

# Foundation for the Global Compact

Consultant | Consultant, Regional SME Engagement for the Middle East



**POSTING TITLE:** Consultant, Regional SME Engagement for the Middle East  
**CONTRACT TERM:** 12 months  
**DEPARTMENT/OFFICE:** Dubai Regional Hub, UN Global Compact (Remote working)

## POSITION SUMMARY

The United Nations Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs) are the collective plan of global commitments required to end extreme poverty and hunger, tackle climate change and create a more peaceful, just, and equitable world by 2030. This is a significant multi-stakeholder effort that requires aligned collaboration among the private and public sectors, civil society organizations (CSOs) and other non-state actors.

Towards this end, the United Nations Global Compact, the world's largest corporate sustainability initiative, with over 22,000 participants in 166 countries, and over 62 Global Compact Networks (GC Networks) and 13 Country Managers around the world, plays an instrumental role in guiding the private sector towards achieving the 2030 Agenda.

The UN Global Compact's ambition is to accelerate and scale the global collective impact of business by upholding the Ten Principles<sup>1</sup> of the UN Global Compact and delivering the SDGs through accountable companies and enabling environments that contribute to change. The UN Global Compact aims at spreading knowledge that companies do business responsibly and find opportunities to innovate around sustainability.

The *Regional SME Engagement consultant* will be supporting effective coordination of regional SME engagement initiatives in the Middle East region. The incumbent will work through the Dubai Regional Hub and coordinate and implement SME engagement opportunities by liaising closely with Country Networks and Country Managers in the region.

## DUTIES AND RESPONSIBILITIES

- Liaise with UN Global Compact HQ and the Dubai Regional Hub to implement regional SME engagement initiatives including specifically rolling out the following activities:
  - **Promote the UN Global Compact SME Community:** In direct cooperation with respective Country Networks and Country Managers promote the UN Global Compact's high-impact, interactive learning journey for SMEs which offers a holistic course on the business case for sustainability, and guidance on how to align business strategy with the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact;
  - **Promote the Sustainability self- assessment tool among SMEs in the region:** In direct cooperation with the respective Country Networks and Country Managers, promote the UN Global Compact's comprehensive, sustainability assessment to be used by any-size organization, in any sector, in any country;
  - **Support Country Networks and Country Managers to identify potential partners:** In each country, lead a mapping of potential partners such as local business networks, industry associations and development agencies to leverage their networks and resources for supporting SMEs. Build local partnerships to

---

<sup>1</sup> <https://unglobalcompact.org/what-is-gc/mission/principles>

# Foundation for the Global Compact

Consultant | Consultant, Regional SME Engagement for the Middle East



- support delivery and business development of SMEs – such as within supply chain pilots and ecosystems (such as IFC, ICC, ITC and others);
- **Regional Industry Expert workshops:** Project manage and run a calendar of 4-5 interactive and practical regional sessions to advance solutions against barriers that SMEs face to become sustainable and grow their businesses. Workshops to be delivered with different partners including financial institutions and multinationals. Find relevant experts to organise and participate in workshops;
  - **Peer-learning groups for SMEs:** Run a space for SMEs in the respective regions to share their good practices and challenges on critical sustainability issues with like-minded professionals, while gaining access to industry experts and unique networking opportunities;
  - **Regional SME campaigns:** In direct coordination with the Regional Hub and its select Advertising agency, run regional campaigns to promote SME engagement;
  - **Case Examples:** Collect notable case examples from participating SMEs to be featured in an Annual Report and in other select channels.

## KEY DELIVERABLES

### **SME Initiative:**

- Roll-out and facilitate at least 4 Regional SME Workshops including identifying and inviting key experts to engage;
- Roll-out and facilitate a Peer Learning Group (based on UN Global Compact guidance) for SME Engagement;
- Drafting of at least 20 Case Examples identified from among participating SMEs across the region;
- Mapping of potential partners for Country Networks and Country Managers in support of SMEs;
- Promotion of SME engagement material and tools developed by UN Global Compact HQ;
- Implementation of regional campaigns promoting SME engagement.

## QUALIFICATIONS

- Knowledge of corporate sustainability agenda and its relationships with business is required. Expertise on working with SMEs and embedding sustainability principles is a plus.
- Strong organizational and project management skills are required.
- Expertise working in the Middle East region is required.
- Demonstrated communication skills, attention to detail, including tailoring language, tone, and content to various audiences.

## EDUCATION AND OTHER COMPETENCIES

- **Experience:** 6-8 years of working experience
- **Education:** A first-level university degree in marketing, business administration, management, economics, political science, social science or related field.
- **Digital Skills:** Proficiency in Excel, PowerPoint, Word, Microsoft Teams/SharePoint and Zoom
- **Language skills:** Proficiency in English and Arabic (required)

# Foundation for the Global Compact

Consultant | Consultant, Regional SME Engagement for the Middle East



## APPLICATION

- Please include the following materials in your email submission to **UNGC1@unglobalcompact.org** with the subject heading “**Consultant, Regional SME Engagement for the Middle East**”:
  - Cover Letter
  - Resume/CV
  - Applications will be accepted until **29 May 2024**
  - Given the anticipated volume of submissions, only highly qualified candidates will be contacted. No phone calls or unsolicited emails outside of the submission process.