



Sustainability, simplified

Inclusive Business

- The Next Frontier for Corporate Responsibility

Corporate Citizenship Knowledge Series 26th June 2012

What is Inclusive Business?

Inclusive Business is widely defined as:

"Profitable core business activity that expands opportunities for the marginalised and disadvantaged. These business models engage the marginalised as employees, suppliers, distributors or consumers. As such, Inclusive Business is not philanthropy, rather it profitably expands economic and social opportunities in a variety of ways."





A Changing Landscape

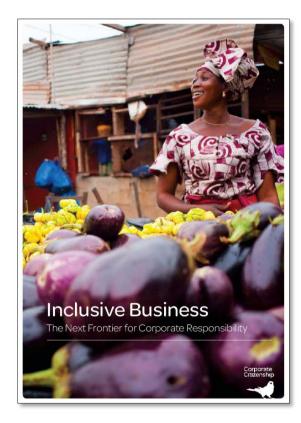
- Increase in collaborations between the private and non-profit sectors.
- Multi-stakeholder initiatives to address industry challenges.
- Growth of development agencies' funding mechanisms of Inclusive Business initiatives.
- Inclusive Business remains a leading edge.





Research Project

- Focus on multinational companies' Inclusive Business models in developing markets.
- Analysis of Inclusive Business interventions across the whole value chain.
- In-depth interviews with multinationals, intermediaries and experts, including Interface, Heineken, PepsiCo, IFC, USAID, Professor Stuart Hart – Cornell University.
- Focus areas: motivations and drivers, organisational issues, the role of partnerships, financing, profitability and challenges.





Drivers and Business Benefits

New Markets

Innovation

Access to raw materials

Cost Reductions

Brand Reputation

Differentiation

Secure position

License to operate



Financing and Profitability

"Any Inclusive Business project is doomed to fail if one has the same profit expectations as 'traditional' product development" – Stuart Hart

- Still low level of investment going into Inclusive Business models.
- Investment in local sourcing models have a longer track record than investments in product and service innovation.
- Companies generally unaware of funding opportunities.
- Need of 'patient capital': longer time horizons, significant development impact in exchange of maximised return.
- Profitability success stories still remain few.
- Time frame 3-5 years?



Challenges

- Acquiring market knowledge
- Establishing local networks
- Marketing channels need to adapt to local market conditions
- Distribution channels challenging operating environments with weak infrastructure
- Capacity-building
- Scalability





The Way Forward

- Here are a number of steps for companies to explore and build Inclusive Business models:
 - ✓ Assess opportunities across the value chain and identify where social and economic benefits can be enhanced.
 - ✓ Focus on core competencies and strengths.
 - \checkmark Decide on commercialisation of the business model early on.
 - ✓ Explore partnerships and funding opportunities.
 - ✓ Leverage the skills and expertise of your CSR department.

