

United Nations Global Compact Communication on Progress 2010



Our vision: Building value. For a sustainable future.

As a signatory of the UN Global Compact, Wienerberger is committed to incorporating the “ten principles” in the areas of human rights, labour rights, the environment and the fight against bribery and corruption into its business policies. This commitment is also expressed by the Wienerberger Mission Statement:

“Wienerberger regards the economy as an integral part of society which is designed to serve people and generate benefits for all. Our goal is to create sustainable values with natural products: a residential environment of highest quality and safety for our customers, a sound investment for our shareholders and attractive jobs for our employees. We take our role as a responsible member of society seriously and act in accordance with economic, ecological and social principles – in order to remain successful in the future.”

I feel personally committed to monitor Wienerberger’s efforts to implement the “ten principles” in its daily business. In 2010, we have taken several important steps to achieve this goal ranging from the improvement of energy efficiency in production and energy-efficient product design to occupational safety. In our 2010 Sustainability Report, we report extensively on our challenges and successes in these areas – environmental protection in production, sustainable products, employees and corporate social responsibility.

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'H. Scheuch'.

Heimo Scheuch, CEO

United Nations Global Compact



Wienerberger joined the UN Global Compact in 2003. This initiative was introduced by the United Nations in 1999 to promote good corporate citizenship and now encompasses ten guiding principles from the areas of human rights, labour standards, environmental protection and measures to combat corruption. Companies that join the program agree to voluntarily comply with the principles that are published on the UN Global Compact website.

The following table provides an overview of some of the actions taken by Wienerberger during 2010 to implement the ten Global Compact ("GC") Principles. Reference is made to the Wienerberger Sustainability Report 2010 which contains a detailed description of Wienerberger's activities and policies to implement the GC principles. The table also refers to the corresponding Global Reporting Initiative (GRI) indicators which provide a framework for measuring progress on the GC principles.

GC Principles	Actions*	Measurement	
Human Rights		GRI Index	Page No.*
Principle 1: Businesses should support and respect the protection of internationally proclaimed human rights;	Within its sphere of influence, Wienerberger guarantees protection for basic human rights. Wienerberger's Social Charter firmly commits the Group to compliance with the applicable conventions and recommendations of ILO (p. 60). These include the provision of appropriate, i.e. healthy and safe working conditions. Occupational safety was a special focus of our efforts during 2010. The Safety Initiative 2010 included the roll-out of a group-wide safety standard to all our plants, which substantially reduced the frequency and severity of work accidents (p. 62, 63, 67-70).	HR 4 HR 5, LA 4 HR 6,7	65 74-75 77
Principle 2: and make sure that they are not complicit in human rights abuses.		LA 7 LA 8 LA 13 LA 14 SO 5 PR 1	67-70 69-70 65-66 66 82-83 56-57
Labour			
Principle 3: Businesses should uphold the freedom of association and the effective recognition of the right to collective bargaining;	With the signing of a Social Charter, Wienerberger has also committed to supporting the freedom of association and collective negotiations at all locations, preventing child and forced labour and preserving equal opportunity regardless of age, gender, culture or origin (p. 60, 74-77).	EC 7 HR 4 HR 6,7 LA 2	66 65 77 64-65
Principle 4: the elimination of all forms of forced and compulsory labour;	In 2010, Wienerberger introduced reporting on the share of women in top and senior management positions and on the age structure of employees (p. 65, 66).	LA 4 LA 13 LA 14	74-75 65-66 66
Principle 5: the effective abolition of child labour;		SO 5	82-83
Principle 6: and the elimination of discrimination in respect of employment and occupation.			
Environment			
Principle 7: Businesses should support a precautionary approach to environmental challenges;	Wienerberger takes environmental protection in production very seriously. The use of natural raw materials, responsible interaction with clay extraction sites and the greatest possible conservation of resources are core principles of sustainable production (p. 34).	EC 2 EN 1 EN 2	35,53,83 43-45 45
Principle 8: undertake initiatives to promote greater environmental responsibility;	Energy efficiency in production is a focal point of our R&D activities (p. 35, 36). In 2010, the Environmental Action Plan (EAP), a package of measures to significantly reduce CO ₂ emissions as well as the dependence on fossil fuels, was implemented at selected Wienerberger plants. First successes, which include a reduction of roughly 10% in specific energy requirements at one location, have already been realized (p. 36, 42). Energy efficiency is also a focal point of product R&D. Wienerberger aims to develop house concepts that are energy-efficient and economical at the same time and promotes a holistic view of buildings – from the building shell to the technical equipment and energy carriers used. In 2010, the product line of high thermal insulating filled bricks was extended to include a clay block filled with mineral wool (p. 48-50, 53-56).	EN 3, 4 EN 5 EN 6 EN 8 EN 11,12,13 EN 16, 17 EN 22 EN 26 EN 28 SO 5 PR 3	40 40-42 42, 35-36 46-47 43 41 45-46 48-56, 59 82 82-83 51-53
Principle 9: and encourage the development and diffusion of environmentally friendly technologies.			
Anti-corruption			
Principle 10: Businesses should work against all forms of corruption, including extortion and bribery.	Wienerberger is committed to free and fair competition, and rejects any form of corruption. In 2010, Wienerberger issued a group-wide guideline on business gifts, and compliance with the guideline was reviewed by internal audit in 15 countries (p. 80, 81).	SO 2, 3 SO 4 SO 5	80 80-81 82-83

* Page numbers refer to the Wienerberger Sustainability Report 2010.

For additional information, please contact:
Katja Hebenstreit, Sustainability Officer
katja.hebenstreit@wienerberger.com | +43 1 60192 740