German Business Initiative for Sustainable Value Chains

Sustainability Trainings for Suppliers
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Caring for decent working conditions and environmental protection in production facilities all over the world has been one of the core values of the initiating companies of this initiative for many years.

Founded by econsense and WCGE the German Business Initiative for Sustainable Value Chains is financially supported by DEG. Trainings are managed and conducted within the Systain Academy.

The eleven initiating companies (BASF, Bayer, BMW Group, Daimler, Deutsche Bahn, Fuchs Petrolub, KPMG, Dr. Arend Oetker, Siemens, TRUMPF and thyssenkrupp) are leading, globally active companies and organizations of German business. They are gathered under the umbrella of the initiative to support the enhancement of the sustainability performance of important supply chain partners worldwide — starting in China and Mexico.

The member companies are striving for reducing the negative environmental impact and for safer and fairer workplaces in their value chains. With the initiative the involved German companies go beyond legal requirements and voluntarily commit themselves to the creation of global value-added networks for their suppliers.

Training for Suppliers including Local Networking and Impact Assessment

German companies are promoting capacity building on sustainable business practices for their suppliers in selected procurement markets.

**Training Approach**
- Trainings enable participants to improve working conditions and processes for environmental protection as well as business performance
- Cross-industry approach
- Focus on the business case for sustainability

**Training Elements**
- Business school style training with workshops, home assignments and on-site visits
- Three program modules: general management skills training, customized training on social compliance issues and environmental protection issues
- Learning through good management practices, shared experiences and peer support mechanisms

Trainings are complemented by the establishment of a trainer network which provides continuation of local trainings and impact assessments to ensure that the initiative is achieving its goals. In addition, the trainings are also embedded in a local company network consisting of German companies and local suppliers with a focus on joint activities (round tables, conferences, etc.).
About the Partners

econsense is a German network of globally operating companies committed to integrating sustainability into business practice.

DEG, as a subsidiary of KfW, is committed to promoting business initiative in developing and emerging market countries.

Systain is a globally operating German sustainability consulting company.

The WCGE is a non-profit think tank on ethics in business leadership.

Contact

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