The implementation of the UN Guiding Principles on Business & Human Rights

**For states**

- States are under a **legal obligation to respect human rights** and ensure that human rights are respected on their territories.
  - This obligation comes from the Constitution, ICCPR, ICESCR & UNDRIP
- Home States need to take steps to prevent abuse abroad by business enterprises **within their jurisdiction**.
  - This ensures predictability for businesses & preserve the State's reputation

**Why?**

- Must comply with **local laws**
- Companies must maintain a "social license" to operate, when local community and other stakeholders approve/accept the companies’ operations
- Promotes **stability** and gives an **advantage over competitors**
- Avoids costs linked to disputes, and protects from **reputational risk**

**How?**

- Adopt a **National Action Plan** detailing how it plans to implement the UNGPs, in consultation with all relevant stakeholders
- Set out **concrete expectations** about business conduct, including foreign companies, & put into place **mechanisms to monitor compliance**
- Promote & disseminate the UNGPs with public institutions, particularly those involved in investment
- Request companies to **report** about their human rights impacts
- Protect **human rights defenders** working on BHR issues
- Investigate allegations of human rights violations by businesses
- Ensure **accessible and effective remedies**

**For companies**

- Adopt a **Human Rights policy**
- Exercise **Due Diligence**, including by **conducting human rights impacts assessments**, and monitor its implementation
- **4 Key words:** identify, prevent, mitigate and account
- **Conduct meaningful consultations & engagement** with impacted communities
- **Provide access to remedy through internal grievance mechanisms**