

## Advancing Inclusive Business Policies

### *G20 GPIB and IBAN Policy Dialogue: Alleviating Poverty through Inclusive Business*

At a one-day conference in Berlin in May, 76 policymakers, business representatives, and others recognized the critical role that inclusive business can play in fostering sustainable economic growth and in making progress towards the Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs).

By integrating low-income people into value chains, inclusive business models offer the private sector an opportunity both to contribute towards the new global goals and to reach new markets. These business models enable companies to seek financial returns while at the same time provide low-income people with access to affordable quality products and improved livelihoods.

The conference, organized by the Inclusive Business Action Network (IBAN) and the G20 Global Platform on Inclusive Business (GPIB), brought together representatives from 25 countries to begin a process of learning and collaboration around inclusive business policies. The goal was to build a common understanding of inclusive business and to help governments enable the application of inclusive business models in their countries.

“An inclusive market can be a national competitive advantage in international trade,” said Marcos Neto, Director of the United Nations Development Program (UNDP) Istanbul International Center for Private Sector in Development (IICPSD). “Governments have a vested interest in creating an enabling environment for inclusive business and in encouraging companies to apply inclusive business models.”

Companies trying to implement inclusive business models can face challenges, such as a lack or absence of finance, capacity, market information, and rules and regulations. Government policymakers can take steps to ease these burdens.

“We need to help policymakers to understand that inclusive businesses exist and to build a common understanding of what we are talking about,” said Eriko Ishikawa, Global Head for Inclusive Business at the International Finance Corporation (IFC), a member of the World Bank Group. “Only then can policymakers take steps toward enabling this type of business.”

The dialogue drew on experiences from policymakers and inclusive business leaders – whether they were just starting to work in inclusive business or were already championing it.

“This event marked the first step in a journey where all can contribute and benefit,” stressed Christian Jahn, Executive Director of IBAN. IBAN, a global action platform, will drive a follow-up process to build on the progress made at the conference.

### ***About the organizations***

#### ***The Inclusive Business Action Network (IBAN)***

[www.ib-an.net](http://www.ib-an.net) / [www.inclusivebusinesshub.org](http://www.inclusivebusinesshub.org)

Providing a pivotal point for the global inclusive business community, the Inclusive Business Action Network (IBAN) promotes the scale and replication of inclusive business models. IBAN connects the dots between the vast number of businesses, existing initiatives, networks and other stakeholders around the world and triggers

collective action. As a global multi stakeholder platform, IBAN raises awareness on the positive impact of inclusive business, provides knowledge and capacity through peer learning, and facilitates effective partnerships.

### ***The G20 Global Platform on Inclusive Business (GPIB)***

[www.g20inclusivebusiness.org](http://www.g20inclusivebusiness.org)

The G20 Global Platform on Inclusive Business (GPIB) seeks to connect policymakers and business behind a mission that is both pro-poor and pro-business and strives to better understand the role that G20 and non-G20 governments can play in supporting inclusive companies more effectively. The GPIB stems from the G20 Leaders Call on Inclusive Business issued under the Turkish Presidency in 2015 and was officially launched by the Chinese Presidency in Nanjing, China in April 2016.



*Inclusive Business Policy Dialogue: From IB Champions to Starters – a gathering of motivated policymakers, businesses, international organisations and more!*