



Dichiarazione strategica dell'IGU per il 2009

## **Il Gas naturale in un futuro ad energia sostenibile**

La previsione del settore energetico mondiale è a metà tra la necessità di assicurare l'approvvigionamento di energia per un mercato in crescita soprattutto nei paesi in sviluppo e l'impegno di attenuare gli effetti del cambiamento climatico derivanti dall'uso intensivo di combustibili fossili.

Con l'obiettivo di sviluppare un sistema energetico sostenibile, i governi hanno incentrato le proprie politiche energetiche verso la promozione delle energie rinnovabili con l'obiettivo a lungo termine che diventino la base dell'approvvigionamento futuro. Tuttavia, a causa di una serie di ragioni di carattere politico, tecnico e di mercato, il periodo previsto per una completa transizione verso l'energia rinnovabile si è notevolmente allungato. Sarà dunque inevitabile che per molto tempo ancora, il fabbisogno energetico sia soddisfatto dalla combinazione delle fonti rinnovabili assieme ai combustibili fossili.

Nel percorso verso un futuro sostenibile, il gas naturale sarà l'unica scelta a complemento delle risorse rinnovabili in quanto è il più pulito, il più efficiente e il più versatile tra i combustibili fossili. Altri sviluppi tecnologici come quelli che consentono la cattura CO<sub>2</sub> sostengono la scelta di gas naturale.

In questa prospettiva il mondo dell'industria del gas deve essere attiva nella promozione dello sviluppo energetico, in particolare:

- nel miglioramento dell'efficienza e delle procedure
- nella riduzione delle emissioni di gas serra
- nello sviluppo di sistemi che consentiranno di ottimizzare l'uso delle energie rinnovabili

In linea con la sua missione, IGU continuerà a promuovere lo scambio di know-how all'interno dell'industria di settore per accelerare lo sviluppo di nuove tecnologie. L'IGU continuerà a proporsi come efficace collegamento tra gli operatori e i governi promuovendo i vantaggi derivati dall'utilizzo del gas naturale nel periodo di transizione a mix energetico sopra menzionato. Inoltre, l'IGU continuerà a sorvegliare attentamente sia l'evoluzione delle politiche energetiche ad opera dei governi sia l'opinione pubblica, mettendo in condizione l'industria del gas di prepararsi ad affrontare le minacce e le opportunità dei decenni a venire.



# International Gas Union

---



## IGU Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development

---



## IGU Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development

1

The underlying tenet of the IGU Guiding Principles for Sustainable Development is that the gas industry integrates economic, environmental and social factors in all its business practices. The gas industry further recognises that continuous improvement of corporate performance towards sustainable development is critical for successful business.

The gas industry's corporate performance for Sustainable Development is guided by the following declarations:

The Universal Declaration of Human Rights, 1948

The ILO Declaration on Fundamental Principles and Rights at Works, 1998

The Rio Declaration on Sustainable Development and its Agenda for the 21st century, 1992

The United Nations Global Compact, 1999

The OECD Principles of Corporate Governance, 1999

The Millennium Summit, 2000

The United Nations Convention against Corruption (UNCAG in December 2005)

## Environmentally sound by making choices today that work tomorrow

Continuous improvement in the performance of the gas industry is of vital importance as the world moves towards a sustainable energy future. The gas industry shall:

- combat climate change co-operating with all parties involved in the gas chain to minimise environmental impact
- incorporate environmental criteria in business management, seek maximum efficacy, assess environmental impacts of activities and adopt a precautionary approach to prevent serious or irreversible environmental degradation and preserve the biodiversity in the natural settings where we perform our activities
- establish permanent plans to renovate its assets, oriented to reduce as much as possible the gas emissions to the atmosphere
- fulfil all operations in an environmentally responsible manner and commit to improving industry wide environmental performance taking action beyond the continuous enforcement of applicable regulations, taking into account international standards and legislative trends in planning intervention that may cause significant environmental impact
- raise awareness and promote Good Practices among employees and customers to conduct their activities in an environmentally responsible manner
- Integrate the environmental variable in selecting and evaluating suppliers and contractors and also in the planning of new projects or developments of those that already exist
- promote the use of best available technologies all through the gas chain and establish permanent plans to renovate the gas infrastructures and assets
- develop and maintain emergency preparedness plans to be prepared for and respond to emergencies in a timely and effective manner
- encourage clean and efficient gas utilisation to improve local conditions and contribute to a reduction of greenhouse gas emissions promoting the use of the best available technologies for both its own facilities and those of its customers
- support research on the environmental impacts from the gas industry's activities and on the means of minimising those adverse impacts
- promote any solution combining the use of natural gas and renewable energies in an efficient way
- promote continuous improvement by means of Environmental Management Systems
- communicate in an open, transparent and objective manner on environmental matters to stakeholders: employees, authorities, customers, shareholders and the public



## Socially responsible by supporting healthy communities

3

The gas industry is committed to ensuring the health and safety of its employees, subcontractors, customers and the public affected by its operations, products and services. The IGU accepts its responsibility to contribute to society with its knowledge, management capacity and creativity, maintaining permanent dialogue with society to learn of its needs and attempt to satisfy them, and so increase its credibility and prestige.

The gas industry in IGU member countries shall recognise the responsibility to support healthy employees, contractors and communities by:

- assessing social impacts of its activities
- continuously improving Environment, Health & Safety (EHS) performance through effective implementation of EHS Management Systems
- implementing leading-edge employment standards and practices
- easing the working conditions of its employees, by designing facilities and operations in such a way that operators could work, as much as possible, in absence of gas
- investing in employment training programmes that benefit the industry and communities
- prioritise local employment and suppliers, when possible technically, economically and legally
- developing an open dialogue with interested parties such as customers, employees, governments and Non Government Organizations
- gathering and promptly responding to community complaints
- partnering with community-based organizations that support business success
- incorporating human rights and labour standards in its operations and in the purchasing policy
- promoting technology transfer of highly efficient and low emissions technologies to developing countries, taking advantage of the Clean Development Mechanisms of the Kyoto Protocol
- avoiding discrimination, encouraging diversity of opinions, perspectives, cultures, ages and genders
- encouraging measures of equality between men and women, promoting family reconciliation and denouncing child labour

## Economically viable by supporting sustainable developments

---

A sustainable future needs a strong economy to support the social, environmental and other programmes. The gas industry in IGU member countries shall support viable economies by

- providing meaningful and fairly paid employment to communities

- supplying a reliable energy with a transparent, non-discriminatory, prices policy that makes it available to all the possible customers

- contributing revenue from sales, property and income taxes

- supporting transparency and setting internal codes of conduct between its employees

- maintaining economically viable conditions for necessary investments

- designing and developing innovation and research programs looking for competitiveness and long term social responsibility



## Integrity

5

Compel IGU members to act ethically, honestly and with integrity, respecting values, principles and codes of professional conduct that contribute to increasing the confidence that society has in our organisation. The guiding principles of this behaviour are:

- rejecting corruption and bribes in the development of our activity and establishing the means to prevent and fight them
- supporting the principles of the United Nations Global Compact as well as the OECD Principles of Corporate Governance
- respecting all the aspects of the United Nations' Universal Declaration of Human Rights

## Means of implementation

The work on sustainable development is based on a plan, do, check and act approach to achieve continuous improvements.

Environmental, social and economic considerations are integrated into the process of planning, construction and operation.

All employees receive education on environmentally sound, socially responsible and economically viable behaviour and decision-making to assure effective implementation of a sustainable development approach.

A comprehensive view, from "cradle to grave", is applied in the evaluation of the impacts and benefits of the activities, when establishing and implementing corporate policies, goals, programmes and procedures.

Assessments of compliance with company procedures, is guaranteed by regular audits and relevant reports are provided to government, employees and other interested parties.

Sustainable development is measured and reported using performance indicators as a reference for improvements.

