

20⁰ **OECD Watch** YEARS

OECD Watch **workshop series** 

Using the **OECD Guidelines** for change



House rules



- Stay on mute when not talking
- The meeting is being recorded



Agenda

1. What is the OECD Watch network
2. Context and purpose of this workshop
3. Introduction to OECD Guidelines and National Contact Points
4. Discussion: How can they be used as a tool in your work?

About OECD Watch

- **Global network** of 140+ CSOs in 54 countries
- **Official representative of civil society** at the OECD Investment Committee
- Our work: capacity building, research, advocacy



For more information click here

About us

Context and purpose of workshop

Are you...

- Fighting harms of companies in different sectors?
- Using tools like advocacy, media, and complaints?
- Collaborating (or seeking to) with CSO allies?
- Interested in exploring new ways to demand corporate accountability?



The OECD Guidelines could be an **additional tool** for your work, in this regional context

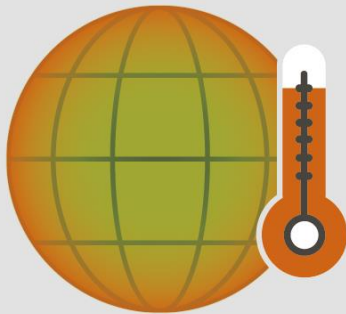
What are the OECD Guidelines for Multinational Enterprises on Responsible Business Conduct?

- Recommendations from OECD governments to companies on how to act responsibly
- Set of non-binding (voluntary) standards for responsible business conduct
- Governments that follow the Guidelines must establish a body called a National Contact Point (NCP) to promote the Guidelines and handle (non-judicial) complaints
- Updated in June 2023



What is in the updated Guidelines text?

CLIMATE CHANGE



ENVIRONMENT



HUMAN RIGHTS



JUST TRANSITION



INDIGENOUS PEOPLES



HUMAN RIGHTS DEFENDERS



For more information click here

[What's in the Guidelines](#)

OECD Guidelines: Strengths & weaknesses

Strengths

- Government backing
- Broad coverage (sectors, issues, countries)
- Whole value chain
- Complaint mechanism
- Associated due diligence guidance

Weaknesses

- Not binding on companies
- States not required to enforce penalties
- Weak implementation (NCPs)

What are National Contact Points?

- Government-backed office that every government following the Guidelines must establish
- Two functions: (1) Promoting the Guidelines; (2) Handling complaints against companies alleged not to have met the Guidelines' standards
- Complaints are non-judicial, usually handled through mediation seeking to help the parties reach an agreement to address past harms and improve future practice



Filing complaints: strengths and weaknesses

Strengths

- Cheaper, faster, less adversarial (compared to litigation)
- Flexible remedy options
- Speak directly to company during mediation

Weaknesses

- Voluntary and non-binding
- High complaint rejection rate
- Few agreements
- Remedy not guaranteed

A complaint is **stronger** when it is filed **strategically**

How to use the Guidelines

20  **ECD Watch**
YEARS



Questions?

What do you want to understand better?

What doubts do you have about the Guidelines or NCPs?

Tell us about a harm that you are facing or campaign you're working on & let's discuss how the Guidelines could be helpful...

Consider becoming a member of OECD Watch for:

- Connections with other global members for complaints and advocacy
- Access to information on RBC-related activities at the OECD
- Opportunities to advice on policy at the OECD
 - And more...

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Thematic workshops



Technology	6 Nov 2023
Human & Indigenous Rights	13 Nov 2023
Climate Change, Environment & Just Transition	14 Nov 2023
Due Diligence	16 Nov 2023
Animal Welfare	20 Nov 2023
Policy Coherence	21 Nov 2023
National Contact Point Complaints	23 Nov 2023

[Register here](#)

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OECD Watch

www.oecdwatch.org