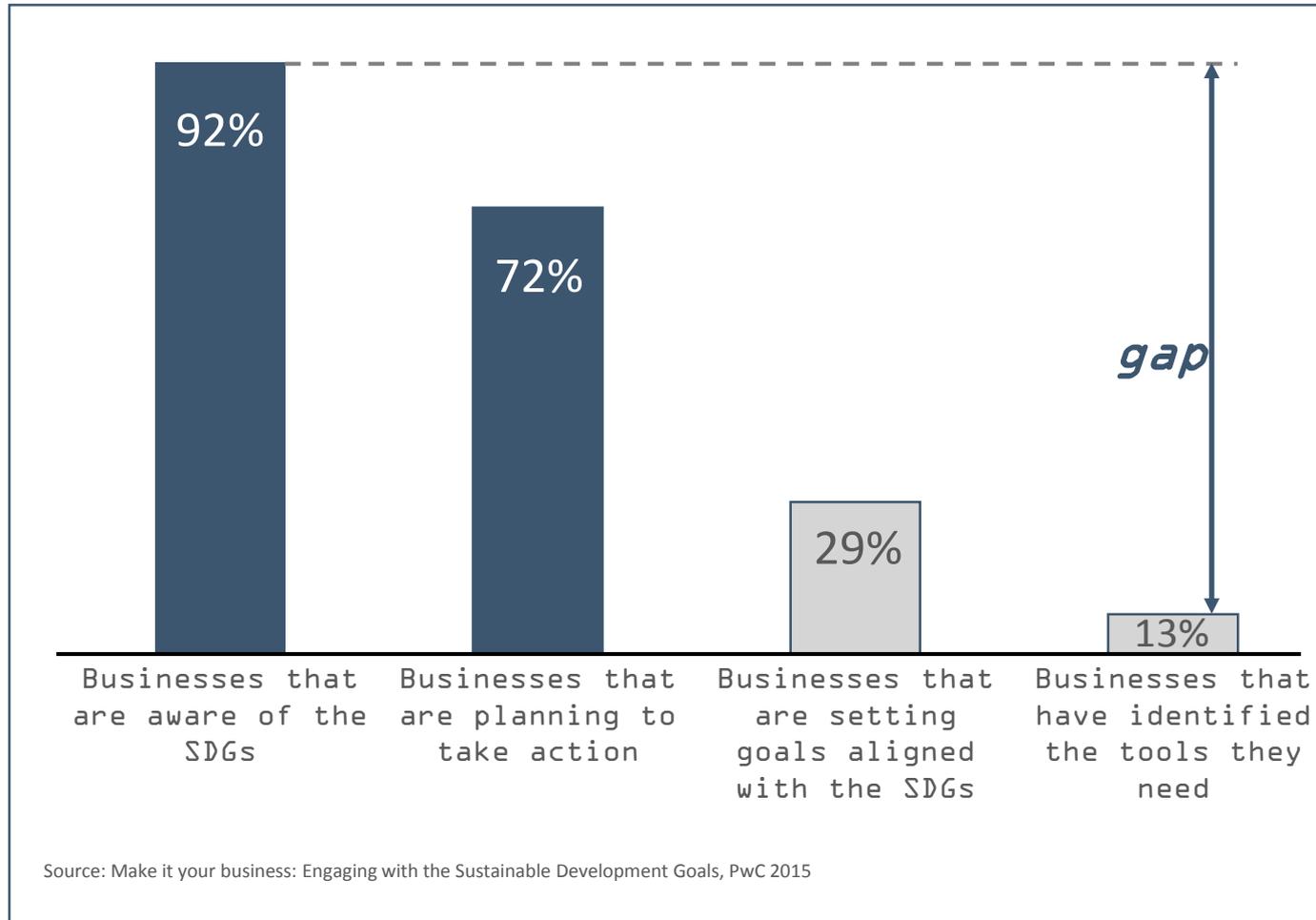


# AGENDA

1. The Ten Principles and SDGs:  
A Principled Approach to the SDGs
2. SDG Tools & Resources: In practice

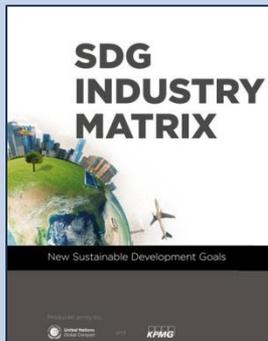
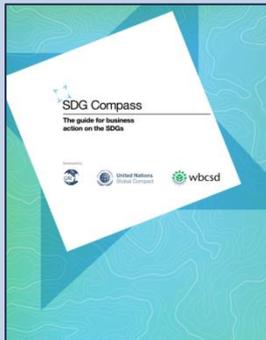
# SDG COMPASS: A TOOL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION

"BUSINESS AWARE BUT LACK TOOLS"

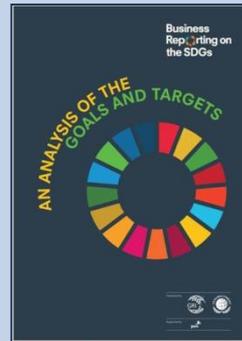


# SDG Tools & Resources

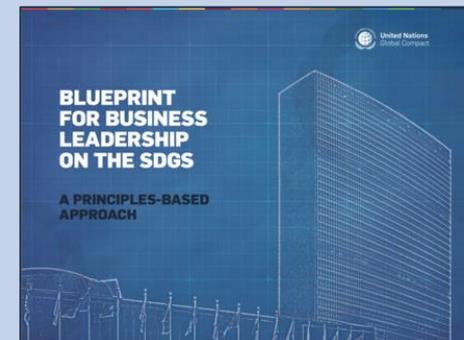
## Understand & Act



## Communicate



## Aim Higher & Lead



# SDG COMPASS: A TOOL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION



# SDG COMPASS: A TOOL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION

## 1. UNDERSTANDING THE SDGS



- What are the SDGs?
- Understanding the business case
- The baseline responsibilities for business



### ***Key Business Themes Addressed by SDG 9:***

- Infrastructure Investments
- Access to Financial Services
- Environmental Investments
- R&D
- Technological Legacies

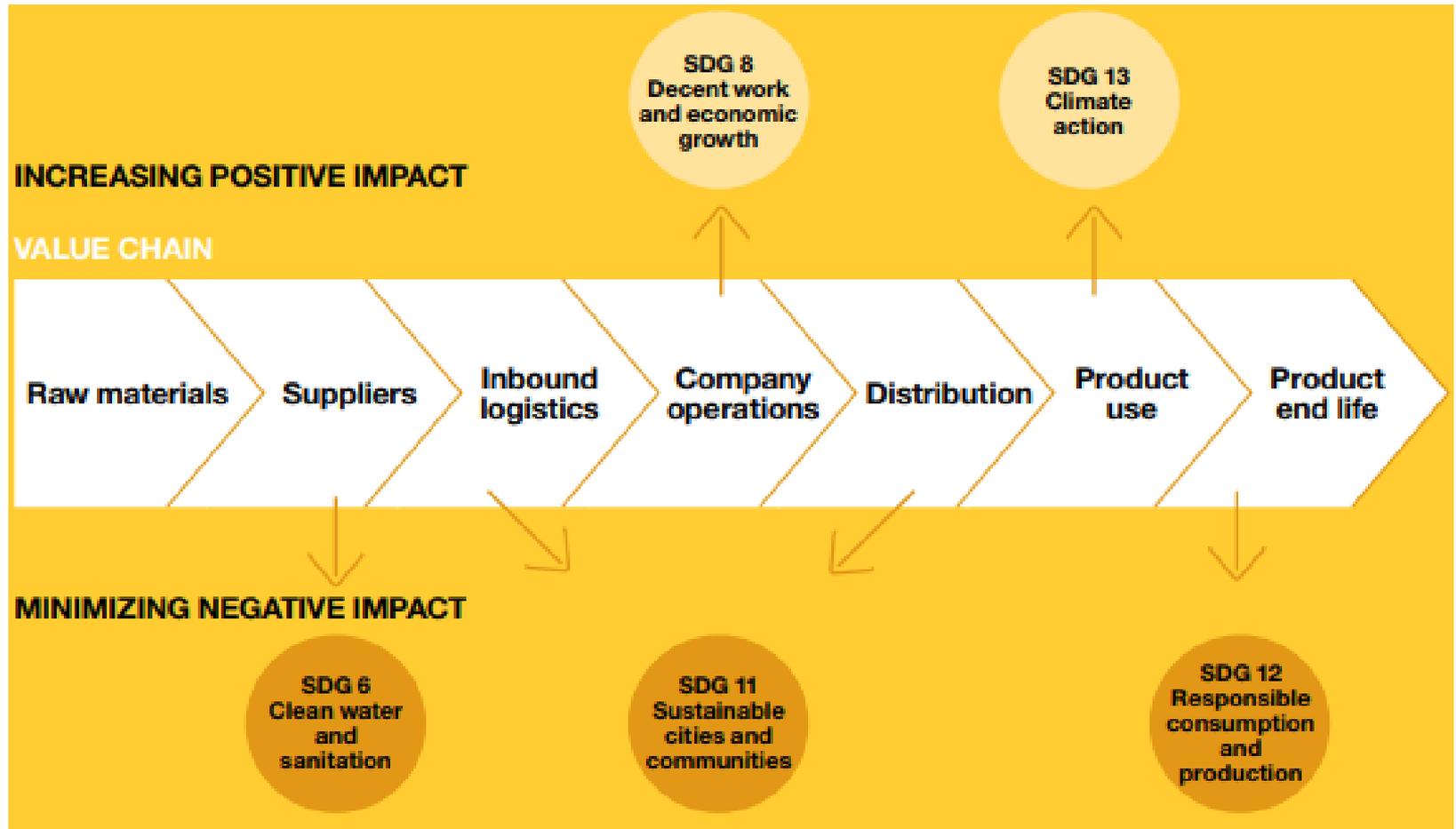


### ***Key Business Themes Addressed by SDG 14:***

- Environmental Investments
- Sustainable Sourcing
- Spills
- Water Discharge to Oceans
- Ocean Acidifications

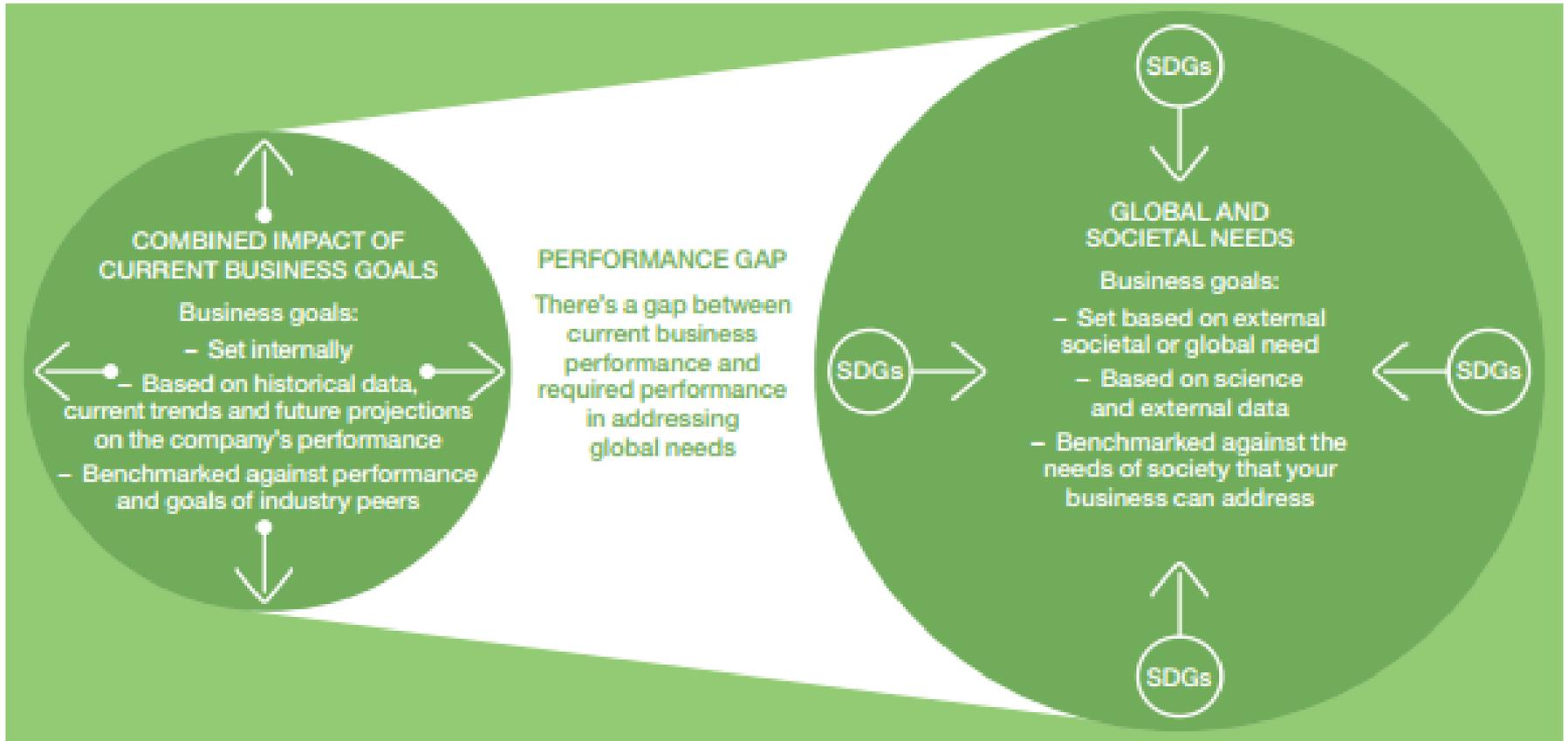
# SDG COMPASS: A TOOL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION

## 2. DEFINING PRIORITIES



# SDG COMPASS: A TOOL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION

## 3. SETTING GOALS

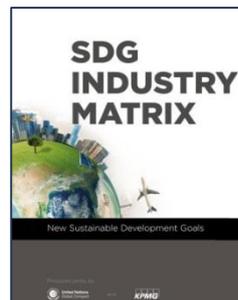


# SDG COMPASS: A TOOL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION

## 4. INTEGRATING



- Anchoring sustainability goals within the business
  - Supported by active leadership by the CEO and Board of Directors
  - Shared understanding of how progress on the Goals creates value
  - Integrate sustainability goals into performance reviews and remuneration schemes
- Embed sustainability across all functions
- Engage in partnerships



Resource: For industry-specific examples

# SDG COMPASS: A TOOL FOR PRIVATE SECTOR ACTION

## 5. REPORTING & COMMUNICATING

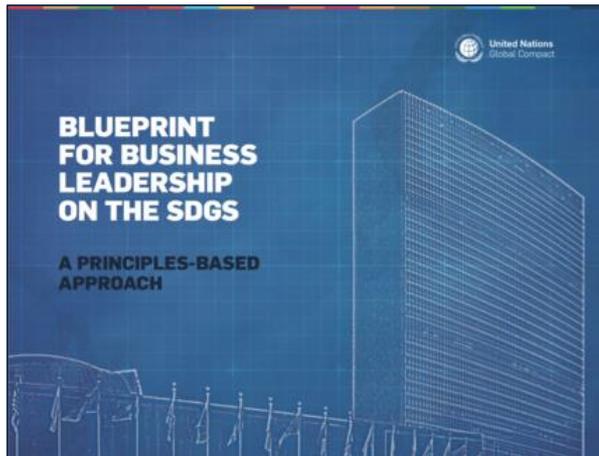


- Effective reporting on SDG performance
  - Use of internationally recognized standards for reporting (e.g. GRI, CDP, UNGP Reporting Framework, CDSB)
- Communicating on SDG performance

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*A database of standards and indicators is available at [sdgcompass.org](https://sdgcompass.org)*

# Why a 'Blueprint' for Leadership on the SDGs?



- **Business cannot thrive** unless people and planet are thriving
- Successful delivery of the 2030 Agenda requires **engagement from all businesses**. There is a role for leaders in all sectors, geographies, and firm sizes.
- The UN Global Compact's **Ten Principles** can propagate business leadership on the SDGs. Simultaneously, the Principled-based approach they suggest are a requirement for leadership.
- Leadership on the SDGs is not an endgame; it is not a tick box exercise. Instead, every business must continually raise the bar on what it aims to achieve, and it must challenge its peers to join them on the sustainability journey.



# Do your actions satisfy the Five Leadership Qualities?

## INTENTIONAL

Support for the SDGs is an integral, deliberate part of a leading company's strategy

## AMBITIOUS

A leading company's level of ambition greatly exceeds prevailing levels of ambition, its actions are material in the context of its end-to-end operations, and it focuses on long-term outcomes

## CONSISTENT

Support for the SDGs is embedded across organizational functions and external communications

## COLLABORATIVE

Support for the SDGs involves partnerships, including with business, government, civil society, and other actors

## ACCOUNTABLE

A leading company is transparent, manages risk, seeks out meaningful engagement with stakeholders, and is accountable for adverse impacts

How can the five leadership qualities of Ambition, Collaboration, Accountability, Consistency, and Intentional can be applied to a business' strategy, business model, products, supply chain, partnerships, and operations to raise the bar and create impact at scale?

# BLUEPRINT FOR BUSINESS LEADERSHIP ON THE SDGS

## Is it leading? Maybe!



Adopt a zero tolerance policy for exploitation of land rights and deforestation in its supply chain to promote adherence to FPIC among suppliers



Offer maternity and paternity leave benefits

- Is it the law of the land?



Set an internal price on carbon

- Is it high enough to materially affect investment decisions?
- Does it align with what is required for a 2°C future? 3-4°?
- Do you publicly advocate for carbon pricing?
- Do you communicate progress over time?

# Thank you!

Caitlin Casey

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# Questions?

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Thank you!



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Please visit [www.GlobalCompactUSA.org](http://www.GlobalCompactUSA.org) for more info.

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