



THE VOLUNTARY PRINCIPLES ON SECURITY AND HUMAN RIGHTS

Established in 2000, the Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights (Voluntary Principles) is a multi-stakeholder initiative (MSI) involving governments, companies, and non-governmental organizations that promotes implementation of a set of principles that companies in the industries of extracting, harvesting, or developing natural resources or energy on providing security for their operations in a manner that respects human rights. Specifically, the Voluntary Principles guide companies in conducting a comprehensive human rights risk assessment in their engagement with public and private security providers to ensure human rights are respected in the protection of company facilities and premises.

Overview of the Voluntary Principles:

- MSI composed of companies in the industries of extracting, harvesting, or developing natural resources or energy; governments; and key international non-governmental organizations
- Practical guidelines to help extractives companies manage risk effectively at the international, national, project level
- Platform for mutual learning, joint problem solving, and building best practices on security and human rights challenges with companies, governments, and NGOs
- Framework to build capacity of key players to address these issues in complex environments.

Why Implement the Voluntary Principles?

While the duty to protect human rights rests with governments, businesses have a responsibility to respect human rights as outlined in the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights, by acting with due diligence to avoid harming people and addressing adverse impacts with which they are involved. Extractives companies often operate in complex environments with little guidance on the ground on how to observe their human rights responsibilities. The Voluntary Principles helps companies identify human rights risks and take meaningful steps to address those risks in a manner that helps ensure respect for human rights in their operations.

The Voluntary Principles provide a framework for companies to manage risk effectively by:

- Conducting a comprehensive assessment of human rights risks associated with security
- Engaging appropriately with public and private security service providers and surrounding communities in complex environments
- Instituting human rights screenings of and trainings for public and private security forces
- Developing systems for reporting and investigating allegations of human rights abuses

Join this important initiative to contribute to the advancement of security and human rights. For more details please go to www.voluntaryprinciples.org.

Governments

Argentina
Australia
Canada
Colombia
Ghana
The Netherlands
Norway
Switzerland
United Kingdom
United States of America

Corporations

Alphamin Bisie Mining SA
Agnico Eagle
Anglo American
AngloGold Ashanti
Barrick Gold Corporation
BHP Billiton
BP
Chevron
ConocoPhillips
Equinor
ExxonMobil
Freeport-McMoRan Inc.
Frontera Energy
Galp Energia
Glencore
Goldcorp
Newcrest Mining Limited
Newmont Mining
Norsk Hydro
Oil Search
PanAust
Repsol
Rio Tinto
Seven Energy
Shell
Sherritt International
Total
Tullow Oil
Vale
Woodside Energy

Non-Governmental Organizations

CDA Collaborative Learning Projects
Coginta
COMPPART
The Fund for Peace
Human Rights Watch
IMPACT
International Alert
LITE-Africa
New Nigeria Foundation
Pact
Partners Network
PAX
Search for Common Ground

Observers

CME
DCAF
ICoCA
ICRC
ICMM
IFC
Institute for Human Rights and Business
IPIECA