Membership in the Investor Alliance for Human Rights

Join a growing community of global investors committed to promoting human rights-respecting business and investment.





What is the Investor Alliance for Human Rights?

The Investor Alliance for Human Rights is a collective action platform for responsible investment that is grounded in respect for people's fundamental rights. We are a membership-based, non-profit initiative focusing on the <u>investor responsibility</u> to respect human rights, <u>corporate engagements</u> that drive responsible business conduct, and <u>standard-setting</u> activities that push for robust business and human rights policies, incentives, and regulations.

The Investor Alliance was founded in 2018 as a first-of-its-kind network of global responsible investors committed to using their collective power to promote the corporate responsibility to respect human rights based on the human rights due diligence framework in the UN Guiding Principles for Business and Human Rights (UNGPs). Launched as an initiative of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR), the Investor Alliance provides institutional investors with a dedicated platform to increase their capacity and impact in addressing human rights risks associated with business activities.

The Investor Alliance is known for our:

Agility.

Our rapid response enables investors to maximize their collective impact with both companies and policymakers on urgent and emergent human rights issues.

Ground-Truthing.

We ensure that our engagements on business and human rights concerns are informed by the perspectives of impacted rightsholders.

Rigor.

Our engagements are held to the highest international business and human rights standards, including the UNGPs and OECD Guidelines on Multinational Enterprises, to assess, disclose, and drive responsible business and investor conduct.

Our Theory of Change:

The Investor Alliance works closely with civil society organizations to ensure that collective corporate engagement and policy advocacy activities integrate the perspectives of impacted people and communities and promote enabling environments for responsible business conduct.

Why?

The vision of the Investor Alliance for Human Rights is that investors use their influence within the global economy to fulfil their human rights responsibilities under the UN Guiding Principles, embedding respect for fundamental rights in corporate conduct to improve people's lives, uphold communities, and sustain the planet.

What?

Working with investors to affect change



Building their capacity to consider human rights



Investment decisions and engagement with portfolio companies



Change corporate behavior

How?

Providing tools and guidance and delivering training on investor responsibility 2. Equipping investors to address human rights issues

and company

performance through sharing data and research and connecting them with civil society experts 3.

Facilitating coordinated corporate engagement on human rights issues 4

Creating an enabling business environment by mobilizing investors to use their power to set standards and advocate for legislation that mandates human rights considerations in investor/corporate conduct

Our Pillars of Work:



Investor Responsibility

Building the capacity of institutional investors to respect human rights, and supporting investors to embed human rights considerations throughout decision-making and stewardship



Corporate Engagement

Collective action to promote uptake of due diligence in priority sectors and respond to urgent human rights concerns



Standard-Setting

Engaging policy-makers and standard-setting bodies to promote an enabling environment for responsible business conduct

Cross-cutting collaboration with civil society organizations, affected rightsholders, and other stakeholders

Our Current Priority Issues Include:



Technology and Human Rights:

Digital rights risks—encompassing privacy, freedom of expression, and non-discrimination online—lie at the intersection of human rights and technology, including Artificial Intelligence. These risks stem from the business models, operations, and partnerships of tech companies, and they affect every aspect of our daily lives. From challenges to political participation and democratic processes to concerns about security and conflict, child safety online, unlawful surveillance, spyware, and workers' rights, the impact of these risks is both broad and profound. As technology becomes increasingly integrated into society, addressing these risks is essential for safeguarding human rights.



Conflict-Affected & High-Risk Areas:

Amid a steady increase in the number and intensity of global conflicts and associated human rights violations, investors are seeking guidance on strengthening their stewardship activities related to their portfolio exposure to conflict-affected and high-risk areas (CAHRA). These crises make it imperative to identify and address in a conflict-sensitive manner the human rights and humanitarian law risks associated with business activities in these environments and to ensure that portfolio companies have the policies, processes, and governance needed to address CAHRA risks in a systematic fashion across various geographies.



Benchmarking Human Rights Performance:

Corporations may adversely impact rightsholders through all stages of their business operations and value chains. Using data from the Corporate Human Rights Benchmark and Ranking Digital Rights, investors are collectively pushing companies in high-risk sectors to substantively address their potential and actual human rights harms by ensuring companies implement robust human rights due diligence (HRDD) in line with expectations laid out in the UNGPs. With strong HRDD processes in place, companies can get to a point where they effectively manage their human rights risks and are better situated to proactively avoid and prevent harm.



Mandatory Human Rights & Environmental Due Diligence (Policy & Standard Setting):

Only a smart mix of measures at the local, national, and international levels can ensure responsible and accountable corporate and investor conduct. Mandated human rights due diligence sits at the core of responsible, rights-respecting corporate and investor conduct and needs to be supported by mobilizing investor voices to ensure corporate due diligence and disclosures, including for the financial sector, are in line with international business and human rights frameworks.

Who are the members of the Investor Alliance for Human Rights?

Membership is open to all institutional investors, including asset management firms, trade union funds, public and private pension funds, foundations, endowments, faith-based organizations, family funds, investor associations, and investment advisors. As financial and business actors, investors have a responsibility to respect human rights in line with the UN Guiding Principles on Business and Human Rights. Learn about our <u>principles of membership</u>.

As Members of the Investor Alliance for Human Rights:

We strive to implement the corporate responsibility to respect human rights through an effective human rights due diligence process, as established by international consensus in the UN Guiding Principles, in our institutions and throughout our investment activities.

- → We call on our portfolio companies to respect human rights in their operations and throughout their value chains and business relationships by undertaking human rights due diligence and associated disclosures to assess and address actual and potential human rights impacts.
- → We seek to amplify our investor voice and impact on human rights priorities through collective action among investors and with our strategic partners in the private and public sectors.
- → We strive to promote responsible, rights-respecting investment throughout the investment sector.
- We listen to rightsholders and their representatives, civil society organizations, subject matter experts, and other stakeholders to inform our work.

What are the benefits of membership in the Investor Alliance for Human Rights?

Membership in the Investor Alliance empowers your organization to:



Build your capacity

to meet your human rights responsibilities. In support of the investor responsibility to respect human rights, members have access to:

- Investor guidance, reports, and briefings, including the <u>Investor Toolkit on Human Rights</u>, as well as support on implementation.
- → Regular capacity building opportunities, webinars, and workshops focused on priority and emerging human rights issues.
- → **Connections to civil society organizations** (CSOs), including opportunities to meet, learn from, and engage with CSOs with subject matter and human rights expertise informed by perspectives from impacted communities.
- Forums for peer-to-peer learning to support investors to meet, share experiences, insights, and best practices.
- Weekly office hours where members can receive tailored support from Investor Alliance leadership in areas related to their sustainable investment policies and practices.
- → Quarterly public communications, including our <u>newsletter</u> and <u>Year-In-Review</u>.



with your portfolio companies to address human rights challenges and uphold respect for human rights. In support of investor corporate engagement, members have access to:

- → Data and research that the Investor Alliance identifies, shares, and interprets in collaboration with civil society partners to demonstrate the impact of human rights risks and to ensure that the expectations investors communicate to companies are aligned with the rights, needs, and interests of impacted rightsholders.
- Participate in working groups on priority topics enabling members to connect in support of sustained collective action with companies. Members are supported with tools and expertise to develop corporate engagement activities, and with access to subject matter experts and CSOs.
- Progress tracking of corporate engagement activities and evaluating their effectiveness.



in policy discussions on important human

rights topics.

In support of investor engagement on key human rights policy discussions, members have access to:

- Policy briefings and blogs focused on relevant developments in the policy space in collaboration with CSO allies.
- Invitations to sign on to investor statements and letters to policymakers.
- Opportunities to participate in dialogues with policymakers to highlight investor concerns and amplify efforts to address risks to rightsholders.

Opt-in to ICCR membership and access the benefits of ICCR Affiliate Membership at no additional cost.

Members of the Investor Alliance can become ICCR Affiliate members at no additional cost. ICCR Affiliate member benefits include access to key opportunities for connection with other ICCR members and partners, such as ICCR's biannual conferences as well as ICCR Working Group calls on priority issues. Members also get affiliate-level access to ICCR's Shareholder Exchange platform, as well as access to ICCR's Member Bulletin and a range of tools and resources that support members to engage with companies and in relevant public policy discussions.

What is the cost of membership?

Members of the Investor Alliance pay an annual fee of \$3,500.*

*ICCR members who are also Investor Alliance members are not charged an additional fee for Investor Alliance membership.

How does my organization join?

If your organization is interested in exploring membership in the Investor Alliance, or if you have guestions about our member benefits, please send an email to investoralliance@iccr.org so we can set up an introductory conversation.

We invite you to join us!

Membership in the Investor Alliance is currently open to all institutional investors. To learn more about membership, please read our **membership principles**, and send an email to investoralliance@iccr.org.

The Investor Alliance for Human Rights is an initiative of the Interfaith Center on Corporate Responsibility (ICCR).



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