RBC principles and standards emphasize the expectation that business make (1) **a positive contribution** to sustainable development while, at the same time (2) identify and address **adverse impacts** associated with business activities.

- Moves away from traditional vision of CSR
  - Goes beyond philanthropy or voluntary action
  - but also beyond “just” complying with law

- Focuses on **company impact** – both positive and negative
  - People the environment and society

- Applies to **all businesses**, not just large multinationals

- Implementation: **Risk-based due diligence** approach
Challenges facing the global food and agriculture system

Agriculture sector provides development, poverty reduction and food security

- World population is expected to grow to 9 billion by 2050 (of which 5.2 billion in Asia and Pacific)
- Limited natural resources, soil degradation and climate change
- Water scarcity
- Biofuel production
- Changing lifestyles leading to more protein-intensive diets.
Increasing international expectations for RBC

The Push
- Legislation
- Lawsuits
- Investor and shareholder requirements
- Consumer action
- Public Benchmarking,
- Scrutiny from governments

The pull
- Reputational damage and social license to operate
- Access to global value chains and new markets
- Increase productivity and distinguish from competitors
- Demonstrating concrete action on the SDGs
Business can contribute to solving challenges in the Agri Food Sector

- The 2030 Agenda for Sustainable Development adopted in 2015 calls for robust involvement of the private sector in global development efforts.
- Of the 17 UN Sustainable Development Goals (SDGs), nearly all link either directly or indirectly to the global food system.
- Business awareness of the SDGs is high - many businesses have embraced the SDGs and are using them to frame their business strategies and re-define daily operations.
- However, business need to move away from focusing only on “doing good” but also on addressing the risks associated with their supply chains to meet the targets of the SDGs across business practices and global supply chains.
RBC and working towards the SDGs
Promoting Responsible Supply Chains in Asia

- Partnership: OECD, ILO EU, with funding from the EU
- 3 years 6 countries: Japan, China, Myanmar, Philippines, Thailand, Vietnam
- Work directly with:
  - **Businesses** to promote responsible supply chains through implementing due diligence standards and processes.
    - Objectives:
      - progressing private sector action towards SDGs
      - supporting business competitiveness
  - **Government** to support the development of enabling policy frameworks for RBC implementation
- Target sector for Philippines: Agriculture
THANK YOU

QUESTIONS AND DISCUSSION

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