

GREEN NETWORK

COMMUNICATION ON PROGRESS REPORT 2019

COVERS THE PERIOD FROM 01.01.2019-31.12.2019



Contents



About this report

3



Statement from the CEO

4



A network of partners

6



Sustainable Business Partner Certification

8



Green Network Advisory

10



Overview of Results 2019

12

About this report

In this communication on progress, we describe the actions, initiatives and work that we do in the area of corporate responsibility and sustainability. For Green Network however, this also describes what we do as a business. Green Network has since it was founded in 1994, as a public-private partnership, worked with sustainability and our goal is to enhance the capacity and practice of companies in the areas of corporate responsibility and sustainability.



This means that what we do in cooperation with our business partners, is creating our strongest impact. Therefore, this communication on progress describes how we work with our partners to influence, impact and push them in a more sustainable direction regarding all the issues involved in both the UN Global Compact as well as the UN Sustainable Development Goals.

The work with our network business partners is based on a partnership model, where Green Network facilitates events and knowledge sharing. In addition to this, we offer more intensive training and capacity building for our partners, as well as a Sustainable Business Partner certification that our partners can achieve if they complete all 3 training modules.

The last element in our business model is our ad-

visory services and project development. It entails doing concrete, custom tailored advisory service and projects that develop new business models and build up knowledge and capacity for us and our business partners.

This report thus consists of chapters describing each of our business areas and how we through each area seek to impact our business partners – and others – to work with the sustainability agenda, the Global Compact and the Sustainable Development Goals.



This is our **Communication on Progress** in implementing the principles of the **United Nations Global Compact** and supporting broader UN goals.

We welcome feedback on its contents.

Statement from the CEO

The need for companies to implement measures to address their sustainability and responsibility is becoming more and more evident. The corporations play a critical role in addressing the need for a more sustainable world and hence, we observe that companies now focus on this agenda more than ever. This development legitimizes Green Network's role as a forum for companies to gain knowledge, share best practice and find the right solutions for their sustainability and responsibility practice to fit the ever-changing conditions.



This sustainability report covers the period from 1 January to 31 December 2019. With this report, we strive to provide a fair, comprehensive and relevant picture of our company. This includes an overview of selected activities, transparent progress on KPIs set and how we strive to be a Model Company. This report represents our Communication on Progress under the UN Global Compact. The scope of this sustainability report and its disclosures cover most of Green Networks A/S activities.

Our Sustainability Report 2019 was written before and during the outbreak and subsequent rapid spread of the Corona (COVID-19) virus. As a responsible company, Green Network is doing its utmost to adhere to authorities' measures and to protect employees and partners. We hope that the global situation improves soon so that people and organizations can again focus on addressing climate change challenges and take necessary actions to create a more sustainable world. Green Network is ready to play our part as we describe in the following.

In the last year, we experienced a world where climate changes caused by human activity demonstrated their damaging effects. Meanwhile, a report by the Intergovernmental Panel on Climate Change showed that we can only bend the curve on global carbon emissions and avoid irreversible damage to our nature by invoking sustainable and responsible production and consumption patterns in all aspects of our society.

Fortunately, amid this concerning backdrop, global public awareness of sustainability rose. We also look positively at the many statements from the political sphere, both on a Danish and European level, regarding a continued effort towards green and sustainable investment and trust that despite the financial challenges the health crisis will cause, we will see a strong trend towards more sustainable business models and conduct in the coming years.

It became evident that all societal stakeholders must take action and contribute to sustainable development. Building on this strong foundation, this report, the third of its kind in Green Network, illustrates how deeply sustainability is ingrained in our business.



Green Network promoting 'Go Carbon Neutral Now' at the SDG Summit 2019 in Brussels



The winners of the 360 degree prize 2019 at Børsen in Copenhagen.

During 2019 Green Network saw big changes and developments that has made the company more agile and prepared us well for the coming years. We helped start a new network of associated CSR-companies called CSR-Advisors Denmark, that ensures our capacity to deliver in-depth advisory services of the highest quality, while being able to focus on our network's member companies, network events and training.

We also continued our collaboration with The Danish Business Authority, Danish Chamber of Commerce and the Danish Ethical Trading Initiative on the '360 Degree' award show hosted at Børsen in Copenhagen. The award goes to companies with solutions addressing sustainability, innovation and scalability and the winners were once again companies addressing all of these aspects.

This year also saw Green Network's 25th anniversary, which was marked with a celebration event looking both backwards and forwards. Few other companies have worked with environment, sustainability and health and safety for so long and we are proud of our long history, experience and continued adherence to spreading sustainable business principles and practices.

Green Network was also engaged on the international level, as we in cooperation with LM Wind Power and through CSR Europe, an organization to which

we are national partner, helped develop and promote the 'Go Carbon Neutral Now' that helps companies raise awareness and build their zero CO2-emission programmes.

Finally, we continued our long-standing tradition of promoting sustainability and CSR through workshops and presentations for educational institutions, business associations, etc., in order to ensure that we help push society in a more sustainable direction.

2019 was an exciting year for Green Network and we are looking very much forward to continuing our work in the 'decade of action' where we will do all we can to help reach the Sustainable Development Goals.

Susanne Lydholm,
Managing Director/
Owner



A network of partners

Green Network functions as a network for companies wishing to develop their capacity to work with corporate sustainability and responsibility. In 2019 the partnership-model was strengthened with more than 50 visits to partner companies and more than 260 attendees at our networking events and courses, an increase of 60 attendees compared to 2018. Supporting the overall implementation of the Sustainable Development Goals in our business, along with their increasing presence in the broader public sphere, the goals played an increasingly larger role in our events and offers.



In 2019 we continued our focus on the partnerships that create the basis for Green Network's business model and our work with the principles of the UNGC. As stated above our work is often done "by-proxy" through enabling our partner companies to work more effectively or structured with issues relevant to the UNGC. We primarily did this by holding various events and workshops with participants from a large part of our partner companies.

OUR DIRECT IMPACT

Of course, we also work with our internal and direct impacts. 2019 marked the first year where Green Network actively worked on reducing the emissions related to transport and our office premises. Both have been included in this chapter as most of our courses and events are held on our premises and most of our transportation is related to projects with partners.

Green Networks largest source of emissions is transportation:

Year:	Km:	Co2 emissions (tonnes):
2018	29.492	4,53
2019	15.663	2,41

Our data show that we brought down our total emissions to 2,41 tonnes Co2 per year. Down from 4,53 the year prior this is a reduction of 53%. This result is partly due to the fact that the number of visits to our partner companies' facilities was almost halved compared to 2018 and may therefore rise again.

15
EVENTS HOSTED

260+
INDIVIDUALS ATTENDING
EVENTS

Electricity usage at our facilities:

2019 3853 Kwh = 816 kg Co2

Being located in a shared office space the numbers above may show some inaccuracies, but as electricity usage is provided on an individual basis by the owners and we have used the official calculation method from the FSR (Danish Accountants) we argue that they give a concise representation of our yearly usage in Co2-equivalents.

Due to the geographic spread of Green Network's partner companies and our own location in Denmark's 5th largest city, we are unfortunately not always able to use public transport, as especially our larger industrial partners are located rather far from any easily accessible public transportation. Thus, personal cars will still be the primary mode of transportation, but it is Green Networks clearly stated goal to always use public transportation when possible. This means that transportation to conferences placed in cities with a direct train-link to Vejle will be conducted via train unless obvious constraints are apparent.

53%

REDUCTION IN CO2-EMISSIONS FROM TRANSPORT

8

COMPANIES AWARDED WITH DIPLOMAS FOR ENVIRONMENTAL OR HEALTH & SAFETY MANAGEMENT SYSTEMS

UPDATED TEMPLATES FOR ENVIRONMENT- AND OCCUPATIONAL HEALTH AND SAFETY-REPORTING

A major focus point in 2019 was rolling out the updated reporting templates on environment and occupational health & safety management systems. With the templates the companies can establish a management system with clear targets, action plans and follow up within the areas in question. Companies using the templates therefore must disclose on their performance and improvements in order to receive the diplomas on the basis of their reports.

By updating the templates in-line with the new and updated ISO-standards ISO 14001:2015 and ISO 45001:2018, and by compiling some of the material into two easily accessible templates, we have enabled all first-time reporting partner companies, as well as partners who have worked with the reports before, to work more effectively with their performance and thereby also the UNGC principles regarding labour rights and environmental concern.

In total 8 companies received diplomas or certifications, of which 1 company was given a diploma for the first time in 2019.

We have also included the SDGs in our Environmental and Health and Safety reporting templates mentioned earlier, in order for partner companies to be able to relate their work in these areas to relevant SDGs and targets. This is ongoing work, but we have seen some companies already relating their goals and action plans to relevant targets and we expect more of this as more and more companies transfer to the new templates.



25 YEARS OF GREEN NETWORK

2019 was also a special year in Green Network as we marked the 25th anniversary of the network. In this field of sustainability and CSR, that is quite a lot of years. This means that Green Network have seen different agendas within this field come and go. From the environmental focus in the beginning over the inclusion of occupational health and safety and later with the introduction of the concept of CSR to today's focus on sustainability and the SDGs.

Green Network is of course not the same as we have had to evolve to these changing agendas and from a public organization to a private consultancy and network. Green Network has since the beginning had the mission of increasing companies and organizations capacity to handle their responsibility towards society – for the sake of the organization as well as society.

To communicate this, we arranged a celebration of the anniversary in March with keynote speakers from our partner-companies; The LEGO Group and Blaaholm A/S, a representative from CSR Europe as well as the interesting coffee start-up NGUVU. Green Network shared some insights gained through 25 years and presented our visions and plans.

OBJECTIVES FOR 2020:

Gain 40 new members in our network

10 events with the SDG's as a substantial part

Using public transport to lessen carbon emissions from transport when feasible

Sustainable Business Partner Certification

The Sustainable Business Partner Certification saw increased popularity and recognition in 2019. Seven companies are now recertified Sustainable Business Partners (SBP) and have demonstrated their capacity to work strategically with corporate sustainability and responsibility.



Building on the foundations and success of the SBP certification overhaul of 2018, where 6 companies were recertified, 2019 saw 7 new companies obtaining the Sustainable Business Partner-certification and a total of 14 persons completing the course.

This means that a total of 13 companies are now certified as Sustainable Business Partners.

Furthermore, the sustainable Business Partner network was set up and enhanced with dedicated network meetings for certified partners only. 2 meetings in the network were planned and executed, one based around the Science Based Target initiative and climate reporting the other with focus on

SDG-assessment. This network is one of our main focus areas in 2020 with topics that are relevant for the certified companies.

The CSR training and SBP certification is one of the ways in which Green Network works with companies and partners to strengthen their capacity and practice in corporate sustainability and responsibility. Through the training we can influence the companies and have an impact on their knowledge and integration of sustainability in the companies' core business and thereby also in integrating the Global Compact principles, both directly and indirectly.

To ensure the effect we have conducted case interviews with participants. Read one of them here:

7

**RE-CERTIFIED
SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS
PARTNERS**

14

**INDIVIDUALS
CERTIFIED AS SUSTAIN-
ABLE BUSINESS PROFESSIONALS**



13

**COMPANIES ARE
SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS
PARTNER CERTIFIED
AT THE END OF 2019**

2

**MEETINGS IN THE
SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS
PARTNER NETWORK**



By sending two employees on this course our company also receives a nice certification that will decorate the walls of our offices, but most importantly being a CSR-team of two rather than one is a great advantage for us.

What value and tools has it provided you?

The course has provided us great value and has enabled us to work constructively with the SDG's. By using Green Network's CSR-tool we are now able to keep working on our CSR-implementation and are able to plan and evaluate the process from beginning to end. It has given us broad knowledge of CSR-work in general and an understanding of the breadth of field of the SDG's and CSR in general.

Have you developed your personal CSR-skills and knowledge by participating?

Our company has just been sold to a major international company where sustainability is really at the forefront. It is thus perfect for us to be able to engage constructively with our new owners, and not just sit back waiting to be taught everything. Our CSR-skillsets have been strengthened and we are positive this will bring value to us and our new owners alike

In the fall of 2019 two employees from Green Network's partner company **Glycom A/S** participated in the Sustainable business partner training. We asked them a few questions about the experience.

Why did your company/you choose to participate in the Sustainable Business Partner training modules?

We participated to gain insights into the area and at the same time become better prepared for an ongoing sales process where sustainability is one of the focus areas. Furthermore, Glycom's financial department was starting work on its first §99a CSR-report, so participating in the course was an opportunity to also gain a better understanding of the 17 UN SDG's and the future work regarding these.



OBJECTIVES FOR 2020:

8 new certified Sustainable Business Partners

16 new Sustainable Business Partner Professionals

Roll out the SDG Skyline tool to all new certified partners incl. introduction to all participants in training

Green Network Advisory

Whenever our partners and other companies are challenged and need support for a specific task, Green Network offers customized and tailored solutions to address their challenges. In 2019 we have worked with over 10 companies in a variety of advisory service projects. 7 of our projects involved production and implementation of CSR or CSR-related policies.



2019 was also a year of changes in Green Network. With a strategic change in the setup of the secretariat to ensure a stronger

focus on Green Network's partnerships, there was a reduction in the number of consultants on permanent contracts working on advisory projects. Partly as a consequence of this shift, we helped establish and became partners in CSR Advisors Denmark, a knowledge sharing and support network consisting of 5 CSR companies spread geographically throughout Denmark.

Through CSR Advisors Denmark we have access to a high level of expertise in different areas of CSR and sustainability, access to knowledge and networks as well as the possibility of joining with our partners to work on large projects through a framework agreement. In this way we are still able to take on the larger projects we used to, while saving costs and being able to maintain focus on our wider partner network.

Furthermore, we have actively worked to identify and collaborate with a number of associated partners who are able to bring in expertise in fields such as work-environment, chemical safety and compliance. By doing this we have strengthened all our partner companies' possibilities to work more strategically with the UNGC principles.

Green Network is therefore now more agile in its approach to advisory projects due to a strengthened and structured use of associated partners. This means that Green Network is always able to bring in the exact expertise needed for projects and thereby

ensure the necessary depth and quality in the work.

Our new approach to ensuring a more agile and focused organization has also meant that our cooperation with CEMAsys has been strengthened. As the Measure platform has been phased out, all current users have been invited to move their activities to the CEMAsys platform through Green Network so that the ongoing work with securing CSR-data, supply chain management and due diligence can be effectively continued. By outsourcing the management of the platform to external specialists we are confident that the effect of our partners' activities and their impact will be considerably heightened.

11
**COMPANIES RECEIVED
ADVISORY SERVICES FROM
GREEN NETWORK**

7
**PROJECTS INVOLVED
CSR REPORTING**

2
**PROJECTS INVOLVED
PRODUCTION OF POLICIES OR
CODE OF CONDUCTS**



Incorporated SDG's more and more – to be continued in 2020

As the Sustainable Development Goals have proliferated and come to the attention of more than 73% of all Danes, Green Network has also increasingly used them in its work. By specifically developing a 'SDG Skyline Tool' we have been able to help Danish SMV's get a visual representation and overview of current initiatives and their status related to the SDG's. Furthermore, the model can be used as a baseline for the development of a new strategy or business plan that allows companies to bring sus-

tainable practices to the forefront, without comprising their ability to compete and make a profit. Our early results and tests with our partners have been overwhelmingly positive. Therefore, we are ready to implement the tool in our educational as well as advisory projects from Q4 2019 and will align some of our objectives for 2020 along it.

National Partner Organisation to CSR Europe



As the national partner organisation to CSR Europe, Green Network also works to ensure that Europe-wide initiatives are communicated in Denmark, and vice-versa. In 2019 we used our membership to promote the 'Go Carbon Neutral Now' initiative, developed in cooperation with LM Windpower and launched at the SDG Summit in Brussels. Due to our strategic shift in focus we will engage even more actively with the organisation in 2020 and engage with our members to promote participation in different relevant projects.

How we do it:

A key element in many corporations' efforts within CSR and Sustainability is reporting. Either because the companies must create a statutory report on corporate social responsibility as required cf. §99a in the Danish Financial Act, or to disclose a Communication on Progress for the UN Global Compact or similar.

To many small- and medium sized companies, this task is outside their usual scope of business. A substantial part of Green Networks advisory-projects are directed towards helping companies with their reporting. As an example of this we helped produce a Communication on Progress for a security-company called LF-Vagt as well as facilitate the process of their Sustainable Business Partner-certification. Specifically, Green Network helped create the structure of their first report as well as define the strategic focus for the company's CSR efforts. We helped define the strategic focus areas in their CSR-strategy which also provided the outline and defined the different chapters of the report. Furthermore, the strategy was transformed to key actions and KPIs to measure the progress continually, thereby not only helping with the report, but also the management of the company's entire CSR-work.

OBJECTIVES FOR 2020:

Implement the collaboration with CSR-Advisors Denmark

Move users from Measure platform to CEMAsys

3 new companies assisted in CSR reporting

Overview of Results 2019



In our Communication on Progress 2018 we set up objectives for 2019 related to the Global Compact principles in our own business. Here we present a brief overview of the results. This way we measure and evaluate how well we ourselves have worked with the principles and topics in relation to our services for our partners.

	OBJECTIVES 2019:	RESULT:
A NETWORK OF PARTNERS	Event on Human Rights and one on Anti-corruption	50% Achieved
	Launch of the updated templates for statements	100% Achieved
	Event on carbon neutrality	100% Achieved
SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS PARTNER CERTIFICATION	4 re-certified Sustainable Business Partners	0 % Achieved*
	24 new Sustainable Business Professionals	60% Achieved
	8 new Sustainable Business Partners	88% Achieved
GREEN NETWORK ADVISORY	Implement the collaboration with CEMAsys fully and communicate it	100% Achieved
	5 companies integrating data management	40% Achieved
	3 new companies assisted in CSR reporting	100% Achieved

*As the new SBP-re-certification scheme was introduced in 2018, with companies required to renew every two years, no companies were required to re-certify in 2019.



Green Network

CSR Advisory and Competencies Center
Roms Hule 8, 3. sal,
DK 7100 Vejle
Direct: (+45) 70 25 40 70
www.greennetwork.dk