International Business Leaders Forum

PEOPLE AT THE HEART OF SUSTAINABLE BUSINESS



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MOBILISING GLOBAL BUSINESS - EMPOWERING PEOPLE TO CHANGE THE WORLD

Adam Leach, CEO

IBLF is a unique organisation. Over the last two decades we have been recognised for contributing to some of the most important advances in putting business at the heart of sustainable development. If we did not exist, someone would have to invent us.

Our role is to mobilise forward-looking companies to play their role in raising living standards and well-being for people in developing countries. IBLF enables leaders to deliver practical action, measurable evidence and collective influence that pave the conditions for sustainable business success.

Our vision is to be the world's leading Forum of top leaders committed to creating new possibilities for people – advancing human security, increasing prosperity, and promoting environmental stability.

We are operating in a world where markets are becoming more complex, more uncertain, more paradoxical, and with higher expectations of business and political leaders to find solutions.

We are responding to this with a sharper strategy – one that builds on our position as a leader, shaper and enabler. One that brings more structure and focus to everything we do. One that taps into the full potential of what we can achieve with our growing network of partners.

Achieving this will be built on three core strengths:

- Our wide alliances and partnering strength helping companies to develop the skills and the connections to deliver practical action that brings security, prosperity and stability for people.
- Our work with leaders from business and development organisations, and the ability to encourage action by providing evidence of the role business can play in bringing about change.
- Our work in developing countries, enlisting diverse experience and international viewpoints.



In this review you will find evidence of all of these, and that we remain true to our mission. Over the next year, we will build on our position of 'putting business at the heart of sustainability' to a position that says 'we have put people at the centre of sustainable business'.

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Clockwise from top left: Paul Walsh, Woong Yeul Lee, Mohammed Jameel and The Rt. Hon. the Baroness Bottomley of Nettlestone

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DECISIVE ACTION BY BUSINESS LEADERS Neville Isdell, Chairman

In the last IBLF review I wrote of the interdependence of healthy business and healthy communities, of the challenges that much of the world faced, and of the imperative for leaders – from government, civil society and business – to ensure that action was taken to increase and sustain human development.

2008 is likely to be remembered as the year in which confidence in business and its leaders hit rock-bottom. The financial crisis has created a perception of inadequate regulation and governance and a culture of self-enrichment which ignores the broader impact of business on society.

The global recession threatens to undermine what development gains have been made, exacerbating poverty and disease and increasing the number with limited access to water, food and energy. Already, leaders are under pressure to adopt short-term positions and increase protectionism.

Yet I am optimistic about the role of global business – in what it offers our challenges today and how it can help to shape a sustainable future. This is a view shared by other IBLF leaders.

The current crisis removes any doubt that the fortunes of business and society are inextricably linked. And while many companies have been in the news for their poor behaviour, there are also many recent – though less well publicised – examples of the positive contribution business can make to social development worldwide. Many of these examples have been enabled by IBLF, a small number of which are in this review.

Under the leadership of Adam Leach, IBLF is emerging as an independent organisation with action by business leaders at its heart. It has an international voice, drawn from its global partners and staff teams based in Hong Kong, Moscow, London and New York. And it is an organisation determined to ground its actions in evidence of what works. Much lies ahead.

Neville Isdell is also Chairman of The Coca-Cola Company



"The current crisis removes any doubt that the fortunes of business and society are inextricably linked. And while many companies have been in the news for their poor behaviour, there are also many recent – though less well publicised – examples of the positive contribution business can make to social development worldwide"



In November and December 2008 KPMG did an independent audit of IBLF capabilities.

Three core strengths were identified:

Analysis, advocacy and awareness building IBLF has a deep understanding of how business solutions can contribute to addressing global development challenges.

Brokerage and coalition-building

IBLF is recognised for its creativity and rigorous approach to cross-sector partnerships. Activity focuses on innovation, setting standards and building skills for partnership practitioners.

Capacity-building

IBLF has strength in linking policy thinking to on the ground delivery. It runs practical programmes which increase the capability of other organisations to contribute.

Examples of each of these strengths are shown here.

The following pages illustrate our work in the areas of human security, prosperity and environmental stability.

Championing the role of business

The Challenge

The United Nations devoted 2008 to renewing momentum around the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs), focused on reducing poverty, improving environmental sustainability, health and education. There was special attention for the role of business in development through an initiative known as the Business Call to Action.

The challenge was to demonstrate to decision-makers how companies were contributing.

IBLF Involvement

The World Business and Development Awards recognise excellence in corporate contributions to development. With the International Chamber of Commerce and the United Nations Development Programme (UNDP), the 2008 Awards were used to provide evidence to a high-level audience.

The awards were advertised globally through the Financial Times.

Over 100 companies entered from 44 countries. The award ceremony was held during the opening week of the United Nations' General Assembly in New York. HM Queen Rania of Jordan and President Wade of Senegal were the patrons.

Progress

Ten companies were recognised for their contribution to development. Winners included Diageo in Nigeria for purchasing local grain and sustaining 27,000 jobs, and Syngenta for improving livelihoods and reducing water use through a tropical sugar beet.

Four companies made new commitments to the Business Call to Action, an initiative that IBLF continues to provide strategic advice to.

A special report was printed in the Financial Times to coincide with the Awards. The IBLF/UNDP report *Business & the MDGs:* a framework for action was republished with new examples, and disseminated at the UN's private sector event.



Farmer in a field of sorghum crops. Diageo's project with sorghum farmers in Nigeria was one of ten winners of the 2008 World Business and Development Awards.

Helping governments to partner

The Challenge

Since 1990, IBLF has promoted cross-sector collaboration as a way to create sustainable solutions to global problems.

But partnering is not easy and IBLF's corporate partners often report difficulties in trying to partner with governments. Reasons include a limited awareness of the potential of partnerships to achieve public sector goals, a lack of partnering capabilities, excessive bureaucracy and a restrictive legislative framework.

IBLF Involvement

IBLF is working with the German Sustainable Development Agency (GTZ), and four international companies – Microsoft, Rio Tinto, SAP and Shell – to explore how best to help governments in Africa to partner more effectively with business.

Wherever possible, we work with local facilitators and trainers who have completed one of our partnering skills training courses.

Progress

The project has engaged the governments of Zambia, Madagascar, South Africa, Ghana and Gabon. Adapting to the specific context, each initiative combines awareness raising and skills training with tailored advice on specific partnerships.

This systematic approach is bringing far more productive working relationships and greater development impact. The tools, case studies and experiences that are emerging from this project will, in due course, be shared and applied in other parts of Africa and beyond.

Supporting business in fragile economies

The Challenge

The Aga Khan Fund for Economic Development (AKFED) invests in companies in fragile countries that lack sufficient foreign direct investment. AKFED is one of the agencies that form the Aga Khan Development Network.

IBLF was approached to work with AKFED to increase companies' understanding of corporate responsibility, and to help them integrate it into their mainstream practices. Building the responsible business practices of these companies was seen as way to strengthen the private sector and benefit the communities in which they operate.

IBLF Involvement

IBLF and AKFED implemented a strategy to meet this challenge for companies in Tajikistan, Pakistan, Afghanistan, Tanzania, Uganda, Kenya, Kyrgykistan and Mali.

Through workshops and the creation of an online platform, companies were able to establish networks and share current practices for mutual benefits.

IBLF developed the *Corporate Social Responsibility Self Assessment Tool*, available online and offline, in English, French and Russian. The tool allows companies to identify areas within their practice that require action. The tool also creates a tailored Corporate Social Responsibility (CSR) action plan.

Progress

Twenty companies are completing self assessments and, with the guidance of IBLF and AKFED, are enacting their action plans. Steps already taken include the appointment by Serena Hotels in Pakistan of its first CSR Manager, and the adoption of an anti-corruption policy by Nation Media Group in Kenya.

IBLF are working with AKFED to extend the process to more companies and identify local organisations to provide support of this nature in the long-term.

HUMAN SECURITY

The health of business is inseparable from the health of communities

Human security is the concept that a people-centred focus is necessary for national, regional and global stability. It places individuals and communities – rather than the state – at the centre of development and is concerned not only with people's well-being, but their dignity too.

Poverty, inequality and poor health form the basis of individual vulnerability. Tackling corruption, upholding human rights and promoting good health, is paramount to increasing stability.

IBLF engages with companies to increase human security which in turn creates an environment for stable development and responsible business. IBLF programmes fight corruption through collective action, help companies to protect human rights in the workplace, and improve the health of workers, families and communities.

Here are three recent examples to illustrate how IBLF works to advance human security.

Anti-Corruption - China

The Challenge

China's importance to the global economy brings an increasing need to reflect international business standards and practices.

While the importance of countering corruption has been recognised by the Chinese Government, a fundamental lack of understanding or the means to achieve this, has been the barrier

IBLF Involvement

The China Business Leaders Forum was launched by IBLF and partners in 2005 as a three-year initiative to raise the understanding of business ethics and corruption. Leaders of Chinese and foreign companies were able to share their experiences in a safe space and collectively develop a framework of responsible business practice to be promoted across the wider business community. IBLF's role has been to facilitate dialogue, provide international perspectives where required and bring in relevant stakeholders to participate.

Progress

Being able to openly talk about the challenges related to business ethics and to explore potential solutions is a significant step forward. To date, over 500 business managers – half of whom are from Chinese companies and organisations – have participated in workshops, training and debate.

The forum resulted in increasing participants' awareness, whilst also highlighting the need for more research, training and resources to tackle this challenge.

This has led to an agreement with Renmin University of China to establish a permanent, locally managed China Centre for International Business Standards in Beijing. From early 2009, the institution will provide a platform to assist companies with the implementation of business transparency standards, to influence Chinese companies' practice and to highlight the contribution of responsible business to sustainability in China.



The right to work includes the right of access to employment, especially for marginalised and disadvantaged individuals and groups.

Human Rights Translated

The Challenge

Sixty years after the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, the internationally recognised rights agreed by governments increasingly resonate with business.

But for many in business, human rights terminology – devised with governments in mind – can be confusing and inaccessible.

This lack of familiarity with the language and widespread uncertainty about how business impacts on human rights, limits human rights due diligence and constrains greater leadership in the field.

IBLF Involvement

IBLF partnered with legal experts and United Nations (UN) bodies¹ to produce *Human Rights Translated: A Business Reference Guide* in response to this challenge.

The guide summarises each of the internationally recognised rights in lay terms, uses case studies to illustrate their relevance in a corporate context, and makes recommendations for how human rights issues can be managed.

Progress

The guide was launched in Paris in December 2008, on the anniversary of the signing of the Universal Declaration of Human Rights, to an audience of multinational executives, prominent public officials and civil society experts. It is being disseminated to the UN Global Compact's 5000 member companies.

"No comprehensive tool has existed that describes what human rights mean in a business context. This publication does so, in language that is rights-based while also being easily accessible to business executives and managers. Companies are encouraged to use Human Rights Translated as a reference guide when undertaking their human rights due diligence to ensure that they discharge their responsibility to respect rights."

Professor John Ruggie UN Special Representative on Business and Human Rights

Consumer Health

The Challenge

People are moving from rural to urban areas in greater numbers than ever before. By 2008 more than half the world's population – 3.3 billion people – were living in cities. The drastic lifestyle change has resulted in escalating rates of obesity and other chronic diseases. These diseases account for approximately 59 per cent of the 56.5 million global deaths annually. This is a public health challenge that affects companies through their employees, consumers and through potential regulation.

IBLF Involvement

IBLF and Insight Investments published *A Recipe for Success*, a series of comprehensive recommendations for global food and drink companies to promote better diet and an active lifestyle. In 2008 Insight Investment and JP Morgan used this to do a benchmarking analysis of ten of the world's largest food manufacturers.

The analysis highlighted not only the urgency for companies to improve their practices, but also new risks for business in the area of marketing to children, particularly in relation to digital technologies. As a result, IBLF was asked by companies to provide a safe space for their stakeholders and for marketing experts to establish how they could work together.

Progress

IBLF's framework served as a catalyst for global food and drink companies to promote better nutritional practices, to invest more in research and development and to engage more openly with stakeholders.

"IBLF's work to bring together a wide range of stakeholders in a trusted space helped us to think through our commitment, to take on board a range of views and to contemporise our practices in this fast-changing environment."

Coca-Cola Great Britain

¹ Office of the UN High Commissioner for Human Rights, the Castan Centre for Human Rights Law, Monash University, Melbourne, and the United Nations Global Compact Office

PROSPERITY

Skills, opportunity and enterprise

For most people, well-being and dignity depend on the chance of a decent and productive job. Work represents a path towards social integration and a means to earn income to support themselves and their families.

For companies operating in the developing world, increasing prosperity can create a more stable society and a more secure platform for sustained success. Greater prosperity means more customers, new markets and increased sources of income. It means opening up new supply and distribution channels and developing people's skills, capability and employability.

Despite progress, young people still suffer disproportionately from a lack of decent work opportunities, and globally, women still have a higher likelihood of being unemployed than men do.

IBLF engages with companies to boost economic growth, to create jobs and to improve levels of employability, with a focus on youth opportunity and conflict zones. It does this by developing local enterprises, including microfinance provision, and through programmes focused on improving the levels of education and skills of potential workers.

Here are three recent examples to illustrate how IBLF works to increase prosperity.

Financial Literacy - Russia

The Challenge

The financial crisis has highlighted not only the weakness of regulation in financial markets, but also the poor level of financial literacy among consumers.

Fifty per cent of Russian adults consider themselves as having insufficient financial knowledge, only two per cent trust private banks and 44 per cent of those with savings accounts are unaware of the existence of state deposit insurance.¹

IBLF Involvement

IBLF has created a cross-sector partnership to promote financial literacy among Russians. The partnership identifies ways that companies, the Finance Ministry, Central Bank, State Duma, nonprofit organisations and educational institutions can contribute to increasing personal finance skills.

The partnership's principle tool is the National Financial Education Web Portal www.azbukafinansov.ru (ABC of Finance). The portal provides teaching resources and gives people access to advice provided by companies on a pro bono basis. The support includes reviewing credit agreements and assistance with budgeting, savings and investments.

Progress

More than 15,000 unique visitors viewed over 600,000 pages of *ABC of Finance* during the first two months of its operation.

Citi, MDM and other banks have begun engaging their employees in public financial education. Visa is developing an educational advertising campaign. Through the partnership, the government is preparing a federal programme to complement this work.

"This project allows Russian citizens to use the financial products they are offered more effectively and assess the quality of services rendered, to avoid dubious transactions on the finance markets and build wealth. It will facilitate greater stability and growth in the national economic system."



Young Russians participating in a market simulation exercise held by a bank.

Responsible Business - Sudan

The Challenge

Despite the signing of a peace agreement to end the north versus south civil war and a recent surge in economic growth, Sudan remains one of the least developed countries in the world.

The situation in Darfur has led to trade sanctions, NGO divestment campaigns and political pressure from the international community. This presents business with the challenge of how to invest in the country – and contribute to economic development – without unintentionally funding the civil war or being seen as profiting from the conflict.

IBLF Involvement

IBLF helped establish a Sudan Network of the United Nations Global Compact, as a vehicle to enable companies to raise business standards and work together on peacebuilding and development initiatives.

IBLF contributed to an 18-month effort to organise a network launch event for local and international stakeholders. In collaboration with the UN and a Sudanese Steering Committee, IBLF developed the agenda and produced the background paper and final report for the launch. IBLF also made a presentation at the launch about the value of collective action.

Progress

Over 160 representatives of local and international businesses, government, academia and NGOs attended the launch event to show their support for the Sudan Network of the Global Compact and its ten principles in the areas of human rights, labour, environment and anti-corruption. IBLF continues to advise on the development of the network and implementation of the principles as part of an ongoing commitment to the initiative.

The Sudan Network is a unique platform for cross-sector collaboration to achieve development objectives in Sudan.

Employability - Latin America

The Challenge

The global challenge of youth unemployment is particularly severe in Latin America. Fifteen to 24-year-olds account for around 50 per cent of unemployed people in the region. This is exacerbated by the quality of employment available to young people.

Throughout the 1990s, seven out of every ten jobs created in the region were in the informal sector, meaning the jobs were low-quality, low-paying and usually offered little security.

IBLF Involvement

Tourism is the fastest growing economic sector in Latin America in terms of job creation. IBLF's Youth Career Initiative (YCI) provides 18-21-year-olds with vocational and life skills, gained through a six-month course within the hotel industry.

YCI operates in Costa Rica, Mexico and Brazil, where partnerships with local nonprofit and public organisations help the programme target participants from the poorest communities in each area.

Progress

In the last 18 months, 20 leading hotels – including Marriott, Hyatt and InterContinental – have trained 225 young people in the region, equipping them with the skills and knowledge to pursue a career and helping them and their families to break out of poverty.

Around 40-50 per cent of graduates go on to find work in the hospitality industry, about 25-30 per cent find jobs in other sectors (usually other service-based sectors), and ten per cent continue with further education.

¹ National Agency of Financial Research (NAFI) survey conducted in 2008

ENVIRONMENTAL STABILITY Adapting to climate change

Frequent and extreme weather events threaten access to water, food and energy, for rich and poor. The effects of climate change are causing dramatic shifts in existing markets and seeing the emergence of new ones. These changes are affecting jobs, enterprise and livelihoods across the world.

Adapting to climate change offers a way for companies to contribute to environmental stability and create

business opportunities – in the provision of sustainable services and the servicing of new markets.

The following example is of IBLF's existing environmental programme.

IBLF's new programme will build on IBLF's capabilities to engage companies in meeting the changing needs of people in water resource management and sustainable agriculture.

Sustainable Hotel Construction

The Challenge

Over the last thirty years, the Riviera Maya, Mexico, has seen rapid growth in the tourism industry. Extensive areas of land have been cleared for tourism development. This has had a major effect on local ecosystems, on the coral reef which surrounds the area and threatens the viability of the region as a destination for tourism.

This is a common consequence of the growing industry.

IBLF involvement

IBLF's International Tourism Partnership (ITP) and Conservation International jointly produced a guide to address these challenges.

Sustainable Siting, Design and Construction includes guidelines on building efficiency, environmental and societal impact and provides examples and information that can be applied anywhere in the world.

ITP and partners are adapting this material to produce the official guide for sustainable hotel development in the State of Quintana Roo, which includes Cancun, Riviera Maya and Cozumel. The guide will be in Spanish so that it is accessible to local developers, architects, builders and planning authorities.

Progress

This initiative is part of a strategy to promote wider use of the new development guidelines.

Hotel sector leaders are being encouraged to adopt them throughout their operations. They now form one of the five pillars of The Hilton Hotels Corporation's sustainability programme.

Government agencies are being targeted to encourage use of the guidelines on a regional basis. More than 1,000 copies of *The Sustainable Siting, Design and Construction* have been sold and the guidelines are increasingly becoming the industry standard.



Cancun, on the Riviera Mava, Mexico.

IBLF CORPORATE PARTNERS

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The Partnering Initiative

Nike* • Microsoft • Shell* • Rio Tinto* • Vodafone

Asia Pacific

Adidas • Asics • BHP Billiton • Nike* • Pentland* • Puma • Siemens • Umbro

The Russia Partnership

RBS • Baker & McKenzie • Citi • Diageo* • ERM • Ernst & Young • GlaxoSmithKline* • Industrial Investors* • Interros* • Johnson & Johnson* • KPMG* • Multibroker • Philips • PricewaterhouseCoopers* • APBE • RusHydro • SUEK • The Coca-Cola Company* • TNT Express • TNK-BP • Uralsib • VISA

Development (OECD) • Overseas Development Institute (ODI) •

* indicates the company is also an IBLF Principal Partner or Council Level Partner

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Oxfam • Oxford Health Alliance • Pan American Health Organisation (PAHO) • Partners in Change, India • PATH • Philippine Business for Social Progress (PBSP) • PLAN International • Polish Environmental Partnership Foundation • Quality of Life • Renmin University of China • Responsible Business Initiative, Serbia (RBI) • Royal Institute for International Affairs • Russian Centre for the Development of Non-Governmental Organisations (CRNO) • Russian Duma • Russo-British Chamber of Commerce • Secretariat of the Basel Convention • Shell Foundation • Singapore Compact for CSR • Skoll Foundation • State-owned Assets Supervision & Administration Commission of the State Council (Russia) • SustainAbility • Swisscontact • The American Chamber of Commerce in Thailand • The Brookings Institute • The Prince's Rainforest Project • The Prince's Youth Business International • Transparency International (TI) • UK Department for International Development (DFID) • UK Department of Justice • UK Sport • United Nations Global Compact Network Korea • United Nations Global Compact UK Network • United Nations Special Representative on Business and Human Rights • United Nations World Tourism Organisation • United Nations Programme on HIVAIDS (UNAIDS) • United Nations Education for Sustainable Development (UNESCO) • United Nations High Commissioner for Refugees (UNHCR) • United Nations Children's Fund (UNICEF) • United Nations Development Programme (UNDP) • United Nations Global Compact (UNGC) • United Nations Industrial Development Organisation (UNIDO) • United Nations Office of the High Commission for Human Rights (OHCHR) • United Nations System Staff College (UNSSC) • United States Agency for International Development (USAID) • University of Cambridge Programme for Industry • Vietnam Chamber of Commerce and Industry (VCCI) • Vodafone Foundation • Voluntary Principles on Security and Human Rights • Volunteering England • Women's Housing & Economic Development Corporation (WHEDCo) • World Bank • World Business Council for Sustainable Development (WBCSD) • World Economic Forum (WEF) • World Federation of the Sporting Goods Industry (WFSGI) • World Health Organisation (WHO) • World Heritage Alliance • World Vision • World Wildlife Fund (WWF) • Young Arab Leaders

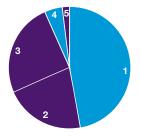
• Young Entrepreneurs Association • Youth Employment Network

FINANCIAL SUMMARY

IBLF's Balance Sheet and Financial Information

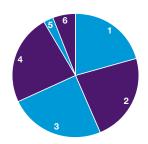
Total Funds 30 June 2008 £K			l Funds ne 2007 £K
Donations Exceptional Receipts Activities in furtherance of charity objectives:	3,080 1,226		3,031
Grants Receivable Charitable Trading Gross Bank Interest	1,661 296 183		1,966 257 97
Total Incoming Resources	6,445		5,352
Resources Expended Visionary Leadership Development Solutions Innovative Partnerships Research & Communication Governance Cost Of Generating Funds	(1,081) (1,354) (1,386) (1,252) (152) (313)		(1,150) (1,264) (1,360) (1,309) (1,34) (311)
Total Resources Expended	(5,538)		(5,528)
Net Incoming / Outgoing Resources	907		(176)
Fund Balances Brought Forward At 1 July 2008	2,685		2,862
Fund Balances Carried Forward At 30 June 2008	3,592		2,685
Balance Sheet At 30 June 2008	2008 £		2007 £
Fixed Assets: Tangible Fixed Assets Current Assets: Debtors Cash At Bank & In Hand	28 1,242 5,036		32 1,265 3,171
Total Current Assets	6,278		4,436
Creditors: amounts falling due each year	2,714		1,783
Net Current Assets	3,564		2,654
Net Assets	3,592		2,685
Represented By: Restricted Funds Unrestricted Funds - Designated Free Core Funds: Fixed Asset Fund Unrestricted Funds - Free Reserve	426 2,148 28 990	Movement (350) 1,214 (4) 47	776 934 32 943
Total Core Funds	1,018	43	975
Total Accumulated Funds	3,592	907	2,685

Breakdown of Income by Source



- 1 Corporate Donations
- 2 Exceptional Receipt
- 3 Grants
- 4 Charitable Income Generation
- 5 Bank Interest

Breakdown of Expenditure



- 1 Visionary Leadership
- 2 Development Solutions
- 3 Innovative Partnerships
- 4 Research and Communication
- 5 Governance
- 6 Cost of Generating Funds

The figures shown in the tables opposite are extracted from the Annual Report & Accounts for the year ending 30 June 2007, which have been audited, approved by the Board, and lodged with Companies House and Charity Commission.

Definitions

Visionary leadership - Mobilising and supporting senior business leadership in both action and thought leadership in responsible business practices and international development (consistent with IBLF's charitable object of promoting education in corporate responsibility)

Development Solutions - Engaging the capabilities and resources of companies in creating innovative solutions to development challenges (consistent with IBLF's charitable object of relieving poverty internationally)

Innovative Partnerships - Supporting innovation and strengthening institutional capacity for development partnerships (consistent with IBLF's charitable object of relieving poverty internationally)

Research & Communication - Increasing key stakeholder recognition of IBLF's contribution to shaping thought leadership and mobilising business leadership for international development and providing the analysis and frameworks for partnership based solutions to development challenges (consistent with IBLF charitable objects as an international educational charity in disseminating research, results and good practices)

Edited by

Hana Yoosuf

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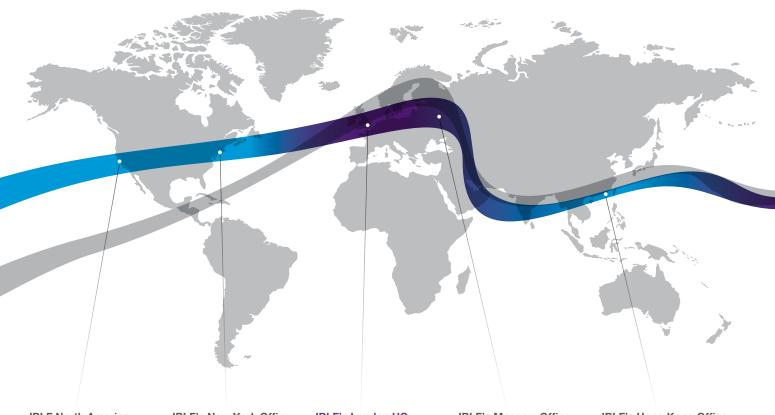
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IBLF North America

Building 1016 Lincoln Boulevard Suite 104 San Francisco CA 94129 USA

+1 415 563 9707 info@iblfnorthamerica.org www.iblfnorthamerica.org

IBLF's New York Office

International Business Leaders Forum c/o Edelman 1500 Broadway 26th Floor New York NY 10036 USA

+1 212 704 8264 www.iblf.org

IBLF's London HQ

International Business Leaders Forum 15-16 Cornwall Terrace London NW1 4QP United Kingdom

+44 20 7467 3600 info@iblf.org www.iblf.org

IBLF's Moscow Office

IBLF Russia Office 9 CET 4 Mamonovsky Per entrance 2 Moscow 123001 Russia

+7 495 974 1421 further.info@iblf.ru www.iblf.ru

IBLF's Hong Kong Office

International Business Leaders Forum 22B United Centre 95 Queensway Admiralty Hong Kong

+ 852 2520 2188 www.iblfasiapacific.org