

Climate Governance Initiative – Code of Conduct

The Climate Governance Initiative (CGI) is committed to the highest standards of ethical conduct, transparency and integrity in its activities. Members of the Governing Board, Chapter representatives and the Secretariat have a duty to maintain and develop the ethos and reputation of the Climate Governance Initiative. Their actions within the CGI community and relating to the CGI should reflect this.

Members of the CGI community (the Governing Board, Chapter representatives and the Secretariat) should promote and support the CGI's values, which underpin everything we do as a CGI. We are impact focused, collaborative and entrepreneurial in spirit.

Impact focused – We are highly motivated to make a difference through effective climate governance, using impact as a lens for our decision making.

Collaborative – We work with others who share our goals to achieve our mission, valuing the importance of collaboration over competition.

Entrepreneurial – We are fast acting, creative and learn from our actions and those of others.

Members of the CGI community share a commitment to addressing climate change at Board level through the World Economic Forum's Principles for Effective Climate Governance. It is essential that all Chapters and CGI representatives act in a way that is consistent with our values and principles.

In furtherance of our mission and to protect the reputation of the CGI, members of the CGI community must take reasonable measures to avoid associating the CGI brand with companies and organisations whose behaviour, profile and values are not aligned with the spirit and values of the CGI. The integrity of the CGI and the CGI's best interests, including its public image and reputation, must at all times remain a foremost consideration when engaging with companies and other stakeholders.

While the mission of the CGI is to work in an inclusive manner with all stakeholders to enable board directors to lift their skills and impact in respect of promoting effective climate governance, particular care must be taken to avoid "greenwashing", or in any manner allowing companies and other stakeholders to misuse their association with the CGI to "launder" their reputation. This must include, but is not limited to, setting clear terms of engagement regarding how companies and other stakeholders portray their association with their local Chapter, the CGI and the World Economic Forum; how Chapters accept monetary and in-kind support from external parties; how external parties gain access to CGI speaking opportunities; how Chapters ensure appropriate levels of transparency regarding such matters; and other forms of association and other activities that may from time to time be identified and added to this Code of Conduct.

Furthermore, members of the CGI community will not accept funding, support or gifts in kind that might be misconstrued as a bribe by others, or lead the donor to expect preferential treatment.

It is the responsibility of us all, as members of Chapters, or CGI representatives to adhere to our shared values and principles.

Whilst the CGI is made up of independent Chapters, all Chapters are expected to play by the rules, set out for clarity in the [Rules of Engagement](#), so the actions of each Chapter are mutually reinforcing and in alignment around a common CGI core. An absence of respect for the Rules of Engagement may result in a breach of the CGI's Code of Conduct.

If the CGI Code of Conduct is believed to have been breached, the issue will be escalated to the CGI's Governing Board, which will investigate and may result in the suspension or removal of a Chapter. Suspension/removal will only be used as a last resort after seeking to resolve any issues in more constructive ways.

Candidates standing for election to the CGI Governing Board are required to adopt the [Governing Board Code of Conduct](#).

The roles of the CGI Governing Board, Chapters, the World Economic Forum and the Secretariat are set out comprehensively in the Climate Governance Initiative's [Governance Structure document](#).