Responsible business conduct

Human and labour rights

Wärtsilä supports and respects basic human values as outlined in the UN’s Universal Declaration of Human Rights. We also support the Ten Principles of the UN Global Compact, of which six principles are related to Human and Labour rights.

Wärtsilä’s employees represent approximately 140 nationalities. We support fair and equal treatment of all our employees and the work-related rights defined by the International Labour Organization. Therefore, we work to ensure that there is freedom of association and right to collective bargaining in the company. In those countries where local legislation does not recognise these rights, employees are offered other channels for expressing their opinions.

We do not accept the use of forced labour or child labour in any form. Human and Labour rights are a part of the Wärtsilä Code of Conduct training material and also the Wärtsilä Supplier Handbook. At the end of 2019, 94% of Wärtsilä’s employees had successfully completed the Code of Conduct training.

Preventing corruption and bribery

Wärtsilä’s Code of Conduct, Anti-Corruption Policy, as well as specific policies implemented for sales intermediaries, namely Agent, Broker and Distributor Policies, expressly prohibit the company and its employees from offering or accepting any kind of benefit considered to be a bribe and from taking actions that could give rise to a conflict of interest or breach of loyalty. The policies make it compulsory to comply with anti-corruption laws of all the countries in which we do or intend to do business and urge the reporting of any cases of corruption and bribery. We maintain an extensive training programme mandatory for all employees on anti-corruption principles and applicable legislation as well as the relevant company policies and procedures. At the end of 2019, 87% of Wärtsilä’s employees had successfully completed the Anti-Corruption training.

Political lobbying

Wärtsilä’s policy is to engage in an open dialogue and discussion with both local and international public authorities and officials. The aim of the dialogue is to share information and improve the quality of regulation. We participate in public consultations in the areas of importance to the company. Wärtsilä is registered on the Transparency Register of the European Commission.

Competition regulation

We have in place a competition compliance programme for managing risks relating to competition law, and our management is strongly committed to implementing this programme. The cornerstone of the programme is a competition law policy, which is kept up-to-date, providing information on competition rules and guidelines for our personnel. The competition compliance programme builds upon an e-learning module, based on the competition law policy. In addition, competition compliance trainings were held in 2019 for relevant personnel in order to promote knowledge of competition laws and compliance therewith.

Security management

Wärtsilä has a corporate security policy and various guidelines, which incorporate human rights considerations and international best practices. Our security management principles and strategies are reviewed and approved in the Wärtsilä Security Steering Group, which consists of Presidents of each Business, Executive Vice President for Corporate Relations and Legal Affairs, as well as Finance and Control and security professionals. Security management in Wärtsilä is divided into six specific security areas: Personnel, Premises, Information, Cyber, Crisis Management, and Travel Security. Operational security management in these areas is implemented on the business and local level. We prefer security service providers who are members of ICoCA (International Code of Conduct Association).
Local community approach

We aim to contribute towards the well-being of local communities in which we are present. This can be reached, for example, by creating employment, paying taxes and social dues, providing training and education to employees, co-operating with local stakeholders, and by supporting local development.

The guiding principle of our Code of Conduct is to promote openness and good interaction with our stakeholders locally. This applies as much to the families of personnel, our neighbours, educational institutions, and the media, as to local authorities and officials. The methods used towards this end include Open Door days, press briefings, and different modes of communication for different target groups.

As a truly international company, we have delivered solutions to more than 170 countries. We support our solutions globally during their entire lifecycle, often spanning up to 30 years. Thus, we can at times be present in countries facing various uprisings, ethnic conflicts, area disputes, or violations of human rights. Conducting business locally emphasises the importance of responsible business practices. Governments and the international community define the proper framework for companies to conduct their business. Wärtsilä complies with relevant legislation and international conventions. We comply with all relevant guidelines of the OECD and the International Chamber of Commerce, and with the sanctions set by the United Nations and the European Union, by supporting their implementation.

Wärtsilä’s impact on employment, the public sector, and the company’s activities for charitable purposes are described in the Economic Performance section of this report. Measures to evaluate the impacts on local communities in case of operational changes of Wärtsilä subsidiaries are determined case by case.