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Responsible Business Forum experiences from working with business, Poland

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Who we are?

Responsible Business Forum in Poland is the largest nongovernmental organisation in Poland, and an NGO with the longest history of operation in the country (15 years).

The Forum is a think-and-do-tank, which promotes a responsible approach to business in a way which takes into account the environmental and social impacts.

We inspire business that changes the world and provide a meeting place for people who change business.

We promote sustainable development.



What we do?

To achieve these goals, we focus our activity on:

- helping businesses develop their social responsibility,
- building businesses coalition that focuses on solving social problems,
- creating a forum where managers, the state administration and nongovernmental organizations can exchange information on CSR,
- promotes corporate social responsibility solutions adequete to the needs and capabilities of companies in Poland.



Partnership programme

- Complex programme of cooperation with companies which, through their commitment and actions, contribute to the popularisation of the idea of CSR in Poland. The programme has been running for over 15 years and has included over 100 companies.
- Through the Partnership Program, RBF cooperates with companies – business leaders in Poland, committed to the promotion of responsible business through their policies and activities.
- Strategic Partners have the opportunity to participate in the following events: meetings (with an expert, thematic meetings), invitations to participate in debates as experts, CSR Leaders Club, CSR in practice, business breakfast, training courses and webinars, reports, surveys, newsletters.



15 years of FOB in numbers

over

100

Companies in Partnership Programme

140

Sygnatories in Diversity Charter

11

PARTNERSTWA NA RZECZ CSR W POLSCE

lat

Editions of Academy of Responsible Business

over

70Publications

Over

20

Researches on CSR

5

Edition of Journalists contest

15

Conferences on CSR

over

200

Alumni of LOB

over

700

Good practices from business last year In the Report

163

Reports in
Sustainability
Reports contest

Report Responsible BUSINESS FORUM

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CSR Managers survey



The CSR Managers is a survey launched by the Responsible Business Forum (RBF) and PBS, Deloitte realized the Central European chapter of the CSR Managers Survey.







CSR Managers survey

METHODOLOGY



CAWI (Computer Assisted Web Interview) via DeloitteDEX tool

SAMPLE SIZE



N=179

RESPONDENTS



CSR Managers

PARTICIPATING COUNTRIES



Bulgaria, Czech Republic, Hungary, Kosovo, Latvia, Lithuania, Romania, Serbia, Slovakia, Slovenia

DATE



14.07 - 9.09.2015

INTERVIEW DURATION



Up to 15 minutes

RESEARCH OBJECTIVES



Evaluation of the condition of CSR in chosen European countries; analysis of opportunities and risks: perspectives for development in the coming years



CSR Managers survey – key findings

- ✓ IMPACT OF CSR ON THE WAY BUSINESS WORKS An majority of respondents (84%) claim that business has had a positive effect on finding solutions to social problems. This is a much better result when compared in Poland.
- ✓ CSR managers mostly put emphasis on the role of business in solving environmental problems, supporting education (financial support) and counteracting unemployment (creating new jobs).
- ✓ CSR BENEFITS FOR BUSINESS Some of the biggest benefits were: stronger involvement of employees (65%), better ethical awareness (46%), improvement in reputation (55%), and recognition of the brand as socially responsible (51%). The results of the RBF survey in Poland were also similar.



Managers believe business has helped finding solutions to social problems within their countries

Key social issues that ought to be addressed by business



ENVIRONMENTAL PROTECTION



EDUCATION

UNEMPLOYMENT

Biggest CSR benefits witnessed by managers in their companies relate to



EMPLOYEES (stronger involvement)

IMAGE (improvement in reputation)



CSR Managers survey – CSR in the Future

✓ EFFECT OF CSR INITIATIVES ON SOCIAL AND ECONOMIC GROWTH ON DOMESTIC MARKET

- growth of competitiveness in the economy (96%),
- the positive impact of enterprises on employment rates,
- aligning work availability with actual needs (94%),
 and
- impact on the knowledge-based economy and intellectual capital growth (91%).
- ✓ Managers put the least of their hopes on the effect business has on combatting social inequality (76%).
- ✓ The majority of managers claim that business models are likely to change in the coming years (86%), and to a great extent, the change will be the result of pressure from customers who are increasingly expecting to see socially responsible products and service on the market (75%).



Managers predict that CSR will flourish and more and more businesses will be joining the CSR network



Managers claim that CSR will reach maturity as social and environmental issues become a part of business models



Managers forecast CSR stagnation (no change)



- Based on and inspired by Vision 2050 (World Business Council for Sustainable Development, WBCSD).
- Process, Dialogue, Document, Working groups, Declaration of almost 100 business leaders and dedicated actions





EXECUTIVE SUMMARY, MAY 2012









Objectives

Involve business community in an active discussion on key challenges and opportunities for Poland

Reflect the business perspective in strategic documents and legslations prepared by Polish government

Prepare a strategic guildeliness for buisnesses while working on their strategies and innovations





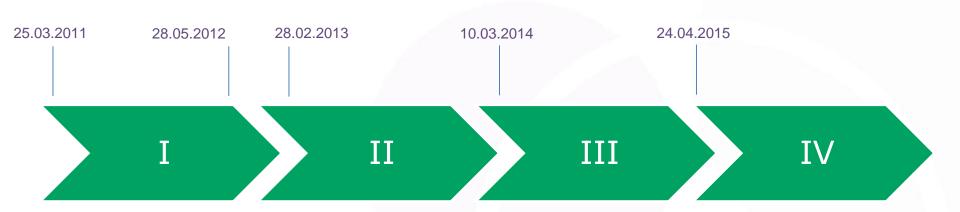




| Vision 2050 | Competitiv and innova Polish econ develops ba on social ca | ative ber of workers somy qualified ad- ased equately to the | environmen- tally friendly | Resources used in sustainable way throughout their life cycle | | Foresee- able and clear attitude to entrepreneurs based on cooperation |
|--------------------------|--|--|--|--|--|---|
| Important for the future | Feeling of com mon responsi- bility Participation in proposed solu- tions Change of life style and values | especially inter- nal mobility | Adaptation of/to new solutions Creation of de- mand for sustain- able infrastructure New technologies/ innovative solu- tions | Innovative methods of management which minimize negative effect on environment R&D and new technologies Sustainable production and consumption Change of priorities | Social plans concerning sector's workers Safe and timely distribution Transmission infrastructure New technological solutions Cooperation in creation of new quality regulations | |
| Important and urgent | Creation of solu- tions which initiate and stimulate cooperation | Change of life-style and values | Strategic thinking about infrastructure as a tool for sustain- able development | Building an attitude of co- responsibility for the consequences of natural re- sources scarcity | Common strategi decisions con- cerning energy sources | ic Change of thinking of roles and tasks of the state and the entrepreneurs |
| Area | Social capital | Human capital | Infrastruc- ture | Natural resources | Energy | State and institution quality |



Phases



Dialogue with more than 100 business representatives – document and Vision 2050 for Poland created 5 working groups established continued over years:

- Sustainable consumption
- Energy efficiency and Renewables
- Social innovation
- Private Public Partnership
- CSR in SME's









New agenda for the World - SDG's.

Sustainable
Developmnet Goals
2015r.



Action 2020 WBCSD









Key lessons and recommendations

- There is a great potential for cooperation among public, private and NGO's sector
- It needs to be **coordinated** and it is good when it is built on existing platforms
- The role of public sector is crucial
- The strategy, directions and needs should come from public sector
- Solutions and challenges should be worked out in cooperations – great role for NGO being a platform
- Business can play crucial role in implementation
- Open **DIALOGUE** is a key



What are the opportunities looking forward?

- Sustainable Development Goals give clear priorities and common agenda for all actors
- While priorities and indicators are being defined by public sector – other parties – mainly business and NGO's should get involved
- Circular economy is yet another idea/trend which brings a lot of potential for x-sector cooparation





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