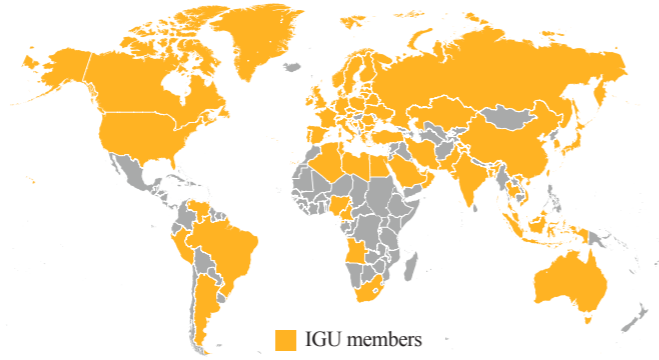


## IGU

The International Gas Union is a worldwide non-profit organisation aimed at promoting the technical and economic progress of the gas industry. The Union has more than 100 members worldwide on all continents. The members of IGU are national associations and corporations of the gas industry. IGU's working organisation covers all aspects of the gas industry, including exploration and production, storage, LNG, distribution and natural gas utilisation in all market segments. IGU promotes technical and economic progress of the gas industry emphasising environmental performance worldwide. For more information, please visit [www.igu.org](http://www.igu.org)



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## International Gas Union (IGU)

News, views and knowledge on gas – worldwide



## Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development



# IGU



## The Sustainable Development

The underlying tenet of the IGU Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development is that the gas industry integrates economic, environmental and social factors in all its business practices. The gas industry further recognises that continuous improvement of corporate performance towards sustainable development is critical for successful business.

**The gas industry's corporate performance for Sustainable Development is guided by the following declarations:**

- The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948
- The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Works, 1998
- The Rio Declaration on Sustainable Development and its Agenda for the 21st century, 1992
- The United Nations Global Compact, 1999
- The OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, 1999
- The Millennium Summit, 2000
- The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAC), 2005



## Environmentally sound by making choices today that work tomorrow

Continuous improvement in the performance of the gas industry is of vital importance as the world moves towards a sustainable energy future. The gas industry shall:

- combat climate change cooperating with all parties involved in the gas chain to minimise environmental impact
- incorporate environmental criteria in business management, seek maximum efficiency, assess environmental impacts of activities and adopt a precautionary approach to prevent serious or irreversible environmental degradation and preserve the biodiversity in the natural settings where we perform our activities
- establish permanent plans to renovate its assets, the aim being to reduce gas emissions to the atmosphere as far as possible
- fulfil all operations in an environmentally responsible manner and commit to improving industry wide environmental performance taking action beyond the continuous enforcement of applicable regulations, taking into account international standards and legislative trends in planning intervention that may cause significant environmental impact
- raise awareness and promote Good Practices among employees and customers to conduct their activities in an environmentally responsible manner
- integrate the environmental variable in selecting and evaluating suppliers and contractors and also in the planning of new projects or developments of those that already exist
- promote the use of best available technologies all through the gas chain and establish permanent plans to renovate the gas infrastructures and assets
- develop and maintain emergency preparedness plans to be prepared for and respond to emergencies in a timely and effective manner
- encourage clean and efficient gas utilisation to improve local conditions and contribute to a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions promoting the use of the best available technologies for both its own facilities and those of its customers
- support research on the environmental impacts from the gas industry's activities and on the means of minimising those adverse impacts
- promote any solution combining the use of natural gas and renewable energies in an efficient way
- promote continuous improvement by means of Environmental Management Systems
- communicate in an open, transparent and objective manner on environmental matters to stakeholders: employees, authorities, customers, shareholders and the public



## Socially responsible by supporting healthy communities

The gas industry is committed to ensuring the health and safety of its employees, subcontractors, customers and the public affected by its operations, products and services. The IGU accepts its responsibility to contribute to society with its knowledge, management capacity and creativity, maintaining permanent dialogue with society to learn of its needs and attempt to satisfy them, and so increase its credibility and prestige.

The gas industry in IGU member countries shall recognise the responsibility to support healthy employees, contractors and communities by:

- assessing social impacts of its activities
- continuously improving Environment, Health & Safety (EHS) performance through effective implementation of EHS Management Systems
- implementing leading-edge employment standards and practices
- easing the working conditions of its employees, by optimising the facilities design and operations
- investing in employment training programmes that benefit the industry and communities
- prioritising local employment and suppliers, when possible technically, economically and legally
- developing an open dialogue with stakeholders such as customers, employees, governments and Non Governmental Organisations
- gathering and promptly responding to community complaints
- partnering with community-based organisations that support business success
- incorporating human rights and labour standards in its operations and in the purchasing policy
- promoting technology transfer of highly efficient and low emissions technologies to developing countries, taking advantage of the Clean Development Mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol
- avoiding discrimination, encouraging diversity of opinions, perspectives, cultures, ages and genders
- encouraging measures of equality between men and women, promoting family reconciliation and denouncing child labour





## Economically viable by supporting sustainable developments

**A sustainable future needs a strong economy to support the social, environmental and other programmes. The gas industry in IGU member countries shall support viable economies by:**

- providing meaningful and fairly paid employment to communities
- supplying a reliable energy with a transparent, non-discriminatory, prices policy that makes it available to all the possible customers
- contributing revenue from sales, property and income taxes
- supporting transparency and setting internal codes of conduct between its employees
- maintaining economically viable conditions for necessary investments
- designing and developing innovation and research programs looking for competitiveness and long term social responsibility



## Integrity

**Compel IGU members to act ethically, honestly and with integrity, respecting values, principles and codes of professional conduct that contribute to increasing the confidence that society has in our organisation. The guiding principles of this behaviour are:**

- rejecting corruption and bribes in the development of our activity and establishing the means to prevent and fight them
- supporting the principles of the United Nations Global Compact as well as the OECD Principles of Corporate Governance
- respecting all the aspects of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights



## Means of implementation

- the work on sustainable development is based on a plan, do, check and act approach to achieve continuous improvements
- environmental, social and economic considerations are integrated into the process of planning, construction and operation
- all employees receive education on environmentally sound, socially responsible and economically viable behaviour and decision making to assure effective implementation of a sustainable development approach
- a comprehensive view, from “cradle to grave”, is applied in the evaluation of the impacts and benefits of the activities, when establishing and implementing corporate policies, goals, programmes and procedures
- assessments of compliance with company procedures, is guaranteed by regular audits and relevant reports are provided to government, employees and other stakeholders
- sustainable development is measured and reported using performance indicators as a reference for improvements