



Dear RBF Participant,

We look forward to welcoming you at the 6th Responsible Business Forum next week. With regard to your participation in the discussion panel on **SDG 1: End Poverty**, we would like to share some information on the Goal and logistics:



Empowered lives.
Resilient nations.

SCHEDULING

Date : Wednesday, 22 November 2017

Time : 11:00 – 12:30

Venue : Marina Bay Sands Convention Centre, 10 Bayfront Avenue, Singapore 018956

Room : Hibiscus Jr. 3711 & 3712

FORMAT (90 Minutes)

1. **Introduction and Panel Discussion:** The facilitator and discussion panel will briefly introduce themselves, their organisations and provide a short overview of SDG 1 to frame the discussion. Speakers will then share their perspectives and examples of action on this goal. The facilitator will then moderate a discussion with questions for the panellists. (55 minutes)
2. **Audience Roundtable Discussion:** Delegates to share, discuss and agree on priority recommendations for scaling up the kind of initiatives presented during the panel, to measuring their impacts and making these part of an integrated approach to the SDGs. (20 minutes)
3. **Feedback from Roundtables:** Each table will assign a discussion leader to stand and share their recommendations with the room. (10 minutes)

Panel speaker are encouraged to join in the audience discussion.

Facilitators will remain as the point of contact for the recommendations.

4. **Wrap Up:** The facilitator will wrap up with a quick summary of the main discussion points and recommendations. (5 minutes)

DISCUSSION TOPICS

- **Scaling Up:** What can be done to accelerate and scale up these initiatives?
- **Measurement:** What can be done to measure the impact of these SDG actions?
- **Interconnectivity:** How can an integrated approach accelerate progress on this goal?

RESOURCES

Our knowledge partner, **PwC**, has provided key facts and information about the Goal attached to this briefing note for reference.



SDG 1 NO POVERTY

END POVERTY IN
ALL ITS FORMS
EVERYWHERE.

WHAT'S THE CHALLENGE?

The good news is that from 1990 to 2010, the world succeeded in cutting the poverty rate in half, achieving the first Millennium Development Goal target. The reality is that there are still 896 million people living on less than \$1.90 a day – an unacceptably high number of people living in poverty.

Don't be fooled into thinking it's just an issue for developing countries – across the OECD countries, the average poverty rate is 11.5%, with over 17% of US citizens living in poverty.

The poor are particularly vulnerable to natural disasters, armed conflict, epidemics, economic shocks, food insecurity and climate change.

Such stresses often push those who have managed to get themselves out, back into poverty.

WHY DOES IT MATTER FOR BUSINESS?

Businesses that pay their staff wages that are below a living wage are at risk of reputational damage – often this is indirectly via contractors. On the upside, higher wages can lead to increased productivity. Inclusive business models that bring benefits to the business as well as the poor can be commercially viable and benefit businesses through new markets, higher revenue and innovation, among other things.

WHERE IS THIS A TOP CHALLENGE?

Iraq (target 1.4), Nigeria (target 1.1), Zimbabwe (target 1.1 and 1.2).



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POSSIBLE RELEVANT BUSINESS ACTIONS TO HELP ACHIEVE THIS GOAL

- Identify salient human rights issues across the supply chain, and regularly report trends over time.
- Pay a living wage at minimum, provide benefits and ensure decent working condition for all employees in own operation and across the supply chain.
- Encourage economic inclusion through supplier selection and procurement; pay a fair price to all suppliers considering the poverty lines.
- Develop adequate, affordable and accessible goods, services and livelihood opportunities for people living in poverty and within low income communities.
- Ensure consultation, engagement, participation and adequate compensation is applied to all communities and peoples affected throughout the lifecycle of projects.