

International Responsible Business Conduct Agreement for the Renewable Energy Sector

How to tackle human rights and environmental due diligence risks in your supply chain

Human rights and environmental due diligence risks occur at all stages of renewable energy supply and production chains.



Think of:

- poor labour conditions
- breach of the rights of indigenous people
- child labor
- forced labor
- damage to biodiversity and environment
- carbon footprints and many more



Expectation

There is a growing expectation towards companies to have robust human rights and environmental due diligence.

No company is immune to negative risks

However, not taking adequate steps to establish proper and robust human rights and environmental due diligence can have a substantial impact on the company's business. It can lead to reputational damage, lack of trust, as well as loss of investment and partnerships.

China uses Uyghur forced labour to make solar panels, says report

IN BROAD DAYLIGHT
Uyghur Forced Labour and Global Solar Supply Chains



LAURA T. SHIRBY & NYKOLA ELINA



HUMAN RIGHTS IN WIND TURBINE SUPPLY CHAINS
Towards a truly sustainable energy transition

A green paradox: Deforesting the Amazon for wind energy in the Global North

A shift to wind energy is leaving a trail of destruction in Ecuador, with a brutal impact on indigenous communities and fragile ecosystems

What is an International Responsible Business Conduct Agreement?

Agreements promoting **international Responsible Business Conduct (RBC)** involve partnerships between **different stakeholders**.



government



Business



NGOs



Industry associations



Knowledge institutions



Trade unions

Together, these partners work to identify, mitigate and prevent human rights abuses and environmental damage.



The **International Responsible Business Conduct Agreement for the Renewable Energy Sector** aims to **promote and improve human rights and environmental due diligence in the wind and solar energy sector.**

By joining this Agreement companies can:



Improve **human rights and environmental due diligence** practices and decrease risks to business operations



Advance **positive change in the supply chain**, by working together with the other parties to tackle abuses and misconduct in the area of human rights and environment standards



Gain **access to various human rights and environmental due diligence tools**. This includes also one-on-one support and account management services provided by the Secretariat to the companies in advancing their human rights and environmental due diligence practices



Gain **competitive advantage in the public tender and procurement** through improved due diligence processes



Gain a **positive reputation** in sustainability practices

The **International RBC Agreement for the Renewable Energy Sector** also supports the realization of these **Sustainable Development Goals** of the United Nations.



The Agreement focuses on these core areas

Due Diligence

Supporting and monitoring the efforts of companies to improve their human rights and environmental due diligence practices



Collective projects

Initiating projects to address human rights and environmental risks in the supply chain that companies cannot deal with on their own



Collective influence

Increasing the collective influence of the solar and wind energy sector for a positive impact in their supply chains



Tender and procurement

Encouraging embedment of due diligence criteria in public tender and procurement



Access to remedy

Enabling access to remedy to affected stakeholders through its accountability mechanism



By joining this Agreement, companies commit to:



Implementing their human rights and environmental due diligence practices in line with the international standards (OECD Guidelines and the UNGPs).



Acting as an advocate for the Agreement in their respective networks, inter alia through encouraging relevant partners, suppliers and other business relations in their network to sign the Agreement.



Collaborating with other participants in the Agreement on advancing human rights and environmental due diligence.

Would you like to know more?

Let's have a chat!

Give us a call at +31 70 3499 499

Send us an [email](#)

Or fill in the contact form on our [website](#)

