

The Netherlands - from Voluntary Multi-stakeholder Approach towards Mandatory Due Diligence

Consulate-General of the Kingdom of
the Netherlands, Shanghai
15 September 2022

A photograph of two children in a field at sunset. On the left, a boy with blonde hair holds a glowing light bulb on a black tripod. On the right, a girl with blonde hair holds a red hair dryer, blowing her hair. The background shows a field of sunflowers and a sunset sky.

- Cornerstones of Dutch Responsible Business Conduct Policy

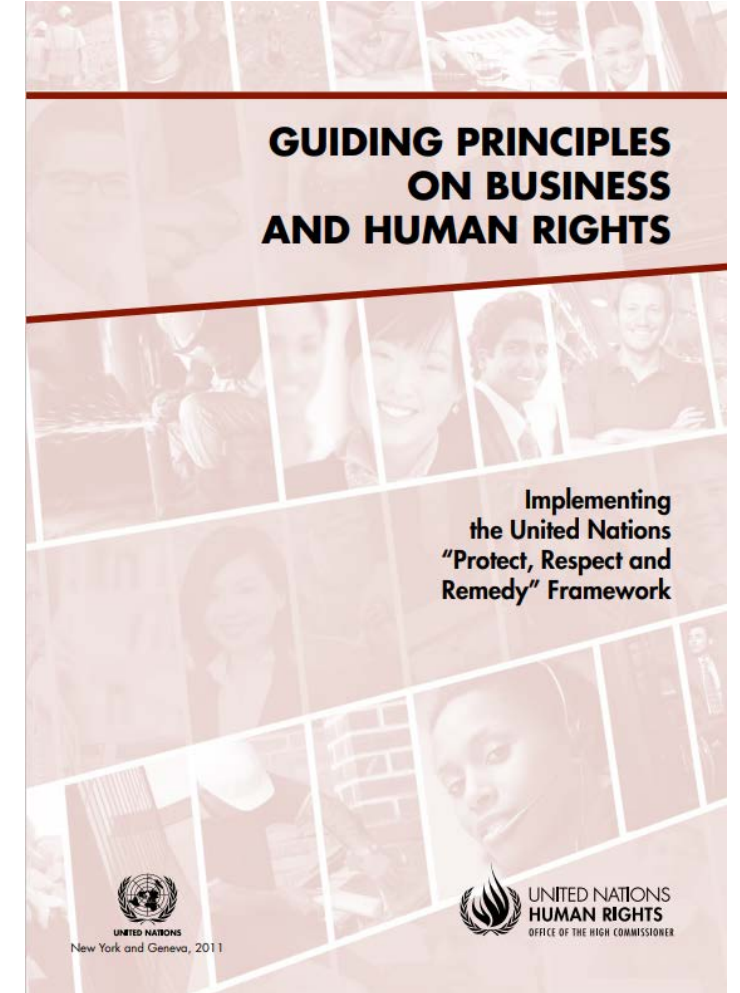
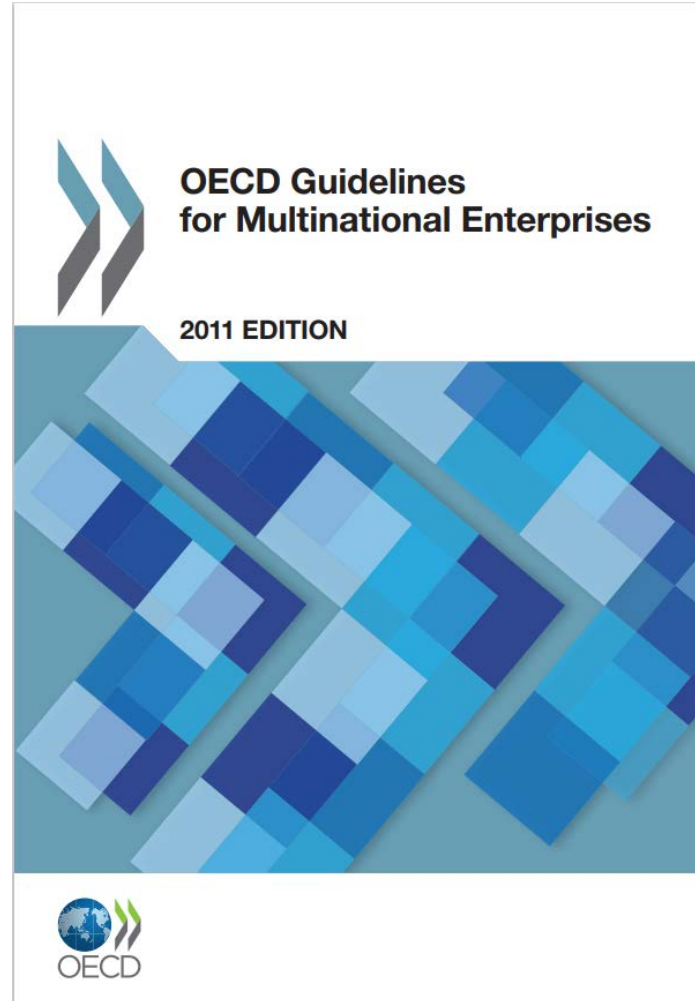
- New impulse: from voluntary measures to imposing obligations

- NL is preparing for due diligence obligation legislation in the NL and the EU

Cornerstones Dutch RBC policy

The Dutch government's
expectation

- Conduct **due diligence** throughout their supply chains
- Adhere to internationally agreed **guidelines**
- The 90% Goal by 2023



Multi-stakeholder cooperation

- Sector risk assessment carried out
- The 13 risk sectors in the NL are exposed to the greatest RBC risks

2014: KPMG advisory report regarding 'risk-sectors'

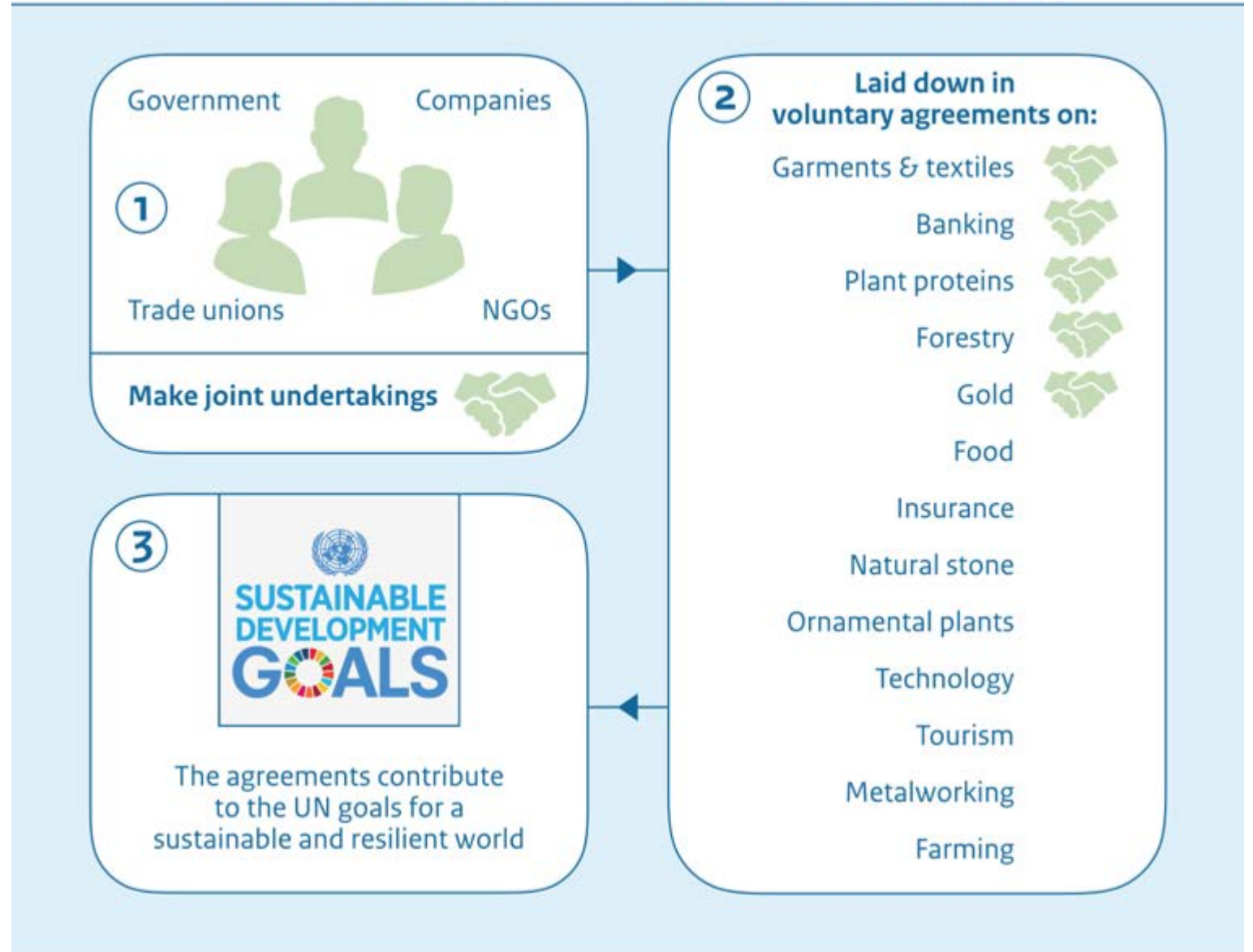


(Construction, Financial, Chemicals, Metals, Oil & Gas, Retail, Timber, Textiles, Energy, Agriculture and Food & Beverages)

Multi-stakeholder cooperation

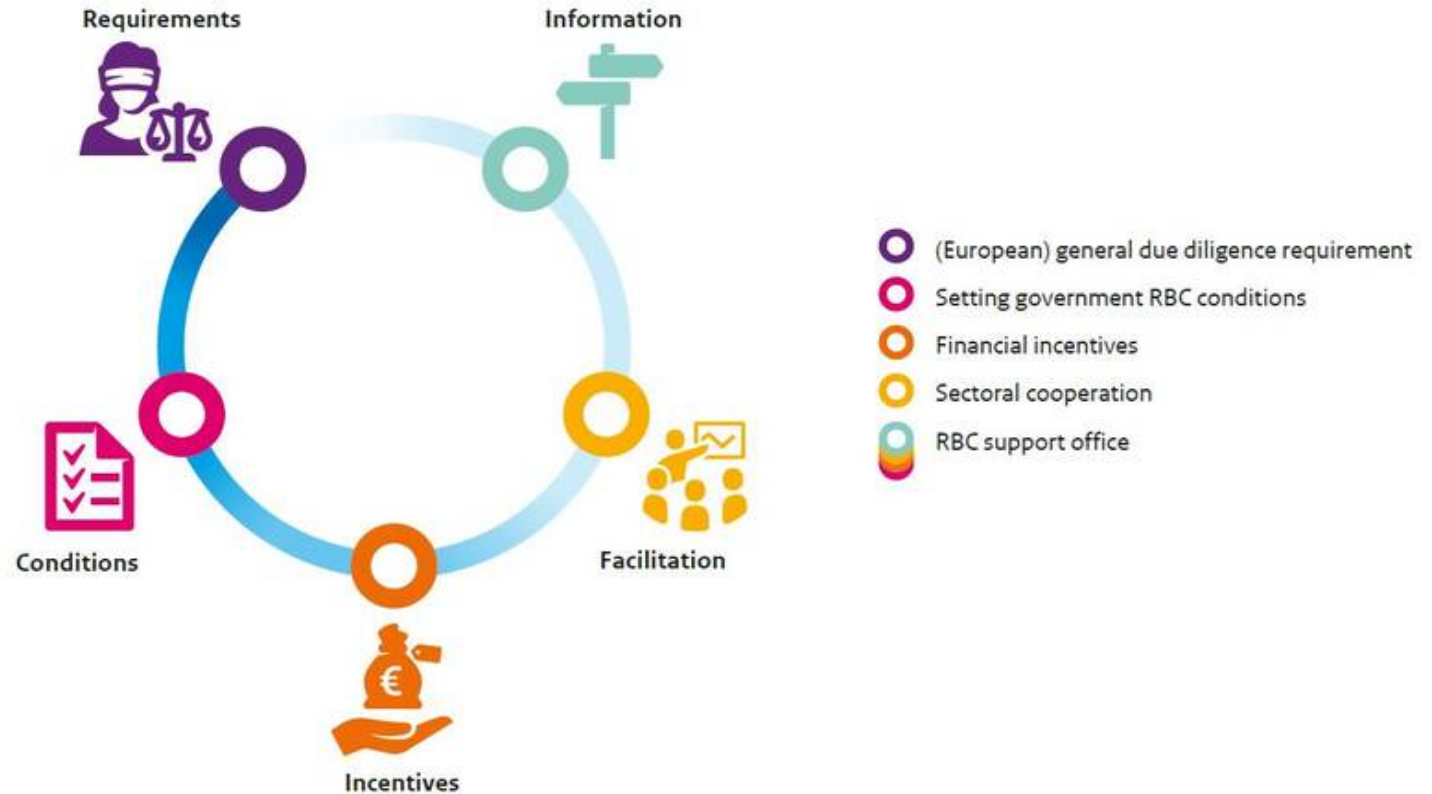
- Voluntary
- Sector-specific
- Agreements on the implementation of due diligence based on OECD Guidelines

The Dutch path towards responsible products



New policy

- Voluntary measures/approach “not effective enough”
- National level obligations in Europe increasing
- The NL preparing for due diligence legislation both at the national and the EU level



The proposed EU Directive

- Subject to approval from the European Parliament and the Council
- Another 2 years to transpose into national law
- Likely a game-changer

Home > Press corner > Corporate sustainability due diligence

Available languages: English

Press release | 23 February 2022 | Brussels

Just and sustainable economy: Commission lays down rules for companies to respect human rights and environment in global value chains

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Today, the European Commission has adopted a proposal for a Directive on corporate sustainability due diligence. The proposal aims to foster sustainable and responsible corporate behaviour throughout global value chains. Companies play a key role in building a sustainable economy and society. They will be required to identify and, where necessary, prevent, end or mitigate adverse impacts of their activities on human rights, such as child labour and exploitation of workers, and on the environment, for example pollution and biodiversity loss. For businesses these new rules will bring legal certainty and a level playing field. For consumers and investors they will provide more transparency. The new EU rules will advance the green transition and protect human rights in Europe and beyond.

A number of Member States have already introduced national rules on due diligence and some companies have taken measures at their own initiative. However, there is need for a larger scale improvement that is

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