

Global Compact Principles: BT's Communication on Progress 2004

Introduction

The [Global Compact](#) challenges business leaders to embrace and enact nine principles covering human rights, labour and the environment. BT's progress against these principles, and the learning that has accompanied these developments, is presented in our independently verified Social and Environmental report.

This Communication on Progress summarises the key sections of our report as they relate to the Global Compact nine principles. Links are provided to more comprehensive information, where readers can find measures of progress, lessons learned and next steps.

The Social and Environmental report has been prepared in accordance with the Global Reporting Initiative guidelines.

For evidence of Board-level support for the Global Compact, please see our [Chief Executive's introduction](#).

Which parts of the site provide information relating to the Global Compact principles?

Below, alongside the principles themselves are links to the relevant BT information together with a short description.

Global Compact principle	BT information
Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights within their sphere of influence.	The Human rights section of the report summarises BT's approach to Principles 1 and 2. BT's potential impact – both positive and negative – on human rights is managed by a number of departments and units throughout the business.
Principle 2: Businesses should make sure their own corporations are not complicit in human rights abuses.	See above.
Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining.	The Employee relations section of the report sets out our relationship with trade unions. The Human rights in the supply chain section contains details of BT's efforts to ensure freedom of association in our supply chain.
Principle 4: Businesses should uphold the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour.	The Human rights in the supply chain section presents information on BT's efforts to eliminate forced and child labour in our supply chain.
Principle 5: Businesses should uphold the effective abolition of child labour.	See above.
Principle 6: Business should uphold the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.	The Diversity and inclusivity section sets out BT's policies and practices relating to the elimination of discrimination in our

	own employment practices. The Human rights in the supply chain section contains details of our efforts to eliminate discrimination in our supply chain.
Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges.	The Mobile communications and health section sets out BT's approach to this issue.
Principle 8: Businesses should undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility.	The Environment section includes details of our accreditation to ISO 14001 and our performance in each of the eight 'aspects' that we manage.
Principle 9: Businesses should encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.	The Benefits section presents the positive social and environmental impacts of communications technology. Our eBusiness and the environment 'Hot Topic' is an independent study into the benefits of BT's own use of teleworking and conferencing.

How does BT intend to maintain its commitment towards the Global Compact?

We believe that the optimum way of demonstrating support for, and compliance with, the Global Compact is through:

- Demonstrating that our Social and Environmental report covers all nine principles, as above
- Leading debate on the challenges of sustainable development and corporate social responsibility, such as through our [Occasional Papers](#)
- Providing opportunities for interactive dialogue, such as through our [online debates](#).

How can I contact BT about its response to the Global Compact?

If you have any questions or comments, please contact Susan Morgan, BT sustainability manager, at susan.2.morgan@bt.com