

External voluntary codes that Shell supports

The [Shell General Business Principles \(SGBP\)](#) guides the day-to-day business and activities of Shell companies. It is important to be aware of, and keep pace with, the overarching global principles or codes that help shape our business environment and currently.

Below we list the major principles and codes supported by Shell. All links to external sites open in a new window.

Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Statement of Principles and Agreed Actions (EITI)

Announced by UK Prime Minister Tony Blair on 17th June 2003, The Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative Statement of Principles and Agreed Actions (EITI) aims to increase the transparency of payments made by business to governments and government related entities as well as transparency of revenues by those host country governments. It is hoped the transparency standard will be used in other emerging codes, guidelines and initiatives spreading transparency throughout companies and around the globe.

For more information on our approach to revenue transparency, visit [payments to governments](#) or [Extractive Industries Transparency Initiative](#) - opens in a new window.

International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Rules of Conduct to Combat Extortion and Bribery in International Business Transactions

The current International Chamber of Commerce (ICC) Rules of Conduct to Combat Extortion and Bribery in International Business Transactions are a revised version of the Report on Extortion and Bribery in business transactions issued by the ICC 1977. When published the report broke new ground by calling for governments, intergovernmental bodies and business to take mutually supportive action against extortion and bribery in global trade.

Adopted by the ICC Executive Board in 1996 the Rules of Conduct to Combat Extortion and Bribery in International Business Transactions are aimed at strengthening the efforts of the international business community to combat extortion and bribery. The ICC promotes these rules to governments and its business membership (employer organisations/companies) and differs from other initiatives in that it is business led. The rules cover areas such as political contributions, extortion, bribery and codes of conduct.

For more information visit [business integrity](#).

External website: [International Chamber of Commerce \(ICC\)](#) - opens in a new window

ICC Business Charter on Sustainable Development (1991)

Following the 1987 Brundtland Commission report, "Our Common Future" by the World Commission on Environment and Development, the ICC developed the Business Charter on Sustainable Development. The charter, which has been adopted by over 2,300 companies, consists of sixteen Principles for environmental management, covering health, safety and product stewardship (e.g. integrated management; improvement process; employee education and reporting etc.) The Charter was formally launched in April 1991.

External website: [International Chamber of Commerce \(ICC\) - opens in a new window](#)

International Labour Organization Tripartite Declaration of Principles concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy (2000)

The UN International Labour Organization (ILO) was created in 1919 with the purpose of adopting international labour standards that would improve labour conditions. Over time this mandate was broadened to include social policy, human and civil issues. The ILO has a tripartite structure consisting of government, trade unions and employers (mainly through trade associations).

The Declaration is the only set of global guidelines for investment-related policy and practice that has been agreed on by governments, employers and workers. The guidelines address commitments of multinational enterprises (MNEs) workers' and employers' organisations, and governments in such areas as development policy, rights at work, employment, training, conditions of work and life and industrial relations. The ILO periodically requires governments and national employers' and workers' organisations to supply information on their progress in achieving the goals of the Declaration.

External website: [International Labour Organization - opens in a new window](#)

The ILO Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work

The ILO Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work aims to stimulate national efforts to ensure that social progress accompanies economic progress, whilst taking into account the different circumstances and preferences of individual countries. The Declaration is based on existing ILO Conventions on core protections in employment, these cover: freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining; elimination of all forms of forced or compulsory labour; elimination of child labour and elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.

The Declaration applies to all member states of the ILO and contains a mechanism for the annual review of the efforts made by member states that have not yet ratified the core labour standard conventions. The

purpose of the Declaration is to build capacity for well functioning labour markets in these countries and as such the ILO use the Declaration with the offer of technical assistance and cooperation. The Declaration is not used as justification for applying penalties such as economic sanctions against a country.

For more information visit [Responsibilities to Employees](#).

External website: [The ILO Declaration on the Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work - opens in a new window](#)

Global Reporting Initiative

The Global Reporting Initiative Sustainability Guidelines is a reporting standard that requires companies to follow a set structure to report information on their sustainability performance. GRI is an independent, international body has a multi-stakeholder governance structure, which incorporates the active participation of corporations, NGOs, UN agencies, business associations and a number of other stakeholder groups. Discover how we report in line with the [Global Reporting Initiative](#) or visit the [Global Reporting Initiative website - opens in a new window](#).

Global Sullivan Principles

The objective of the Global Sullivan Principles is to support economic, social and political justice by companies where they do business. This includes support for human rights and encouraging equal opportunity at all levels of employment. The principles cover areas such as freedom of association, wages, employee development, health and safety and community development.

Visit the [Global Sullivan Principles website- opens in a new window](#).

The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises

The OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises are set voluntary guidelines that promote responsible business conduct among multinational companies. The governments that adhere to the guidelines (this comprises governments of all 30 OECD member countries, and eight non-Member countries Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Estonia, Israel, Latvia, Lithuania and Slovenia) encourage Multinational Enterprises (MNEs) to follow the guidelines wherever they operate. The code is supported by a network of National Contact Points who promote the guidelines to companies and unions in each of the signatory countries.

The guidelines have a wide scope, covering areas such as: disclosure; bribery and corruption; human rights; fair competition employee protection and industrial legislation; consumer protection; the environment; science and technology and taxation.

External website: [Organisation for Economic Co-operation and Development - opens in a new window](#)

Transparency International Business Principles on Countering Bribery (2002)

Transparency International (TI) is a global NGO working to combat bribery and corruption by forming a global coalition of government, business and civil society. In order to assist business develop effective approaches to countering bribery Transparency International and Social Accountability worked with business to develop the Transparency International Business Principles on Countering Bribery. The Principles, published on 9th December 2002, are a practical good practice and benchmarking tool, which companies can use as a start point to develop their own anti-bribery systems.

The Business Principles also give practical effect to initiatives such as the OECD Convention on Combating Bribery of Foreign Public Officials in International Business Transactions, the ICC Rules of Conduct to Combat Extortion and Bribery and the anti-bribery provisions of the revised OECD Guidelines for Multinationals.

For further information visit our [business integrity](#) section.

External website: [Transparency International - opens in a new window](#).

Principles for Countering Bribery (PACI)

The World Economic Forum Partnering Against Corruption Initiative (PACI) was formally launched in 2004 to help combat global corruption. There are 139 companies that have signed a statement supporting the PACI Principles for Countering Bribery. Supporter companies will either implement anti-bribery and anti-corruption practices based on these Principles or use them to benchmark and improve their existing programmes to achieve the objectives of the Principles. Royal Dutch Shell Chief Executive Jeroen van der Veer is a signatory of the PACI Principles. For further information visit our [business integrity](#) section.

External website: [World Economic Forum – opens in a new window](#).

United Nations Declaration on Human Rights

The United Nations Declaration on Human Rights is the first comprehensive set of minimum standards on human rights to be signed up to by all governments in the United Nations (UN) and adopted by the General Assembly on 10th December 1948. Whilst the Declaration is directed at governments, businesses as important 'organs of society' have a responsibility to promote respect for human rights worldwide. The Declaration covers a wide range of areas including human rights concerns of particular interest to business, such as discrimination, security, privacy, fair judicial hearing, work and education.

Discover more about [our approach to human rights](#).

External website: [United Nations Declaration on Human Rights - opens in a new window](#)

United Nations Global Compact

The United Nations Global Compact is a voluntary corporate citizenship initiative built around Ten Principles covering human rights, labour, environment and corruption. The objectives of the UN Global Compact are for companies to incorporate the Ten Principles into their business activities around the world and to catalyse actions in support of UN goals.

The UN Global Compact is a network of governments, companies, civil society and unions with the Global Compact Office and 5 UN agencies at its core: Office of the High Commissioner for Human Rights; the United Nations Environment Programme; the International Labour Organization; the United Nations Development Programme; and the United Nations Industrial Development Organization.

Learn [how we report in line with the UN Global Compact](#).

External website: [United Nations Global Compact - opens in a new window](#).

Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights

Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights offer practical guidance to companies in the extractive sector on how to maintain the security and safety of their operations whilst ensuring respect for human rights and fundamental freedoms. The principles encourage companies to improve their understanding of the environments in which they operate especially, when operating in zones of conflict.

The Principles, launched by the UK and US Governments in December 2001, were developed through consultation with NGOs and companies in the extractive and energy sectors. Regular meetings are held by participants of the Principles to discuss their application and share best practice.

For more information, see [our approach to security](#).

External website: [US Department of State - opens in a new window](#)