

RISE Crafting social responsibility commitments

This document is intended to help companies draft social responsibility commitments and should be used for information purposes only; the language and examples contained are not exhaustive. Content provided should not be construed as legal advice nor as an endorsement of any kind.

General Statement of Social Responsibility

Guiding Question:

What is the company's most general and broad commitment to social responsibility?

Examples:

- Human rights
- Treating people with ...
- Fair labor standards
- Eradicating slavery in...
- Providing workers with...

Sample language:

- We [or Company name] are committed to...
- We respect...
- We protect...
- We promote...



Reference to International Standards

Guiding Question:

Does the company follow or commit to following any internationally established standards pertaining to social responsibility and human rights?

Examples:

A commitment should reference a company's commitment to uphold international guidelines such as:

- [Universal Declaration of Human Rights](#)
- [ILO Declaration On Fundamental Principles and Rights at Work](#)
- [UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights](#)
- [FAO Guidelines for Small-Scale Fisheries](#)
- [OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises](#) also provide recommendations concerning Multinational Enterprises and Social Policy.
- [Collection of Core ILO Conventions](#) (Ethical Trading Initiative Norway)

Sample language:

- Our approach to human rights is informed by, we look to...
- We are guided by...
- Our company follows...



Provisions on Human Rights

Guiding Questions:

What human rights risks will be of highest priority for this company?

Which particular human rights risks will this company be likely to highlight?

Examples:

- Child Labor
- Forced Labor
- Trafficked Labor
- Degradation / harassment
- Fair Wages
- Working Conditions & Hours
- Health & Safety
- Collective Bargaining & Trade Unions
- Right to Strike
- Equality & Equity
- Livelihoods & Economic well-being

- Food Security
- Engagement with Government / Advocacy
- Land Rights
- Community benefits
- Indigenous peoples' rights

Sample language:

- We provide...
- We will...
- We prohibit...
- We are dedicated to...
- We will not tolerate/condone/employ...



Plan to Implement

Guiding Question:

What mechanisms, actions, or activities are needed to fulfill the commitment?

Examples:

- Collection of Data on social elements
- Risk Assessments, Impact Assessments
- Supplier Code of Conduct
- Supply Chain Mapping
- Third party Social Audits or Spot Checks
- Interviews with workers
- Worker Voice Mechanisms like hotlines
- Remediating adverse human rights situations

- Certifications
- Traceability
- Develop action plans
- Review and update progress towards goals

Sample language:

- We (will) require...
- We (will) prioritize...
- We (will) develop...
- We (will) source...
- Our product will...

Expectations for Suppliers and other relevant parties

Guiding Questions:

Who does the commitment apply to?

How does the commitment apply to relationships with suppliers and other entities with which the company does business?

Examples:

- Suppliers
- Vendors
- Personnel
- All employees
- All business partners

Sample language:

- We (will) require...
- It is every partner's responsibility to...comply with/adhere to
- We expect...
- [Company name] is committed to [.....] in order to [.....]