

PRIVATE SECTOR PEER LEARNING: PARTNERSHIP PROFILES

Inclusive Business Action Network (IBAN)

Description: The [Inclusive Business Action Network](#) (IBAN) consists of companies, international organisations, investors, private sector associations and locally based innovation hubs. The network compiles, shares and facilitates access to knowledge and information on inclusive business practices. It has established itself as the single entry point for the global inclusive business community.

Objective: IBAN aims to connect, inform and collaborate with stakeholders either interested or operating in the area of inclusive business. By making knowledge on inclusive business practices accessible, promoting partnerships for collective action and facilitating dialogue with policy makers at the international and local levels, it seeks to help companies enter into base of the pyramid markets. Through online and offline peer learning and knowledge exchange, it can provide opportunities for interaction between members of the inclusive business community.

Partnership: Working in partnership with the Practitioner Hub for Inclusive Business, IBAN brings together key stakeholders and disseminates knowledge and information on inclusive business practices. Network members exchange and have access to publications, guidelines, checklists and market research from a broad range of sources. IBAN partners with organisations working in similar areas and on similar projects as a way to make use of existing initiatives, knowledge and information. One example is base of the pyramid sector dialogues, where business entrepreneurs from a particular sector can share ideas about the opportunities and risks of their inclusive business models. Network members include the Asian Development Bank, German Federal Ministry for Economic Cooperation and Development (BMZ), Deutsche Gesellschaft für Internationale Zusammenarbeit (GIZ), International Finance Corporation and World Business Council for Sustainable Development, among others. Responsible and Inclusive Business Hubs affiliated with IBAN are operating in Egypt, Indonesia and South Africa.

Key activities: IBAN convenes stakeholders, provides platforms for mutual exchange and peer learning, compiles knowledge and information on inclusive business, promotes partnerships for collective action, offers access to on-the-ground implementation support and holds “innovative roundtables”, which bring together companies and international organisations to identify new fields of action in markets.

Results: Since its launch in November 2014, IBAN has become a valuable tool for members to exchange knowledge and information on inclusive business practices and form new partnerships. The Practitioner Hub’s monthly news updates provide an overview of the network’s achievements, conferences and summits, as well as basic information on inclusive business practices, frameworks and policies.

Monitoring and evaluation: The Practitioner Hub’s monthly news updates include a broad overview of practices and regulations that have and have not worked for the private sector, with topics varying by update. No monitoring and evaluation documents on IBAN’s global achievements were found.

Insights: The incorporation of financial and non-financial elements of a partnership is important. Efforts to engage on policy issues should be backed up by resources and the means to carry forward action.

SOURCES:

GIZ (n.d.), “Inclusive Business Action Network”, <https://giz.de/de/weltweit/38230.html> (accessed 1 July 2016).

Harten, L. (2015), “Inclusive Business Action Network” (PowerPoint slides), presentation at the third session of the UNCTAD Multi-year Expert Meeting on Investment, Innovation and Entrepreneurship for Productive Capacity-building and Sustainable Development, March, http://unctad.org/meetings/en/Presentation/ciimem4_Harten_en.pdf.

IBAN (n.d.), Inclusive Business Action Network website, www.inclusivebusinesshub.org/micro-site/iban (accessed 1 July 2016); Practitioner Hub for Inclusive Business (April 2015), “News from the Practitioner Hub: Scaling up inclusive business” (newsletter), www.inclusivebusinesshub.org/monthly-news.

Development Assistance Committee member: Germany
Budget: Not available
Duration: Ongoing since 2014
Location: Germany
Sector: Open
Activities: Various
Beneficiaries: Various