



On the Horizon ▪ A l’Horizon ▪ En el Horizonte
A practical bulletin on what is ahead in the field of business & human rights

Issue 32 - September 2013

This bulletin is prepared by [Business & Human Rights Resource Centre](http://business-humanrights.org) for those working in this field. It presents contributions from a number of experts & organizations, and is designed to keep all of us informed of future initiatives.

If you would like to contribute to our next bulletin planned for early November 2013, please send your announcement about an event, publication or initiative taking place after 7 November to Daniel Vince-Archer: [vince-archer \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:vince-archer@business-humanrights.org). Please keep the contribution under 200 words. The deadline for contributions is 25 October.

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International

1. Launch of the Human Rights and Business Country Portal - Geneva, December

The Human Rights and Business Country Portal, the first free resource for companies, civil society and governments to manage the human rights impacts of businesses around the world, will be launched at the United Nations Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva in December.

Developed by the [Danish Institute for Human Rights \(DIHR\)](#), the Country Portal will provide issue- and sector-specific analysis of business-related human rights impacts in 40 countries around the world. DIHR works with partners in each country to gather information, issue recommendations and carry out initiatives aimed at implementing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

The Country Portal has been funded by the Swedish International Development Cooperation Agency through 2016.

For more information, contact: [portal \(at\) humanrights.dk](mailto:portal@humanrights.dk)

→ *Contributed by Paloma Munoz, Danish Institute for Human Rights, [pamu \(at\) humanrights.dk](mailto:pamu@humanrights.dk)*

2. UN Global Compact Leaders Summit 2013 - New York, 19-20 Sep

Chaired by UN Secretary-General Ban Ki-moon, the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit 2013, titled “Architects of a Better World”, will bring together chief executives with leaders from civil society, government and the United Nations to unveil a new global architecture for corporate sustainability. Prominent speakers including Prof. John Ruggie, Hon. Gordon Brown, CEO of Safaricom Robert Collymore and H.R.H. Queen Mathilde of Belgium, will be joining the discussions and making key remarks on the social dimension of corporate sustainability.

For further information about the Leaders Summit, please visit: www.leaderssummit2013.org

→ *Contributed by Anita Househam, UN Global Compact, [househam \(at\) un.org](mailto:househam@un.org)*

3. Shift events at International Bar Association annual conference - Boston, USA, 7-10 Oct

On the morning of 7 October, [Shift](#) will facilitate a meeting of international law societies at the IBA conference, sponsored by the IBA's CSR Committee, regarding the impact of the UN Guiding Principles on their work.

On 10 October, Professor John Ruggie, Shift's Chair, will give a live conversation on the subject of "Just Business" at the IBA conference. Later that afternoon, John Sherman, Shift's General Counsel, will speak on a panel moderated by the IBA CSR Committee, on the future of CSR litigation. That evening, Microsoft and Shift will host a salon dinner of in house counsel with Prof. Ruggie in Cambridge on the relevance of the Guiding Principles to corporate counsel.

→ *Contributed by Barbara Koneval, Shift, [barbara.koneval \(at\) shiftproject.org](mailto:barbara.koneval@shiftproject.org)*

4. Human rights & grievance mechanisms: capacity-building seminars - Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Sep-Oct

Within the framework of its Human Rights & Grievance Mechanisms Programme, [SOMO](#) and local partners in Indonesia, Kenya and Mexico are organising three regional capacity-building seminars in September and October. The regional seminars will bring together NGOs, trade unions, community representatives, workers and international experts to discuss various tools and non-judicial grievance mechanisms available for addressing corporate misconduct. The seminars will provide an opportunity for civil society organizations and impacted communities and individuals from the regions to enhance their knowledge and practical skills in using non-judicial grievance mechanisms to seek redress for corporate abuse. The seminars will take participants through a step-by-step approach to developing, drafting and filing complaints and provide participants with support and expert advice on the use of the mechanisms in their particular cases. More information on SOMO's broader Human Rights & Grievance Mechanisms Programme and further resources available to civil society organizations and impacted communities and individuals can be found on www.grievancemechanisms.org. (For further details on the Indonesia seminar, see item 30 below.)

→ *Contributed by Joseph Wilde-Ramsing, SOMO, [j.wilde \(at\) somo.nl](mailto:j.wilde@somo.nl)*

5. Global Workshop on Business & Children's Rights - New York, 18-19 Sep

[Unofficial translation by Business & Human Rights Resource Centre from Spanish original]

In New York this September, global leaders in business sustainability will meet with children's rights experts and country experts on children's issues in order to build innovative solutions that will promote action and results for children. For two days, the group – a unique combination of change agents and facilitators – will build on issues of human rights due diligence, child labour, young workers, the post-2015 agenda, digital citizenry and child-friendly products and services. Their aim will be to create new ideas in sessions facilitated by a team from the highly regarded social innovation firm Frog Design.

Speakers and participants will bring different perspectives: Susan McPherson (Fenton Communications) and Jo Confino (Guardian Sustainable Business) will moderate sessions with private sector leaders, including Bob Corcoran (General Electric), Anna Zanghi (Mastercard), Bob Collymore (Safaricom), Charlotte Ersbol (Novo Nordisk) and Matthias Leisinger (Kuoni), who will bring their corporate experiences. Global Reporting Initiative will share its expertise in managing initiatives in areas such as due diligence and social reporting. During the event, experts in children's issues from India, Vietnam, Kenya and Argentina will provide avenues for the development of joint activities at the national level. The workshop will take place at UNICEF House, New York, on 18-19 September. More information is available at the UNICEF Corporate Social Responsibility site: <http://www.unicef.org/csr>

→ *Contributed by Marcelo Ver, UNICEF Regional Panama Office, [csr \(at\) unicef.org](mailto:csr@unicef.org)*

6. Forthcoming report on business and human rights indicators

Ann Sofie Cloots (Cambridge University), Charline Daelman (University of Leuven), Damiano de Felice (LSE) and Irene Pietropaoli (Middlesex University) are leading a research team in charge of drafting a report on business and human rights indicators. The draft report will be presented on 7 October at a Cumberland Colloquium

(entitled "[Measuring the corporate responsibility to respect human rights](#)") where a group of experts will provide feedback and recommendations. The final version will be presented at the UN Annual Forum on Business and Human Rights (Geneva, 2-4 December).

The first part of the report focuses on the normative and practical challenges when creating indicators moving from legal and value-based narratives to tangible and operational key performance indicators. The second part examines the politics of indicators and their use and potential abuse, focusing on the risks of measuring corporate respect for human rights through a numerical indicator. The report also includes two case studies: 1) children as a potential impact group; and 2) private security providers as a potential impact actor. These case studies will underline the challenges in creating and using indicators, as well as lead to a concrete methodology to develop human rights indicators for businesses.

→ Contributed by Damiano de Felice, London School of Economics, [business-humanrights \(at\) cumberlandlodge.ac.uk](mailto:business-humanrights@cumberlandlodge.ac.uk)

7. Launch of shipping supply chain management initiative based on Guiding Principles - London, 11 Sep

On 11 September, the International Marine Purchasing Association (IMPA) will launch its new CSR initiative, the IMPA ACT, which is regarded as a world first in systems for responsible supply chain management (RSCM) fully aligned with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights.

With the UN Guiding Principles at its core, the IMPA ACT introduces a new framework for responsible procurement in the global shipping industry, ensuring cost-effectiveness for companies and an overall shift in global responsibilities. The IMPA ACT has been developed in joint collaboration between IMPA, its advisory board and the international consultancy, GLOBAL CSR.

IMPA ACT will be launched at the *CSR in Shipping* conference, taking place in London alongside IMPA's Maritime Event for Purchasing and Supply on 11-12 September. Keynote speaker at this conference will be UN Working Group Member Dr. Michael Addo. For more information and registration please go to <http://2013.impalondon.com/conference/csr/>.

→ Contributed by Signe Andreasen, CSR Adviser, GLOBAL CSR, [sa \(at\) global-csr.com](mailto:sa@global-csr.com)

8. GLOBAL CSR launching human rights identification app, eLearning on human rights

KnowShow™ human rights identification app: GLOBAL CSR and ViewWorld are launching KnowShow – the world's first human rights identification app fully aligned with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. KnowShow is an intelligent, portable app that enables businesses to meet their responsibility to identify adverse human rights impacts and to track the effectiveness of their prevention and mitigation efforts.

The KnowShow app empowers CSR practitioners to carry out human rights identification more effectively and systematically with a mobile solution that facilitates gathering data from various sources into one system. The platform generates a full overview of reported potential and actual adverse impacts throughout the organization and helps to maintain a track record of performance in addressing identified impacts. In this way, the KnowShow app becomes the new intelligent tool that is customised to the size of the organization, providing a manageable and scalable identification process for all businesses.

Human Rights Explained™ eLearning module: This November, LearnCSR™ will launch Human Rights Explained - a new eLearning module on human rights. Human Rights Explained helps users get a thorough understanding of human rights in a business context. It takes a systematic approach with smart quizzes that adapt the module to users' existing knowledge and performance.

The scalable module takes users through an introduction to human rights and business, and empowers users to understand each right and apply human rights knowledge to relevant business dilemmas. The module covers all human rights and is based on the International Bill of Human Rights and the UN Guiding Principles.

LearnCSR enables corporations to integrate CSR in their core business, facilitate roll-out of CSR strategies, and train as many employees as desired on specific CSR issues critical for the organization. Visit LearnCSR and try free teaser modules on www.learncsr.com.

For information both about the KnowShow app and its functions, and about Human Rights Explained, contact CSR Adviser Sine Gyurup on +45 2629 2664 or [sg \(at\) global-csr.com](mailto:sg@global-csr.com).

→ Contributed by Sine Gyrop, GLOBAL CSR, [sg \(at\) global-csr.com](mailto:sg@global-csr.com)

9. Dissertation on corporate responsibility for sustainable electricity in the global South - September

In September, Joseph Wilde-Ramsing (Senior Researcher at SOMO) will publish his doctoral dissertation, “Quality Kilowatts: A normative-empirical analysis of corporate responsibility for sustainable electricity provision in the Global South”.

The study explores how individual transnational corporations (TNCs) conceptualise, operationalise, and implement norms for sustainable electricity provision – in other words, whether and how “quality kilowatts” are being conceived and implemented. Through systematic normative-empirical analysis of the policies of five case study TNCs headquartered in different regions – USA, Europe, Scandinavia, China, and South Africa – as well as their practice on the ground in six host countries in Latin America, Africa, and Asia, the study documents a significant discrepancy between what is recommended through international normative standards and TNCs’ actual behaviour. This phenomenon highlights a major weakness of voluntary international standards addressing corporate responsibility for sustainable development.

By improving understanding of how electricity TNCs implement international normative standards for sustainable electricity provision – and by drawing lessons that can improve normative and regulatory frameworks at the local, regional, and international level – the study aims to improve the contribution to sustainable development of electricity provision in the global South.

→ Contributed by Joseph Wilde-Ramsing, SOMO, [j.wilde \(at\) somo.nl](mailto:j.wilde@somo.nl)

10. Forthcoming release of evaluation standards for multi-stakeholder initiatives

[The Institute for Multi-Stakeholder Initiative Integrity \(MSI Integrity\)](#) was launched in April 2013. From May to August it conducted a global public consultation, seeking feedback on its proposed evaluation standards and methodology for evaluating MSIs. Finalised evaluation standards will be released later this year, followed by evaluations of five prominent global MSIs: the Extractive Industry Transparency Initiative (EITI), Fair Labor Association, Global Network Initiative, Kimberley Process and 4C (Common Code for the Coffee Community).

Launched through Harvard Law School's International Human Rights Clinic, MSI Integrity is dedicated to examining the impact and value of voluntary business-related human rights initiatives. Through research, critical assessment and shared learning, MSI Integrity aims to ensure that these initiatives protect and promote human rights. MSI Integrity takes a particular interest in how initiatives include and impact affected communities.

Further details regarding MSI Integrity, and current versions of its evaluation methodology and standards for MSIs, as well as working draft evaluation reports of EITI and 4C, are available at: www.msi-integrity.org. MSI Integrity actively shares its resources, research and findings with stakeholders seeking to understand and improve the effectiveness of new and existing MSIs as human rights tools. Please contact [info \(at\) msi-integrity.org](mailto:info@msi-integrity.org) for specific inquiries.

→ Contributed by Stephen Winstanley, MSI Integrity, [swinstanley \(at\) msi-integrity.org](mailto:swinstanley@msi-integrity.org)

11. Forthcoming book: “Human Rights Obligations of Business” - December

Cambridge University Press will publish in early December the following book edited by Surya Deva and David Bilchitz: *Human Rights Obligations of Business: Beyond the Responsibility to Respect?*

In recent years, the UN Human Rights Council has approved the “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework and endorsed the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. These developments have been welcomed widely, but do they adequately address the challenges concerning the human rights obligations of business?

This multi-author volume engages critically with these important developments. The chapters revolve around four key issues: the process and methodology adopted; the source and justification of corporate human rights obligations; the nature and extent of such obligations; and the implementation and enforcement thereof. In addition to highlighting several shortcomings of the Framework and the Guiding Principles, the contributing authors also outline a vision for the 21st century in which companies have obligations to society that go beyond the responsibility to respect human rights.

Please visit the CUP website for further information: www.cambridge.org/9781107036871

→ Contributed by Surya Deva, Associate Professor, School of Law, City University of Hong Kong, [suryad \(at\) cityu.edu.hk](mailto:suryad@cityu.edu.hk)

12. Phil Bloomer joins Business & Human Rights Resource Centre as Executive Director

Phil Bloomer began his work with Business & Human Rights Resource Centre on 2 September and will officially assume the position of Executive Director on 23 September. The announcement of his appointment [is here](#). Chris Avery will act as Director until 22 September, then depart at the end of the month when he retires.

In coming months, one of Phil's priorities will be to spend some time with the Resource Centre's regional researchers based outside of Western Europe and the USA, meeting with local NGOs and business representatives. He will also be attending major international events such as the UN Global Compact Leaders Summit in New York on 19-20 September and the second UN Forum on Business and Human Rights in Geneva, 3-4 December. Phil looks forward to collaborating with the Resource Centre's contacts worldwide

→ Contributed by Annabel Short, Programme Director, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, [short \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:short@business-humanrights.org)

13. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre to revamp its website

We are in the process of comprehensively upgrading and revamping our [website](#). We have chosen the London-based IT firm [Fat Beehive](#) to undertake this ambitious task. We selected Fat Beehive after a long and structured selection process that included reaching out to dozens of IT firms and interviewing 4 shortlisted firms. The firm has over 150 clients, the vast majority of them in the charity sector.

Among other improvements, the new website will have better search function and navigation; easier accessibility in multiple languages; more multimedia contents; complete social media integration; and better graphics and design. We hope to launch the new website in March or April 2014.

→ Contributed by the staff of Business & Human Rights Resource Centre. For more information, please contact Mauricio Lazala: [lazala \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:lazala@business-humanrights.org)

14. Forthcoming corporate legal accountability publications

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre will launch its second Corporate Legal Accountability Annual Briefing in late September or October. (For the first Annual Briefing, published in 2012, [click here](#).) This briefing aims to make global developments and trends in corporate legal accountability for human rights accessible to NGOs and advocates, lawyers, business people, governments and others, and to help them understand how lawsuits against companies over human rights impacts may relate to their work.

In early September, we will issue our [Corporate Legal Accountability Quarterly Bulletin](#) in French for the first time; it will also continue to be issued in English and Spanish.

Please contact us if you wish to receive the Annual Briefing and/or Quarterly Bulletin, and let us know if you prefer to receive the Quarterly Bulletin in Spanish or French.

→ Contributed by Business & Human Rights Resource Centre: Sif Thorgeirsson, Manager, Corporate Legal Accountability Project, [thorgeirsson \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:thorgeirsson@business-humanrights.org) & Elodie Aba, Legal Researcher, [aba \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:aba@business-humanrights.org)

15. Business & Human Rights Resource Centre is recruiting three interns

We have recently launched recruitment for three interns, to be based at our London headquarters:

- Spanish-speaking Legal Research Intern to start in October 2013 (deadline for applications: 19 September)
- Legal Research Intern to start in January/February 2014 (deadline for applications: 17 October)
- Research Intern to start in January/February 2014 (deadline for applications: 17 October)

The internship announcements (which describe our organization), together with the person specifications and application forms, can be accessed here: <http://www.business-humanrights.org/Aboutus/Internships>.

→ Contributed by the staff of Business & Human Rights Resource Centre. For more information, please contact Daniel Vince-Archer: [vince-archer \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:vince-archer@business-humanrights.org)

Africa

16. International forum on extractive industries in Niger - Niamey, 17-19 Sep

[Unofficial translation by Business & Human Rights Resource Centre from French original]

The Groupe de réflexion et d'action sur les industries extractives au Niger (Group for Reflection & Action on Extractive Industries in Niger, or GREN) is organising an international forum on extractive industries in Niamey, 17-19 September. The goal of the forum is to contribute to improved mineral and petroleum resources in Niger. Specifically, the forum will aim to lead to participants launching measures and actions that seek to protect the environment in areas of resource extraction, that link human rights and extractive industries, and that develop strategies to better redistribute extractive industry revenues. About 100 participants are expected, from all regions of Niger and from neighbouring countries. They will include, among others, Gilles Labarthe (Switzerland), Soumaine Adoum (Chad), NGuepjouo Megaptche Didrot Serge (Cameroon), Almoustapha Moumouni and Maïna Boukar Karthey (Niger). The following themes will be addressed: the environment, legal framework, good governance and transparency in the extractive industries. Accounts from people living near natural resource exploitation and other actors will foster greater understanding of the situation. At the end of the conference, an advocacy document will be prepared and a follow-up committee will be appointed.

For further information, please contact Ms. Solli Ramatou, National Coordinator of GREN, at [greninitiative \(at\) yahoo.fr](mailto:greninitiative@yahoo.fr).

→ Contributed by Solli Ramatou, National Coordinator, GREN, [greninitiative \(at\) yahoo.fr](mailto:greninitiative@yahoo.fr)

17. Conference: "Never Again Marikana: We Are Watching You" - Johannesburg, 14-15 Oct

[Bench Marks Foundation](#) will hold our 2013 Showcasing the Bench Marks Conference on 14 October, with key messages for corporations, churches, communities, civil society and government. The theme is "Never Again Marikana: We are watching you". We will follow the conference with our annual meeting on 15 October.

Bench Marks Foundation conducts in-depth studies on companies and the impact of corporate activities in various communities, and combines this research with advocacy, community participation and action. We challenge corporations to balance the interest of communities and poor people against profits at any cost.

For further information, refer to www.bench-marks.org.za or contact [simo \(at\) benchmarks.org.za](mailto:simo@benchmarks.org.za).

→ Contributed by Simo Gumede, Bench Marks Foundation, [info \(at\) bench-marks.org.za](mailto:info@benchmarks.org.za)

18. Community Land & Natural Resources Protection Regional Symposium - Cape Town, 5-7 Nov

[Namati](#) and [Natural Justice](#) will host a Community Land and Natural Resources Protection Regional Symposium from 5-7 November near Cape Town, South Africa. The symposium will bring together practitioners from around Africa, working directly with communities in rural areas to protect and defend their lands and natural resources. It aims to share effective strategies and problem-solve challenges that arise when supporting efforts to protect community land and natural resources. The symposium will result in a publication, setting out effective strategies for community land and natural resources protection. For more information, please email [rachaelknight \(at\) namati.org](mailto:rachaelknight@namati.org) or [gino \(at\) naturaljustice.org](mailto:gino@naturaljustice.org).

→ Contributed by Stephanie Booker, Natural Justice, [steph \(at\) naturaljustice.org.za](mailto:steph@naturaljustice.org.za)

19. Oil & gas training for editors - Mtwara, Tanzania, 3-4 Oct

Tanzania-based NGO Oil, Natural Gases & Environmental Alliance (ONGEA), in collaboration with WWF Tanzania Country Office, are organising a training for media editors on oil and gas to be held on 3-4 October. The two-day meeting will be followed by a site visit aimed at helping editors to understand the oil and gas sector. The training will focus on issues of environmental management, revenue management, transparency and community engagement in the oil and gas sector with key speakers coming from National Environment Management Council (NEMC), Ministry of Energy and Minerals, Revenue Watch International and WWF Tanzania. ONGEA and WWF have identified editors from most of the media houses in the country.

→ Contributed by Dennis Mwendwa, Chairman, Oil, Natural Gases & Environmental Alliance, [clyton81 \(at\) gmail.com](mailto:clyton81@gmail.com)

20. Strategic leaders' dialogue on oil & gas - Hoima, Uganda, October

[Kitara Heritage Development Agency \(KHEDA\)](#) is a civil society organization that endeavours to strengthen the community, leaders and the private sector to advocate for policy reforms in Bunyoro region. KHEDA has been implementing an Oil and Gas Project whose goal is to peacefully harness the potential of oil and gas in Bunyoro and Uganda as a whole.

Under the project, KHEDA is organising a one day strategic leaders' dialogue that will bring together all leaders of Bunyoro including political, technical, religious, cultural and civil society organizations, opinion leaders, and business people and professionals from within and outside the region.

The dialogue will take place in early October in Hoima District and seeks to achieve the following objectives:

- Understanding current developments in the oil and gas industry in Uganda;
- Reviewing the contentious Public Finance Bill, 2012, currently before Parliament;
- Discussing local content and participation in oil and gas, specifically the case of the local community of Bunyoro;
- Developing a Bunyoro position paper on oil and gas issues.

For more information contact www.khedakitara.com or [info \(at\) khedakitara.com](mailto:info@khedakitara.com).

→ Contributed by Shem Byakagaba, Kitara Heritage Development Agency, [info \(at\) khedakitara.com](mailto:info@khedakitara.com)

21. Strathmore University: 10th Annual Ethics Conference - Nairobi, 24-25 Oct

[Strathmore University](#) is hosting this year's 10th Annual Ethics Conference, in Nairobi, on 24-25 October, to mark the progress made in the last 10 years by businesses in East Africa in the effort to incorporate ethics into the pursuit of their goals. Many organizations have adopted codes of ethics, compliance frameworks and other regulatory mechanisms. Further, there have been concerted efforts among businesses to improve governance, stop counterfeit and contraband goods, fraud and corruption. Several organizations have adopted international guidelines and standards that foster ethical practice, for instance, the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights endorsed by the United Nations. Increased support of initiatives such as the UN Global Compact and other voluntary regulatory measures indicate the commitment of the business sector to the pursuit of ethics and the common good.

The theme of this year's conference is "Celebrating a Culture of Ethics: 10 Years of the Annual Ethics Conference". It will revisit some of the themes addressed in past years, with a particular emphasis on business ethics, leadership and governance. The conference will provide public and private entities with the opportunity to showcase innovative initiatives on inculcating ethics in business, leadership and governance, while also evaluating the effectiveness of such initiatives in fostering a culture of ethics in Africa.

→ Contributed by Dr. Luis Franceschi, Strathmore University, [lfranceschi \(at\) strathmore.edu](mailto:lfranceschi@strathmore.edu)

22. Dialogue: Reducing emissions from deforestation & forest degradation - Cape Town, 18-19 Oct

[Natural Justice](#) and the [Heinrich Boell Foundation](#) will host the "Rights-Based REDD+ Dialogue II: Realizing REDD+ Safeguards" on 18-19 October, in Cape Town, South Africa. Reducing emissions from deforestation and forest degradation (REDD+) is a mitigation policy within the United Nations Framework Convention on Climate Change. The dialogues will create an opportunity for key stakeholders in Southern Africa to share experiences concerning the status of REDD+ safeguards relevant to forest communities and agri-business within national REDD+ readiness programmes. Participants will evaluate whether the REDD+ safeguards are being realised and explore strategies and tools to positively influence REDD+ processes. For further information, please email [cath \(at\) naturaljustice.org](mailto:cath@naturaljustice.org).

→ Contributed by Stephanie Booker, Natural Justice, [steph \(at\) naturaljustice.org.za](mailto:steph@naturaljustice.org.za)

Human rights & grievance mechanisms: capacity-building seminars - Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Sep-Oct

See item 4 above, in the International section. We include reference to these seminars here in the Africa section because one of the seminars takes place in Kenya.

Seminar: “Land grabbing, land concentration, rural development and right to food” - Bogotá, 9-10 Oct

See item 24 below, in the Americas section. We include reference to this seminar here in the Africa section because the Forum Syd report being launched at the seminar refers to Mozambique.

Americas

23. Civil society consultation on Principles for Responsible Agricultural Investment - Washington DC, 16 Sep

The North American regional representatives to the Civil Society Mechanism (CSM) of the [Committee on World Food Security of the Food and Agriculture Organization](#) extend an open invitation to civil society organizations to participate in a discussion of the zero draft of the Principles on Responsible Agricultural Investment (RAI). The RAI are being created to ensure that agricultural investment is undertaken in a manner that supports the universal realisation of the right to food, enhances food security and nutrition, reduces poverty, and promotes sustainable agricultural development. The discussion and resulting recommendations on the draft principles will be shared with the Committee on Food Security’s Open-ended Working Group at its next meeting in September.

For more information about the CSM and the Principles, visit <http://www.csm4cfs.org/>.

Date: Monday, 16 September, 11:30am-4:00pm

Location: American University, Washington College of Law (Room 603), Washington, DC

Please register if you plan to attend in person or via teleconferencing at www.ihrib.org

→ Contributed by Rebecca DeWinter-Schmitt, Co-Director, Initiative for Human Rights in Business, Center for Human Rights & Humanitarian Law, American University Washington College of Law, [rdewinter \(at\) rcn.com](mailto:rdewinter@rcn.com)

24. Seminar: “Land grabbing, land concentration, rural development and right to food” - Bogotá, 9-10 Oct

[Unofficial translation by Business & Human Rights Resource Centre from Spanish original]

[Universidad Externado de Colombia](#), the [Colombian Institute of Anthropology & History](#) and the [Food International Action Network](#), FIAN-Colombia are organising a joint seminar on 9-10 October in Bogotá with social organizations, academia, and representatives of the public sector and international organizations. Its goal is to open a political discussion and academic debate on how the global issue of land grabbing and concentration of territories and resources is occurring in Colombia, and to examine agricultural and food issues and rural development. Besides providing an overview of these issues globally and of conceptual analytical tools, this seminar will address national and local experiences of land grabbing, emphasising the human rights situation and the impacts on the livelihoods and food supply of local communities. Participants will reflect on free trade agreements, the relationship between development, trade, human rights and the environment, and the need for binding regulations for states and companies.

Additionally, [Forum Syd](#) will launch its report “The Race for Land”, which focusses on the global debate on land acquisition, its impacts on peasant communities and factors and interests that are behind land deals, investors and target countries. The report highlights the relationship between international companies involved in land grabbing and human rights abuses. The report provides information on this issue in Mozambique and Cambodia as [case studies](#).

→ Contributed by Carlos Martínez, Forum Syd - Colombia, [carlos.martinez.pedrosa \(at\) forumsyd.org](mailto:carlos.martinez.pedrosa@forumsyd.org)

25. 6th annual Women's Empowerment Principles event - New York, 5-6 Mar 2014

The Women’s Empowerment Principles Annual Event – held in observance of International Women's Day – brings together business, civil society, governments and academia from around the world to promote business action to advance gender equality and women's empowerment in the workplace, marketplace and community. Challenges are discussed and new approaches and opportunities are highlighted. Early registration for companies that have signed the CEO Statement of Support for the WEPs will commence in December. To request an invitation, please contact [dzana \(at\) unglobalcompact.org](mailto:dzana@unglobalcompact.org). [Further details here](#).

The WEPs are also now accepting new nominations for the 2014 Leadership Awards that highlight concrete actions taken to implement WEPs and advance and empower women. The deadline for submission is 1 November. For more information on the awards, eligibility and how to apply, please see [WEPs Leadership Awards FAQ](#). Download the nomination form [here](#).

→ *Contributed by Lauren Gula, Project Manager, Human Rights & Women's Empowerment, United Nations Global Compact, [gula \(at\) unglobalcompact.org](mailto:gula@unglobalcompact.org)*

26. BSR & Guardian event on business & human rights risks & dilemmas - New York, 17 Sep

[BSR](#) and the [Guardian](#) have come together to produce an event that explores business and human rights.

The event is focussed on practical outcomes and includes a high-level panel debate, roundtable discussions, drinks and networking. The evening will be opened by BSR's human rights advisor Christine Bader and will be followed by a diverse panel of business and human rights experts, chaired by Marc Gunther, editor-at-large of the *Guardian's* sustainable business section.

At the event, participants will explore: when companies might be at risk of failing to meet their responsibility to respect human rights, and what steps they can take to mitigate those risks; what companies should and should not do when states fail to fulfil their duty to protect, and the challenges businesses face in meeting their responsibility to respect human rights, and how these vary by industry – from apparel to food, extractives to health care, technology to financial services.

Please visit the event [website](#) for registration information.

→ *Contributed by Jennifer Kho, the Guardian, [jennifer.kho \(at\) theguardian.com](mailto:jennifer.kho@theguardian.com)*

27. 12th Conflict-Free Sourcing Initiative Workshop - Washington DC, 10-11 Sep

The [12th Conflict-Free Sourcing Initiative Workshop](#) is coming up quickly, 10-11 September in Washington, DC. Bringing together industry, government and civil society, the bi-annual CFSI Workshop provides updates, in-depth discussions and guidance on best practices to help companies make informed choices about conflict minerals in their supply chains. This year's workshop will be the biggest yet, drawing over 250 attendees.

For more information about the workshop, to see the agenda or to learn about sponsorship and vendor opportunities, please visit the [Conflict-Free Sourcing Initiative website](#), or write to [info \(at\) conflictreesourcinginitiative.org](mailto:info@conflictreesourcinginitiative.org).

→ *Contributed by Julie Schindall, Electronic Industry Citizenship Coalition, [jschindall \(at\) eicc.info](mailto:jschindall@eicc.info)*

28. ILO to host "The Jobs Challenge" policy discussion - New York, 23 Sep

"*The Jobs Challenge: the changing nature of employment and securing decent work*", will be held on 23 September from 1:15 to 2:45pm in New York City.

Our global challenge is to create 470 million jobs between 2015 and 2030 just to keep up with the growth of the world's working age population. This policy dialogue will explore the challenges and opportunities in creating new types of jobs and the transformation this will bring to all societies. The panel includes Guy Ryder (Director-General, ILO), Min Zhu (Deputy Managing Director, IMF), David Arkless (former President, Manpower Group and currently Chairman, Ark Light Consulting) and Betty Maina (CEO, Kenya Association of Manufacturers).

For the decades ahead structural changes in the labour market might coexist with traditional problems, such as underemployment, working poor, forced and child labour and lack of respect for the fundamental rights at work. Future policies should be able to cope both with 21st century challenges and with 19th century unresolved problems.

To RSVP, please email [newyork \(at\) ilo.org](mailto:newyork@ilo.org) or call +1 212 697-0150.

See the [flyer and concept note](#) for more details.

→ *Contributed by Kevin Cassidy, Senior Communications and External Relations Manager, ILO Office for the United Nations, [cassidy \(at\) ilo.org](mailto:cassidy@ilo.org)*

UN Global Compact Leaders Summit 2013 - New York, 19-20 Sep
Global Workshop on Business & Children's Rights - New York, 18-19 Sep

See items 2 and 5 above, in the International section. We include reference to these events here in the Americas section because they take place in New York.

Human rights & grievance mechanisms: capacity-building seminars - Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Sep-Oct

See item 4 above, in the International section. We include reference to these seminars here in the Americas section because one of the seminars takes place in Mexico.

Shift events at International Bar Association annual conference - Boston, USA, 7-10 Oct

See item 3 above, in the International section. We include reference to these events here in the Americas section because they take place in Boston.

"The Rana Plaza Disaster – taking stock half a year on" - New York, 20 Nov

See item 33 below, in the Asia/Pacific section. We include reference to this event here in the Americas section because it takes place in New York.

Event series: 'Crimes, Resistance & Legal Intervention' - Berlin, Sep-Nov

See item 34 below, in the Europe/Central Asia section. We include reference to this event series here in the Americas section because they relate to Argentina and Chile.

Asia/Pacific

29. Seminar for commercial lawyers on transnational business & human rights - Singapore, 17 Oct

On 17 October, the [Singapore Management University Law School](#) (SMU Law) will hold its inaugural *International Law in Practice* seminar. Entitled "Transnational Business & Human Rights - A Primer for Commercial Lawyers", this seminar will be conducted by Mr. Antony Crockett (Clifford Chance, UK) and Assistant Professor Mahdev Mohan (SMU Law).

The seminar will provide an introduction to the UN Guiding Principles and international standards that commercial lawyers ought to know. By making reference to practical case studies that are relevant to the Asia region, the speakers will discuss the intricacies and importance of human rights due diligence, and the role of lawyers in assisting clients to better understand and address the risks they may face, particularly in transactional contexts. Among other things, this seminar will consider human rights issues in foreign investment & land acquisition; project finance transactions; cross-border M&A; and supply chains and joint venture relationships. Click [here](#) for more information.

The seminar will build on the [Singapore Multi-Stakeholder Forum on Business & Human Rights](#) that SMU Law co-organised in May 2013, and on-going research that will be published as *Business & Human Rights Law in Southeast Asia* (Routledge, upcoming 2014).

→ Contributed by Mahdev Mohan, Singapore Management University Law School, [mahdevm \(at\) smu.edu.sg](mailto:mahdevm@smu.edu.sg)

30. Seminar on business & human rights and non-judicial grievance mechanisms - Jakarta, 9-12 Sep

From 9-12 September, [Business Watch Indonesia](#), [Cividep India](#) and [SOMO](#) will jointly organise a four-day capacity-building seminar in Jakarta, Indonesia that focuses on business and human rights and specific non-judicial grievance mechanisms that can address harmful corporate practices. The seminar aims to bring together NGOs and trade unions from Asia and the Pacific and various international experts to discuss available grievance mechanisms and tools to address corporate misconduct. The seminar will be an opportunity for civil society organizations from the region to enhance their knowledge and practical skills on these mechanisms and tools, and get specific support and expert advice to apply these mechanisms in their particular cases.

The programme will take participants through a step-by-step approach to filing complaints with non-judicial grievance mechanisms. Grievance mechanisms that will be covered during the seminar include the World Bank Inspection Panel, the Asian Development Bank and the Compliance Advisor/Ombudsman. The seminar also

includes detailed training by OECD Watch on how to file cases against companies for alleged violations of the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises. Furthermore the seminar will inform participants on how to use the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in company research and advocacy. At the end of the seminar participants will have an understanding of the advantages and shortcomings of different grievance mechanisms and will be able to use them in their particular cases.

→ *Contributed by Laura Ceresna-Chaturvedi, Cividep India, [laura \(at\) cividep.org](mailto:laura@cividep.org)*

31. 2013 CSR Asia Summit and human rights training - Bangkok, 16-18 Sep

Pre-Summit Training on business and human rights, 16 September: Prior to the summit, CSR Asia has developed optional half-day hands-on workshops for participants who want in-depth immersion and expert advice on business and human rights. CSR Asia experts will outline some of the key challenges facing business and support participants to understand how they can identify, assess, and manage human rights risks during the pre-summit training session. The course will draw extensively from the Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights and practical examples that companies can learn from. Topics covered:

- Understanding the human rights risks and impacts facing your company
- International frameworks and guiding principles that companies need to know about
- How to mitigate the risks associated with human rights problems
- Tools and examples that help companies manage these issues.

For further information, click [here](#) or contact CSR Asia at [summit \(at\) csr-asia.com](mailto:summit@csr-asia.com)

Business and human rights panel session at CSR Asia Summit, 18 September: CSR Asia and its partners are discussing the risks and opportunities in the region relating to human rights, outlining the basics of the Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights and sharing experience from companies and industry associations. The Guiding Principles (also known as the Ruggie Principles), launched in 2011, are gaining ground and increasingly adopted by individual businesses as well as certification schemes around the world. This session will explore how companies are integrating the principles into their existing management systems, practices for impact assessment and future priorities.

Speakers:

- Priyanga Hettiarachi, Director, RightsBusiness
- Sam Zarifi, Regional Director for Asia and the Pacific, International Commission of Jurists
- Thomas Wise, Manager, Global Issues and Policy, Chevron Corporation

Moderator: Rikke Netterstrom, Executive Director, CSR Asia

→ *Contributed by Clelia Daniel, CSR Asia, [cdaniel \(at\) csr-asia.com](mailto:cdaniel@csr-asia.com)*

32. Stakeholder consultation on a CSR index for India - New Delhi, 26 Sep

[Business and Community Foundation \(BCF\)](#), a non-profit working nationally, and [India International Centre \(IIC\)](#) are hosting a consultation to discuss and articulate with a large number of stakeholders the need for a CSR index for India that is inclusive and situated within the poverty context and rights framework.

In a country with so many official languages and low literacy rates in many rural communities, it is imperative to evolve a common understanding of an index that is easy to translate and that can be of use to those who need it the most – especially those vulnerable groups whose human rights are often ignored in a growth-focussed economy. An index that speaks the language of equity, inclusion and access to justice and rights is the need of the hour in India today with a new companies bill that is on its way to replacing an outdated law. For the first time, this also mandates a give back to society with a reporting mechanism.

Date: 26 September, from 9:00am to 5:00pm

Venue: India International Centre, #40, Max Mueller Marg, Lodhi Estate, New Delhi, DL 110003

For more details, contact [tanya \(at\) bcfindia.org](mailto:tanya@bcfindia.org)

→ *Contributed by Amita Joseph, Business & Community Foundation, [ajoseph \(at\) bcfindia.org](mailto:ajoseph@bcfindia.org)*

33. “The Rana Plaza Disaster – taking stock half a year on” - New York, 20 Nov

Business & Human Rights Resource Centre is holding the fourth annual event in the Mary Robinson Speaker Series on 20 November from 3-5pm at Ford Foundation’s headquarters in New York City. The subject will be “The Rana Plaza Disaster – taking stock half a year on”. On 24 April this year the eight-storey Rana Plaza garment factory building collapsed in Dhaka, Bangladesh, killing over 1100 and injuring approximately 2500.

The event will provide an opportunity to keep a spotlight on the tragedy as time passes. Featuring speakers from Bangladesh and elsewhere, it will include frank debate about what further steps are needed to prevent such disasters. Further details to be released closer to the event.

→ Contributed by Annabel Short, Programme Director, Business & Human Rights Resource Centre, [short \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:short(at)business-humanrights.org)

Human rights & grievance mechanisms: capacity-building seminars - Indonesia, Kenya, Mexico, Sep-Oct

See item 4 above, in the International section. We include reference to these seminars here in the Asia/Pacific section because one of the seminars takes place in Indonesia.

Seminar: “Land grabbing, land concentration, rural development and right to food” - Bogotá, 9-10 Oct

See item 24 above, in the Americas section. We include reference to this seminar here in the Asia/Pacific section because the Forum Syd report being launched at the seminar refers to Cambodia.

Europe/Central Asia

34. Event series: “Crimes, Resistance & Legal Intervention” - Berlin, Sep-Nov

On the occasion of the 40th anniversary of the Chilean military coup, the European Center for Constitutional and Human Rights (ECCHR) is organising a [series of events](#) in Berlin. The aim is to explore the impact of military dictatorships in Argentina and Chile on the global human rights movement. Some of the events focus on the role of corporations, for example:

- the screening of the German-language film “Mercedes Benz Argentina: Ein Konzern und seine Verantwortung (A Company and its Responsibility)” followed by a discussion (in German), and
- a panel discussion on “Corporations and their Legal Responsibility for the Crimes of the Dictatorship in Argentina” (in German and Spanish with simultaneous interpretation).

→ Contributed by Miriam Saage-Maaß, Vice Legal Director (Business and Human Rights Program), European Center for Constitutional & Human Rights, [saage-maasz \(at\) ecchr.eu](mailto:saage-maasz(at)ecchr.eu)

35. “Compliance Lab” to help companies assess their efforts against UN Guiding Principles - London, Jan

Over an intensive two-day workshop, companies participating in CSR Compliance Lab will get an overview of current CSR compliance expectations and in-depth knowledge of the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs) and their implications for companies. The workshop will assist participants in turning abstract guidelines and frameworks into operational processes and actions, thereby ensuring a solid basis for their CSR work.

CSR Compliance Lab provides participants practical tools and guidance to assess their company’s alignment with the most recent CSR game-changer, the UNGPs. The workshop is held by GLOBAL CSR in London, 22-23 January 2014. For further information please visit: <http://global-csr.com/courses/csr-compliance-lab-uk/>.

Register with Sidsel Lundtang at [sl \(at\) global-csr.com](mailto:sl(at)global-csr.com) and provide your name, title, company and contact and billing information. For further information please do not hesitate to contact GLOBAL CSR at +45 4499 5506 or visit our website <http://www.global-csr.com>.

→ Contributed by Sidsel Lundtang, Head of Education, GLOBAL CSR, [sl \(at\) global-csr.com](mailto:sl(at)global-csr.com)

36. Course: “Confidence Crisis in Human Rights: Implications for the UK” - London, 9-13 Sep

Middlesex University is organising a short course on "Confidence Crisis in Human Rights: Implications for the UK". The course will include a session on business and human rights; a session on the role of 'free prior and informed consent' to protect indigenous peoples' rights; and a session on environment and human rights, all of which will take place on 13 September.

More information can be found here: <http://www.mdx.ac.uk/courses/short/professional/human-rights.aspx>

→ Contributed by Nadia Bernaz, Middlesex University School of Law, [n.bernaz \(at\) mdx.ac.uk](mailto:n.bernaz@mdx.ac.uk)

37. Business and Human Rights coaching courses for companies - Kyiv, September; Berlin, October

These two-day courses provide hands-on information for companies on how to implement the corporate responsibility to respect human rights and specifically the UN Guiding Principles. The objectives of the courses are to raise awareness of the relevance of human rights for companies, identify and assess specific corporate risks associated with human rights and introduce instruments for assessing impacts and strategy development. Telephone needs assessments will be conducted with all participants prior to the courses to tailor the programme to their individual learning needs.

Since 2008, more than 50 individuals from around 40 leading multinationals have attended the business and human rights coaching courses organised by the German Global Compact Network (DGCN, www.globalcompact.de). They have come from companies based in Germany, Russia, Austria, the UK, Switzerland, the Netherlands and Italy, and from sectors including extractives, automotive, finance, chemicals, pharmaceuticals, energy and information and communications technologies. The course is updated regularly to reflect the most recent developments in business and human rights and learnings from twentyfifty's work with businesses (www.twentyfifty.co.uk). The courses are open to companies worldwide, regardless of whether they are participants in the UN Global Compact.

Kyiv, 12-13 September: “What does respecting human rights mean for my business? What are actual and potential impacts my business can or does have on human rights? How can we know and show that we respect human rights?” These and other questions will be addressed during the upcoming business and human rights coaching in Kyiv organised by the Ukrainian Global Compact Network and led by twentyfifty Ltd. The course is financially supported by the DGCN. For more information or to register please contact Anna Danylyuk, Ukrainian Global Compact Network: [anna.danylyuk \(at\) one.un.org](mailto:anna.danylyuk@one.un.org).

Berlin, 29-30 October: Registration is now open for this coaching organised by the DGCN and led by twentyfifty Ltd. To register for this course please send an email to [globalcompact \(at\) giz.de](mailto:globalcompact@giz.de)

→ Contributed by Gwendolyn Remmert, UN Global Compact Network Germany, [globalcompact \(at\) giz.de](mailto:globalcompact@giz.de) & Madeleine Koalick, twentyfifty Ltd, [madeleine.koalick \(at\) twentyfifty.de](mailto:madeleine.koalick@twentyfifty.de)

38. Conference on preventing forced labour & trafficking in connection with Glasgow Commonwealth Games - 22 Oct

The Glasgow Commonwealth Games 2014 presents a unique opportunity to examine the roles and responsibilities of business and government in ensuring respect for human rights, including preventing forced labour and trafficking, and promoting a human rights culture in Scotland. The [Scottish Human Rights Commission](#), [Anti-Slavery International](#) and the [Institute for Human Rights and Business](#) are organising a one-day conference to explore the challenges for business, policymakers and wider civil society in addressing human rights issues within the preparation and delivery of the XX Commonwealth Games, Glasgow 2014.

The conference, sponsored by the Joseph Rowntree Foundation, will offer a space for key stakeholders to discuss forced labour in Scotland and why taking a human rights approach offers a clear framework for understanding and developing appropriate responses.

For further details, email [neill.wilkins \(at\) ihrb.org](mailto:neill.wilkins@ihrb.org).

→ Contributed by Neill Wilkins, Institute for Human Rights and Business, [neill.wilkins \(at\) ihrb.org](mailto:neill.wilkins@ihrb.org)

39. 7th Annual European Pro Bono Forum - Warsaw, 24-25 Oct

PILnet's [European Pro Bono Forum](#) brings together hundreds of pro bono lawyers and NGO leaders each year, drawn by the promise of compelling speakers, inspired colleagues, and dynamic new ideas. The agenda for the seventh annual forum, which will be held in Warsaw, Poland, 24-25 October, extends that promise in fresh directions with new streams, innovative workshops, and cutting-edge perspectives.

This year's innovative agenda – [now available online](#) – features dozens of compelling workshops organised around five themes:

- Building Strong Pro Bono Foundations
- Human Rights
- Global Pro Bono
- Pro Bono Frontiers
- The Pro Bono Lab

The 2013 Pro Bono Forum will include a heightened focus on corporate pro bono, support for NGOs, and human rights concerns such as LGBTI rights. In addition, a dynamic new set of workshops – the Pro Bono Lab – will take pro bono a step further by providing participants with a chance to develop new approaches and new ideas.

[Register now](#) for PILnet's 7th annual [European Pro Bono Forum](#) or [read more](#) about the Forum. [Reduced-price early registration deadline](#) is 24 September; regular registration deadline is 23 October.

→ *Contributed by Constance Herndon, PILnet, [cherndon \(at\) pilnet.org](mailto:cherndon(at)pilnet.org)*

Launch of the Human Rights and Business Country Portal - Geneva, December

See item 1 above, in the International section. We include reference to this event here in the Europe/Central Asia section because it takes place in Geneva.

Forthcoming report on business and human rights indicators

See item 6 above, in the International section. We include reference to this report here in the Europe/Central Asia section because the final version will be presented at the UN Annual Forum in Geneva in December.

Launch of shipping supply chain management initiative based on Guiding Principles - London, 11 Sep

See item 7 above, in the International section. We include reference to this event here in the Europe/Central Asia section because it takes place in London.

Middle East/North Africa

40. Palestine: Civil society responds to EU guidelines - September

Palestinian civil society has welcomed the new [EU guidelines on the eligibility of Israeli entities to EU financial support](#) issued in July as a small, overdue and necessary step in efforts to promote the rule of law and respect of human rights. On this basis, Palestinian unions, associations and coalitions will launch a series of activities in September, aimed at terminating foreign aid and business cooperation with Israeli public and private bodies involved in the illegal settlements and annexation of Occupied Palestinian Territories, and/or in human rights abuses against Palestinians.

Activities will include:

- trainings;
- in-the-field-monitoring, documentation and reporting on the implementation of the EU guidelines, in particular vis-à-vis Israeli companies seeking to participate the EU's Horizon 2020 programme, with negotiations starting in September;
- advocacy for the adoption of similar guidelines by states inside and outside the EU, in particular guidelines discouraging/preventing private business with Israeli entities located or operating in Occupied Palestinian Territories; and

- a report about Brazilian-Israeli cooperation identifying how Brazil, with its current mechanism of financing, runs the risk of providing assistance to illegal Israeli settlement activities.

The civil society initiative is coordinated by the Palestinian Boycott, Divestment and Sanctions (BDS) National Committee which will release a guiding position paper in September for this purpose.

→ *Contributed by Ingrid Jaradat Gassner, Civic Coalition for Palestinian Rights in Jerusalem, info (at) civiccoalition-jerusalem.org*

41. Certified training on sustainability reporting using the GRI framework - Dubai, 15-17 Sep

Training Date and Venue: 15-17 Sep, Millennium Plaza Hotel, Shaikh Zayed Road, Dubai, UAE

Learn how your organization can measure, report and improve its sustainability performance. Become skilled at integrating sustainability into your organization's operations through the internationally recognised Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) framework.

GRI offers the most widely used sustainability reporting framework in the world. GRI's guidelines help organizations improve their measurement, management and reporting of their environmental, social and corporate governance performance, thus enhancing their relationships with different stakeholders. For more information on GRI, please visit www.globalreporting.org

The [Arabia CSR Network](#), with its strong experience of working with private organizations and relevant government departments to improve their CSR systems, has been certified by the GRI in Netherlands to provide trainings to organizations and individuals based all over the Middle East and North Africa. The Arabia CSR Network is very well placed to provide these trainings, as a regionally rooted organization that has access to in-depth CSR information about hundreds of companies in the region through its Arabia CSR Awards.

Please read more about this course [here](#).

To register for this training or for more information on GRI certified training sessions in the GCC region, please contact the Arabia CSR Network at [admin \(at\) arabiacsnetwork.com](mailto:admin@arabiacsnetwork.com) or call us at +971-4-3448622.

→ *Contributed by Arabia CSR Network, admin (at) arabiacsnetwork.com*

Español

42. Taller global de UNICEF sobre empresas y derechos del niño - Nueva York, 18-19 Sep

En Nueva York, este septiembre los líderes globales en sustentabilidad empresarial se reunirán con expertos en derechos del niño y en temas de infancia por región geográfica, para construir soluciones innovadoras que promuevan acciones y resultados para los niños. Durante dos días, el grupo – una única combinación de agentes y facilitadores del cambio – van a profundizar en temas de debida diligencia en derechos humanos, trabajo infantil, jóvenes trabajadores, la agenda post-2015, ciudadanía digital y productos y servicios amigables con la infancia, para generar nuevas ideas en sesiones facilitadas por el equipo de la reconocida firma de innovación social Frog Design.

Los oradores y participantes brindarán distintas perspectivas: Susan McPherson (Fenton Communications) y Jo Confino (Guardian Sustainable Business) moderarán sesiones con líderes del mundo privado, incluyendo a Bob Corcoran (General Electric), Anna Zanghi (Mastercard), Bob Collymore (Safaricom), Charlotte Ersbol (Novo Nordisk), Matthias Leisinger (Kuoni), quienes brindarán su experiencia corporativa. Global Reporting Initiative compartirán su experticia en la gestión de iniciativas como, por ejemplo, procesos de debida diligencia y reporte social. Durante el evento, expertos en temas de infancia de India, Vietnam, Kenia y Argentina proveerán oportunidades para el desarrollo de actividades conjuntas a nivel nacional. El taller se realizará en UNICEF House, New York el 18 y 19 de septiembre. Para más información consultar la página de Responsabilidad Social Empresarial de UNICEF: <http://www.unicef.org/csr>

→ *Contribución de Marcelo Ver, Unicef Regional Panamá, csr (at) unicef.org*

43. Seminario internacional: 'Acaparamiento, concentración de tierras, desarrollo rural y derecho a la alimentación' - Bogotá, 9-10 Oct

La [Universidad Externado de Colombia](#), el [Instituto Colombiano de Antropología e Historia – ICANH](#) y la [Organización Internacional por el Derecho Humano a la Alimentación - FIAN Colombia](#), estamos organizando el seminario, para generar una discusión y reflexión académica y política, con participación de organizaciones sociales, la academia, el sector público y la cooperación internacional, sobre la expresión en Colombia del fenómeno geopolítico global de la concentración y el acaparamiento de tierras, territorios y recursos, al igual que la problemática agroalimentaria y de desarrollo rural. En ese sentido, además de contar con una panorámica de la expresión global de la concentración y el acaparamiento, y de herramientas conceptuales para su análisis, este seminario ahondará en la experiencia nacional y local de la concentración, haciendo énfasis en la situación de derechos humanos, los impactos en los modos de vida y la situación alimentaria de las comunidades locales.

Las reflexiones que se vienen dando sobre los tratados de libre comercio, la relación entre desarrollo / comercio / derechos humanos / medio ambiente, y la necesidad de normas vinculantes para estados y empresas.

Adicionalmente presentará el informe de [Forum Syd](#) "The Race for Land" y en particular en el debate global sobre la adquisición de tierras, las consecuencias para comunidades campesinas y los factores e intereses que están detrás de los negocios por la tierra, los inversionistas y países objetivo, con un interés particular en la relación de empresas internacionales involucradas en el despojo de tierras y la violación de Derechos Humanos y recoge información acerca del fenómeno en Mozambique (África) y Camboya (Asia), como [casos tipo](#).

→ *Contribución de Carlos Martínez, Forum Syd - Colombia, [carlos.martinez.pedroza \(at\) forumsyd.org](mailto:carlos.martinez.pedroza@forumsyd.org)*

44. Publicaciones del CIEDH sobre Responsabilidad Legal Empresarial

A finales de septiembre/principios de octubre, el [Centro de Información sobre Empresas y Derechos Humanos \(CIEDH\)](#) publicará (en inglés) su segundo informe anual sobre la responsabilidad legal empresarial (para el primer informe anual haga click [aquí](#)). El objetivo de este informe es hacer accesible a ONGs y activistas, abogados, empresarios, gobiernos y otras organizaciones los avances y tendencias globales en el campo de la responsabilidad legal de las empresas; y ayudarles a entender como las acciones legales contra empresas debido a sus impactos sobre los derechos humanos pueden estar relacionadas con su trabajo.

A principios de septiembre publicaremos también nuestro [boletín trimestral sobre responsabilidad legal empresarial](#), en francés por primera vez; además continuaremos publicándolo en inglés y en español.

Por favor, escribanos si desea recibir el informe anual o el boletín trimestral, especificando si desea recibir el boletín trimestral en español o en inglés.

→ *Contribución de: Sif Thorgeirsson, Coordinadora, Proyecto sobre Responsabilidad Legal Empresarial, CIEDH, [thorgeirsson \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:thorgeirsson@business-humanrights.org) y Elodie Aba, Investigadora Jurídica, CIEDH, [aba \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:aba@business-humanrights.org)*

45. El CIEDH abre tres vacantes para pasantes

Acabamos de lanzar tres vacantes para pasantías en nuestra oficina de Londres:

- Pasante hispanohablante para investigación legal - para empezar en octubre de 2013 (la fecha límite para enviarnos aplicaciones es el 19 de septiembre);
- Pasante para investigación legal - para empezar en enero/febrero de 2014 (la fecha límite para enviarnos aplicaciones es el 17 de octubre); y
- Pasante para investigación general - para empezar en enero/febrero de 2014 (la fecha límite para enviarnos aplicaciones es el 17 de octubre).

Estamos buscando en particular pasantes con excelente niveles de español e inglés, para todas las vacantes.

El anuncio completo y los formularios de aplicación están disponibles acá (en inglés): <http://www.business-humanrights.org/Aboutus/Internships>

→ *Contribuido por el CIEDH. Para mayor información, por favor póngase en contacto con Daniel Vince-Archer a [vince-archer \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:vince-archer@business-humanrights.org)*

Français

46. Forum international sur les industries extractives au Niger - Niamey, 17-19 septembre

Le Groupe de réflexion et d'action sur les industries extractives au Niger (GREN) organise à Niamey du 17 au 19 septembre 2013 un forum international sur les industries extractives dont le but est de contribuer à l'amélioration de la gestion des ressources minières et pétrolières au Niger. De façon spécifique, il s'agira d'amener les participants à initier des mesures et des actions visant à mieux protéger l'environnement des zones d'extraction, à faire un lien entre les droits humains et les industries extractives mais aussi à développer des stratégies pour une meilleure redistribution des revenus issues des industries extractives. Une centaine de participants venant de toutes les régions du Niger et des pays voisins y sont attendus et les panelistes seront, entre autres, Gilles Labarthe (Suisse), Soumaine Adoum (Tchad), NGuepjouo Megaptche Didrot Serge (Cameroun), Almoustapha Moumouni et Maïna Boukar Karthey (Niger). Les thématiques suivantes seront abordées : l'environnement, le cadre juridique et la bonne gouvernance et la transparence des industries extractives. Les témoignages des populations riveraines et d'autres acteurs permettront de mieux appréhender la situation. A l'issue du forum, un document de plaidoyer sera élaboré et un comité de suivi mis en place.

Pour plus de détails, vous pouvez contacter Madame Solli Ramatou, Coordinatrice nationale du GREN, email : [greninitiative \(at\) yahoo.fr](mailto:greninitiative@yahoo.fr)

→ *Contribution de Mme. Solli Ramatou, Coordinatrice nationale du GREN*

47. Publications sur la responsabilité juridique des entreprises

Le Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises et les Droits de l'Homme lancera son deuxième Briefing Annuel sur la Responsabilité Juridique des Entreprises fin septembre, ou en octobre. (Pour consulter le premier Briefing Annuel, publié en 2012, [cliquez ici](#).) Ce briefing (en anglais uniquement) a pour but de rendre les développements et tendances à l'échelle mondiale dans le domaine de la responsabilité juridique en matière de droits de l'homme accessibles aux ONG, militants des droits de l'homme, avocats, entrepreneurs, gouvernements et autres. Il s'agit aussi de les aider à comprendre comment les actions en justice contre les entreprises pour leurs impacts sur les droits de l'homme peuvent avoir un rapport avec leur travail.

Début septembre, nous publierons notre [Bulletin Trimestriel sur la Responsabilité Juridique des Entreprises](#) pour la première fois en français. Nous continuerons également de le publier en anglais et en espagnol.

Contactez-nous si vous souhaitez recevoir le Briefing Annuel et/ou le Bulletin Trimestriel, en précisant si vous voulez recevoir le Bulletin Trimestriel en espagnol ou en français.

→ *Contribution du Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises & les Droits de l'Homme : Sif Thorgeirsson, Manager, Projet sur la Responsabilité Juridique des Entreprises, [thorgeirsson \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:thorgeirsson@business-humanrights.org) et Elodie Aba, Chercheur juridique, [aba \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:aba@business-humanrights.org)*

48. Le Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises & les Droits de l'Homme recrute 3 stagiaires

Nous avons récemment lancé le recrutement de trois stagiaires qui seront basés dans notre bureau de Londres :

- Stagiaire recherche juridique, hispanophone, pour commencer en octobre 2013 (date limite de candidature : 19 septembre)
- Stagiaire recherche juridique, pour commencer en janvier/février 2014 (date limite de candidature : 17 octobre)
- Stagiaire recherche générale, pour commencer en janvier/février 2014 (date limite de candidature : 17 octobre)

L'annonce de stage (qui décrit notre organisation), ainsi que le profil du candidat et le formulaire de candidature sont disponibles ici : <http://www.business-humanrights.org/Aboutus/Internships>.

→ *Contribution du Centre de Ressources sur les Entreprises & les Droits de l'Homme. Pour plus d'informations, veuillez contacter Daniel Vince-Archer, [vince-archer \(at\) business-humanrights.org](mailto:vince-archer@business-humanrights.org)*

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