

Disability and Inclusion in ESG Dialogues

The Harkin Institute, Goal 17 Partners, and Global Goals Advisory are convening a series of dialogues and workshops with experts in the disability community, investors, and private sector executives on how to achieve competitive, integrated employment for people with disabilities. The discussions will be outcome-driven in nature with a goal of fully integrating people with disabilities throughout all levels of companies. The time is right for these discussions, and their outcomes will help transform society to one better able to create lasting value for all people.

Value Proposition

By accelerating the vision of competitive, integrated employment for people with disabilities, the private sector will enjoy greater value creating opportunities – thereby benefitting investors, companies, and persons with disabilities.

Consider that, according to the World Bank and the Global Economics Disability Report, over 1.3 billion people around the world experience some form of a disability – and they have a combined spending power of \$8 trillion. Furthermore, research by the Center for Talent Innovation found that 75% of employees with disabilities in the U.S. have ideas that would drive value for their company – compared with 61% of employees without disabilities.

Objectives

The dialogues will foster greater understanding of the challenges faced by persons with disabilities in the employment space while recognizing the value creating opportunity for the private sector when it achieves competitive, integrated employment. We will better understand how investors engage on ESG issues with companies in which they invest and identify areas of collaboration between the investor and disability communities to achieve employment outcomes. A framework for quantitative and qualitative research to demonstrate the connection between competitive, integrated employment and value creation will be developed, including more effective metrics and methods of disclosure for communicating progress and the impact achieved.

Schedule of Dialogues

- Session #1: Disability Inclusion: A Key Ingredient in a Diverse and Inclusive Workforce
- Session #2: Competitive, Integrated Employment and its Benefit to the Private Sector
- Session #3: The Role of Investors in Driving ESG Performance in Companies
- Session #4: Disability Inclusion and the UN SDGs
- Session #5: Mobilizing Capital to Invest in Adaptive Technologies
- Session #6: Scaling Technologies to Achieve the UN SDGs (held at Milken Global Summit)
- Session #7: Measuring and Disclosing Outcomes and Impact (held at Harkin Summit)

Outcomes

In the short term, participants can build relationships, share expertise, and scale their work. The dialogues will establish disability inclusion as integral to value creation. The value creating outcomes of competitive, integrated employment of people with disabilities will be measured in a consistent, metric-driven manner. And persons with disabilities will be accepted as able to create value at all levels of a company, and in industries of every kind.