

GLOBAL COMPACT NETWORK NETHERLANDS

2019 Annual Report



Global Compact
Network Netherlands

JUNE 2020

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FOREWORD

With 10 years left to deliver on the Sustainable Development Goals, we are in the Decade of Action. More and more companies and non-profit organizations are joining Global Compact Network Netherlands to get inspired by the 10 UNGC principles and the SDGs and to improve their impact on a sustainable and inclusive world. In 2019 we have extended our board, our team has been renewed and we were able to start with the implementation of our 2019-2021 strategy. We strengthened our alignment with UNGC and our collaboration in the Netherlands with other organizations to join forces on sustainability. We have improved our services to our members and we have organized several thematic events to share knowledge. Our board has taken important decisions for the future, for example to start with a SDG Young Leaders Board and to scale up the Young Professionals Program. We were also very proud with the release of our SDG Game.

We are looking forward to working with all of you on this Decade of Action. Now in 2020 the world has been shocked by COVID-19. Many companies have to work on their recovery. We hope to inspire them by the SDGs to get sure we will work on a sustainable recovery. Last, but not least, I would like to thank Eppy Boschma, from whom I took over this position. I am very grateful for her wonderful work at GCNL.

I wish you all the best!



The purpose of this report is to provide Global Compact Network Netherlands (GCNL) stakeholders with an overview of the initiative's progress in key strategic and operational focus areas during 2019, as well as to highlight recent activities undertaken to promote business action on UN issues and priorities. Aligned with its 2019-2021 mid-term strategy, Global Compact Network NL has focused its activities on delivering against four crucial pillars:

1. Strengthen Communication & Value Proposition
2. Alignment with UN Global Compact
3. Business Model - Membership & Partners
4. Diversification & Deepening Content

GCNL experienced a steady growth in membership during 2019. A broad range of activities, events, and programmes have been organized, such as the Young Professionals Program (YPP), the SDG Game, the SDG Inspiration Day with Elsevier and the global SDG Pioneer campaign.

Global Compact Network Netherlands is well connected to the sustainability ecosystem in the Netherlands, working closely with: VNO-NCW, MKB Nederland, Groene Groeiers, Dutch Sustainable Growth Coalition, MVO Nederland, and SDG Nederland. In 2019 GCNL wrote the business chapter of the **National SDG Report** representing the broader business community. Note: The report is in Dutch.

2019 Marked the first year of GCNL's mid-term strategy 2019-2021, and has been a year where we built the operational, financial, and HR infrastructure to gain speed in 2020.

ORGANIZATIONAL STRATEGY



This year GCNL adopted a new mid-term strategy for the years 2019-2021. The priorities are visualized in four important pillars:

Strengthen Communication & Value Proposition

- 1.1 Further align our long term value proposition with the needs of our (future) members
- 1.2 Share knowledge on urgent sustainable development challenges and opportunities
- 1.3 Sustainable, bilateral and interactive, engagement with our (future) members

Alignment UNGC

- 2.1 Make global goals local business by boosting the collaboration with UNGC
- 2.2 Improve sustainability information access to GCNL members
- 2.3 Align GCNL projects with UNGC programmatic activities

Business Model - Membership & Partners

- 3.1 Double GCNL membership by 2021 to create a sustainability ripple effect
- 3.2 Empower young sustainability leadership and- innovation
- 3.3 Improve progress monitoring by supporting the members with COP/COE and SDG reporting

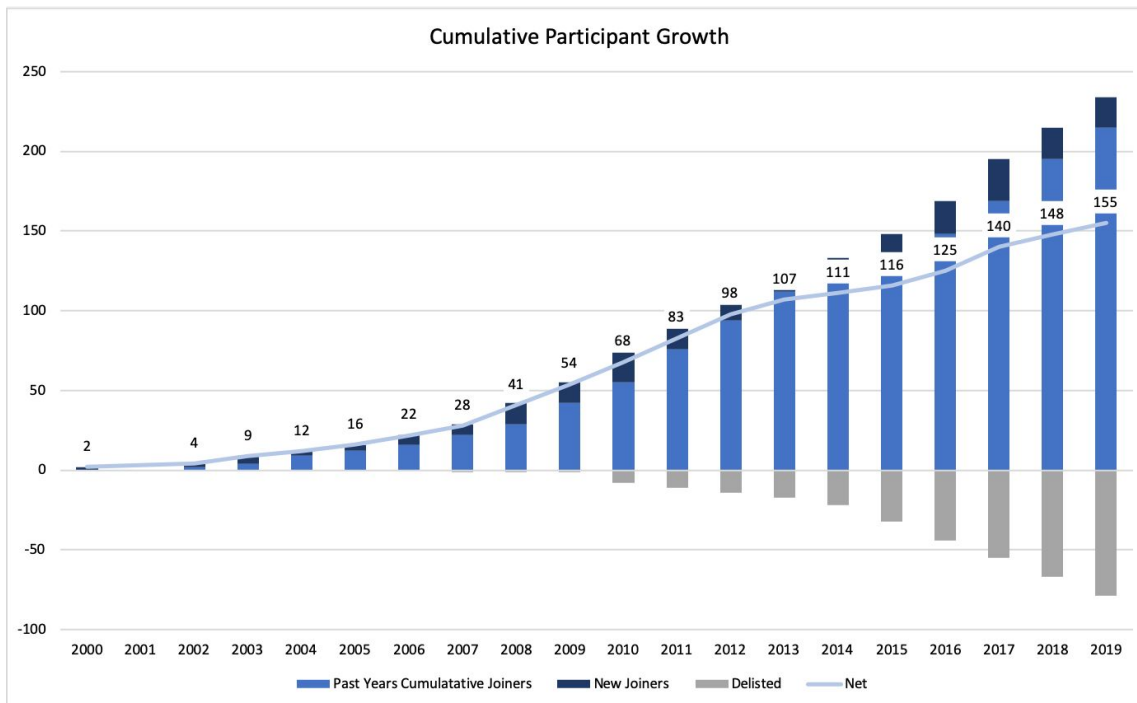
Diversification & Deepening Content

- 4.1 Accelerate the sustainability transition by focusing on the most material and urgent topics
- 4.2 Facilitate local networking and spur (cross-sectoral) collaboration to drive sustainability action
- 4.3 Engage and partner in projects/activities that increase knowledge sharing and learning

MEMBERSHIP SNAPSHOT

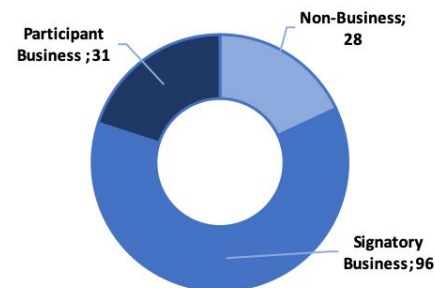
Global Compact Network Netherlands experienced a steady growth in 2019 and now has a participant base comprised of:

- Business Participants: 127
- Non-business Participants: 28
- **Total Participants: 155**



Growth: During 2019, **19 new organizations joined** the Global Compact Network NL. This represents an overall net growth in membership of 5%. The majority of new joiners were SMEs.

Delistings: 12 organizations were delisted in 2019, with 67% of them being expelled due to a failure to communicate on progress - the primary requirement for continued participation in the initiative. The majority of delistings were SMEs.





Scaling-up of the Young Professionals Program (YPP)

Since the start of the YPP in 2017 three successful pilot teams delivered their impactful and inspiring SDG contributions. The kick-off of the fourth pilot team took place in October 2019 and is throughout the 12 months duration of the program supported by Jan van den Herik in the role of Executive Team Coach. We can say that we have successfully piloted the program over the last years, in which around 40 young professionals participated in multidisciplinary and cross-company teams.

The success of the YPP can be distilled from the enthusiastic responses from participants during the pilot phase, as well as the decision from UN Global Compact in New York to start focusing on young professionals as well. We are strongly convinced that young leaders have to be actively involved in the SDGs to ensure that most of the 17 Global Goals and their 169 targets will be realized by the end of 2030. This has to become the decade of action and the YPP will contribute to this demand for action.

Due to its success the board of Global Compact Network Netherlands responded positively on a proposal of Jan van den Herik and decided last November to scale up and further enhance the program. In December our office made a start to develop the YPP into a unique and advanced leadership program. On our special website (www.gcneland.nl/ypp) you can find the brochure, in which the formula, learning goals, benefits and admission requirements for participation in this action-based SDG journey can be found. Furthermore you will find on this YPP website inspiring testimonials of participants as well as a brief reference to the SDG projects that the teams have delivered at the end of their SDG journey.

Events 2019:

- (9 April) Workshop: SDGs, Human Rights and Salient Issues with Shift
- (14 May) Workshop: SDGs, Leadership & Reporting with PwC
- (25 June) Youth Leadership: Inspiring Business
- (25 October) Workshop Sustainable Finance with Rabobank
- (25 November) SDG Inspiration Day with Elsevier

ACTIVITIES & PROGRAMMES



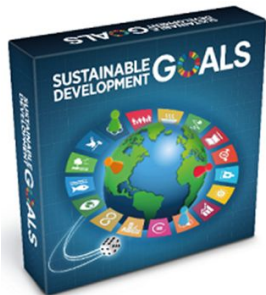
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SDG Game

The development of the SDG Game started in 2017 within the Young Professionals Program. In November 2019, the game is launched with a first batch of 1000 pcs.

By the end of 2019, 475 games were sold including the pre-orders.

The purpose of the interactive SDG Game is to create awareness amongst management and staff members and stimulate positive action on the way to 2030 within organizations.



SDG Pioneers 2019

For the first time, we embarked on a search for the SDG Pioneer of the Netherlands. Equipped with a carefully selected jury, we selected Dylan McNeill, Director Supplier Sustainability at Philips, as the SDG Pioneer of 2019. Our pioneer was nominated as the Final Class of SDG Pioneers



by the UN Global Compact and represented our network at the Leaders Week in New York.

The SDG Pioneer campaign seeks to acknowledge business leaders striving for positive change, setting ambitious targets, scale and impact towards the SDGs in their companies. It is an opportunity to give credit to those who lead the change towards the Global Goals.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT



Global Compact Network Netherlands has collaborated with several stakeholders in the Netherlands with the aim to combine forces to speed up the Dutch contribution on the SDG agenda.

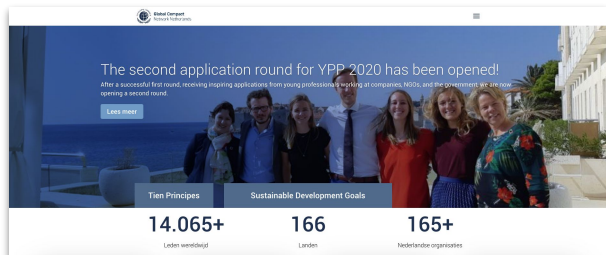
Among others GCNL partners are: VNO-NCW, MKB-Nederland, Groene Groeiers, Dutch Sustainable Growth Coalition, MVO Nederland, SDG Nederland, PUM, Partos, VNG, duurzaam-ondernemen.nl, NVVN

Examples of concrete results of these partnerships

- An open letter to the Dutch government initiated by SDG Netherlands with the call to come up with a national action plan on the SDGs and to use the SDGs as a focus point for the growth ambition and investment fund of the Dutch government.
- GCNL contributed to the report of the Social Economic Council (SER) regarding a better integration between corporate social responsibility and the SDG agenda.
- Active presence of GCNL at the SDG Action Day on 25 September 2019.



Our chairman Jan-Willem Scheijgrond and Marcus Looijenga, PwC, wrote an article that was published in Het Financieele Dagblad: "Raise sustainability reports to the level of financial reporting".

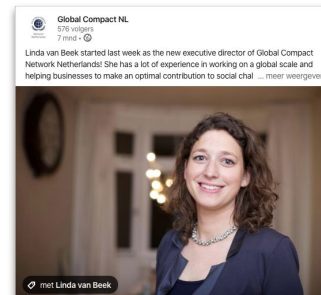
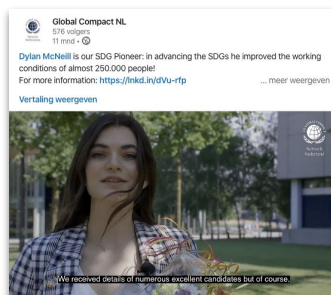


Website

Global Compact Network Netherlands launched their [new website](#) in September 2019. In 2019 the website of GCNL had 5018 visitors.

Social media

In 2019, GCNL set up their account on various social media channels. You can now find GCNL on Instagram, Facebook, LinkedIn and Twitter @GlobalCompactNL. GCNL had a total following of 1766 by the end of 2019.



INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

GCNL is one of the 68 local Networks of UNGC. This is one of the main reasons why participants and signatories join. Almost all Dutch companies work cross-border, how small they may be.

Activities

A few Dutch members are directly participating in the global platforms of UNGC. Five of them are in the CEO Water Mandate, one in Peace, Justice & Strong Institutions. Most others enjoy our help to make use of the tools and information, developed by UNGC.

We have presented the results of our Young Professionals Program at the Annual Local Network Forum (ALNF), which inspired UNGC to set up the Young Innovators Program.

Meetings

Many Dutch members joined the “Globalization 4.0” World Economic Forum in Davos January 2019. Our key participant Royal DSM partnered in the SDG tent to deliver on-the-ground reality faced by leaders and spark real-world impact. The CEO was a panelist in the session ‘A new deal for nature’.

We asked the official SDG-coordinator visiting the High Level Political Forum on SDGs to participate in the ALNF. Of the four initiatives that UNGC launched we decided to actively take part in the SDG Ambition. The presence of the Chairman of the GCNL Board at the SDG Leader’s Summit in September has been used as an opportunity to hand over the SDG Game to Lise Kingo for its official launch.

Early November another ALNF was held in Lisbon. Two tools are in our national plan for 2020: the SDG Action Manager (together with B Lab), and the GC Academy for knowledge sharing.



FINANCIAL OVERVIEW

	2019 Budget	2019 Actuals	2019 Result
Total Income	€85.000	€165.706	€80.706
Total Cost	€85.000	€91.960	(€6.960)
Total Result			€73.746

Income

Overall income for 2019 was approximately €166k, exceeding the budget of €85k. The annual contributions were significantly higher than past years due to membership growth and an updated redistribution agreement with the UN Global Compact.

Expenses

Overall expensed for 2019 was approximately €92k, exceeding the budget of €85k. Disciplined spending, coupled with higher than expected revenue, led to favorable financial results, with the GCNL ending the year with a surplus of approximately €73.5k.

Looking forward:

Based on these numbers, the 2020 budget has been significantly increased with additional funds allocated to human resources, (digital) marketing, events, and product development. This way our finances support the continuing growth of GCNL.



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