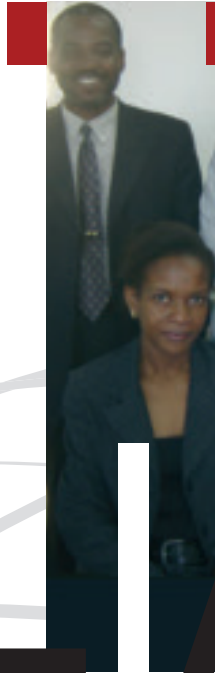


A Global Business



ALLIANCE

for Sustainable Development

The WBCSD's Regional Network



World Business Council for
Sustainable Development

About the WBCSD

The World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) brings together some 180 international companies in a shared commitment to sustainable development through economic growth, ecological balance and social progress. Our members are drawn from more than 30 countries and 20 major industrial sectors. We also benefit from a global network of about 60 national and regional business councils and partner organizations.

Our **mission** is to provide business leadership as a catalyst for change toward sustainable development, and to support the business license to operate, innovate and grow in a world increasingly shaped by sustainable development issues.

Our objectives include:

Business Leadership – to be a leading business advocate on sustainable development;

Policy Development - to help develop policies that create framework conditions for the business contribution to sustainable development;

The Business Case - to develop and promote the business case for sustainable development;

Best Practice - to demonstrate the business contribution to sustainable development and share best practices among members;

Global Outreach – to contribute to a sustainable future for developing nations and nations in transition.

What is the REGIONAL NETWORK?

The WBCSD's Regional Network is an informal alliance of 58 CEO-led business organizations around the globe that are united by a shared commitment to providing business leadership for sustainable development (SD) in their respective countries or regions.

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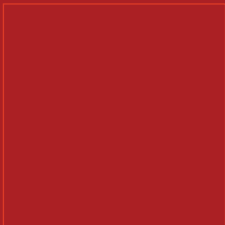
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While the WBCSD makes the business case on the world stage, its Regional Network helps shape the sustainable development agenda at the local and regional levels. Regional partners run numerous cutting-edge initiatives to implement sustainable practices on the ground and cooperate with decision-makers in creating framework conditions for business to effectively contribute to sustainable development. They also provide a platform for companies to address supply chain issues and engage with small and medium enterprises (SMEs).

These partner organizations are mostly, but not exclusively, known as Business Councils for Sustainable Development (BCSDs) and have a membership that comprises leading local companies and subsidiaries of foreign enterprises, many of which are members of the WBCSD.

The first BCSDs were established in 1992, not long after the WBCSD itself was formed. Since then, the network has expanded steadily worldwide.

Personalities





The Regional Network: An essential asset

The Regional Network is an essential asset for the WBCSD, not least because it helps to spread the Council's message to every corner of the world, particularly among today's increasingly important emerging economies.

Specifically, the Regional Network adds value in the following ways.

"By helping us to move from awareness creation to advocacy and action, the Regional Network is of critical importance to the WBCSD."

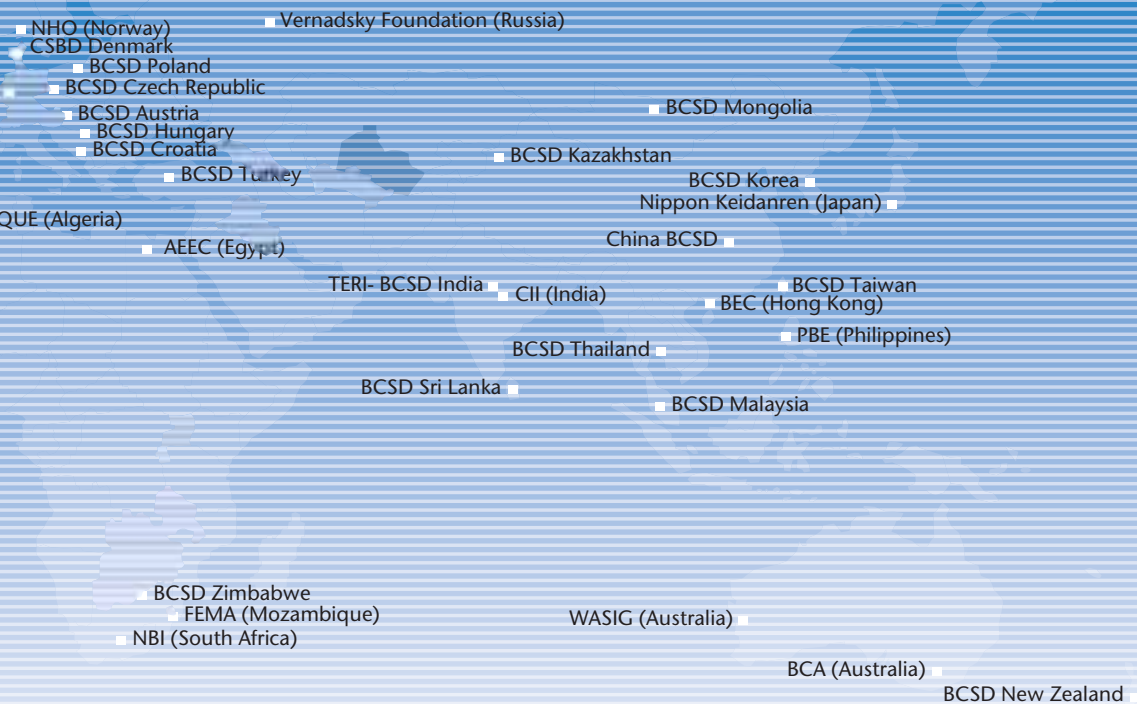
Björn Stigson, President, WBCSD

For the WBCSD by:

- > Strengthening its legitimacy as a truly global organization, enabling it to reach a wider range of players, particularly in the developing world, home to two-thirds of the regional partners;
- > Enhancing brand value, making it the preferred partner for governments and international organizations;
- > Giving legitimacy to individual elements of its program by providing localized input and perspectives, and validating results.

For WBCSD members by:

- > Advocating WBCSD messages at the local level to support the business license to operate, innovate and grow;
- > Providing an additional channel for implementing local, action-oriented initiatives;
- > Offering an effective platform to reach influential business and opinion leaders at national and regional levels;
- > Addressing supply chain issues and engaging small and medium enterprises.



“Sustainability experts in all regions note that the WBCSD has done an especially effective job in advancing the sustainable development agenda across the world – suggesting that the Council’s Regional Network has done a good job as well.”

Doug Miller, President, GlobeScan
(international polling firm)

For regional partners by:

- > Keeping in touch with the latest thinking and best practices on economic, environmental and social management;
- > Providing access to key international players and platforms concerned with business and sustainable development;
- > Facilitating cooperation with each other, particularly in countries with similar socio-economic and cultural characteristics, which tend to share common challenges.

This brochure is designed to give a general flavor of the scope and diversity of the Network’s activities. As it is impossible to present a comprehensive overview, only a small selection of initiatives is highlighted here.

To illustrate how they complement the work of the WBCSD, we have grouped these initiatives under the Council’s three Focus Areas: Energy & Climate, Development and the Business Role. Sections on Building Capacity and Inter-regional Cooperation have been added.

A more comprehensive description of WBCSD’s regional partners’ projects and publications can be found in the Regional Network section of the WBCSD’s website.

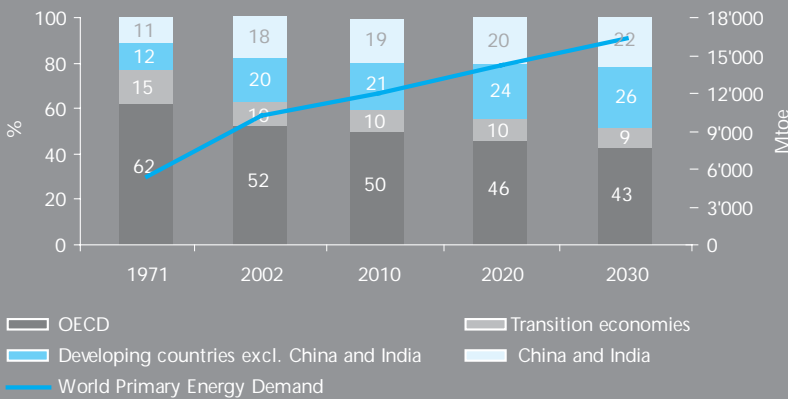
www.wbcd.org/web/regional.htm



& climate



Regional Shares in World Primary Energy Demand



Energy is the world's single most important engine for growth and prosperity. Under a business as usual scenario, its production and use worldwide are set to increase dramatically to meet the needs of both the industrialized world and, to an even greater degree, the rapidly growing emerging economies.

Current forecasts up to 2050 predict that the lion's share of the increase in energy consumption will continue to be provided by carbon-based fuels, exacerbating concerns about climate change. Meeting the world's energy needs in a sustainable way while addressing its reliance on fossil fuels will require unprecedented action.

The WBCSD and its regional partners are focused on promoting the contribution business can make to address this challenge.

"The Greenhouse Gas Protocol Pilot Program has enjoyed great acceptance by government and businesses in Mexico. In its next phase our aim is to evolve to a regular program and embrace 80% of Mexican industry GHG emissions."

Alejandro Lorea, Executive Director,
BCSD Mexico

ENERGY DEMAND

About 2/3 of the increase in world energy demand between 2000 and 2030 will come from developing countries, especially in developing Asia.

UNITED KINGDOM



Unlocking synergies

BCSD UK played an instrumental role in establishing the National Industrial Symbiosis Program (NISP), a financially viable, ecologically beneficial nationwide waste-exchange mechanism supported by the British government. The program establishes links between industries and helps them to jointly create sustainable commercial opportunities and improve resource efficiency in ways that would not be possible if they acted alone.

Since its launch in 2003, the NISP has achieved considerable success in reducing waste to landfill and gaining significant reductions in polluting

emissions. It also helps develop new business opportunities, increase jobs and profitability, and lower operating costs for businesses. It has over 500 industry members in the UK alone and is the world's first network of this kind.

- > Similar initiatives include the US BCSD's By-Product Synergy program and the Philippine Business for the Environment's annual recyclables collection events.

- ▶ www.usbcscd.org
- ▶ www.pbe.org.ph

MEXICO



Managing greenhouse gas (GHG) emissions

The initial step in making markets work for climate protection means accounting for GHG emissions, so BCSD Mexico has joined the Mexican Ministry for Environment, the WBCSD and the World Resources Institute to implement a voluntary GHG program – the first of its kind in an emerging economy. Mexico ranks as the 14th largest GHG emitter in the world, second only to Brazil in Latin America.

Since 2004, this innovative partnership has persuaded 50 companies responsible for over 25% of GHG

emissions by Mexican industry to develop corporate GHG inventories and identify cost-effective reductions. Its success could encourage a similar approach in other countries, including Argentina, Brazil, Chile, India, South Africa, the Philippines and South Korea.

- > Similar initiatives include France's Entreprises pour l'Environnement accounting and reporting protocol for GHG emissions from transportation.

- ▶ www.epe-asso.org

"The scenarios illustrate how energy to fuel New Zealand's future growth may be obtained in a sustainable way."

Peter Neilson, CEO,
BCSD New Zealand

Energy & climate

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NEW ZEALAND



▶ www.nzbcسد.org.nz

Exploring options out to 2050

To support collaborative long-term action that addresses the energy challenges facing the country, BCSD New Zealand embarked on a project to develop a better understanding of sustainable energy options for the country out to 2050.

Four alternative scenarios emerged, with potential solutions suggested to help government, business and New Zealanders make informed choices about their future.

> Similar initiatives include BCSD Argentina's 2012 GHG scenario exercise.

▶ www.ceads.org.ar

HONG KONG



BEC (Hong Kong)

▶ www.hk-beam.org.hk

Driving energy efficiency

Buildings account for 40% of the world's energy demand; simply by improving their energy efficiency, carbon emissions can be reduced dramatically.

Since 1995, Hong Kong's Business Environment Council has helped initiate and implement the Hong Kong Building Environmental Assessment Method (HK-BEAM), a voluntary program in which industry measures, improves and certifies the environmental performance of the design, construction and operation of buildings. Some 105 building developments covering over 62 million square feet have been assessed. Also available in Chinese, this initiative is set to expand throughout the Asia-Pacific region.

> Similar initiatives include BCSD Portugal's business guide to energy efficiency practices and BCSD Mongolia's green fund for energy efficiency.

▶ www.bcsdportugal.org
▶ www.mongolchamber.mn



"In China, one of the key challenges is reconciling growth and development with its environmental impacts. However, this is also an opportunity for companies to innovate and advance green technologies that would support the Government's objective of establishing a circular economy."

Zhai Qi, Deputy Secretary General, China BCSD

SOUTH AFRICA



NBI (South Africa)

▶ www.nbi.org.za.

Mobilizing collective action

Thanks to the support of South Africa's National Business Initiative, a group of industry players has signed an Energy Efficiency Accord that gives them an opportunity to play a leadership role. A total of 24 individual companies and seven industry associations, together with the Ministry of Minerals and Energy, voluntarily signed the Accord, committing to reducing their energy demand by 15% by 2015. Progress will be reviewed annually and case studies gathered on an ongoing basis.

- > Similar initiatives include the China BCSD's efforts to promote the business contribution to the government's objective of establishing a circular economy.

▶ www.cbcsd.org.cn

"The voluntary Energy Efficiency Accord in South Africa is a powerful demonstration of what business can do collectively to meet national targets."

André Fourie, CEO, National Business Initiative



Development



Millions of people living on less than 1 US\$ a day: change 1990 -2001



Despite a healthy global economy, not all parts of the world are benefiting in the same way. Almost half of the world's population still lives on less than two US dollars a day, and poverty is one of the biggest obstacles to sustainable development and political stability.

Nevertheless, the billions of people at the bottom of the economic pyramid represent an important market for expansion. By developing innovative business models that reduce transaction costs and deliver goods and services to meet the needs of the poor, companies can tap into these new business opportunities. Still, governments, too, need to play their part in providing incentives for private sector investment by establishing the appropriate regulatory, institutional and infrastructural framework.

The WBCSD and its regional partners are committed to working closely with other stakeholders to create new business opportunities and greater socio-economic benefits.

"This is a real opportunity for companies to contribute not to simply alleviating poverty, but to eradicating it."

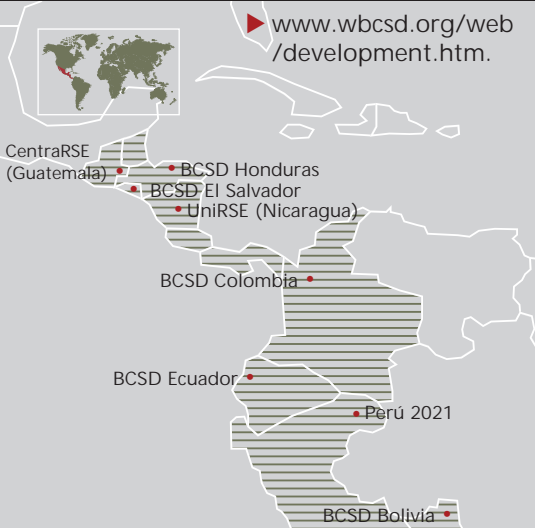
Guillermo Monroy, Executive Director,
CentraRSE, Guatemala

MILLIONS OF PEOPLE LIVING ON LESS THAN ONE US DOLLAR A DAY

9

By 2050, today's developing countries will be home to 85% of the world's 9 billion inhabitants.

CENTRAL AMERICA AND ANDES

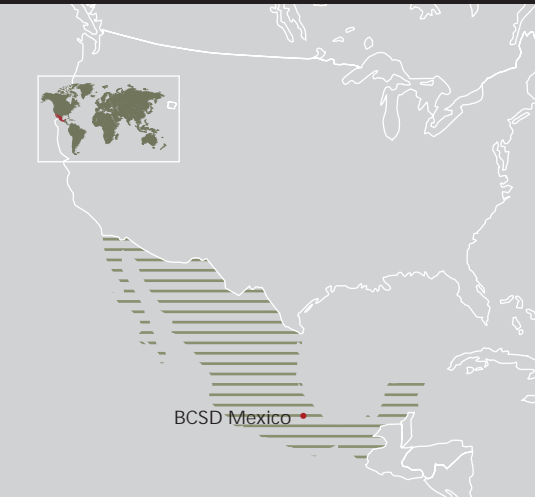


Finding new business partners in unexpected places

The Netherlands-based development organization SNV, the WBCSD, and its regional partners in Central America and the Andean region have formed an unusual alliance to help companies identify new business opportunities with high social impact. The initiative aims to create awareness of these opportunities, promote an environment for success and, most importantly, broker concrete projects on the ground.

Leadership forums in Peru, Ecuador, Colombia, Bolivia, Guatemala, Honduras, El Salvador and Nicaragua are bringing together business leaders, the public sector and society to explore new models for profitable, sustainable business growth that also make a significant contribution to alleviating poverty. Longer term plans include expanding the initiative to other continents like Africa & Asia.

MEXICO



Developing market opportunities for low-income communities

55 million people live on less than three US dollars a day in Mexico. Raising awareness of the unmet needs of a large part of the population while building the capacities of local micro, small and medium enterprises (MSMEs) to address them is the focus of an innovative project launched by BCSD Mexico with the support of the Ministry of Economy and funding from the InterAmerican Development Bank.

The four-year program aims to improve market opportunities for business, create new networks of MSMEs, and lift people out of the informal economy.

"Viewing the poor and the unserved as entrepreneurs, not victims, is imperative to developing inclusive business models."

Henri Le Bienvenu,
Executive Director, Perú 2021

www.cce.org.mx/cespedes

“Honduran companies are learning that there is a profitable alternative to corporate philanthropy.”

Roberto Leiva, Executive Director,
BCSD Honduras

Development

10

SOUTH AFRICA



Forging partnerships

Building on its expertise in managing public-private partnerships (PPPs), South Africa's National Business Initiative successfully launched and oversees a world-class platinum jewelry design, manufacture and training facility that focuses on skill development and the promotion of small and medium enterprises.

This PPP project is supported by both national and provincial governments, the Platinum Jewellery Trust of South

Africa, prominent platinum producers and representatives of the local jewelry industry. It is expected to employ 200 direct employees/entrepreneurs by its second year of operation and up to 1,500 by its 10th year.

Placing PPPs on the South African national agenda as part of the push to provide basic services and develop the infrastructure is a key objective for the National Business Initiative.

INDIA



Tackling a pandemic

In India, where more people live with HIV/AIDS than in any other country except South Africa, companies are suffering directly from the loss of employees to sickness or death and the spiraling costs of medical treatment.

To address this challenge, TERI-BCSD India, supported by the World Bank Institute, the International Finance Corporation and other organizations, began a nationwide initiative in 2005 to share knowledge about how to use such business skills as management, communication and networking to effectively tackle the pandemic.

“The private sector has a key contribution to make in dealing with HIV/AIDS. It has the ability to influence employee behavior and that of communities through its supply chains.”

Annappurna Vancheswaran, Associate Director,
TERI-BCSD India

“Globally operating companies are also being scrutinized for the performance of their suppliers. This provides significant opportunities for SMEs to benefit from the transfer of skills, technologies, managerial know-how and best practices – improving the competitiveness of business along the value chain.”

Chaiyod Bunyagidj, Secretary General,
BCSD Thailand



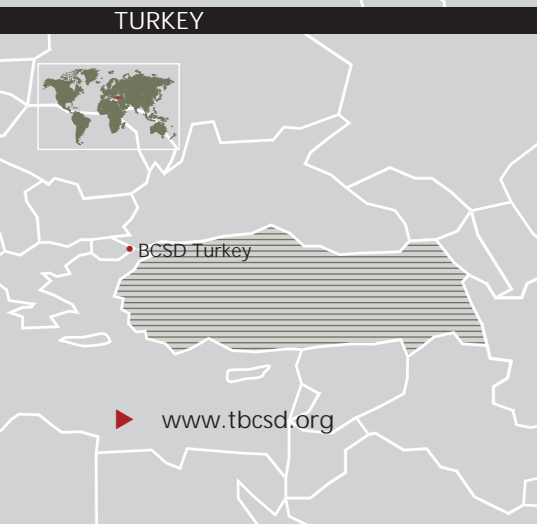
Strengthening SME performance

SMEs are important to a country's economic and social development, driving innovation, entrepreneurship and employment.

- > Similar initiatives include Peru 2021's Cadena project and the Cleaner Production Centres run by BCSD Honduras, FEMA Mozambique and BCSD Zimbabwe.

Improving the capacity of SMEs to comply with technical requirements in environmental management can unlock new economic opportunities. Members of the Thai BCSD are therefore actively supporting local SMEs in their supply chains in improving their performance.

- ▶ www.peru2021.org
- ▶ www.cehdes.org
- ▶ www.fema.org.mz
- ▶ www.bcsdz.co.zw



Promoting sustainable mobility

Although a mobile workforce supports urban-based economic activities, the environmental and social impacts can be dire. In Istanbul, where 12 million people use a vehicle every day and 500 new ones enter traffic daily, this is a burning issue.

road safety, reducing traffic congestion and pollution, and fostering sustainable urban transport planning.

- > Similar initiatives include the work by Hong Kong Business Environment Council on urban regeneration.

Led by BCSD Turkey, government officials, business, society and international experts are sharing socially, financially and environmentally sound solutions to the problems of urban mobility, including increasing access to modern transport, improving

- ▶ www.bec.org.hk



Encouraging investment in infrastructure

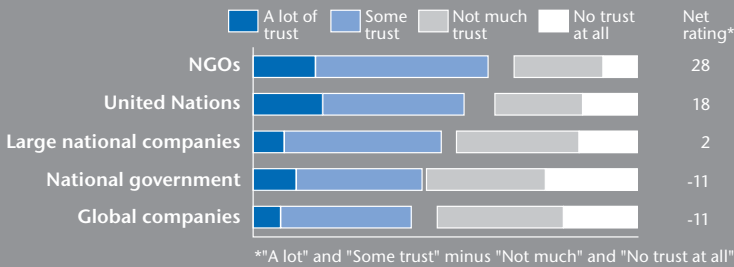
Basic infrastructure, including access to safe water and sanitation services, remains a major challenge in developing countries and requires substantial investment. With scant public funds, governments are looking to business to provide these services. In this context, Philippine

Business for the Environment has partnered with the United Nations Development Programme in a nationwide study to assess incentives for investment in water supply, sewage and sanitation, as well as industrial and agricultural wastewater management.

role

Trust in Institutions

Average of 20 Countries General Public
2005



Today, business is increasingly expected to help solve global challenges, from poverty to pandemics to pollution. However, although business is considered an essential part of a functioning society, trust in it has plummeted in many countries. Corporate scandals, protests against globalization, and growing public and investor awareness have all amplified the need for corporate transparency. The result? A proliferation of regulations, guidelines, standards and codes going beyond financial accountability to include an ever broader range of environmental and social issues.

The WBCSD and its regional partners believe that if companies make societal needs core to their business strategy, they will find new markets and gain an edge over their competitors. Also, by responding to the push for greater transparency, they can rebuild trust and secure their license to operate, innovate and grow.

Therefore, the Council and its partners are providing constructive input on the development of accountability and reporting tools, while helping to shape our members' vision of the role business plays in tomorrow's society - both its responsibilities and its boundaries - through dialogue with stakeholders.

“The business community has a key role to play in solving some of the challenges caused by poverty and environmental degradation. If not promptly addressed, these could threaten recent achievements in El Salvador, including peace.”

Luis López Lindo, Executive Director,
BCSD El Salvador

TRUST



Engaging the financial sector

The Equator Principles are a benchmark for the financial industry to manage social and environmental issues in project financing. With Brazilian banks representing 10% of the Equator banks worldwide, the Finance Technical Committee of BCSD Brazil decided to organize the national review of the new version of the Equator Principles. For this purpose, they sought feedback from a variety of stakeholders, including industry, NGOs and all the Equator banks with operations in Brazil.

- > Similar initiatives include BCSD Taiwan’s work on Socially Responsible Investment and the Austrian BCSD’s sustainability fund index (OeSFX).

- ▶ www.bcsd.org.tw
- ▶ www.abcsd.at

Focusing on the future

Since the signing of the 1992 Peace Agreements, BCSD El Salvador has led the country’s development of an SD strategy. This included the launch in 1996 of the Green Book, an influential report that discusses El Salvador’s major social, economic and environmental challenges, and provides recommendations for policies and actions to overcome them.

The book is now being updated (Green Book +10) to include developments over the past decade.

- > Similar initiatives include the Western Australian Sustainable Industry Group’s contribution to the Western Australian State Sustainability Strategy; and the noteworthy position paper on the EU’s SD strategy by Germany’s econsense.

- ▶ www.wasig.curtin.edu.au
- ▶ www.econsense.de

“It is crucial that policy-makers shape their policies against the background of global competition and facilitate business solutions. This is why providing constructive feedback to the European Commission’s latest Communication on the EU Sustainable Development Strategy is an important element of econsense’s advocacy activities.”

Klaus Mittelbach,
Executive Director, econsense

"Expectations on companies to address some of the world's most pressing challenges are increasing while trust in business is eroding. There is a clear dilemma here that needs to be urgently addressed through frank and open dialogue."

Sebastian Bigorito, Executive Director,
BCSD Argentina

Business role

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GLOBAL



WBCSD Geneva

▶ www.wbcsd.org/web/business-role.htm

Defining the role of business in tomorrow's society

Business needs to develop its own vision of its role in tomorrow's society – if not, others will! Eight CEOs in the WBCSD have created a visionary document, *From Challenge to Opportunity*, that identifies the most pressing sustainability challenges, and proposes a business model to help align societal and business needs. The document was launched during a global stakeholder dialogue in Geneva in February 2006.

To capture perspectives from other parts of the world, a series of similar dialogues are being conducted in cooperation with the WBCSD's regional partners in Hungary, Argentina, Brazil, Chile, Costa Rica, India and South Africa.

GUATEMALA



CentraRSE (Guatemala)

▶ www.centrase.org/

Measuring and reporting sustainable development

Acknowledging that "only what gets measured gets done", CentraRSE Guatemala developed a set of indicators allowing companies to evaluate themselves, and measure how fully they implement responsible policies and practices. This tool has been shared with other regional partners in Central America, who enthusiastically replicated the initiative.

sustainability performance and draw value from it, including: BCSD Colombia, BCSD Malaysia, FE-BCSD Spain and the Vernadsky Foundation.

- ▶ www.cecodes.org.co
- ▶ www.bcsdm.com.my
- ▶ www.fundacionentorno.org
- ▶ www.vernadsky.ru

- > Many other regional partners help their members monitor their

NORWAY



NHO (Norway)

▶ www.nho.no

Combating corruption

Corruption can ruin a company's reputation, undermining its freedom to act and its credibility. It also hampers markets' abilities to promote effectiveness, fair competition and technological advances, and impedes economic and social development,

often affecting the poorest segment of society. Based on OECD guidelines targeting the corporate sector, the Confederation of Norwegian Enterprises (NHO) has developed a practical tool to help companies combat corruption: Standpoint Corruption.

“Creating transparency is about showing how the company works - not only the positive aspects, but also the difficulties: that’s how progress can be achieved.”

Claire Tutenuit, Délégué Général,
Entreprises pour l’Environnement



Sounding out public expectations

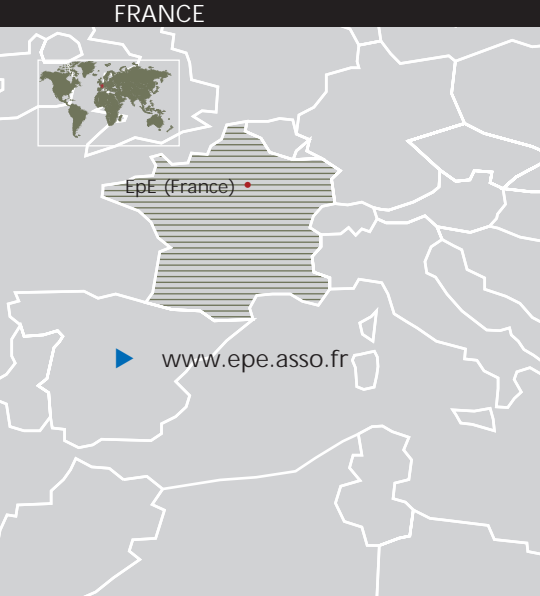
In a world where the boundaries that define the roles of business, governments and NGOs are blurring, several regional partners have conducted surveys to better understand the expectations imposed on business. For example, BCSD Hungary recently held a public poll to learn how people understand sustainable development and their attitudes to it, as well as to gather opinions on company engagement.

- > Similar initiatives include BCSD New Zealand’s nationwide poll on sustainable development

▶ www.nzbcسد.org.nz

“Tomorrow’s society will not allow ‘business as usual’. Ultimately, the success of business in society will depend on its ability to understand and influence its evolving roles and to work more efficiently with stakeholders.”

Máté Kriza,
Managing Director, BCSD Hungary



Running the Risk

Insurance companies and banks are now aware that socially, environmentally and ethically sound companies run fewer risks, giving them easier access to loans, and enabling them to pay lower interest rates and insurance premiums.

The Environmental Risks: A View from Companies, Banks and Insurance Agencies, a report by Entreprises pour l’Environnement, describes how to facilitate dialogue between companies and their

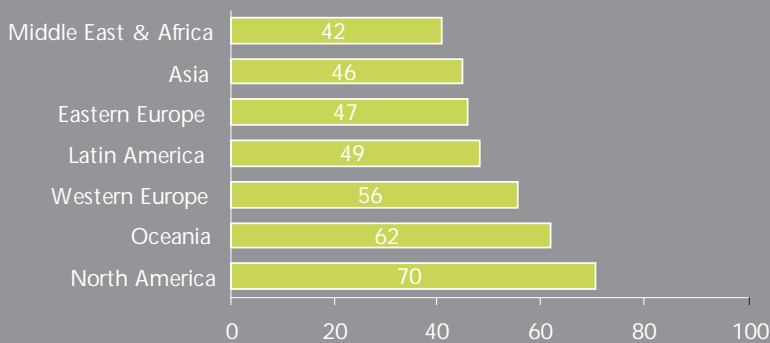
insurance agencies or banks to encourage the financial partners to take environmental risks into account. It also gives an overview of current insurance products in France that cover environmental risks.

- > Similar initiatives include a report by Canada’s Excel Partnership: A Sustainability Lens for Capital Decisions - A Corporate Sustainability Approach to Reduce Business Risk.

▶ www.excelpartnership.ca

Building capacity

Not Apply for a Job at Company because of Social Irresponsibility % Very Likely, by Region



Source: GlobalScan

In a fast paced world that is increasingly shaped by sustainability concerns, the capacity to change and adapt is a key competitive factor for business. In order to identify risks and opportunities in this area, companies are increasingly developing sustainable development policies and strategies.

The WBCSD and its Regional Network are uniquely positioned to provide the tools and services companies require to integrate sustainable development across business operations, sectors, issues, functions and countries. Learning by sharing activities help companies improve the capacities and capabilities of a variety of stakeholder groups, particularly today's and tomorrow's managers.

This is done by translating the outputs of the WBCSD into user friendly material, improving sustainability attitudes, knowledge and skills and supporting companies in managing change toward sustainable development practices.

“Beyond a narrow range of experts, companies now need to get their broad employee base engaged and motivated to work towards sustainable development in their daily jobs and develop their ability to interact meaningfully with a range of key stakeholder groups.”

Cristina García-Orcoven, CEO,
Fundación Entorno-BCSD Spain

PORTUGAL



BCSD Portugal

▶ www.bcsdportugal.org

SPAIN



FE-BCSD Spain

▶ www.fundacionentorno.org

PHILIPPINES



PBE (Philippines)

▶ www.iem.net.ph

Investing in tomorrow's leaders

To create a new generation of SD-conscious business leaders, BCSD Portugal created its own Young Managers Team (YMT) project. Building on the WBCSD's program, this

initiative gives young professionals from various business sectors the chance to study a range of business relevant SD topics. YMT 2005 focused on innovation and sustainable urban mobility.

Providing training opportunities

According to a Fundación Entorno - BCSD Spain 2003 survey of the business sector in that country, more than half of respondents suffer from a serious lack of training on environmental issues.

To close this gap, Aula Virtual, an online training platform, was set up to provide

companies with information, tools and experience to help improve sustainability. More than eight tailor-made classes are available for large companies or SMEs, including a simple six-step approach to gaining environmental certification. So far, more than 1,500 professionals have received training through Aula Virtual.

Making knowledge accessible

A top priority for the Philippine Business for the Environment is giving companies access to knowledge and technological know-how. With the support of The Japan Cooperation Agency, it has set up the Industrial Environmental Management Knowledge Network – an online clearinghouse that helps businesses improve their environmental performance.

A total of 14 databases cover environmental information, technologies, events and legislation; training sessions and seminars; access to service providers; expertise consultation; and industry waste exchange programs. The Network is part of the Business and Environment Portal of the Philippines, known as One-environment.ph, hosted by the country's Development Bank.

“Even with today's amazing array of IT advancements, many SMEs still lack the very basic information about where to go, who can help, what the law says and how they can benefit from environmental improvements. Yet beyond this lies the bigger challenge of building commitment, motivating, inspiring and empowering them to be the best responsible companies they can be.”

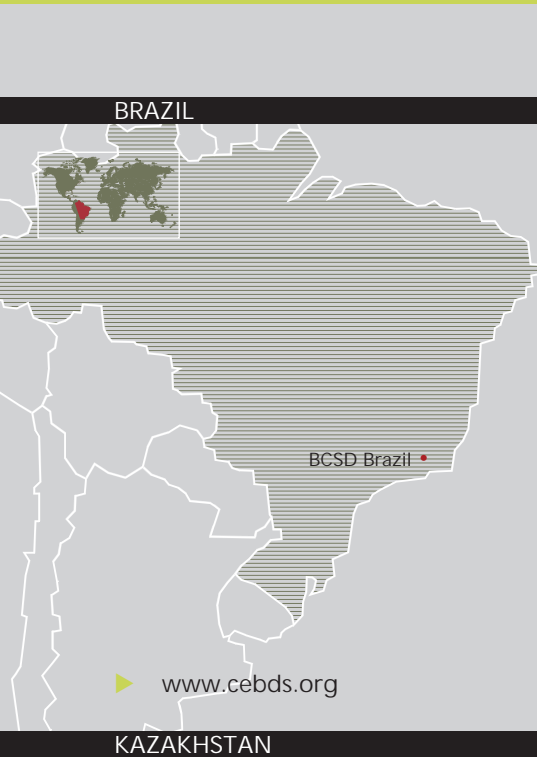
Lisa Antonio, Executive Director,
Philippine Business for the Environment

“Corporate values only take root in an organization if they are embedded in corporate culture, not artificially superimposed from above.”

Luis Rochartre, Executive Director,
BCSD Portugal

Building capacity

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Developing tools

Business cannot function if ecosystems and the services they deliver are degraded or out of balance. While taking this message to its corporate members, BCSDBrazil is also actively offering the tools business needs to take action. Among these is Business and Biodiversity in Brazil: Experience, Issues and Tools for Corporate Engagement in the Convention for Biodiversity (CBD), a corporate handbook providing concrete recommendations for a proactive contribution by the business sector to the achievements of the CBD 2010 goal of significantly reducing the biodiversity loss rate.

“Markets and business have an important role to play in supporting biodiversity conservation and the sustainable management and use of ecosystem services. This is why we are championing the efforts of the Brazilian business community in reversing this trend.”

Fernando Almeida,
Executive President, BCSDBrazil



Reaching out to youth

The Center for Environmental Education and Career Development was established by BCSDKazakhstan to pool the resources of key promoters of sustainable development. The resource unit covers environmental education and professional development; the methodological unit disseminates educational modules; and the training unit provides on-site education and a distance-learning program.

In 2005-2006, more than 200 university students and health, safety and environment professionals were trained through the Center, which also organizes summer camps for students from Central Asia in cooperation with the OSCE.

“Making sustainability learning more readily available to young people today is of critical importance if we are to generate business leaders with the understanding and practical know-how necessary to bring about change.”

Gulsara Yedilbaeva,
Executive Director, BCSDKazakhstan



Inter-regional cooperation



It is not only the cooperation between the WBCSD and its Regional Network partners that is intensifying, but also that between the partners themselves. And, in the context of a growing network, opportunities to work on common challenges are increasing. Cooperation among the Latin American partners has traditionally been intense, favored by a common linguistic, socio-economic and cultural background, but it is also increasing in other regions of the world – and, most recently, even across continents.

Inter-regional cooperation

20

THAILAND



BCSD Thailand

Asia and Oceania Network Summit - Bangkok

Coinciding with the 10th anniversary of BCSD Thailand, representatives of the Asia and Oceania regional partner organizations met in Bangkok in October 2003 to explore opportunities for cooperation across the region. Participants agreed to pursue joint initiatives on two issues selected for their particular relevance to the region:

- > SME capacity building – using the supply chain of large companies

that are members of the Regional Network to improve the environmental and social performance of small and medium suppliers, and potential suppliers;

- > Education & training – setting up an Asian Education and Training program to establish closer cooperation with leading Asian academic institutions.

ARGENTINA



BCSD Argentina

Latin American Network Summit – Buenos Aires

In August 2005, BCSD Argentina and the WBCSD co-hosted the first Latin American SD Summit, bringing together 14 partners from the region, Spain and Portugal, as well as civil society organizations. A consensus emerged around the main issues and priorities on the Latin American SD agenda, among them good governance, social fragmentation and wealth polarization, the health of ecosystems, distrust in business, SME

involvement in SD and multi-stakeholder cooperation. To address some of these challenges, participants explored concrete opportunities for cooperation. Among the follow-up activities of this Summit was the launch of a joint initiative by the WBCSD, the Dutch Development Agency (SNV) and regional partners in the Andean Region and Central America, as outlined previously (see the Development section for more details).

SPAIN



FE-BCSD Spain

European Network Summit - Madrid

In September 2006, European regional partners came together for the first time to agree on common priorities and explore opportunities for collaboration. The meeting was hosted by Fundación Entorno - BCSD Spain and attended by WBCSD

representatives. Energy & climate change issues and interaction with European institutions were items of particular relevance on the agenda. BCSD Croatia offered to host the next European Network Summit.

SOUTHERN AFRICA

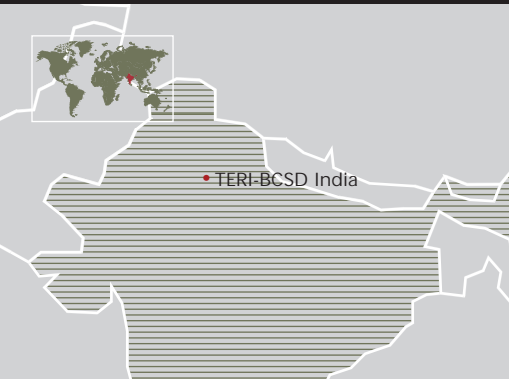


Southern Africa Network Meeting - Harare

BCSD Zimbabwe's annual conferences regularly provide a platform for exchange and cooperation with neighboring regional partners, namely South Africa's National Business Initiative and FEMA-Mozambique.

The theme of the 2006 meeting was "Sustainability - Learning by Sharing", and it focused on such issues as eco-efficiency in the use of energy and water, waste management and corporate social responsibility.

INDIA



Delhi Sustainable Development Summit

Since its inception, the WBCSD has been a partner and an active contributor to the Delhi Sustainable Development Summit (DSDS), one of the most important platforms to discuss sustainability issues in emerging economies. In 2006, for the third consecutive year, TERI-BCSD India and the WBCSD jointly organized a CEO Forum as curtain raiser to the

DSDS. It gathered more than 60 foreign and local business leaders to debate the business role in addressing key challenges for sustainable growth in India: water, energy and climate change. Debates were enriched by keynote addresses by India's Finance Minister, P. Chidambaram, and the management guru C.K. Prahalad from the Michigan Business School.

BRAZIL



Ibero-American SD Congress – Rio de Janeiro

In June 2005, BCSD Brazil, in association with the federal government and UNESCO, organized the first Ibero-American SD Congress, which was attended by more than

2,000 participants, including network partners from Bolivia, Peru and Paraguay. The UN Decade of Education for Sustainable Development was launched during the Congress.

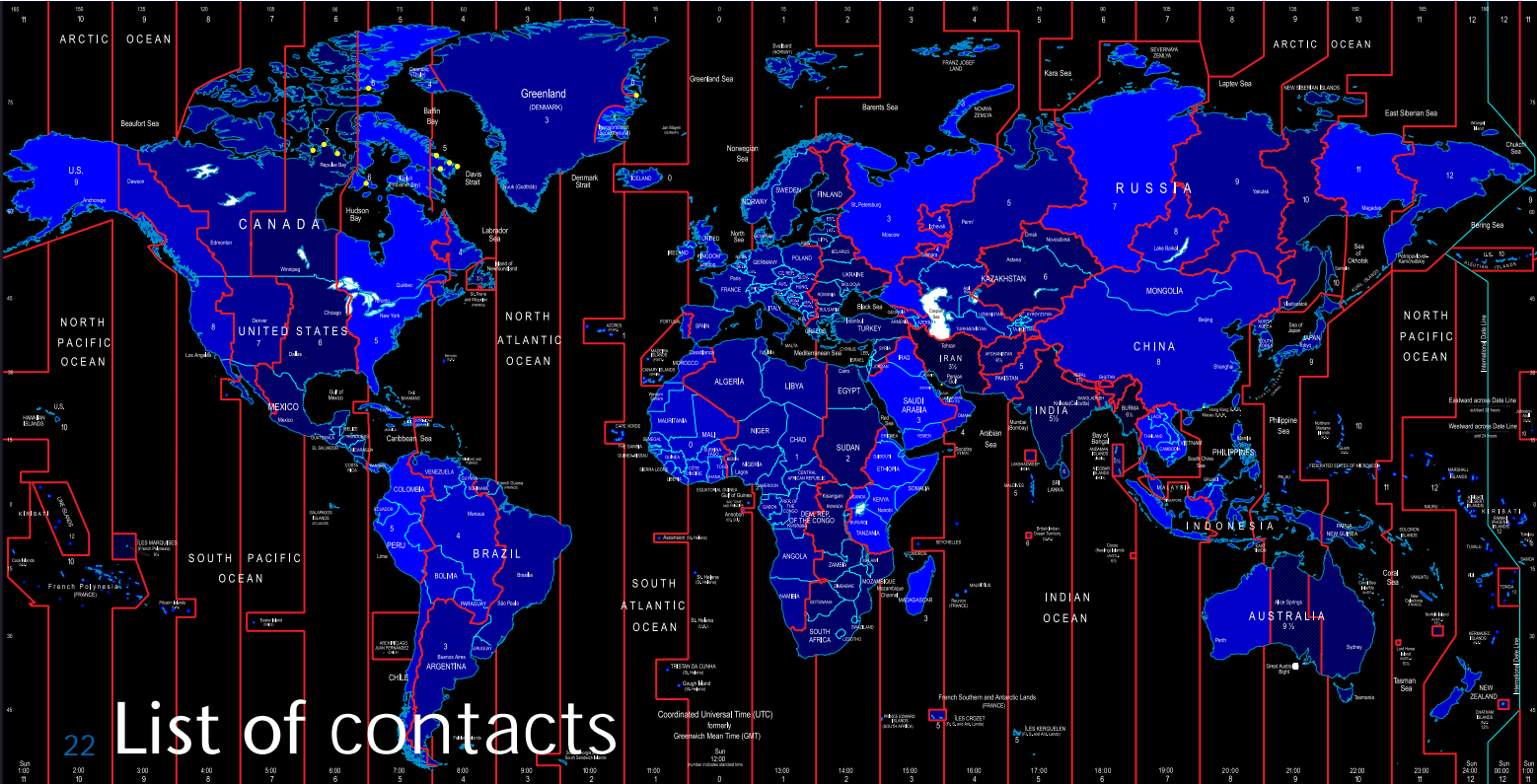
CENTRAL AMERICA



Eco-efficiency Workshops – Colombia/Central America

BCSD Colombia has been one of the pioneers in the promotion in Latin America of eco-efficiency, a concept originally coined by the WBCSD. In 2006, regional partners in Costa Rica, Honduras, El Salvador and Guatemala teamed up with BCSD Colombia to organize a series of eco-efficiency

workshops. Their objective was to strengthen the capacities of their member companies to reduce energy and natural resource consumption, thus generating both economic and ecological benefits, the fundamental premise of eco-efficiency.



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