

STSA 



STSA Business & Human Rights Certificate

NOVEMBER – DECEMBER 2018

PRESENTATION

In 2011, the United Nations Human Rights Council unanimously endorsed the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). Drafted by Prof. John Ruggie (University of Harvard), UN Special Representative, brought a new internationally recognized framework for companies to respect human rights. The UNGPs are also integrated in the OECD Guidelines on Responsible Business Conduct for a variety of supply chains.

As a pioneer worldwide, the commodity trading and shipping community in Switzerland, under the auspices of the Swiss Trading and Shipping Association (STSA) worked in a multistakeholder group to develop a sector specific guidance for the implementation of the UNGPs.

To accompany the sector specific guidance, a new training programme for the implementation of the UNGPs and the OECD Guidelines, specifically tailored for companies active in commodity trading will be launched in November 2018 by STSA.

Requirements for Human Rights Due diligence are increasing. Countries are starting to introduce binding measures like the French law on the Corporate Duty of Vigilance or as foreseen by the German National Action Plan. Switzerland is currently considering introducing binding measures in the framework of the Responsible Business Initiative. In this context, the challenge for companies lies in the implementation of these expectations.

AUDIENCE

- Legal officer, compliance officer, CSR officer, management and any person interested in how to integrate Human Rights principles in companies
- Specifically targeted for SME's

OBJECTIVES

This practice-oriented certificate provides participants with essential tools to implement the UNGP for B&HR and the OECD Guidelines:

- Identifying and assessing human rights risks,
- Developing a policy commitment and embedding respect for human rights into management systems,
- Preventing and mitigating adverse impacts,
- Communicating and tracking performance,
- Providing for or cooperating in remediation when appropriate.

PROGRAMME

3 Seminars from November to December.

30 total teaching hours: 9 hours per seminar & 3 hours final assignment.

The course will follow the structure of the sector-specific guidance for the implementation of the UNGPs.

Seminar 1: Assessing Human Rights Risks and Benchmarks

Featuring PwC, OECD, SECO, FDFA, twentyfifty

- Session 1: Expectations towards companies Tuesday 13 November
- Session 2: Identification and assessment of Human Rights risks Thursday 15 November
- Session 3: Workshop Tuesday 20 November

Seminar 2: Building a Human Rights Policy

Featuring BASF (Together for Sustainability) and G. Pachoud

- Session 4: Development of Human Rights policies Thursday 22 November
- Session 5: Preventing and mitigating Tuesday 27 November
- Session 6: Workshop (3pm-6pm) Friday 30 November

Seminar 3: Tracking Human Rights Performance and Communicating

Featuring Bread for All, CorporatEngagement, and IDH

- Session 7: Communicating and tracking performance Tuesday 4 December
- Session 8: Global Reporting Initiative (3pm-6pm) Thursday 6 December
- Session 9: Workshop (6pm-9pm) Thursday 6 December

- Session 10: Final assignment Thursday 13 December

EVALUATION

The candidates are required to attend and participate in a minimum of 80% of the programme sessions in order to obtain the Certificate. Any absences must be appropriately justified.

DIPLOMA AWARDED

Students who attend individual seminars will be awarded a Presence Certificate. Students who successfully complete the programme will be awarded the STSA Business & Human Rights

Certificate. STSA as a trade association is recognised by companies in commodity trading for the quality of its trainings and their adequacy to the needs of the commodity trading activity.

The award of the Business & Human Rights Certificate is based on attendance and successful completion of exams. However, your full commitment and engagement will be required to obtain the Certificate.

All exams and assignments must be completed in English.

PROGRAMME DIRECTOR

Dr. Nina Eggert, STSA

INFORMATION

Course Schedule and Location

6 hours per week on Tuesday and Thursday evenings from 6:00pm to 9:00pm.

STSA Learning, 11 rue de Chantepoulet, 1201 Geneva

Application

Applications **must** include the following documents:

- 1) Your updated resume in English;
- 2) Motivation letter in English;
- 3) 1 passport picture;
- 4) A copy of your ID or passport.

Applications and all supporting documents must be submitted **electronically via STSA's website** <https://stsa.swiss/forms/view.php?id=99283>) **until the 7 November 2018.**

Admission criteria

- 1) Good command of spoken and written English is necessary as the programme is taught in English. French an asset.
- 2) Being fully proficient with Microsoft Office.

Acceptance or refusal of applications are at the sole discretion of STSA. Late applications may be considered depending on available slots.

You will be notified via e-mail if you have been accepted to attend the course.

A maximum of 20 participants will be accepted per intake.

Registration

- Certificate (3 Seminars + final assessment) :
 - STSA Members: CHF 4'100
 - Non STSA Members: CHF 4'800
- Individual Seminar
 - STSA Members: CHF 700
 - Non STSA Members: CHF 800

Multi booking

A discount of 10% will be applied for 3 or more bookings from the same company in the same intake.

Instalments

After acceptance of an application, a deposit of CHF 900 will be requested to secure your place on the programme and confirm enrolment. In case of withdrawal, no refund of this deposit will be provided.

The balance must be paid at least 20 days before the course starts.

Cancellation and substitution policy

No refund whatsoever will be made for cancellations received 10 days or less before the course start date. Participants can however be substituted by an acceptable candidate if the organisers receive prior notification.

FAQ

Can I be accepted even if I do not have any particular certification?

No specific certification is required. However, having a minimum of 6 months of professional experience in an activity related to commodity trading is requested.

Can you help me acquire a work permit?

Unfortunately no. This is an educational programme and STSA does not provide this kind of service.

Do I need to take my laptop to class?

Presentations and documents will be uploaded on Dropbox and you will need an electronic device to view them. It can be a tablet or a computer.

Will you help me find a job?

No. The purpose of the Certificate is for the participants to grow professionally and attain competences in documentary credit. It is not STSA's purpose or objective to assist the participants in finding a job.

When I obtain my Certificate, will I be accepted to pursue the Master or the Diploma in trading set up by the University of Geneva in partnership with STSA?

No, acceptance for the Master or Diploma is subject to a specific set of rules set by the University of Geneva.

However, many participants of STSA programmes have decided to further develop their skills by following additional STSA classes or academic programmes offered by the University of Geneva (DAS in Commodity Trading or Master of Science in Commodity Trading).

Can I meet STSA representatives before the courses?

Yes if necessary, but it would be preferable to schedule any such meeting in advance.

What happens if I cannot attend one course?

It will be your responsibility to obtain the presentations and the notes taken during the course from another student and to coordinate with the trainer responsible for the module to pass the exam.

Under no circumstances can courses be recorded.

ABOUT STSA

STSA was created as GTSA in 2006 by the main actors of the Commodity Trading community in Geneva. In 2008, it extended its reach to the Lake Geneva Region. In 2014, it became STSA – a national Association for Trading and Shipping in Switzerland – overseeing the regional chapters of Zug and Lugano, and representing more than 190 members encompassing large, medium and small entities.

The Association has become renowned for its successful professional programmes such as the STSA Operator's Certificate and the Commodity Trading Fundamentals. To respond to the industry's request, STSA has recently put in place two innovative certificates: the Commodity Trading Risk Analyst and the Documentary Credit Officer.

In parallel, STSA also organises educational programmes such as the Master of Science in Commodity Trading, and the Diploma in Advanced Studies in Commodity Trading. Both programmes have been created in partnership with the University of Geneva and have been running since 2008 with an increasing level of recognition.

STSA

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