PILLARS IN PRACTICE

Advancing the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights in Bangladesh, Nicaragua and Zimbabwe

Pillars in Practice is an 18-month initiative jointly implemented by Social Accountability International (SAI) and the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR), in partnership with the CSR Centre (Bangladesh), PASE—Professionals for Corporate Social Auditing (Nicaragua), and ZELA—Zimbabwe Environmental Law Association (Zimbabwe) to advance the UN Guiding Principles on business and human rights.

Project Objective
The chief objective of this project is to establish the training capacity of our local civil society partners to sustainably promote and assist companies, governments, trade unions and other local non-governmental organizations in the implementation of the Guiding Principles (GPs) created to operationalize the United Nations (UN) “Protect, Respect and Remedy” Framework. The GPs provide an authoritative global standard for preventing and addressing the risk of adverse impacts on human rights linked to business activity.

Project Areas
The activities developed for this project seek to help states fulfill their duty to protect human rights, companies’ responsibility to respect these rights, as well as facilitate greater access to effective remedy. Three industrial sectors are targeted: garment manufacturing in Bangladesh, agriculture in Nicaragua and mining in Zimbabwe.

Project Activities
To meet its objective, Pillars in Practice will engage with its project partners and local stakeholders to:

- Deliver workshops and customized training materials on GP implementation in each country/sector;
- Build capacity of project partners to deliver training on the GPs to help companies, governments, trade unions and civil society effectively manage human rights challenges;
- Convene spaces for multi-stakeholder dialogue on key human rights challenges in the three sectors;
- Publish GPs Training Handbooks and Human Rights Business Country Portal briefings for each country and sector, training case studies and due diligence recommendations; and
- Share our work with the UN Working Group on human rights and transnational corporations and other business enterprises.

Join Us! Pillars in Practice supports the three-year mandate of the UN Working Group on business and human rights, established by the UN Human Rights Council in 2011, to implement and disseminate the Guiding Principles. To support this effort and participate in project activities please contact us.

“... We regard the Pillars in Practice multi-stakeholder initiative as a positive step in the implementation of the UN Guiding Principles.”
— UN Working Group on business and human rights

Project Partners
Led jointly by Social Accountability International (SAI) and the Danish Institute for Human Rights (DIHR), Pillars in Practice is implemented locally in collaboration with the following three civil society partners:

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