
Equality Means Business

Start your journey today and join the Women's Empowerment Principles

The struggle for gender equality is essential to secure a sustainable, inclusive, and prosperous economy that benefits all. The private sector has the power to generate innovation, employment and financing that can bridge the gender gaps in the business sector. Global research has proven that companies investing in women, supporting women's leadership, and committing to gender equality more often than not outperform their competitors. Equal treatment of women and men is not just the right thing to do – it is also good for business now and in the future. Hence, a broad concept of sustainability and corporate responsibility that embraces women's empowerment will benefit us all. In order to help your business and the global business community realize these opportunities, the seven steps of the Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) were established by the UN Global Compact and UN Women.

Subtitled Equality Means Business, WEPs emphasize the business case for corporate action to promote gender equality and women's empowerment. The WEPs are a set of principles assisting all private sector employers and businesses to realize the business potential from improved gender equality. Rather than being prescriptive or a new initiative to which business is asked to subscribe, the WEPs seek to point the way to best practice by elaborating the gender dimension of good corporate citizenship and business' role in sustainable development. The principles serve as the overall umbrella for multi-stakeholder networks to work together to foster implementation and awareness, and holistically address key issues such as pay equity, gender-responsive supply chain practices, and sexual harassment in the workplace, for example. Currently, 3,619 business leaders globally have committed to the WEPs community. Companies choosing to become a WEPs signatory taps into the opportunity to join a vast network of other companies with similar values, as well as gains visibility, access to resources and the strong, globally recognized WEPs brand. Sign up to our introductory webinar, learn more about the WEPs and begin your journey to productivity, profitability and sustainability by empowering women employees, suppliers, customers, investors and beyond.

If you want more information about the WEPs read the brief overview below.

Programme: Introduction to the WEPs

The webinar will provide you with a general overview of the WEPs, their value proposition, the process of becoming a signatory and how your company can communicate results and progress on the principles.

Time: 11 November 2020, 15.00-16.30

Online platform: Zoom

Deadline: 8 November 2020

15.00 – 15.05 **Introductory Remarks**

Caroline Rusten, Director, UN Women Nordic Office

15.05 – 15.30 **Introduction to WEPs**

Anna Falth, Programme Manager, Policy Advisor for WEPs, UN Women

15.30 – 15.50 **Company Case Study Presentation**

Lauren Bartley, Head of Sustainability & CSR, Ganni

15.50 – 16.00 **Poll on participants interest in the WEPs**

16.00 – 16.25 **Q&A**

16.25 – 16.30 **Closing Remarks**

Sara Krüger Falk, Executive Director, Global Compact Network Denmark

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES

EQUALITY MEANS BUSINESS

Using our principles as a multiplier for action and progress



Women's Empowerment Principles

What are the WEPs?

The Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) are a set of seven Principles offering guidance to business on how to promote gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace and community.

Jointly established by UN Women and UN Global Compact, the WEPs are informed by international labour and human rights standards and grounded in the recognition that businesses have a stake in, and a responsibility for, gender equality and women's empowerment. Gender equality is more than just a moral responsibility. It is also great for business.

The Women's Empowerment Principles (WEPs) are a primary vehicle for corporate delivery on gender equality dimensions of the 2030 agenda and the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals. WEPs signatories therefore stand in solidarity with the United Nations to end gender inequality in the workplace, marketplace and community.

What is expected from a WEPs signatory?

The CEO signs the CEO Statement of Support for the WEPs and thereby signals commitment at the highest level of the company to foster business culture and practices that advance gender equality and women's empowerment.

Signing the WEPs is just the first step. Companies are encouraged to take steps to turn their commitments into action and to monitor and report on their progress and to work collaboratively in multistakeholder networks. All signatories are encouraged to make their WEPs commitment visible. There are many benefits to doing so. Consumers, workers, investors and shareholders will know that your company has made it a business priority to achieve the highest standards of gender equality and women's empowerment.

UN Women stands ready to offer support, guidance and capacity building to help companies make the promise of the WEPs into a reality.

WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES

Who can join the WEPs community?

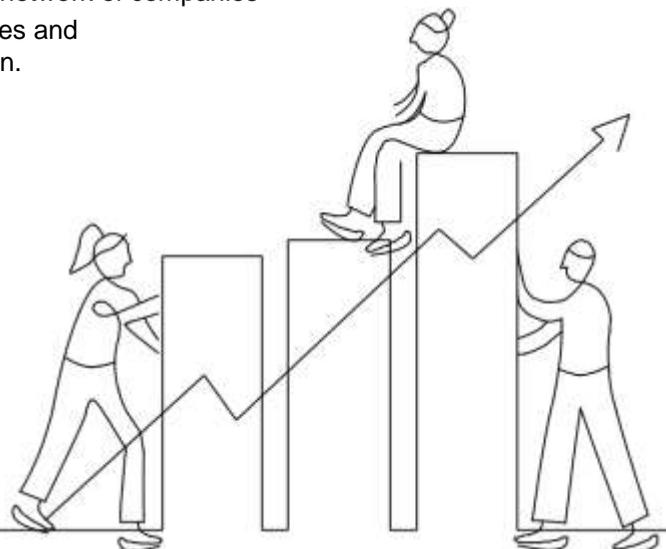
Companies (private, public, state-owned and cooperatives) of any size and industry, established under national law, industry associations and chambers of commerce committed to advancing gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace and community are invited to join the WEPs community. See also WEPs FAQ.

We also welcome other partners and stakeholders, such as civil society, international organizations, academia and governments, to join our efforts as allies and to embrace the WEPs as a framework for dialogue and action that advance gender equality and women's empowerment.

For other questions, please visit our
[FAQ](#)

Why join the WEPs community?

By adopting the WEPs you are not only investing in your commitment to gender equality, but also investing in your business. Companies, business associations and chambers of commerce join the WEPs community to make a statement of their commitment to gender equality and women's empowerment at a global platform. By joining the WEPs community, the signatories gain the opportunity to join a global network of companies with similar values and access to the tools, resources and learning programmes to drive WEPs implementation.



WOMEN'S EMPOWERMENT PRINCIPLES

 weps.org
 [@WEPrinciples](https://twitter.com/WEPrinciples)
 empowerwomen.org
 [@Empower_Women](https://twitter.com/Empower_Women)

- Principle 1**  Establish high-level corporate leadership for gender equality.
- Principle 2**  Treat all women and men fairly at work— respect and support human rights and nondiscrimination.
- Principle 3**  Ensure the health, safety and well-being of all women and men workers.
- Principle 4**  Promote education, training and professional development for women.
- Principle 5**  Implement enterprise development, supply chain and marketing practices that empower women.
- Principle 6**  Promote equality through community initiatives and advocacy.
- Principle 7**  Measure and publicly report on progress to achieve gender equality.

